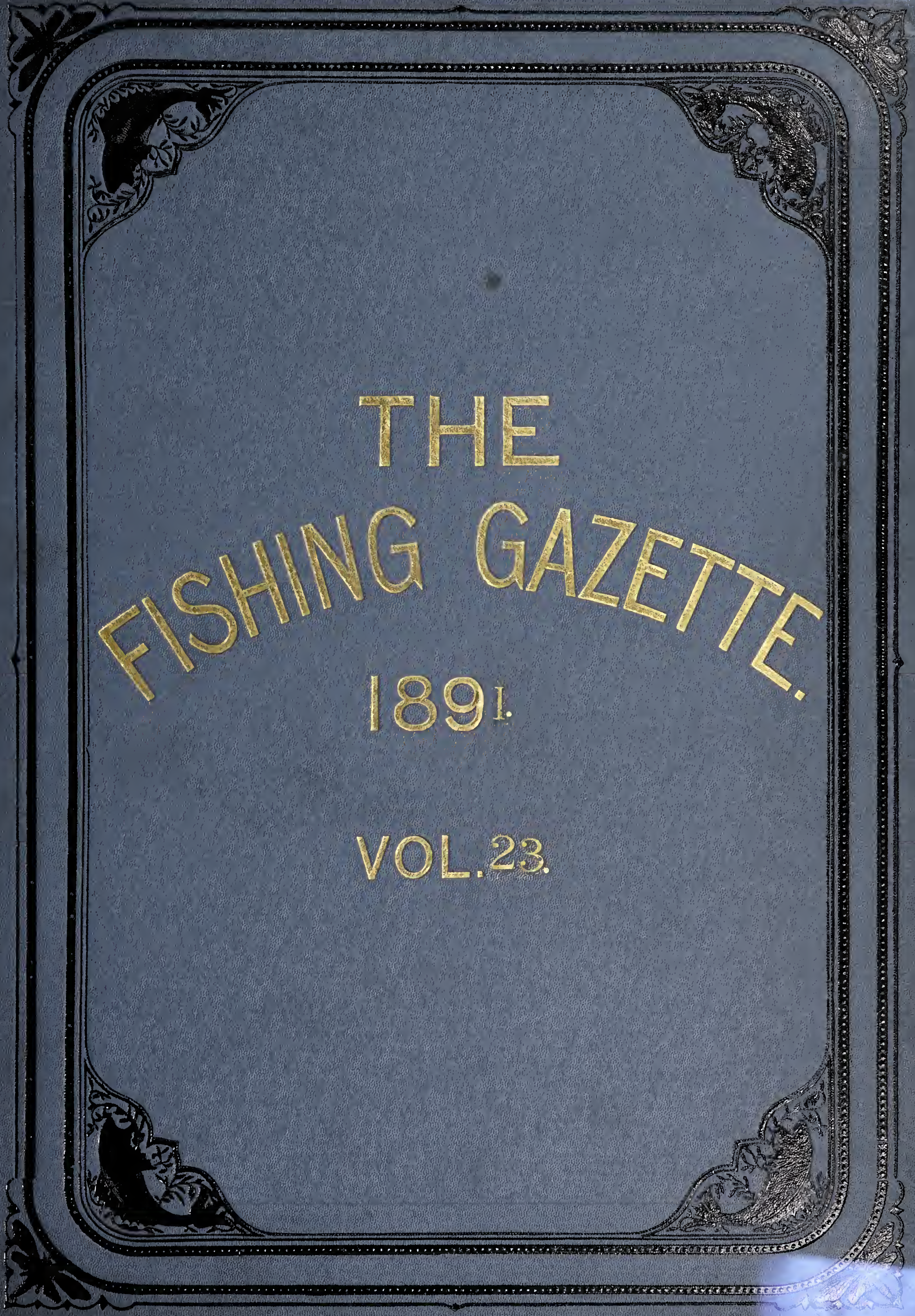

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1891.

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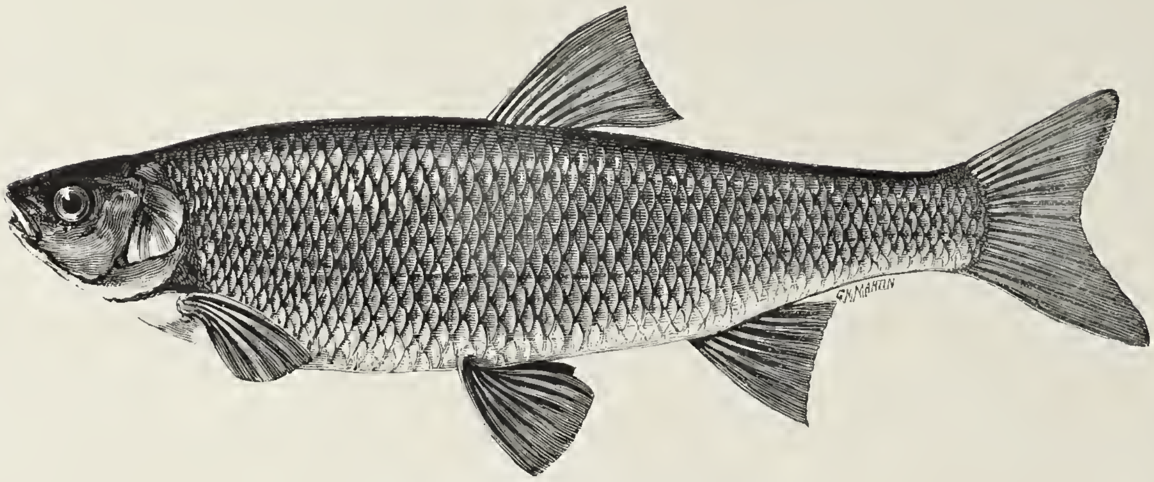
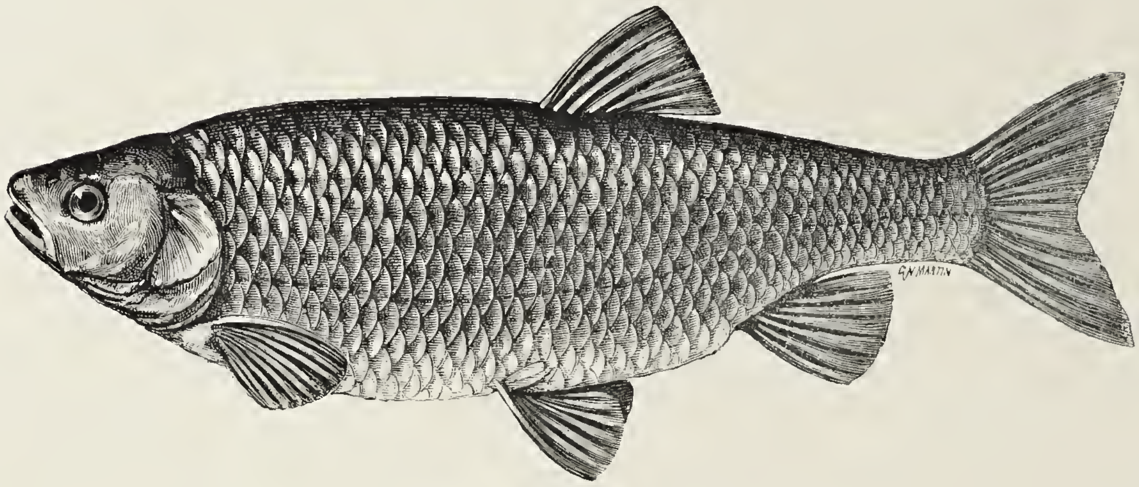
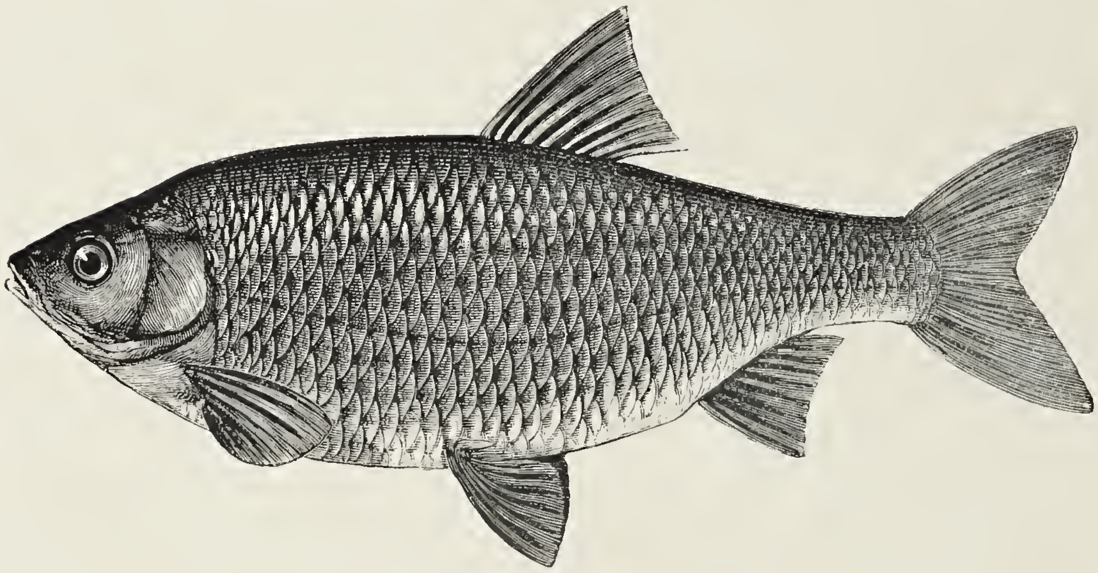


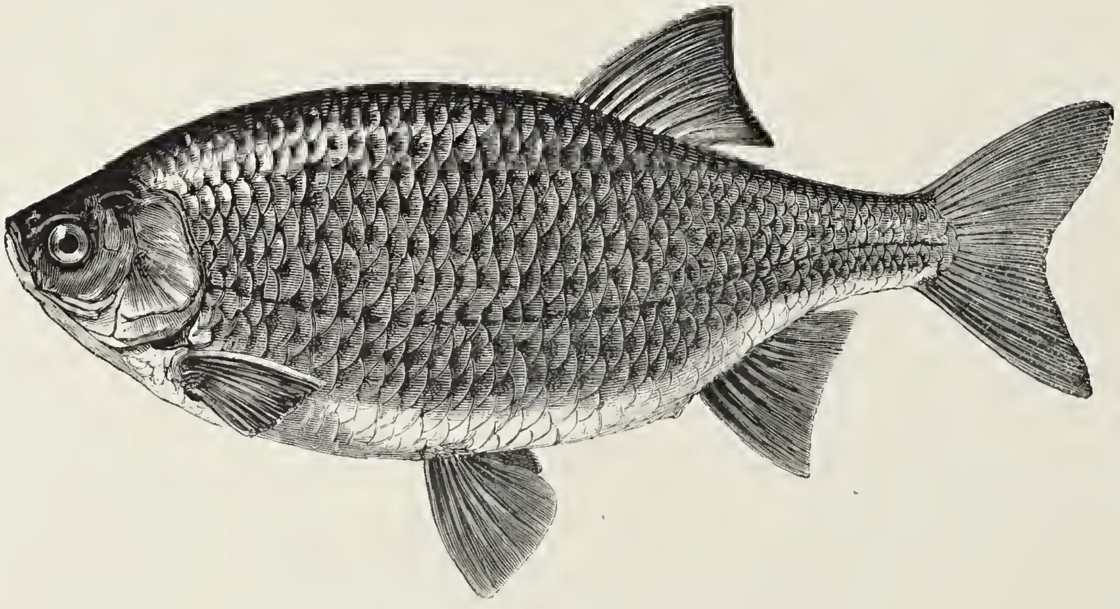
THE DACE (*Leuciscus vulgaris*).
(Showing the concave anal fin.)



THE CHUB (*Leuciscus cephalus*).
(Showing the convex anal fin.)



THE ROACH (*Leuciscus rutilus*).
(Showing the position of the back fin nearly directly over the belly fin, and at the same distance from the eye.)



THE RUDD (*Leuciscus erythropthalmus*).
(Showing the position of the back fin, which is much further from the eye of the fish than the belly fin.)

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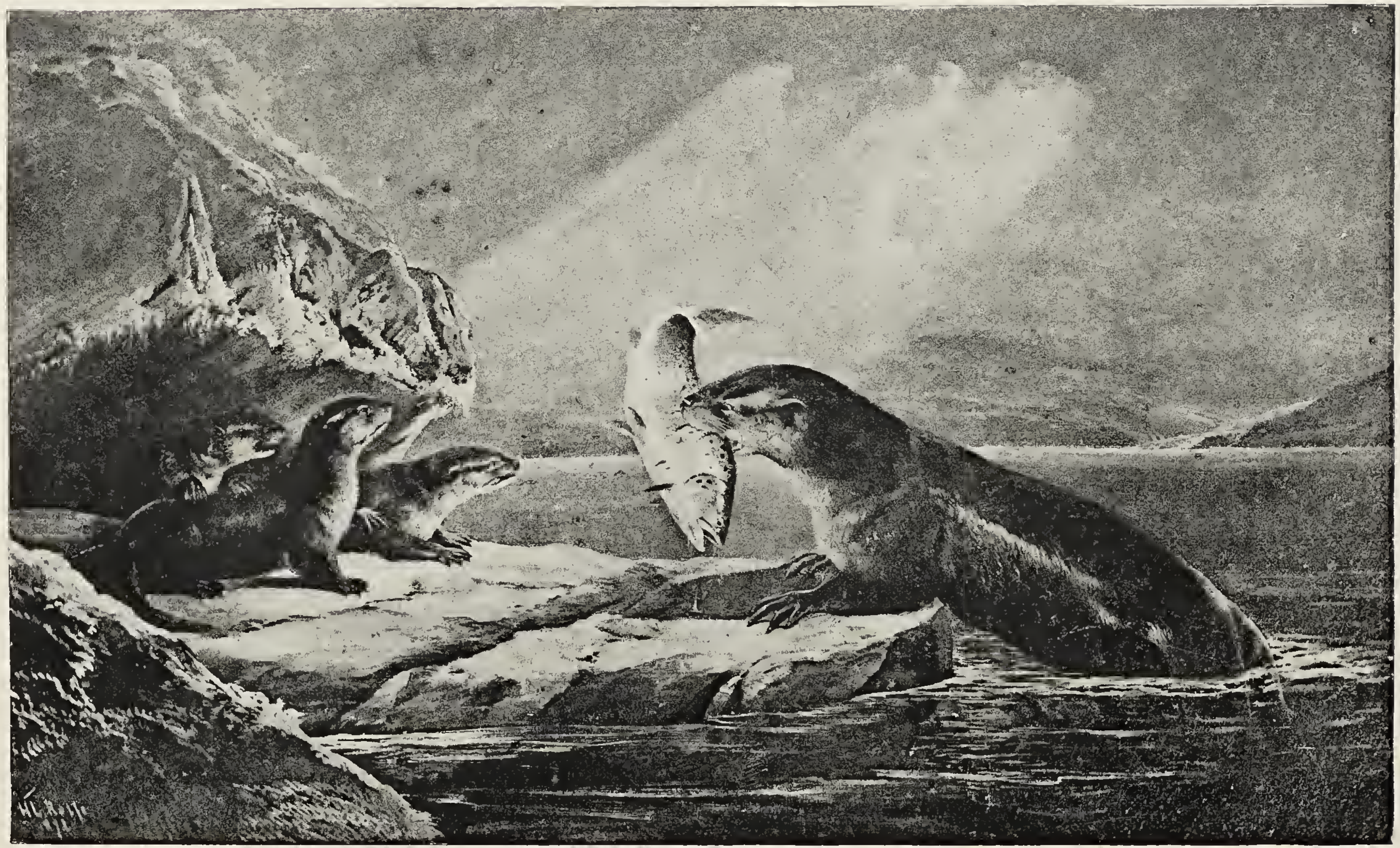

THE FIRST LESSON.

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THE

Fishing Gazette:

DEVOTED TO

ANGLING, RIVER, LAKE, AND SEA FISHING AND FISH CULTURE.

EDITED BY R. B. MARSTON.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.

VOL. XXIII., JULY TO DECEMBER, 1891

LONDON:
SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON, AND COMPANY, LIMITED,
ST. DUNSTAN'S HOUSE, FETTER LANE, E.C.

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WOODFORD FAWCETT & Co. PRINTERS, DORSET WORKS, SALISBURY SQUARE, E.C.

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THE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

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— The —
Fishing Gazette

SATURDAY, JULY 4TH, 1891.

THE PAST MAY-FLY SEASON ON TEST AND ITCHEN.

By HAMPSHIRE.

On the upper portion of the Test, the May-fly made its appearance in numbers on the 8th June, some five or six days later than usual. At one time there were dispiriting rumours afloat to the effect that, owing to the severe winter, all the larvæ had been killed. A little examination of the weeds soon dispelled that idea, as I found the insect crawling up the stalks, and I knew that a few hours would see them on the wing. On the 7th a few came up in the morning, and by the afternoon the fish knew them, and a few brace paid the penalty before six o'clock, when they ceased to rise. The wind for the whole of the first week was too awful to write about, dead down stream, and at times almost a gale. However, it had the effect of keeping the flies on the water, and the fish, taking advantage of their utter helplessness, became very bold and rapidly gained condition. After the 15th the wind veered round to the south-west, and then good takes were the order of the day. Nineteen and a-half brace was the top score on Bransbury, but on several other days it reached eighteen brace. The total up to the 25th was over two hundred brace; but I must say that several of them were of a size that a few years ago one would have scorned to kill; but as the river was overstocked and the fish decreasing in size, the order went forth to slay them, about ¾lb., and to return to the water the larger ones that were not made up. Strange to relate, no large fish were killed. Many, of course (according to the sad stories told), were hooked, but managed to part company in the weeds, which this year were left longer than usual to make up for the deficiency of water.

On the Chilbolton water, which is now much more select than formerly, and will I hope next year shape into a club (everything being in training), a large number of trout were killed, and those who fished it were loud in praise of the stock and quality of the fish it contained. At Stockbridge and Houghton, I am told the fly was scarce, and sport decidedly not up to the mark. What a pity it is the latter water is not stocked with the May-fly, now that it is so easy to import it! A couple of sovereigns would lay down enough larvæ to insure there being a large rise of fly next season. But, as I hear the water is in the market, perhaps the next purchaser may turn his thoughts to it.

There is no use denying it, "the May-fly is a great acquisition to any water": it fattens the fish rapidly, gives one a chance of killing the large ones, which do as much harm as jack, and enables those who are not expert enough with the small fly to make decent baskets, and I take it that a man who kills a fair number of fish with it is well recouped and satisfied for the expense he goes to; besides it gives him a certain amount of confidence, and it frequently happens that what is called a duffer often kills the largest fish, and so makes him as keen as mustard. The May-fly also gives the man of business a certain amount of excitement, if he has not already had enough of it in the city, waiting and expecting the all important-wire to say that "The fly is just coming up; lose no time."

The Houghton Water is, I hear from a friend of mine, swarming with fish, and there are only, I believe, eight rods on it this year, instead of the usual seventeen or eighteen; this would be rectified if there was May-fly. My friend told me he was awfully amused to see two fellows (the first time he went down) fishing with two flies down stream, and he began to think that perhaps that was the only way Houghton fish were to be killed. A few days like that soon sicken men and they don't go again; hence, I presume, the reason the club is not filled up. My friend, after a week's stay, was more than satisfied with his twelve brace, averaging 2lb. each, and he declared to me it was the finest water he had ever fished. I must say he knows how to throw a fly.

I have just been reading an article in last week's *Saturday Review*, headed "The Promise of May-fly," in which the writer, who evidently is not a frequenter of the Test, says only good anglers who can throw to a hair's-breadth and not miss have much chance when the May-fly is up. My experience is, that when the fish are well on the feed (not always when the fly is thickest on the water) an error of judgment in a couple of yards is no detriment. A fish will come quite that distance after your fly—you see the wave and are fully prepared to strike, more often than not too quickly, before it is in the fish's mouth. Still, it gives you a certain amount of warning. The writer goes on to say that in a few days the trout are so gorged—and on grassy level and broken stream, you may gaze all day and never see a rise, or only the one lazy effort, not repeated, of some satiated trout—in May-fly waters there will for months be scarcely any fishing, except when the dusk is washed with silver, and then only for a few minutes, if we have warm evenings, &c.

During the past May-fly season I gave a friend a day here. On arriving, he said, "I did very well on Chilbolton yesterday, when the May-fly was up and the fish not taking it. I killed five and a-half brace on Red Quill." Again, when in town last week, I had a letter on the 25th to say, "The May-fly is at last over, but I had a real nice day yesterday. I bagged eleven and a-half brace on Hare's Ear, ribbed with gold. This was on water where the May-fly had been swarming."

I hope this is sufficient proof to those who would not have the May-fly on their water on any consideration, that it is a mistaken idea "that fish won't rise for weeks after the May-fly."

I could give numerous other instances, but I hope the above two are sufficient. The May-fly lingered on here till the 23rd, and taken on the whole, as far as this neighbourhood is concerned, it was a real good year. True, we did not kill any large fish, like we used to; but as Detached Badger, when fishing here the other day, said, "I have come to the conclusion that it is much better fun to kill three or four takable fish, rather than toil all day and perhaps get one three or four-pounder."

On the Itchen, I am told from various sources, that it has been decidedly a bad season, especially below Winchester. About Worthy it was fairly good. One large fish, 6lb., was killed below Bishopstoke, but two of the best men I know fished the water next day and had a blank.

ANGLING IN THE NORTH SEA.

By D. BELL.

> "I cast my line in Largo Bay,
> A fishes I caught nine;
> There's three to fry, and three to boil,
> And three to bait the line."
> —*The Boatie Rows.*

WITH the coming of summer the angling tourist's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of rippling rivers, lovely lakes, and sunny seas. At this time the ocean rests itself after the toilsome labours of the winter hurricanes, and the feelings now associated with its gentle character are those of health, rest, and recreation. For several months its quiet surface will be intruded on by timid trespassers in search of rest to jaded minds, and new force to languid bodies, and to most of these the prime amusement on the water will be angling. And what a privilege it is. Here are no rents to pay, permissions to ask, disappointments through poaching, or scarcity of fish for lack of water. The sea and its contents are practically as free as air, and those who avail themselves of its bounties and pleasures are wise in their generation.

Choice of locality may be the most difficult problem which the intending holiday-maker has to solve, and while so many places are good, we should like to particularise one which in our opinion can be called excellent. It is that bit of rocky north-east Scotch coast stretching from the old-fashioned little town of Stonehaven, in Kincardineshire, northwards to the bustling, energetic, and splendid town of Aberdeen—"the silver city by the sea"—a stretch, roughly speaking, of sixteen miles. The contour of this rocky line is pleasantly diversified by little inlets, promontories, bays, and deep narrow gullies; while here and there, like sentinels of the cliffs, are isolated rocky knolls, which seem to be bits of the land that have stepped out into the water. Their bases are usually surrounded by the tide, and their green sloping sides and tops repeat the verdure of the mainland. Besides these there are the occasional low-lying half-submerged rocks—the Titan giants with seaweed tresses, who do the real work of storm resistance. What a sight it is to see them wrestle with a mountain wave. How they seem to raise their heads to meet it—how they dash into the wall of water, shattering it to foam like driven snow, through which their black heads rise again, with dripping locks, to meet the next aggressor. And what a sound the battle makes. What turmoil and what tumult seethes about their weedy heads.

But to-day it is entirely different. Raised high above the ebbing tide they seem like sleeping watch-dogs basking in the sun. Their ancient enemy also sleeps, with only a gentle heaving motion as of respiration, to show that life is not extinct. At low tide these half sunk rocks form the most interesting ground for the seaside visitor. There will he find all manner of crabs, limpets, periwinkles, sea anemones, and the multifarious life which inhabits the fringe of the ocean. And then the sea gardens. What lovely pools of marine vegetation he will come upon while clambering in search of crustaceans. No artist has yet done justice to the magnificent forms and colouring which these fathomed caves of ocean bear. Rich reds, olive browns and greens, lovely pinks, and warm burnt sienna, are the unexpected colour tones which meet the astonished gaze; and the shapes assumed by the various plants are both exquisitely delicate and magnificently luxurious. Indeed the impression given by many of these tide-left pools is that of a rich tropical garden, with tertiary colour tints, so harmonised and blended as Nature only faintly attempts above ground in a few lichens and withering leaves in autumn. The limpid medium through which they are seen, too, heightens the colours to their highest brilliancy, and gives a spectacle which nowhere else can be seen.

The high dry hoary cliffs are jagged and strata scarred, with wrinkles and furrows wrought by time upon their stony faces. Yet age with them has no accompanying weakness. Rigid, solid, quiet, strong, they live their life without decay. Here their office seems to be, not so much to stem the waters as to dam back the land, which everywhere rises high behind, threatening to overtop them and rush into the sea. At many unguarded points the soil has overflowed, and runs with steep or gentle declivity to the water's edge. Grassy slopes and lofty terraces, aglow with sea daisies, primroses, crowflower blossom, and wild fuchsia, are traversed by winding footpaths, which lead from rippling waves below to fields of waving corn above—for here the plough has claimed the land to the utmost limit.

Anon a gap occurs, where neither rocks nor land prevent the incursions of the sea. A chasm is formed but ten yards wide, with sheer ascending sides running inland fifty or a hundred yards, and ending as abruptly as a *cul-de-sac*. In stormy weather the scene within is almost fearsome. Great waves rush up the gulley and dash themselves against the walls, which throw them back again upon the next incoming wave. Then up the waters rise together, and dash upon the walls again, sending up spouts of spray to drench the cliff tops. With the tearing, plunging, swirling, seething, foaming, resounding mass of water under him, the spectator soon feels giddy, and turns to steady his brain by looking at something more stable than this fearful fluctuation of the waters.

Another attraction of this coast is the occasional cave which here and there burrows mysteriously into the rocks, and gives an air of romance to its vicinity. One near the little fishing village of Cove is a splendid example of cathedral architecture, with groined and fretted roof of everlasting granite, most gorgeously coloured. To sail on a calm summer day from the quaint, snug, little harbour of the Cove, along the front of the towering cliffs to the recess which leads to the cave is a very pleasant little voyage. Here, in the shadow of the great rocks, the water is a distinct blue-green, and the walls above are a bright pinkish-yellow. But not until the boat has entered the cave itself do the finest beauties of colour disclose themselves. The bold projections of the walls and patterned roof are blazoned with the brightest orange, purple, olive, and green hues, so harmoniously commingled and shaded together, and contrasted with the deep sea-green of the water below, as to give an impression in form and colour not likely soon to be forgotten. The great hall or chamber, twenty yards long and very lofty, is succeeded by a low narrow dark passage penetrating the rocks at a slight angle—how far we cannot tell. With a salmon coble and torch its mysteries might be revealed; but our timid crew prefers to imagine it is the entrance to the abode of some fearful ocean monster—as well it might be—and we retreat in dread.

Besides the lovely colour images presented by material objects at the seaside, what splendid light is sometimes shining on the sea itself. Given a bright, calm, summer afternoon on the east coast, with a mirror-surfaced sea under a white sky, and the spectator will have before him a vision of shining brightness such as will seldom bless his poor mortal eyes this side of eternity. Colour there may be none till the sun declines, but of pure white refulgent light the firmament is full, and finds its radiant image in the sea.

Sitting on the green slopes above the grey cliffs, watching the graceful sailings of the white seagulls below, the eye is suddenly arrested by the movement of what looks like a wand, or tall weed, near the water. Closer observation reveals the figure of an angler perched upon the rocks—looking from this distance like some predatory insect or crustacean with long antenna searching for its prey. The "antenna" consists of a stout bamboo rod, twenty feet long, furnished with a strong hemp line and a single bait hook whipped on three-ply salmon gut, and baited with mussel or soft crab. On a fine day hundreds of these angling "objects" might be discovered here and there on projecting rocks patiently and silently plying their angles—each with Hiawatha's invocation in his heart, if not upon his lips:—

"Take my bait," cried Hiawatha,
Down into the depths beneath him.
"Take my bait, O, codfish, take it!
Come up from below the water;
Let us see which is the stronger!"

Leaving Aberdeen by rail, the rock fisher is set down in a few minutes at Cove, Portlethen, or Muchalls—all good places—and proceeds to his favourite perch over some deep clear pool, where the seaweed and tangle are not too rank. With the bait dropped into the water he has simply to "wait for a bite," and when the bite comes, to hold on. Rod, line, and hook, are all put to a severe test in a battle with the sturdy rock cod. A "two-year-old" gives a lively tussle, and shows great determination to get amongst weeds or under a sheltering rock; but when it comes to hooking a "three-year-old," with no possibility of letting him run, and most likely no power to move on the part of the angler, the issue of the battle may almost be said to be a matter of providence. Cases have occurred in which the watery combatant seemed to have the best of it—angler and rod disappearing in the wake of the huge and victorious codfish. But these cases happily are rare, and if the tackle remain firm and the angler cool, the result is usually a weighty addition to his day's capture. As a sample of what is frequently caught during a few hours of a Saturday afternoon, let us quote from the last report of the Aberdeen Amateur Rock Fisher's Association which appeared in the *Fishing Gazette*. The Association consists of about 150 members, mostly artisans, whose only opportunity to angle occurs on the Saturday half-holiday, and competitions during the summer months are very frequent. At last competition the heaviest basket was 34lb. 13oz.; the second, 22lb. 14oz.; the third, 22lb. 6oz. The heaviest fish on that occasion was 11lb. 9oz., but heavier ones are not at all uncommon. Indeed, a basket from the rocks might easily be half a week's provender to the thrifty housewife.

Boat fishing is also pursued here in much the same manner as elsewhere round the coast. Such terms as "railing" and "whiffing," &c., are in these simpler latitudes unknown, but a resemblance to the methods is carried on all the same. That boat fishing is a popular recreation with the Aberdonian will be apparent to anyone who, on a calm summer evening, ascends the high ground overlooking the harbour entrance. Before him the great sea spreads itself all round, smooth as glass, its horizon lost in the sky. To the north a beautiful bay, margined with a belt of bright golden sand, curves gracefully north-eastwards as far as the eye can follow it in the sunny evening haze. Far out, as if set purposely to accentuate the idea of space, a great ship with wide-spread sails appears like a mere speck painted on the scene; and here and there, in nearer view, the dark-sailed herring yawls stand idly waiting for a breeze. But all round the entrance channel, beyond the pier heads and within the radius of a mile or so, the shining water is literally dotted with black specks, like a lot of water-fowl on an ornamental lake. These are little fishing boats, each containing two or more anglers enjoying the soft sea air and catching whitings, haddocks, and saithe. Sport here is rarely bad. In June, July, and August fish are always plentiful, and the boats usually count their catches by the score.

A more venturesome sport during the herring season in July and August is the mackerel fishing. Indeed, notwithstanding the disparity in size of the two fish, mackerel fishing may be said to be the salmon fishing of the sea. There are many points of similarity in the circumstances surrounding both species—but in particular, the success with mackerel is very precarious, and the search after them calls for more exertion and endurance on the part of the angler than is required in the case of those fish already mentioned.

A night with the mackerel is really an adventure. A deep keel boat with scudding sail, and some skill to manage it are the first requisites, and nerve to be out on the wide sea in an open boat all night are the second. Two or more usually join in a mackerel expedition, and a professional fisherman to accompany is advisable.

The tackling necessary is not elaborate, but must be very strong, as no wickeder fish swims than a mackerel when he finds himself hooked. Twelve, twenty, or thirty showy flies dressed on No. 3/0 Limerick hook, and three-ply salmon gut—and attached as droppers about 18in. apart, on a three or six-ply salmon gut cast line, is the usual tackle in Aberdeen bay. A heavy sinker is hung to the end, and with a hundred yards of strong sea line to pay out, the sail is set and off before the wind you go, trusting pretty much to luck to put you in the track of the shoal. Should "muckle luck attend the boat," the fierce tug-tuggings now and then indicate the hooking of new victims, and it soon becomes necessary to slacken sail in order to clear the line and set off again. Although the best time to catch mackerel is during the night, it does not follow that the angler works in darkness. In the month of July twilight hovers all round the northern sphere, and the sun's track from west to east can easily be traced in the northern sky. It never is quite dark—but an eerie gloaming half hides and half reveals surrounding objects, which when experienced for the first time is apt to waken the senses and nerves to a state of abnormal acuteness. Nor is the angler likely to be solitary. On a good fishing night the herring fleet will be abroad, and sights and sounds of sea and sky, hitherto unfamiliar to his eyes and ears will well repay the hardihood entailed.

Of pier and breakwater fishing, it is only necessary to say that the facilities for it are abundant, and the success almost unlimited. It is not an uncommon thing for a man to leave off fishing for a time on account of fish being too plentiful, and the angler filled to satiety. Housewives lose their temper when the good-man comes home night after night with a burden of fish which require a deal of cleaning, and for whose consumption the combined eating strength of the whole household is utterly unequal. Seven at a time with rod and flies is not uncommon, and must be said to be remarkably good fishing.

Many more particulars might be added regarding special localities and styles of tackles used; but these items are very easily learned on the spot, and a seaside angling holiday is not likely to be an unsuccessful one round the coast about Aberdeen.

"Another Fish Story.—A Salmon's Pedigree.—Mr. Turner some years ago rented a beat ona famous hotel water on the Aberdeenshire Dee for the spring months. It was his first essay at salmon angling, and although as verdant to the art as a cabbage in May, he was exceedingly anxious to learn and doubly so to kill a fish. So was Cowie, the gillie, who had an eye to his half sovereign for the first blood. On the last day of the week the landlord was called into the hall to see a '*beauty of a fish!*' as Cowie asserted (with a double wink across the bar counter, which had a mystic value of its own, and was not lost upon mine host), that Mr. Turner had that day killed. 'It's a splendid fish for the season of the year,' was the landlord's frank backing up of Cowie's opinion, and Mr. Turner thanked him for his compliments, which were showed with no unstinted measure on his success in securing such a prize. Mr. Turuer was a little more at ease, but was not yet confident, so, meeting Lord Gordon soon after, he buttonholed him, and pulled him along to the hall table to see his morning's capture, knowing that his lordship would speak out his mind on the subject. A sign from mine host, and his lordship took in the situation at a glance: 'Yes, I have seen worse fish, Turner, at this season of the year—much worse fish—yes, very much worse fish,' and he nodded very authoritatively over the matter. The fish was packed up and despatched to some dear friend in a compliment. The first kill!! Some three or four years afterwards, when Mr. Turner had grown old in salmon slaying, he and Cowie again came together on the same bit of water, on which he killed his first fish, and naturally the subject came up. 'Now, Cowie,' said Mr. Turner, after a drain had passed between them, 'I have always had my doubts about that fish—just tell me the truth now. It will do you no harm. Was it a clean salmon or not?' 'Well, sir, if you must know the truth, his grandfather might have been a clean fish once.'"—H. C.

Notes

OUR Killaloe correspondent, Mr. S. J. Hurley, writes, and is responsible for the following: "If you should know of a jolly lot of anglers—three or four in number—in want of some tip-top salmon, grilse, and trout fishing for July, pray send them on to me, and I can set them up on one of the best and cheapest several fisheries on the Shannon. Two miles of water, strictly preserved, *paved* with salmon, grilse, and trout; plenty of room for three or four rods, snug quarters close to river. Nice things to eat, nicely cooked. Lovely river, lake, and mountain scenery, and, though last not least, a hearty Irish welcome."

WE are glad to hear that several meetings of London anglers are being arranged to consider the threatened exclusion of the public from the Norfolk Broads. Mr. Richardson informs us that a meeting of North and East London anglers will be held at the club-room of Ye Pluckie Perch, the Earl of Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney, on Wednesday, July 15, at eight p.m.; and that a meeting will be held by the Gresham Angling Society, in connection with this matter, on the 28th, at nine o'clock. A meeting of Norfolk anglers is fixed for Saturday, July 11, at five o'clock, at the Royal Hotel, Norwich.

WE have strongly urged Dr. Henshall, who has charge of the fishing tackle exhibit at the World's Columbian Exhibition, Chicago, to come over and personally call on our manufacturers, so that this country may have a good and varied show at this "greatest show on earth."

AN INTERESTING GROUP.—Messrs. Gunn and Stuart, Photographers and Miniature Painters, Richmond, Surrey, write:—"We are sending you a copy of a group taken at the garden party at White Lodge, Richmond Park, in connection with the silver wedding of H.R.H. The Duchess of Teck, and H.H. the Duke of Teck. Besides the Duke and Duchess the following are included in the group:—H.R.H. the Princess of Wales, the Princesses Victoria and Maud of Wales, Princess Christian, the Princesses Victoria and Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Victoria of Teck, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, the Russian and Turkish Ambassadors, &c." The group is an excellent specimen of open-air portrait photography, and the fact that it contains a picture of the most charming and popular princess of the age, lends it general interest and additional value. The print is a permanent platinotype, size 9 by 13.

IN Ross-shire the sea trout angling on Loch Maree, and the summer angling for salmon and grilse on the Conon and Meig rivers connected with the Spa Hotel, Strathpeffer, ought now to be getting about their best.

IT has been proved by the netting that during the past ten days the grilse got in Scotch waters have increased very much in size on an average. The weather has been remarkably warm; and it is the opinion of most of the Scotch netters—an opinion in which they will not be gainsaid—that that during summer and in particular when the weather is extremely warm the *Salmonidæ*, in the sea, increase in size with amazing rapidity. They found their opinion on the fact that before the netting ends in August, the grilse of an average size are fully as heavy as the average sized early spring fish of the first year which ascending in January and February, must be five and six months older fish.

AN Oban correspondent writes: "Within a few days back there has been a regular flock of anglers setting out for the western Highlands and islands, to be present at the start of the summer angling for grilse, sea trout and small salmon."

A GRAND chance for amateur sea fishers! In Aberdeen Bay, close to the mouth of the Dee, there is a most extraordinary show of coal-fish What a royal time feasting upon smolts which left the river these fish must have had during the past six or seven weeks! Their most dainty food—the smolts—having some short time since all disappeared, the "coals" ought now to be hungry enough to bite freely. They are strong fish, and the play the amateur angler will get with them will not be a "wa'cast."

IN the Spey, the summer run of sea trout—the largest and best sea trout of the year—has been going on for some little time. This is the time for it, but more water than has lately been in the river is needed to bring on the flush of the run. Permits to fish on the Duke of Richmond's waters have hitherto been granted by Mr. Aiken, his Grace's factor at Fochabers. Liberty to fish for salmon, which, if retained, have to be paid for, has to be obtained from Mr. Wedderspoon, the Commissioner.

SEVERAL Scotch net fishermen have lately had to "pay the piper" pretty sweetly. Serves them right! They had no business to fish during the weekly close-time or poach others' waters. But it is the lessees of the fishings that are primarily to blame; they pay their men by results, and what can be expected of ignorant men but that when they think they can do it unobserved they should break the law in their desire to make the most of it? The more fish the more pay, you know!

THE popular baronet of Monymusk, Sir Arthur Grant, has been obliged to stake his miles of splendid trouting water—perhaps the cream of the Don—in consequence of the terrible poaching which has been going on. During the volunteer encampment at Monymusk the other week, Sir Arthur gave the officers the run of his fishery, and the men the right to the stretch of water adjoining the camp.

THE tidal waters of the Ythan are known to afford excellent sea trout and whitling fishing. Fly creeper, tube, and Devon all work. A gentleman who has been fishing these waters writes: "If we have not grand scenery we frequently have grand fishing. We can have pleasant boating, sea fishing, sea bathing, a little wild fowl shooting, tennis, and golf, and, not the least enjoyable, we can when so minded have an excursion to Collieston, some miles distant, where the cliff scenery is magnificent, and where in the lochs of Slains perch and pike fishing—the former really excellent—may be had."

ARE Loch Leven trout simply imprisoned sea trout, and will they when they have free access to the sea become migratory? We ask this because five years ago through the bursting of an embankment of an artificial lake a number of Loch Levens got into the river Ythan. That year a fair number were caught. The following year a few; but since then they have entirely disappeared! A correspondent writes: "I have an idea that they are confined sea trout, and that if they have opportunity they will make their way to the sea. You might note this and see whether those lochs which have an unobstructed outlet to the sea, where they have of late been put, they make any headway. We have tried them in Lochs Awe, Katrine, Ard, and others, but they have been a dismal failure. If the loch is confined they cannot get out and walk, but if it is not, they are hardly ever seen again."

MESSRS. COX AND SON, 7, Bernard-street, Southampton, are advertising for a young man to take charge of a fishing tackle department in their business.

SUCCESS OF THE SALMON FISHING SEASON.—It is very interesting to note that up till the present time the salmon season of 1891 has been an undoubted success, and that the failure of last year has in a measure been redeemed. The *Glasgow Herald* is responsible for the following comparison: "Last year the quantity of Scotch salmon sent into the London market for the season up till the present time amounted to 111,000lb. This year to the same date the quantity was 220,000lb., or nearly double." It must, however, be remembered that last year was only about a half average. However, it is satisfactory to note that the black forebodings of those who look not on the bright side of things, are, to a certain extent, not to be realised this year.

Notes and Queries

THAMES PERCH.—A CURIOUS INCIDENT.—Mr. Arthur C. Butler (vice-president of the Reading and District Angling Association), writes that perch in the Thames, which were so sadly decimated by the ravages of the mysterious epidemic of two years ago, are again strongly in evidence in the Reading District. In the neighbourhood of Reading anglers generally returned all perch they caught last year; and this may to a considerable extent account for the present satisfactory state of affairs. Careful and persistent protection of spawn for several years must also be considered. At any rate, there appears to be a good stock of perch once more in the Thames, specimens of this game fish, from ¾lb. to 2lb. having been numerous, both while trout fishing and in the general season. Mr. Alfred Hurley, one of the committee of the Reading Association, while fishing in company with Mr. Butler, and attended by Ned Sheppard, the well-known fisherman of Purley, had a curious experience while spinning for a Thames trout—with a fairly large gudgeon mounted on a "flange" spinner, Mr. Hurley caught in a rapid and shallow stream, two perch, each about ¾lb. in weight, at once. The fish, which were firmly hooked in the upper jaw, on the middle and lower triangles of the spinner respectively, must have made a simultaneous rush at the gudgeon from different angles. Mr. B. adds that he has never before heard of such a remarkable—we cannot say *singular*—angling incident. Have any of our readers ever met with a similar experience?—A. C. BUTLER.

GUT AND EYED HOOKS.—I observe that "South West" considers May-flies tied on eyed hooks are more likely to break than those on gut. I have not found it so, but what I have found is that the knot is liable to slip on the iron of the hook. This is easy to remedy by making a double hitch. He also says that he would not trust a "salmon fly tied on an eyed hook." I have fished with nothing else for the last four years, and have never had a break at the hook. My friend, who shared the river, also has used them for the last three years. For an amateur who ties his own flies they have the great advantage of being much easier to tie on. Our fish ran from 18lb. to 25lb., and the river was rapid, as is usual in Norway, Several fish were foul-hooked, so the flies were well tested.—"L. L.," in *The Field*.

SAVED FROM DEATH BY A TROUT LINE.—Whilst fishing for pike on a sheet of private water near Stratford-on-Avon, Mr. G. Ditchfield, of Alderminster, had recently a narrow escape from drowning; so close a shave was it, in fact, that his life hung on the slender thread of a trout line. Mr. Ditchfield was fishing from a punt which had a few inches of water in the bottom, and whether this caused him to slip, or whether the act of trying to make a longer cast than he habitually did was responsible for his sudden stumble, he cannot for certain say; all he knows, he says, was that he went backwards, and that his leg was lodged under the seat of the punt, and in that posture, with head under water, he found himself powerless. Luckily Mr. Ditchfield was not alone; a friend, Mr. Butler (a neighbour of Mr. D.'s), was at hand on the bank. The punt was fourteen to fifteen feet away, and as Mr. B. presumably couldn't swim, he threw his rod, butt-end first, on to the punt, and, by good luck, got the reel to catch on the metal rowlock. The rod was not of sufficient length to reach the bank, and there was nothing for it but that the punt must be moved by the line (a No. 1!). This held to the strain, and Mr. Ditchfield was landed providentially before quite exhausted. This is the biggest haul we have heard of being safely brought to bank with an Acme thus far.

WITH the advent of the May term mostly all the spring leases terminate, June witnessing the close of the remainder. In the upper water, however, attached to hotels, the lease runs all the year round. Already many of the lower waters have been taken up for next season, and the prospect of competition for a good bit of water appears keener than ever.

A MEMORABLE FISHING MATCH ON THE BORDER.

By GILKNOCKIE.

> "Some books are lies frae end to end,
> And some great lies were never penn'd."

THIS was the plain matter-of-fact statement of one Robert Burns, and he, by all accounts to hand, was a man likely to know what he was talking about. At the outset may I be allowed to state that the following narrative is true as death—in fact, "ower true." I had it from Rab Morrison's ain mooth, and he can be backed against George Washington for producing stark-naked truths, or any of those other old cheese-paring yarners who were as devoid of imagination as a flat-iron. Therefore the intelligent reader will see at a glance that this is neither a cock nor a bull story—though I could tell a tale about a cock fi—— (whew! this is a digression)—but a fair and square report of a genuine fishing match, and all the harrowing circumstances that led up to it. Besides, I would no more think of disagreeing with Rab Morrison than I would dream of disputing the right of way with a Bengal tiger if I met him in the jungle single-handed. Rab has a way of laying down the law that brooks no contradiction. He clashes every nail fair bang on the head, and clenches his arguments by smiting the table in front of him with his ponderous neive, looking round the while, as much as to say, "I should like to see anybody smile." No, Rab Morrison is none of those ——

Here ye Editor of ye *Fishing Gazette* puts his oar in: "Come, old man, come to the point; tell us about this fishing match. Everybody will think you've got some big lee up your sleeve if you do not let Mr. Morrison have an innings soon."

Being thus suddenly hauled up like a cadger's powney, who has just managed to get one leg into a field of clover, I must perforce commence, and reel off my story.

It was during one of my Border raids that I sat in the snug parlour of a celebrated old angling resort among the Eskdale hills, shut out from the noise and turmoil of the busy world, and within hearing of the murmuring Esk, which runs between the quiet village churchyard (where the graves of many well-known anglers of bygone days may be seen) and the cosy ancient inn in which I was located. It was the back end of the year. There had been no summer that season, and the winter had commenced early to fill up the gap; large flakes of snow fell, and anon the wind whistled and darted through the winding passages of the old hostelry, skirled through the key-hole, and finally went roaring up the "lum" at a fearful rate. Evidently the wind was out for the night, and meant going it. Just as I had made up my mind for a dismal evening, while the tempest was holding high carnival outside, who shall land in but Rab Morrison and his "ancient trusty drouthie crony," Sandy Crozier.

"Now I'm fettled," says I.

> "Heap on more wood! the wind is chill;
> But let it whistle as it will,
> We'll keep our merry Christmas still."

"Ho, landlord, ho! A jourm o' red het punch, ye toozie-pated son o' a landless, breekless, heilan' laird. Stir up the fire, Rab! Gar the sperks fly, Sandy! We'll mak' a nicht on't!" I remarked in my best Lowland Scotch, out of compliment to my visitors.

It was a night to remember, and as each succeeding punch-bowl was replenished by the generous steaming liquid, Rab Morrison fairly conjured as he recounted many a good run by flood and field, making the glasses quiver on the table as he smote the mahogany with his clenched fist in order to give point to his vigorous periods.

"Tell Mr. G. aboot yon fishin' match," said Sandy Crozier, at last, when Rab was getting near the end of his tether.

"Oh, ah!" replied the fluent one. "Aw hed nigh forgotten it; but it's a sad story at the best. Well, you see, Mr. G., it came about in this way."

Rab always delivers himself in Scotch; but I'll translate him, excepting when I want the full flavour of his observations to come out strong, then it will be undiluted Rab Morrison.

"It came about in this way," began Rab. "You will remember 'Captain' Elliot, of Liddle Bank. He wasn't a real captain. Well, I need not tell you that he had three beautiful daughters—'the three Queens o' the Border' we used to call them. I was hopelessly in love with the whole three a' at yin time. For months I slept little enough; all I thought of was which of the three charmers I would finally select. This knotty question, however, was speedily and quietly settled one morning at a neighbouring kirk, when the two eldest were married, without saying a single word to me, or anybody else that I know of. I took on dreadfully; but still the youngest one of the girls—Grace (the best o' the lot)—was left, tho' she had far too many sweethearts to please me. The Croozer, nae-less for as quiet and sackless as he looks, turned out to be one of my most formidable rivals. But there was one Dick Foster o' Catlowdy—'Dick o' the Forest,' as he was called: he was aye coming mouching round at a' times, baith day and nicht, hang him!" And here Morrison struck the table a fearful welt and used most unparliamentary language anent the said Dick o' the Forest.

"One night," went on Rab, "the three o' us a' met at Liddle Bank—the Croozer, Dick, and myself. A' min' the nicht weel. After a long and rather painful silence Grace rose from her seat, and in a queer sort o' way she said she was muckle obleeged to us a' for comin' to see her sae often. She liked us every yin alike, but couldna marry mair than yin at a time; but she wad put us to the test—a very slight yin. Would we all engage in a fishin' match on the following day? and the one who brought home the best-filled basket should be her final selection. 'Agreed!' we all said, as one man. The conditions suited Sandy Croozer and me to a hair, as I felt sure that Dick o' the Forest was more versed in horse-couping than angling; therefore I really only had Sandy to fear, and I considered him verra sma' potatoes as a fisher. Dick o' the Forest was in high glee. 'Would we accept a cigar each?' And tumbling a large pocket-book out of his capacious poaching-looking coat, he spread an immense collection of salmon and other flies on the table, from Jock Scott and the Silver Doctor downwards, and invited us to take what we pleased. Then Dick plunged into a flood of conversation about hackle, bumbles, patent winches, Phantoms, Kill Devils, tapered lines, &c. He could also name all the pools from Hermitage water foot to the Roman Camp on the Liddle, and from Eskdale Muir to the Solway Firth on the Esk. Here was certainly a red-hot champion at the game, and our hearts sunk within us. So crest-fallen had we both become that we took ourselves home at an early hour to meditate on the state of our love affairs, and actually left Dick o' the Forest in possession of the field. 'Twas a false and cowardly move. However, we were all early astir the next morning. Sandy Croozer came up with a fearful hang-dog look, as if he had not had a wink of sleep for a month. Dick, however, was as lively as a cricket; and when he cheerily said, 'What fettle, lads?' and slapped us both on the back, I could ha' brained him on the spot. There was a wicked leer lurking about his care-defying face that was simply maddening."

Rab here made a circuitous flourish with his clenched fist, which would have demolished Sandy Crozier, had not that worthy at the precise moment luckily stooped down to poke the fire.

"Aye," remarked Sandy, "he's gey camstairy when he gets on to that fishin' match. Just hark till him!"

"Haud yer whischt, ye donnert auld guff. It was a' your faut," said Rab.

"Well, then," continued Rab, "the conditions were arranged in a jiffey. We were to fish from ten o'clock till five, an hour being allowed for luncheon, and the catches were to be weighed at the Penton Linns Hotel at six o'clock. We all elected to fish in the Esk. Luckily the Cauldron stream fell to my lot, the Croozer got the Willow Pool for his pitch, and Dick airily remarked that as there was little choice left him he would be content with the foot of the Mason's stream. Now I have the two idiots. One salmon, a few grilse, and a handful of brown trout will do the business. Dick's flies are totally unsuitable for the Mason's stream, and the Croozer never knew how to fish the Willow Pool. Hoorah! here's a go! Never did two demented beings fish as we did that morning. Things went a bit slow with me at first, and, much to my horror, I could see that auld Hangie Sandy Croozer cleekin' them oot like mad. He was wadin' too up to his oxters, and I fondly hoped in my heart that the body wad be drooned, and that his auld carcase wad be swept past me to the Solway. I was frantic; they wadna' bite; and barrin' a wheen burn troots, I got nocht worth speaking o'. I tried a' the likely spots, and stood on a fearfu' craig deep in the water, nigh to the neck, but it was no go. Presently luncheon time came, but no one cared to talk of the fishing. As usual, Dick was full of anecdotes. He dismissed angling with a wave of his hand as poor sport, and not to be compared to fox-hunting, or even otter-hunting; and descanted on the merits of the various packs he knew, and the exciting runs he had had in the early mornings when he was nobbut a bit callant. Not a word about the fishing match—he had evidently forgotten it; anyhow he gave it a wide berth.

"Fortune smiled upon me directly after luncheon. At the very first cast something gave a fearful tug. A salmon, by Jupiter! Whirr went the line. I have him up the stream, then across, then down to the head of the pool; when all is soon over—a ten-pounder! My spirits were now up in the stirrups, and as the freshening breeze rippled the water, I began landing the trout like shelling peas. Much to my delight I could see Sandy thrashing the Willow Pool with all his might, but getting nothing; and I heard from a scout, whom I had sent out, that Dick o' the Forest was asleep on the bank, and baith his flask and his creel as toom as a whustle. Now, if I could only lick the creature Sandy, I am a made man for life. No time was to be lost—I must keep threshing away; but scarcely had I made the resolve, when the first stroke of five boomed from the old clock at Kirkandrews Tower, and the match was at an end. We all met on the Willow Pool sand-bed. I was wet up to the neck, and bathed in perspiration; so was the Croozer; as for Dick, he was as dry as bone, and had never turned a hair. 'How have you got on, Mr. Foster?' we both asked. 'Oh, capital—capital! I'll not be far behind you two champions. I have done well—considering.' 'Considering what?' said I, snappishly. 'Well, considering that I went up on to the top of the Roman Camp, and enjoyed the great fishing match through a large telescope I had with me. I never saw two men work harder. You both deserve to win her. I mean, you cannot both have the first prize; but I have caught some fish myself, and I don't despair. Sometimes these contests are won by very small fry.' Upon this Dick opened his basket, and produced two brount trouts, about ¾lb. each. In the excitement of the moment I almost grasped him by the hand, but I endeavoured to subdue my feelings by recollecting that I still had the miserable Croozer to reckon with, and the way his creel was bulged out I feared it would be a close thing. Sandy looked as solemn as a coffin, and I wished he was one with all my heart. Here was a man with whom I had lived all my life on terms of close friendship standing between me and the dearest object of my existence. How I hated the Croozer, and how freely I forgave poor Dick o' the Forest, can easily be imagined. The fateful moment came at last. Sandy's fish were put in the scales; mine followed, but I overtopped the Croozer by 4lb. weight, and won, as they say in racing circles, 'hands down.' Both the defeated candidates took their licking in a philosophical manner. I sent my basket of fish to 'Captain' Elliot's, at Liddle Bank, with a message to Grace that I would follow anon. Dick took his leave, ostensibly for Catlowdy, and the Croozer and I sat down over a drain of toddy. The news of the match had got wind, and by the time Sandy and I were half through the first jorum of punch the 'boys' began to drop in. They seemed to come from all the four winds of heaven, until the ancient hostelry was fairly crammed with officious friends, all bent on congratulating the fortunate winner. Briefly, we made a night of it. Finally I retired to roost. I slept long—in fact, did not wake up from my dream of happiness till ten o'clock the following morning, when I found the Croozer at my bedside—yon grinning auld image ayont the fire-place—caperin' up and down the room like a mad thing. 'What ails ye noo, ye second-hand son o' a water kelpie? What ails ye?' 'What ails me, d'ye ask? and you lying in bed, and Dick o'Catlowdy and Grace Elliot off to get married at Gretna Green at five o'clock this verra mornin', and they're now "ower the Border and awa'," at Grace's new hame in Nicol Forest.'"

THE LATE MAJOR HILL.

We give our readers a portrait of that grand sportsman, the late Major Hill, and think it will be appropriate to reproduce here a few words about him from Mr. James Thurlow, which we published soon after Major Hill's death.

"Dear Sir,—I hoped and expected to see a notice in *F. G.* of the death of that good fisherman and sportsman, Major Hill, late of Maesllwch Castle, Radnorshire. He was the master of one of the finest pack of otter hounds in the country, which were well known all over Wales, and in many parts of England.

"His charming little fishing box at Erwood is situate among the loveliest scenery on the Wye, with the river foaming over the rocks close under the windows. In anything like a good season he used to take a large number of salmon, some years registering over a ton. This is a record hard to beat, considering the fish had such a distance to travel, as, by the river, Erwood must be fully one hundred miles from the sea. Each salmon taken was duly entered in the fish book, with the weight, the fly it was killed with, and the name of its captor.

"You will, I think, remember that Major Hill, a year or two back, sent to the *F. G.* a most graphic account of his struggle with a monster salmon, which he hooked in his water, and which he had on for, I am afraid to say how many hours; but I know it was played far into the night by the aid of lanterns. The fish was unfortunately ultimately lost by the parting of the gut, either by the jaws of the fish, or through being frayed over a ridge of rock. A salmon of over 40lb. was, I think, soon after seen or caught higher up the river, and Major Hill would have it this was his big friend who broke him.

"Having had the pleasure of business transactions with the Major for many years, and also, by his kind courtesy, had the privilege of a few days' salmon fishing with him at Erwood, I can personally testify to his kindly and genial disposition and to his unbounded hospitality. His chief delight was in his merry little pack of hounds, but he was fond of cricket, a first-rate performer with gun and salmon rod, and altogether as fine an all-round sportsman as could be found in the kingdom.

"His funeral, which took place on the 8th June, was attended by a large number of sympathising friends and tenantry. He died universally beloved and lamented, and is laid to rest in the little churchyard at Glasbury, almost within hearing of the murmur of the charming river he loved so well. *R.I.P.*—Faithfully yours, J. Thurlow."

THE LATE MAJOR HILL.

LAKE VYRNWY.

Tempted by the reports of what certain friends of mine have done on the above magnificent rival to Loch Leven, I have been enjoying some splendid sport thereon during the past few days. In looking through the visitors' book at the Lake Hotel, I was struck by the scarcity of anglers' names from "down south," and I feel assured it is only the want of knowing what a real good thing this fishing is that keeps them away, and leaves to Liverpool and Manchester anglers a monopoly of the grand sport here obtainable upon reasonable terms. The lake is five miles long, and it covers one thousand one hundred acres of ground, filling the whole of a lovely valley, with mountains rising pine-clad and heathery from the water's edge on both sides, and possessing at its northern end several sequestered bays, into which flow turbulent mountain streams. Nor must I omit to mention the series of waterfalls which help to feed the lake, because some of these falls are exceedingly pretty, their beauty being enhanced by the rich luxuriance of the surrounding foliage, and the wild wealth of ferns which here flourish so abundantly.

But you want to hear about the fish. Bear with me, brother anglers, but for another brief space, because I want to make you understand, if I can, what a delightful place this is; and most true anglers like to associate their sport with pleasant surroundings. No one would imagine that this lake was for the most part artificial; but such is the case, and it represents the pent-up waters of several rivers with which this Vyrnwy valley was flooded, and as the lake took ten months to fill, some notion of its magnitude may thus be formed. It is now teeming with magnificent trout, of whose bold dashing rises and splendid fighting powers I had ample evidence within the past week. As the best fishing is on the shallows near the shores, those anglers who object to loch fishing because of being compelled to use a boat, may top the scores from the shore. The trout average about 1lb. each; but there are some magnificent fellows of fabulous weight only waiting for some past master of the dry-fly art to beguile them when at eventide they rise in mid-lake, with a boil like a salmon. I am preparing an attack upon these sockdollogers, who are, no doubt, some of the old inhabitants of the original lake which existed at the head of this valley before it was flooded. As a specimen of the fighting powers of Vyrnwy fish, it took fully a quarter of an hour to kill one on Saturday upon a 12ft. Castleconnell rod, and that trout was under 2lb., and he was fairly hooked in the corner of his mouth. How is that for pluck, Mr. Editor? Don't let me be misunderstood—this is not a "duffer's paradise." There no trolling; nothing but artificial fly allowed; a 10in. limit is imposed; and the take is also restricted to seven and a-half brace for one rod, or twelve and a-half brace when two or more men fish from the same boat. This limit has been several times reached this season, and I ran it close, with a friend, in a raging gale on Saturday last, although I am the veriest of duffers at loch fishing. Having told you what a real good thing this is, in the way of sport, let me add a few words upon the mighty question of £ s. d. The single fare (L.N.W.) from London is 14s. 6d. to Llanfyllin, nearest station; the inclusive terms for hotel (*en pension*) is three and a-half guineas; fishing, 4s. per day, or £1 per week; boat and man, 5s. per day. The hotel is replete with every comfort, and in all my angling travels I have never met with more comfortable quarters or more generous fare. By the way, I should add to my description of the lake the fact that it is encircled by a level road, cut like a terrace out of mountain sides, and forming a delightful drive. In conclusion, a few extracts from the official record of the slain will be useful as showing what has been done on the Vyrnwy this season. The season opened on March 26, and up to last Saturday, June 27, the total number of trout weighed in was three thousand and eighty-five, weighing 2,647lb. 3oz., taken in eighty fishing days; no Sunday angling allowed. There are "lashins of trouts" in the lake, and not the slightest risk of the stock running low, because, in addition to the natural breeding ground, artificial breeding is being carried on upon an extensive scale, and the nursery ponds are swarming with young stock. Intending visitors should write beforehand and arrange for hotel trap to meet them at station, and now that the fishing is at its best, the demand upon boats may cause disappointment unless anglers secure one by previous arrangement.

G. W. Gedney.

P.S.—One of the best boatmen on this lake was drowned on Sunday evening by the upsetting of a canoe.

Tremendous Catch of Herring.—Last week the Annan fishermen who are plying the herring industry in the Solway Firth met with an amount of success which has seldom if ever been equalled before. One single fisherman returned with over three thousand herring of prime quality, and he could have returned with more if his boat had been larger, for he had on this account to throw a large quantity out of his nets after they had been captured. But even this record was far out-stripped by a Whitehaven boat, belonging to John Shackley, called "Maggie," and captained by Jonathan Wright, who caught at one fishing no less than six thousand four hundred fine herring. Each day a considerable number of boats have been out this week. Consequent on the big catches prices have fallen considerably, and the fishermen have in many cases been glad to dispose of their herring at the rate of two and sixpence per hundred. The East Coast boats are now in a forward state of readiness for prosecuting the industry, and old hands are predicting a very prosperous season. The white fishing has been suspended.

Fishing in the London Parks.—According to an evening contemporary, certain members of the Bolingbroke (Battersea) Radical Club, who, judging from the steps they shortly intend to take, are anglers, purpose asking the London County Council to allow rod fishing in the waters of the parks, commons, and other open spaces under its control. It would be much better if they induced the London Angling Associations to move in the matter.

A Good Name.—The boy's fishing pole was fastened under the root of a tree on the river bank the other day, and he was sitting in the sun playing with a dog. "Fishing?" inquired a man, passing along the road. "Yes," answered the boy, as briefly. "Nice dog you've got there. What's his name?" "Fish." "Fish? That's a queer name for a dog. What did you call him that for?" "'Cause he won't bite." Then the man proceeded on his way.—*Washington Star.*

"A DAY OR TWO ON THE DEVERON."

READ TO THE GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY, ON JUNE 2, 1891, BY DR. BRUNTON.

"O Caledonia, stern and wild."

IT is a pleasant thing to obtain even a short holiday in the spring-time, after one has endured the arduous duties of a more than trying winter. A little recreation of this kind is enhanced by the prospect of a bit of fishing. I was told that I might get an odd salmon and plenty of trout if I could so arrange as to take my "leave" at Huntly, by the banks of the celebrated Deveron. Accordingly, for that end, two angling friends and I made preparations; when these were accomplished on April 20, we started from King's Cross by the Great Northern eight p.m. train, arriving at Aberdeen punctually at eight a.m. next morning—a truly marvellous run.

O tempora! did it "ever enter the heart of man" a hundred years and less ago that steam should so shorten time and space? Well did Sir Walter Scott describe his fellow "literatus," James Watt (Introductory epistle to the Monastery), as "the man whose genius discovered the means of multiplying our national resources . . . giving the feeble arm of man the momentum of an Afrite; commanding manufactures to arise as the rod of the prophet produced water in the desert; affording the means of dispensing with that time and tide which wait for no man; and of sailing without the wind, which defied the commands and threats of Xerxes himself. This potent commander of the elements, this abridger of time and space."

In my young days an aged relative used to amuse me by the history of several of her journeys by sea from her native town to Glasgow, each necessitating preparations of an extensive nature, because the voyage often lasted two or three weeks. What is that distance now? A swift experience of five short hours! How much more is this true on land by rail.

Certainly it must be admitted that when an excursion is made slowly one has increased opportunity of examining and studying things of interest, which in the present rapid method of transit can only be cursorily seen or altogether passed over. "Sleep dwelt in our eyes" till we passed Edinboro'.

I must not forget to mention the magnificent land, sea, and sky scape which presented itself as our train crossed over that stupendous work of engineering skill—the Forth Bridge. By land

"Night's candles are burnt out, and jocund day
Stands tiptoe on the misty mountain tops."

But far down the channel, as we gaze, away on horizon's edge a molten speck appears, in power as severe to mortal eye as is the glare of furnace iron fresh from its pot. It is the sun—"the all-seeing sun, which ne'er saw the bridge's match since first the world began!" It illumines the whole prospect. This "ancient light," with its all-powerful rays, soon dissipates the eastern mist, and makes clear the view below us. It does seem strange to look right down upon large ships moored in the placid sea. They appear like cockle-boats from our lofty height, and all along each side of the channel the towns, villages, and solitary dwellings, trees, cattle, and all, suggest a resemblance to the land of Lilliput.

Yet we know it is a panoramic scene, and that "distance lends enchantment." Too quickly the scene is changed, and we rush along the Fifeshire coast. In something less than an hour we are upon the second edition of the long Tay Bridge. It is needless to recall what became of the disastrous first; suffice that the present is a noble structure, and the run across is nearly, if not quite, as interesting as the one above mentioned. The north part of the bridge ends in the busy port of Dundee. Here we stay a few minutes, and rapidly glide along the eastern coast. Born in a sea-port town, to me the sea has everlasting charms. Many objects in passage deserve to be noted; but the only thing I shall mention in relation to fish is the superabundance of salmon-stake net-engines, closely packed along the coast from the region of the mouths of South and North Esk up to Aberdeen.

In contemplation I said to myself: Is it possible, with so many traps, that a salmon, if he come in to feed in the shallow water, can escape capture? Poor salmon! his only chance of a free run is on the "unlawful" Sabbath. Were it not that it is enacted that the nets shall be "off" for these precious twenty-four hours, "'twixt Saturday and Monday," I fear the presence of a salmon in the Dee or Don during the netting season would be a *rarus piscis*. Commercial instincts prevail, and the angler must suffer and put up with his conditions. He who wishes fish for breakfast or dinner must endure exorbitant charges so long as the products of the sea are manipulated in price as they now are in London.

Curiosity led me to pay a visit to the fish-market in Aberdeen. I saw boat after boat arrive with the "harvest of the sea." "All sorts and conditions" of fish were exposed for sale and auctioned. I shall give an instance. What think you of seven beautiful cod-fish (each of which would bring 2s. 6d. to 3s. a-piece in this our London), lying on a clean slab, put up to auction, and the lot bringing 3s. 6d., or 7d. a-piece? Other fish were sold at a like rate. Large boxes of silver whitings made 8s. or 9s.! Naturally I had a conversation with the master of one of the fishing boats, and on expressing my surprise at the price of his fish in Aberdeen as compared with that which we pay in London, he said, "Oh, we poor fellows don't get any of that money; it all goes to the middle-man." "What," said I, "don't the railway companies by their rates of carriage vastly increase the price?" "Oh, dear, no," said the fisherman; "railway carriage is a trifle. It is the market-rigger who swallows the bulk of the profit." "Them's my sentiments."

I walked away from the Aberdeen fish-market a sadder if not a wiser man. One thing I feel now, and have long felt, that a big reform is needed in London and elsewhere in England as regards the price of fish. Is it not well known that cargoes of fresh fish are often destroyed, either by being thrown overboard or sold as manure, rather than that the price should be cheapened and the market lowered? Why does not the law penalise the destruction of wholesome food? Does the farmer destroy his wheat when the price is low or unremunerative? No; for very good reasons. He feels that he has tilled his land, sown his seed, waited till ripening, then had his crops reaped, and afterwards threshed out. In short, his corn has cost him a large amount of time, trouble, and outlay; so he values it. May-be the fisherman—or rather he who buys the fisherman's cargoes, or contracts for them—acts and thinks thus: "Oh, it is only a case of reaping; if we destroy this lot we have only to reap again; put in the nets and the thing is done." Thereby following the principle of the old proverb, "Lightly come, lightly gone." But can we accept this as a justification of a practice which ought to be abhorred by all? The sooner it is put a stop to the better for the good of the community.

We had ample time for a substantial breakfast; then, making a change of line at Aberdeen, we journeyed by the Great North of Scotland rail up by the banks of the Don, amidst a country which, though one could not exactly call it "wild," was; at all events, at this season of the year, decidedly "stern." There was scarcely a bit of spring green visible; all the fallow land bore on its face the brownness of hard winter. The other fields were tilled, sown, and being sown; but not a blade of corn was through the ground. Away in the distance the mountains carried patches of snow upon their shoulders, making the bitter north-east wind more bitter still as it swept over. The highland railways are engineered in a manner made to follow as nearly as possible the course of a river. After reaching the watershed we commenced to descend by the banks of the Bogie, down the Strath, and into Huntly—a very pleasant and satisfactory journey. Our friends met us, and we proceeded up town to take our quarters at the Gordon Arms. The rest of the day was spent quietly. In the evening a ramble by the banks of the river, which runs about half-a-mile outside of the town, enabled us to prospect for next day, so we resolved to drive up to Glass and fish down.

Next day, as the wind was N.E. and very cold, we thought it useless to start early, so waited for letters, which arrived about eleven. A pleasant drive in the keen air brought us to the neighbourhood of the river just as the fish began to rise. "Buckling to" as quickly as possible, we selected our pools and began, having been advised to use Hare's Ear and March Brown flies. In the pool I fished the trout rose very unsteadily; the flies came floating down in an abundance equal to a swarm such as I have often seen in the mid-day hatch of the Hampshire Itchen.

While the rise was on I only saw one fish rise twice in the same spot; casting over he fell to my artificial—a nice beautifully-marked trout of 12oz.

In half-an-hour the rise was over, the flies were gone, and it became a question to me, Why did these trout in such a cloud of floating flies rise so singly? They came "as single spies." I think the question may be answered by the fact that the hatch of fly was over before the trout realised the presence of their dainty morsels.

Then (and this will apply to our other experiences) why was the rise of fly so limited in time? I will try to solve this question, and I think the answer may be correctly contained in the following remarks:—

(1) We had a very cold wind blowing, and interfering with the action of the sun's rays. When noon arrived, ere the heat was sufficient to force a hatch, the same sun's influence had all the while been acting upon the snow-clad mountains wherefrom the Deveron takes its birth.

(2) A number of thermometrical observations have revealed the conclusion that the same grand sun which hatches out the flies also as sharply ends their course; for while the waters of the Deveron registers a spring-like temperature in the early part of the day, by half-past one or two o'clock it sinks three or more degrees by reason of the sun's action upon the distant snow. Down trickles ice-cold water into the river; down goes the water's temperature; down goes the warmth; and there is an end of the hatch. Geniality is necessary to all life, and very much so to that of winged insects. Cold destroys the life of the living and preserves the dead from decomposition. How inconsistent seems this cold. My friends catch a fish or two, and so do I; and as the rise is over, we wend our way down by the lovely banks of the Deveron, having a cast here and there on the "chuck and chance" principle. An odd trout, perhaps, of a speculative turn of mind now and again falls to our flies, deftly placed; but the whole day's proceedings are meagre. It is a weary trudge to the tired along the banks from Glass to Huntly. We pass some magnificent pools, which in the salmon season ought to yield good sport; as for trouting, the whole river looks as if it were built for that purpose.

Unfortunately a little bird has whispered into my ear that minnow, worm, night line, and net fishing have been too much for poor Deveron; not merely that the constant lining of the fly-fisher has made the fish which remain very timid in their nature, but the thieves and pot-hunters have denuded the water, and by their constant intrusion into the haunts of the inhabitants by their foul means have scared the fish—upon which Nature has bestowed a natural timidity—into a state of continuous dread. Farewell, then, in such circumstances to fair and free fly-fishing.

What a pity, is it not, that when a generous-hearted nobleman (Duke of Richmond and Gordon) gives to the public such a munificent grant of free trout fishing, that it cannot be fished fairly? Now, what I mean by the word "fairly" is, that if a river or stream is fished with fly only, and all fish under half-a-pound are returned, that river never requires re-stocking—it can always hold its own. I know that I am not alone in this opinion. On the other hand, let a river be wormed, minnowed, and netted, it will soon deteriorate, and all the re-stocking in the world will never restore it to its pristine condition. Were such an association formed at Huntly as that which exists at Canobie for the protection of the border Esk, the Deveron would be one of the grandest rivers in Scotland. I don't mean to traduce its character now; but if the regulations suggested were carried out, the river would be at its very best.

The same rule would apply to many other rivers in Scotland; and if there were superadded a close time for capture of trout in all rivers and lochs, it is needless to say that an immediate improvement would take place, not only in the size and quality of the trout, but in their sporting properties. Give the trout a sufficient time to forget the appearance of rod, line, and artificial flies, and the angler will soon find out what an advantage "close time" is. Why the Legislature has paid so much attention to, and taken such precious care of, the salmon, and totally neglected the rights of trout, I have with many others been at a big loss to understand. Some of the Scottish angling clubs, I am pleased to say, have been of late moving in the matter of a close time for trout, but so far their efforts have been of little avail. The sooner the close time comes the better for the angling prospects. Now that the number of anglers is twenty to one in comparison with that of thirty years ago, if they expect sport, anglers must conserve both in time and in the size of fish and mode of capture.

What are we in the south here to think of a club competition in Scotland, in which the first prize was taken the other day with thirty-six trout weighing 6lb. 14oz., and second, thirty-two trout, 5lb. 10oz.? Shade of Izaak Walton, what "a slaughter of the innocents!" Well may the waters be denuded of their trout when such a club exists. I trust this is the only one which "defiles its garments;" better it should walk in white and be worthy.

I trust that if any member of the committee of the club whose competition on the Clyde I refer to reads this, he will bring the matter up at his first meeting, in the interest of angling, and persuade those who reside within a hundred miles of St. Andrews to mend their ways.

I fear that I have by digression said so much, that some will think the history of my trip is very like the thread which the chemist suspends in his liquid when he desires to obtain most beautiful samples of crystalline compounds. My crystals, I am afraid, are rather sharp, if not bitter. To the thread again.

On the following day, by kind permission of friends who rent a part of the Deveron near Marnock, we made an excursion of ten miles through a district of country which, charming in its present barrenness, must be most lovely when all Nature is garbed in green or yellow. The rooks were busy, and the larks sang high in the clear, cool air, while other songsters helped the music of the way. Noon had arrived before we had put up our rods. We saw the trout busy in full rise. I elected to use a single horse-hair cast, with the orthodox flies. My companions at once began in the first pool—a pool with a very uncertain bottom, running over irregular sharp ledges of rock, where one had to "walk, or rather wade, circumspectly." As the N.E. wind made the casting of a light line somewhat difficult, I took myself off across a meadow to a long pool, the bottom of which was unknown to me; and willing as I was, I dared not wade. I was alone. From the bank I was fairly successful while the rise was on. This pool, overlooked by a high bank, well wooded, gave shade and protection from the wind to the thousands of March Browns which were being hatched out. At the throat of the pool I saw a flock of ducks, which were very busy feeding. On carefully watching, I was astonished to find that their particular attention was being paid to the hosts of floating flies, which they followed and gobbled up as fast as they could—one might say, shovelled them down their throats. Little heed did the trout give to these ducks, for they kept rising and taking their share amidst the flock. Had I been able to reach the farther side of this pool I fancy I should have made a big basket. Fishing from a high bank I did fairly well, and was content. What more?

It is very neat and pretty and delicate work to play out a pound and a-half fish in hard-running water on a single hair; but it can be done, though it obviously takes a proportionately longer time to kill the fish. Perhaps had I known how short a period the rise would last I might have used moderately strong gut, and thus punished the fish more rapidly. It was a question, however, of pleasure, not quantity; and I thoroughly enjoyed myself in the thick of the fight. On the distant hills the sun, at its hottest, is actively melting the snow; presently the Deveron runs colder, and the flies cease to burst forth. The rise ends; the ducks take themselves off to preen their feathers under the lee of the opposite bank; and I go on fishing on the chuck and chance plan, and we all do the same, making occasional additions to our creels.

It pleases us to note some likely pools in which "later on" a fair amount of salmon may take up a temporary abode, and with whom, providing all things go right, we hope to make an attachment in the "back-end." At or about half-past four o'clock we assembled to the tune of "down rods" and "count up." Fifty-four trout to four rods, in weight averaging nearly ¾lb. each, was our nett result—no mean basket considering the shortness of the busy time.

We got home at the appointed hour, dined, and went out visiting, being most hospitably received wherever we went. Commend me to my national hospitality—if it is not profusion, it is hearty, and no mistake.

One likes a bit of change, so next day we gave up fishing and had a trip to the country, visiting the little village of Rothiemay. The train carried us by the banks of the Bogie till it joined the Deveron, and then along that river's side. This is a private fishery, extending from Huntly Castle to the Railway Bridge at Rothiemay. Thereafter there is a good length of free water, as well as the whole of the neighbouring tributary called Isla. We enjoyed a pleasant walk to the little village, lunched in the old-fashioned inn (Fife Arms) by the riverside, strolled about, and watched two anglers ply their rods; studied the various kinds of birds, which hopped among the hedgerows or fluttered from tree to tree, singing

> "Under the greenwood tree,
> Who loves to sit with me
> And turn his merry note!"

and home again, with a resolve that our next visit to Rothiemay would be on the following forenoon. So it was, but the fishing was not propitious. It was one of those days when "something," *Je ne sais quoi*, is wrong. There was a short rise and an abundant show of fish, yet they somehow were not to be cheated; nevertheless, by dint of perseverance I managed to get seven fish.

Monday, the 27th, was set apart for a picnic to Marnock. We had the pleasure of the ladies with us. What is a picnic worth without their presence? It is impossible for such a thing to take place unless they be there. Men may sit down on the grass to lunch, and smoke tobacco after; but the whole day's entertainment is altered, toned, modified, smoothed, made truly pleasurable, by the gentle presence of the gentler sex. Is it not recorded by the porter of the Arabian Nights, when he addressed Zobeide: "You know that a company of women without men is as melancholy as a company of men without women?"

The clerk of the weather favoured us with a charming day; so fine was it that we felt inclined to take it as the harbinger of spring, for did we not see a big bright red butterfly flit over the field, airing itself in the mellow sunshine? Our access to the river was a good hour earlier than on the previous occasion, and we were just in time for the commencement of the rise. We placed ourselves much as on the last expedition, and soon were in the fight. I found the flock of ducks at the same old game—spooning up the March Browns.

Wading into the throat of the pool, I had very fine sport. One good fish, a little short of 2lb., fell to my persuaders after a gallant fight, tossing itself out of the water time after time for chance of freedom. When the rise was over we had our lunch, and a very enjoyable one it was. We sat ourselves on the crisp brown grass, and chatted right merrily; anon we took our rods again, and by dint of perseverance added a few more trout to our already well-made basket. Report said that a salmon had been seen leaping in one of the pools, so I put up my spinning rod and tackle, and with a good specimen of Brown's Phantom searched each pool; my luck was that I twice caught the whole county of Banff, which I carefully released, but I saw not a fish. We departed early, arriving in Huntly in time for six o'clock dinner.

My companions elected to go south next morning, having some business to transact in Glasgow, which would occupy them greater part of a day. As there was no particular need for me to go with them—for by so doing I would lose a day—I arranged with the proprietors of the Marnock water to re-visit it, seeing that we had had such a delightful day before, so quiet and warm, which was favoured by a gentle touch of southern wind—a good promise. An old Scotch song says—

> "But many are the ups and the downs of this life,
> When the dice box of Fate jumbles tapsle-teerie.'

The anticipations of another delightful day were sadly overturned, because during the night the wind chopped into the opposite direction, and rude Boreas blew his wintry horn with a vengeance.

In spite of the fierceness of the wind and cold we made our venture. Never in my life-time have I seen such clouds of dust blow up: it was as abundant as on a dusty Derby day, differing, however, in that there was no traffic here to raise the dust. It was simply blown off the dry-parched highways, and in quantities persistent enough to make the distant hill-sides present the appearance of their being a-fire.

On reaching Marnock the fleeting clouds faster and faster scudded by, and soon the blackening storm-cloud beat down upon us in hail-stone squall with impetuous virulence, making our cheeks and ears tingle, and blowing our lines right off the water. Where I fished on the previous days I could not throw a line. In spite of all the cold the March Browns came floating up, only to be wafted away on the "wings of the wind," except where they found shelter under the lee of the opposite bank. Here I saw the ducks again busy as before. During the lulls of the storm we managed to catch a few trout. The "cauld blast" sent us early on our homeward journey, and we whiled away the time in pleasant chat as we drove along. I dined with one of my friends, and had a right good hearty welcome.

During the night the cold became more intense, and when I awoke at half-past five next morning (preparatory to an early start for the south) I found the town of Huntly and the country around clad in a thin morning mantle of fresh-fallen snow, whilst the distant mountains had received a supply sufficient to lower the afternoon temperature of the Deveron for a week or more to come. As I steamed out of the railway station a regretful heart told that I was, for the time being, parting with kind and sincere friends, whose hospitality I very much appreciated, and shall always bear in mind.

GRILSE AND SEA TROUT.

BY RENAE.

ADVICE TO HOLIDAYING ANGLERS.

AT the present time, when many anglers are contemplating a visit to Scotland for a bit of grilse or sea trout fishing, a few hints as to procedure, and wrinkles as to methods, may not be unwelcome to those to whom the fishings may be unknown, or comparatively unknown. First, it should be ascertained that the waters thought of being visited at a particular time are in their "season" at that time. By this is meant that in the event of water and weather both being right, the sport may be counted on to prove as good as at any time during the year. Second, as no angler should estimate himself better than an average "rod," he should ascertain from the hotel keeper, or party letting the fishings, what the average take at the particular time he means to fish has been to one rod in a day or week, for a year or two back. If such particulars are not furnished, it might be wisdom to suspect something. Parties offering fishing should keep full and accurate records of the sport from year to year, and cheerfully furnish particulars of these records to inquirers. Third, those who can bundle up and go at any moment, should not do so until receipt is had of a "wire" to the effect that the water is getting into right ply. This, however, may sometimes cut one out of a good gillie or boatman—a very decided loss to the entire stranger. Fourth, if the angler intends to stick to one place for the whole of his holiday, he should make careful inquiries about five or six different places, and the place which he fancies will suit him best—provided he is satisfied that the information he receives concerning it is genuine—is the one which he should select. Fifth, if the information as to the season and the probabilities of sport does not satisfy the intending angler, a disinterested party should be consulted. The Editor of the *F. G.* will, if not in a position himself to supply the information, be certain to find someone who can. Sixth, be sure in treating with the parties who have the fishings that a definite promise of the services of thoroughly competent men to act as gillies or boatmen is given. This is next in importance to ascertaining that the time of the year you intend to fish is the best time of all, *ceateris paribus*. Seventh, ascertain, if you are an "economist," what distance the various fishings are, the charges for driving (if necessary), boats, gillies, and the fishing. Eighth, know how you will be situated with regard to fishing—whether you will always get on to the best waters whenever you like, or whether you will have to take your, turn or the chance of the ballot. Ninth, find if the fishing is free, what extent of water there is, and how many rods are usually on it. Tenth, should the water be free at all times to all the other rods, try you and all the rest to work harmoniously together, understanding thoroughly amongst yourselves—that everyone may find matters most pleasant—when, where, and how each one is to fish if he cares. Eleventh, do not, if you are satisfied that you have gone at the right time to a place—that you were not taken in by the information you got—get splenetic and abuse your host or your informants behind their back should you, through the water being too high or too low, not have such good sport as you counted on getting. Twelfth, use the right tackle and the right lures, and as to these, and how to fish under different conditions, always cheerfully give and never be above receiving information. Let there be no jealousy, let the most successful anglers do everything that in them lies as becometh brethren of the art to make their unsuccessful companions as successful as themselves.

(To be continued.)

A VERY fine salmon scaling 58lb. was got in the nets at Burghead, near the mouth of the Findhorn in the Moray Firth. It was a finely-proportioned fish, and its weight is quite unusual on any of the Moray Firth stations.

EDUCATE! AGITATE!

OUR salmon and sea trout fisheries! Are they in a good or in a bad way? Have the powers that be a clear knowledge of their state? and are they using the means in their power to keep up the stock of fish? Anglers! What are they doing? They look for fishing—yes, for good fishing; but what are they seeking to do for the fisheries that they may obtain it? Angling lessees pay their rents, take the sport they get, growl frightfully doubtless, and here for a time it ends with them. Next year, most likely, they move to other places to repeat the performance. Free fishers pay nothing; as a rule they are grievously disappointed with the sport; but what efforts are put forth by them to get it made better? Rarely any; nay, rather, they become splenetic, *storm* the hotel-keeper if they have been at an hotel, and behind their backs dirk at every round their defenceless and well-meaning friends who sent them thither. Fishery proprietors! Have they moved, or are they moving, to get matters made more to their mind? They are not pleased with the rents or the sport they get, yet they will not budge one inch; neither spend that they may profit by spending nor take the trouble to agitate. Not one in a score of any of the classes named do we find are doing what they might — what they ought. They must know that year after year the number of anglers increases, and the number of fish decreases. The word to all who see clearly and with pain that matters are rapidly going from bad to worse is, EDUCATE—point out forcibly and clearly to others, whenever opportunity offers, the many abuses to which, to their ever-increasing detriment, the fisheries are subjected—strive to rouse a spirit of inquiry to know more about the fish and their habits, and the effects of fishery abuses and bad laws in this connection; for not until the mass of anglers and angling water proprietors are educated to see that hearty, earnest, and general agitation must precede reform, will anything worth doing be done for our salmon and trout fisheries. Not till then will disappointed anglers get fewer, nay, they will get more numerous as the fish decrease. The state that ere long our fisheries will be in if we remain apathetic, or misdirect our efforts is sad to contemplate; but we must rouse us up—work vigorously and co-operate—educate first, and afterwards agitate with might and main.

W. MURDOCH.

FROM the beginning till about the 20th of the present month is usually the best time of the year for loch trout fishing in the later Highland districts of Scotland, which include most of Sutherland, Caithness, Cromarty, Ross, and the west of Inverness-shire. The trout are in the pink of condition, give most sport, and are therefore best worth catching.

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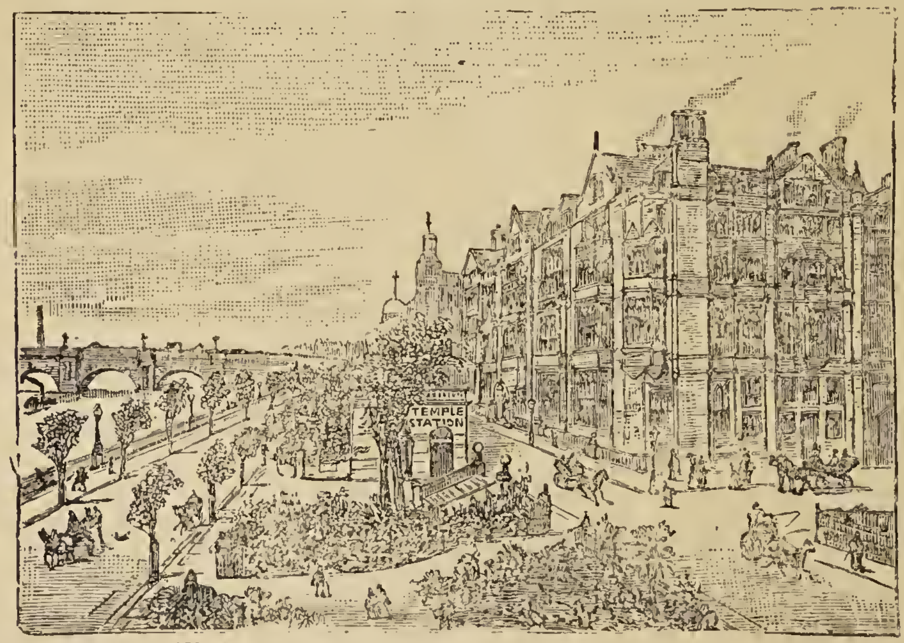

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EXTRA SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

JULY 4, 1891.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Harry: Write to Mr. J. J. Armistead, Solway Fisheries, Dumfries, for his list of fish and plants for aquaria. Should also advise you to buy an excellent book on the aquarium, recently published by Mr. L. Upcott Gill, Strand, London. The part on the fresh-water aquarium is particularly well done. It is impossible to give advice on the management of an aquarium worth anything in the space of a few lines.

J. Miller (Waltonian Club): It is a dace, and a fine one.

J. R.: Mr. Clark, hon. sec. of the Matlock and Cromford Association, Matlock, Bath, will give you particulars as to cost of day tickets and where accommodation can be had.

Correspondence

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. Pritt.

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

FISH FROM NEW ZEALAND.

Dear Sir,—Some years ago you introduced to me Mr. W. H. Purvis, chief engineer of the s.s. *Ionic*, and you will be glad to hear that this gentleman has most kindly brought over to me, in the freezing chamber, two New Zealand fishes, which arrived in excellent condition. One is the *Callorhyncus antarcticus*, which I have placed in spirit; the other, a very large specimen of the Hapuku, reputed to be one of the best food-fishes of New Zealand. As this is being made into a skeleton, I had the opportunity of tasting its flesh and found it extremely good, flaky like that of a cod, but very dry. On account of the entire absence of fat or oil, I should say that this fish is particularly to be recommended to invalids. The weather was unfortunately very warm when the fish was taken out of the freezing chamber, and consequently the flesh did not keep beyond a few hours after it had been thawed. But I have no doubt that better results might be obtained if the fish were imported during the colder part of the year. The Hapuku is reported to attain a weight of 100lb.—Believe me, yours truly,

A. Gunther.

British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell-road, London, S.W.

[We are glad to hear that Dr. Günther has got the Hapuku. Mr. Purvis was determined he should have it.—Ed.]

SEVERN PERMITS.

Dear Sir,—I was sorry to see Mr. C. White's letter in your last issue, relative to the above, because it exhibits a want of verity on his own part, and attaches want of care, thought and intelligence to the distributors of licences, and a deplorable amount of ignorance to the Birmingham anglers, which I do not think they deserve. I have always looked upon Mr. White as a man possessed of more than an ordinary amount of shrewdness and intelligence, and quite expected he would have acknowledged the incorrectness of the imputations he made against the Severn Fishery Board, and have expressed regret at having made them. Instead of which he is now trying to shift the blame on to the shoulders of the clerk of the board, a legal gentleman of great experience and ability, whose action in sending out the permits was quite correct. Mr. White should know that when a distributor applies for a book of licences, it is necessary to send with them a supply of permits sufficient to meet any application for the same, but the S. F. B. never for one moment supposed or intended that permits would be issued to purchasers of licences, whether they required one or not, and no distributor should issue one unless it was asked for. Mr. White must have been in a state of absent-mindedness when he states that "*We* (the Birmingham Association) have no station near the places mentioned where fishing could be indulged in during the close season," when in reality they have fishing stations up to Bridgnorth, close to which is Darley Brook, one hundred yards above which is the very district where the permits were issued for. Surely the sec. of this great association should know this, if not, his *geographical* knowledge do indeed want improving. As sec., Mr. White well knows that the necessity of withholding of permits for two years, so as to increase the stock of fish in the river Severn, was discussed by the Provincial Angling Association and myself, and Mr. T. Coles, the president, was requested to bring the matter before the S. F. B., and all the clubs associated would be made aware that the permits were withheld; the only permits issued plainly stated where they could be used. This Mr. W. acknowledges, and it is ridiculous to state that the "error lies in the fact that they did not contain a proper definition of where fishing during the close season was prohibited," and far too bad of him to attach to the Birmingham anglers the deplorable ignorance that they did not know whether their favourite fishing haunts were in Shropshire, Staffordshire, or Worcestershire. I give them credit for far more intelligence than that.

I am happy to bear testimony to Mr. White being an excellent officer of a most important body, the Provincial Angling Association, but in this matter he has gone a bit wrong, and I trust this ventilation of the misuse of permits may result in a more honourable respect by anglers of laws made for their benefit, and more united efforts to punish wrong-doers.—Yours, &c.,

Worcester. R. Wingfield.

Dear Sir,—I see a correspondence in the *Fishing Gazette* between Mr. White, of Birmingham (who I believe is sec. to the Birmingham Angling Association), and Mr. Wingfield, of Worcester, with reference to the granting of permits to holders of licences to fish for coarse fish during the close season.

I am sorry to see in Mr. White's letter what looks very much like an attack upon the Severn Fishery Board, or upon its clerk, with reference to these permits.

It seems that *for the convenience of Birmingham anglers* permits have been sent out with the books of licences to agents, so that anglers in the Birmingham district might be able, without any trouble, to obtain these permits to fish as allowed by the Fishery Board, between the mouth of the Verniew and one hundred yards above Darley Brook, but some Birmingham anglers have been illegally fishing in other parts of the river, even down as far as Worcester.

Ignorance on the part of anglers is pleaded as to the geographical position of the Verniew and Darley Brook, but this is a most feeble excuse, for surely any sixth standard boy in those excellent Birmingham Board Schools could have enlightened them thereon.

Mr. Wingfield's contention is certainly right, and I think Mr. White must see that his friends have either blundered or been very obtuse. The Severn Fishery Board needs no defence from me, but as one of its members I beg to say that it is not deserving of the charge brought against it by Mr. White, neither is the secretary to the board by inference blameable, unless it be for having shown an almost unnecessary regard for the convenience of Birmingham anglers.—I am, Sir, yours very respectfully,

Jas. F. Airey.

Gloucester.

TROUT CAUGHT IN THE TEES.

Dear Sir,—I have read with great interest the various letters which have appeared in your columns about the recent catch of trout made by three young anglers in the river Tees.

The catch was made in his Grace the Duke of Cleveland's liberty, who gives permission on condition that all trout under 7in. in length must be returned to the water. The total number of trout taken was *one hundred and twenty-six*, and they weighed *only* 18lb., or *on an average of seven to the pound.* Seeing that some of the trout were more than 7in., and that they were in fair condition, I think there must have been a good few undersized trout amongst the remainder. Even taking *all* the trout to have been *just exactly* 7in., they should have scaled 18lb., even without counting those which were much larger.—Faithfully yours,

Blue Dun.

THE NORFOLK BROADS.

Dear Sir,—The lord of the manor of Hickling has commenced an action at law to prevent sailing over, or fishing, or shooting on that broad; and the lord of the manor of Wroxham is threatening to close Wroxham Broad.

With the help of some other London friends, notably a local antiquarian, Mr. Walter Rye, who is acting as honorary solicitor, a "Norfolk Broads Protection Society" is being formed, and I hope you will support it, both by subscribing something yourself and obtaining the help of others. I have agreed to act as honorary secretary.

I have only to add that the more support you can give the more the cause of the public rights will be helped.

Subscriptions may be paid to me or to the account of "The Norfolk Broads Protection Society," at Lloyds Bank, Limited.—Yours faithfully,

T. J. Woodrow.

18, Coleman-street, E.C.

Mr. Woodrow also sends the following note on "The Rivers and Broads of Norfolk":—

"In very ancient times an arm of the sea covered the whole flat district now intersected by the rivers and broads of Norfolk. As the sea receded to the present coast line, various tortuous waterways were left, and some of the so-formed rivers, where the soil was exceptionally level, widened out and became the now famous broads. No doubt there was once a direct waterway through all the broads, just as there still is at Barton and Breydon, and several others less defined, and as there was within the memory of man at Wroxham. Some hundred years ago it came to the mind of the landowners in the vicinity of these broads, that as there were many hundreds of acres left high and dry by the receding waters, and as those acres were uncared-for by the King and not sufficiently valued by the public they might get authority from Parliament to apportion them amongst themselves. As Mr. Walter Rye says, in his latest book, every one big enough to protest against this undignified scramble for public property had his mouth shut by being allotted a big slice for himself. Accordingly what were called Allotment Acts were pushed through Parliament, and, under these, awards were made of the waste lands to those who already held property in the vicinity. Some of these awards, however, went so far as to grant the broads to the riparian owners, but as the Acts of Parliament always had saving clauses in favour of the King and the public, and as there was nothing in the Acts implying an intention to make private property of the rivers or broads, it is clear that such awards must have been bad and cannot be sustained. There are many other reasons why it may be argued that the public right to sail and sport over the broads should be held inviolate. But Hickling Broad is a case in point under the Allotment Acts and the lord of the manor has started an action against a man with a view to finally stop this right. Should he win, it will very possibly prejudice the other broads, where riparian owners will not be slow to take advantage of one point gained. And should this happen there will be an end to all holiday-making on the broads. These pleasant resorts of the jaded and weary Londoner will be no longer available, but will be as much preserved as if they were land-locked private lakes.

RE THE GATE SWIM, AMBERLEY, AND A "BRIGHTON ANGLER."

Sir,—"Brighton Angler's" letter shows much spite and envy. I hope London anglers will take it for what it is worth. Let me inform the "Brighton Angler" that Mr. Eldridge's excursion does a vast amount of good, and that bunches of flowers are paid sixpence for, which could be purchased in London for twopence. I am at a loss to understand why the "Brighton Angler" should object to the wives and children. Surely this angler must admit it does them more good than being pent up for ever in London.

I trust for the credit of all true Brighton anglers this feeling of envy does not extend beyond the one man. "It's not exactly what he says, but it's the *nasty way* he says it" (with apologies to Chevalier), that I object to.—Yours truly,

A London Angler.

MATERIALS FOR FLY-TYING.

Dear Sir,—Although I only deal on a small scale, I am glad to bear testimony to the good effects of the *Fishing Gazette*, not only throughout the kingdom, but three thousand miles away have I letters from your readers in application for materials in which I deal.

I dare say that a good many of your readers would be too glad to get possession of the assortment of materials enclosed, which I ask you to kindly notice. The materials comprise Dun hackles (reds, blacks, &c.), water-hen, partridge, grouse, snipe, and woodcock, golden and green plover, hackle feathers. Wings are woodcocks, jays, snipe, grouse, waterhen, starling, hen pheasant, seagull. Sold assorted only.—Yours truly, J. Pickersgill.

12, Bingley-street, Leeds.

[Fly makers will certainly find it to their advantage to send for samples. Mr. Pickersgill supplies very good natural hackles, red, dark red, furnace, &c., at one shilling and ninepence for three gross in assorted sizes; he has also some excellent duns in a variety of shades, also sold in assorted sizes at two shillings and threepence per gross.—Ed.]

ON KILLING FISH—AFTER YOU'VE CAUGHT THEM.

Dear Sir,—Could you kindly suggest in your columns any good way of killing fish? The ordinary method of breaking the spine spoils the appearance of the fish; while the plan of carrying a cudgel wherewith to belabour our spoil does not commend itself to me, though practised by many. "Regan" says that, to eat well, trout should be bled immediately on being killed. Would not the "Hawk Bird-Killer," or something of that sort, fulfil both requirements?—Believe me, sir, yours faithfully. W. D. L.

[Very likely the "Hawk Bird-Killer" would do, but we have not the faintest notion what it is like.—Ed.]

CHAMPION ROACH FISHER.

Dear Sir,—In answer to "E. J. W.'s" inquiry in your last week's *Gazette*, "Who is the champion roach fisher of England?" I beg to say that I believe Mr. Joseph Woodward, of London-road, Clapton, a member of this society, can fairly lay claim to that title.

I hope to be able, in your next week's issue, to give full particulars as to how and when he acquired it.—Yours truly, James Tayler,

Sec. to Gresham Angling Society.

22, Billiter-street, E.C., 25th June, 1891.

THE *FISHING GAZETTE.*

Dear Sir,—Allow me to compliment you on the excellence of your "Special Holiday Number" of the *Gazette*. It was indeed a great treat to your subscribers here, locals and visitors.

One friend of mine has ordered from his newsagent one dozen copies of the "Special" for to send to old angling chums abroad, who, I have no doubt, will appreciate it as highly as did your friends on the Shannon, myself included.—Yours faithfully, S. J. Hurley.

Abbey View, Killaloe, Ireland, June 24, 1891.

FISHING IN THE SMALLER LAKES OF THE WEST OF IRELAND.

Dear Sir,—Will any of your readers kindly inform me where I could get good trout fishing among the smaller lakes in the West of Ireland? I should be grateful for all particulars as regards the means of getting there, and of the living, which must be cheap; also what kind of flies to use. I propose going there in the beginning of August.—I remain, yours truly, H. S.

SEA LAMPREYS.

Dear Sir,—Two of the members of our society (Messrs. W. Holland and H. Perry), when fishing for bream in the tidal water of the Ouse (Sussex), last Saturday, caught (foul-hooked) two sea lampreys (*Petronnyzon marinus*), one weighing 1½lb., and being 2ft. 2in. in length, the other weighing 1lb. 6oz. Is this not unique?—Yours very truly, W. C. F. Gillam,

Asst. Hon. Sec. Sussex Piscatorial Society.

[We do not remember hearing of lampreys being so caught; probably Severn anglers have.—Ed.]

FISHING IN CANADA.

Sir,—As a regular subscriber to your paper, I often notice questions respecting fishing in Canada.

Having just returned from a trip to the Dominion, I take the liberty of giving some slight but probably useful information, which I obtained on the spot from a gentleman residing near Quebec.

First-rate trout and salmon fishing can be had at a reasonable expense by taking a ticket at Quebec, to travel by the Quebec and St. John Railway, which ticket entitles the purchaser to fish for any reasonable time (I was told as long as he liked) in the lakes and rivers which the railway company lease from the Dominion Government.

These waters are from fifty to two hundred miles from Quebec, and extend over an immense area. The lakes are of all sizes, from small ponds up to Lake St. John, which covers about seven hundred square miles.

The streams vary from small brooks up to the river Saguenay, which is of the first rank, and a voyage on its waters will show the traveller some of the most magnificent and awe-inspiring scenery in the world.

The journey is pleasant and cheap, the country is lovely, and the railway company have a number of small houses where board and lodging are charged at five shillings per day. Attendants, with boats, can be had at six shillings per day.

The season closes September 15.

By writing to the secretary of the Quebec and St. John Railway, Quebec, or to the Chinic Hardware Company, St. Peter-street, Quebec, further information and a prompt reply can be obtained.—Yours faithfully, W. H. Elsmore,

(West London Angling Club).

Castlenau, Barnes, S.W.

FISHING NEAR BARMOUTH, WELSH COAST.

Dear Sir,—In answer to the inquiry in last week's *Gazette*, re "Fishing at Barmouth," several of the streams and lakes within easy reach are free; a rod licence is not necessary, but if "Lex" will call on Mr. Rawlings, chemist and fishing tackle dealer, ornithologist, taxidermist, and practical sportsman, whose shop he will easily find in Barmouth, he will tell him, and sell him the correct flies for the time, and also give him all information about the district.—Yours truly,

Macclesfield. G. H. Mason.

GRAYLING FISHING WANTED.

Sir,—I am anxious next year to obtain some fishing on water where fly only is allowed, in the lower part of Teme, Lugg, or on any stream where trout and grayling exist, within easy train service of Worcester. Perhaps some of your readers would kindly give me all information? I do not object to club water, providing that it is not overcrowded with anglers.—Yours, &c., W. Woodward.

Ashdown Cottage, Tenbury.

A GOOD TAKE OF BARBEL.

Sir,—Last week a friend of mine, Henry Cooper, a late member of the Clapham Angling Society, showed me a handsome catch of fish, amongst them being three fine barbel, weighing respectively 8lb. 6oz., 8lb. 1oz., and 8lb. This enthusiastic angler usually catches his fish in the dewy morn, when the river is quiet and most anglers are still slumbering. While I was admiring them, Mr. Cooper, of St. Luke's, arrived and took them away to accompany each other in a case.—Yours truly,

William Pugh.

49, Hazlebury-road, Wandsworth Bridge-road.

ILLUSTRATED PRICE LISTS AND CATALOGUES WANTED.

Dear Sir,—Our angling association would be glad to receive and acknowledge from "Fishing Tackle Manufacturers," illustrated catalogues and price lists to be added to our library for the use of our members.

This association numbering over one hundred members, it would, we think, be beneficial to both manufacturers and members.—Yours truly,

T. Salter, hon. sec.,

Lady of the Lake Angling Association.

Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.

TRANSMISSION OF NATURAL FLIES BY POST.

Dear Sir,—I am sure the remarks of Mr. Wm. Brown on this subject, in the *Fishing Gazette* of June 27, will prove very useful to all who wish to forward insects or flies by post. Perhaps he would allow me to supplement his remarks on pinning flies to the bottom of a box by suggesting that a thin piece of cork be first securely fastened on to the bottom of the box, and then the fly pinned on to that. If only stuck into the cardboard, the specimen will be found loose at the end of the journey in nine cases out of ten.

Would it be too much to ask that in all applications for flies the applicant should state whether he requires them *alive* or *dead*?

Thanks to the weather and Dinsdale Dam, there have been no takes of salmon to chronicle in the Barnard Castle district this season, though there have been some good baskets of trout, notably that of Mr. Blenkinsopp, who, amongst other good fish, killed a trout weighing over 1¾lb., all taken with the Stone-fly, and some good baskets of trout taken by Mr. Barker from several neighbouring tributary streams with the worm.

By-the-by, I think your readers can scarcely look for or think it necessary to chronicle the surreptitious killing of a kelted *Salmo (salar?)*. It is no great event in the lives of some pot-hunters here, whatever it appears to "J. H. R."—I am, dear Sir, yours truly, More Water.

TWO HUNDRED AND SIXTY-TWO ANGLERS AND A FEW SMALL FISHES.

Dear Sir,—I enclose a cutting taken from the *Derbyshire Times*, of June 27, 1891, *re* angling match at Killamarsh. I am quite at a loss to understand how any person, let alone a gathering of two hundred and sixty-two competitors who call themselves anglers, can take fish as chronicled. The weights of 6oz. less ½dwt., down to 1oz. 1½dwt., should brand the winners of the prizes as "pot-hunters"; but no. The fact of the match being reported under the head of "*Sporting*," and to look back at the prize, must be a source of gratification to the person who poses as an angler, but who is simply a disgrace to the name. The report says: "There is abundance of fish in the water, which will doubtless afford ample sport in the future." If this is so or not, the way the water is looked after should be known, so that no person may be induced to visit such a quarter and waste his time and money.—Yours truly, C. Ward,

Member of Bostonian A.S.

Midland-yard, Kentish Town, N.W.

Here is the extract:—

"Angling Match at Killamarsh.—A match, promoted by Mr. Ellis, of the Navigation Hotel, was fished at Killamarsh on Saturday. There were two hundred and sixty-two competitors, but owing to the earliness of the season the catch of fish was small. There is abundance of fish in the water, which will doubtless afford ample sport in the future. The arrangements were carried out without a hitch by Mr. Thomas Oxley, hon. sec., Mr. W. Ellis, and Mr. F. Oxley, all of whom gave every satisfaction. The match was carried out under the new principle of exchanging tickets for numbers. The two hundred and sixty-two competitors were despatched to their allotted places in the short time of fourteen minutes. The following were the prize-takers: 1, Heeley, 6oz., less ½dwt.; 2, W. Scott, 4oz. 1dwt.; 3, W. Stacey, 3½oz.; 4, J. Glossop, 2½oz.; 5, W. H. Duty, 1¾oz. ½dwt.; 6, G. Mundy, 1½oz. ½dwt.; 7, W. Bailey, 1½oz.; 8, G. Sanby, 1½oz.; 9, A. Medley, 1¼oz.; 10, G. Harrop, 1oz. 1½dwt."

CHUB AND PERCH FISHING AT LECHLADE.

Sir,—Mr. H. W. Hyde, a Reading Waltonian, fishing the Upper Thames, at Lechlade, on June 22 and four following days, succeeded in taking one hundred and eighty-four pounds of chub. Any gentleman wanting good fishing would do well to pay this locality a visit, as it abounds in chub, perch, and jack, with a good sprinkling of roach. Splendid accommodation is obtained at the Trout Inn, and Host Bower is ever ready to supply any information respecting the fishing, &c.—Yours truly, Readingite.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

VERY EXTRAORDINARY.

SIR,—Mr. E. A. Bane, of Leyton, was rowing on the third lake at Wanstead Park, on June 28, with a lady friend. The lady held a bouquet, the string dragging in the water. Whether the bright colour of the flower was the cause, or a fly alighted on the string, I do not know, but a magnificent jack of 5lb. sprang at the string. Mr. B., with admirable presence of mind, seized the flowers and jerked the fish into the boat. Thinking this account might interest your readers, I venture to send foregoing.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM HARRIS.

34, Colegrave-road, Leyton, Essex.

A FISHING INCIDENT ON THE YORE.

DEAR SIR,—Whilst fishing in the Yore below the bridge at Borobridge with fly, on June 16, 1891, in the pool known to anglers as the Black Hole, I hooked a $\frac{1}{4}$lb. dace, which, whilst landing, was seized by a pike about 10lb. weight, and after playing me in the hole for about ten minutes, made down-stream, where a friend of mine was bottom-fishing for barbel, and ran across his line, knotting mine fast to his, consequently, every run the fish made, both of us had to play him, both reels going at once, and both taking in slack at the same time.

We continued on in this manner for fully twenty minutes, many times having the pleasure of seeing our fish, which was swimming about the water with the dace crossways in his mouth.

Presently both lines were relieved of their strain, and upon bringing them to bank we discovered them minus the pike, but the dace still on my cast quite dead and much mutilated. I have fished the Yorkshire streams for over ten years, but never in my whole experience has such an incident occurred, and I thought it worth relating, as it might interest some of the readers of the *Fishing Gazette*.

I may add that the incident was witnessed by over twenty persons standing on the bridge.—Yours sincerely, H. WALL.

28, South-road, Bishop Auckland.

A CRAY FISH FROM WINDSOR.

DEAR SIR,—By enclosed, which with others, were found near Boveney, by some boys whilst bathing, you will be pleased to know that this favourite crustacean is not extinct in our river, as I and many others thought. About three years ago, I offered one shilling each for all that could be found, they being required for scientific purposes, and though many men and boys went out, not *one* was found. This is a fine specimen, being just over 5in. extreme length. Do not return it.—Yours faithfully, B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

[Mr. Bambridge forgot to make any air-holes in the air-tight box, and the poor cray fish was smothered. Some day we hope to import from Germany, a stock of the edel krebs (noble cray fish), a much finer fresh-water cray fish than ours, which is also found in Germany, and there called the stein krebs (stone cray fish).—ED.]

APPEAL TO CLUB ANGLERS AND FRIENDS.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to acknowledge with thanks £1 from the Gresham Angling Society; 14s. 6d. from the Great Northern Bros. Angling Society, towards the fund being raised for Mr. Camm's widow and family.

I have received altogether £13 15s.; hoping by your sincere kindness you will allow me to keep the appeal in *F. G.* till it nearly reaches £20; then we shall arrange with our committee and the other committee of the Cobden Club to see the best way to put the money to good advantage. The enclosed letter I received with 10s. from a West of England club: you will see they do not wish it acknowledged.—I am, dear Sir, yours truly, B. ABRAHAMS.

25, Silver-street, Notting Hill Gate.

Cheques and Postal Orders can be crossed "Alliance Bank and Co."

FISHING QUERIES.

SIR,—Can any of your readers inform me what sea fishing can be had at Mevagissey, in Cornwall, and Arran (Scotland)? Also whether charges for boat hire and apartments are reasonable, and the best houses to stay at, and oblige yours truly,

G. B. A.

MIGRATION OF EELS.

DEAR SIR,—I have up to now been under the impression that the only period of their growth at which eels migrated from the sea to the fresh water was when as eel fare or eel fry they ascend our rivers in such countless numbers during the late spring and early summer each year, and that in the term "eel fry" were included only fish of three or four inches long, and about the thickness of an ordinary knitting wire. I have, during the last few days, seen ascending the fish pass in the Yearl weir, in our river Derwent, large numbers of eels of about 7in. to 9in. long, and about as thick, or rather thicker than a lead pencil, with an occasional eel in each shoal up to 15in. or 18in. I don't find any mention of a migration of eels up our rivers at such a stage, in either Pennell Houghton or the articles in the *Fishing Gazette* by Hamilton (Rod Fisher, Farmer, &c.), nor do I remember any similar fact recorded in the correspondence which has been published on the eel in the *Gazette*. In this river the "eel-fare" appears to be later than in the rivers referred to by the authorities named. I should give late in April as the earliest, and May as about the time of the greatest run, while a considerable number are still passing up. There is no very pronounced autumn seaward migration of spawning eels with us, but there being no eel fishing here, and very little attention being given to them, and indeed no very favourable opportunity for observation, such a migration might well take place and not be noticed.

"Eel-blobbers" are now catching some eels in the pools about here, the fish ranging from say a foot in length upwards, and I have always considered that these were fish making their way down from the lakes to the sea, and the few men who here do try to get a few eels with the "blob" (*i.e*, a 10ft. or 12ft. stiff pole, and line with a bunch of worms), prefer the hot summer nights of June and July, and we rarely hear of or see anything of the kind in the autumn. I note that Mr. Pennell and Mr. Hamilton and some of the authorites quoted by them consider the fate of the eels after spawning as a mystery, and I think it probable that some of them do return to the fresh water, but nothing in the nature of a migration at this stage of their growth appears to have been observed. I should say the fish I saw passing up the fish-pass could be called nothing else but a migration, as they came along in shoals of from four or five to a dozen or more, and during the times I have watched them only a few minutes elapsed between the shoals, and as quite nine-tenths of those I saw were only about 7in. or 8in. long, I do not think they could be the spawned fish returning to the river (supposing they do so). It has occurred to me, however, that the larger eels which are now being caught here might be spawned fish returning to the river again. The fish-pass is now, in consequence of the lowness of the river, the only passage through the weir, and has consequently exposed this migration to observation, which it might otherwise have escaped, but frequently in previous years the whole of the weir except the fish-pass has been dry, and I have never before heard of a similar migration having been noticed; but this fact also must be noted, that the present weir has only been standing two years, and the fish pass in the preceding weir was not on the same plan as the present one, and I do not think so favourable to an observation of this kind. The strong rush of water through the present pass is an efficient protection to the eels, and would render catching any of them, while in the actual ascent very difficult, and one could not be certain that any eel caught under any other circumstances was actually an ascending fish; but if you or any of your correspondents think a specimen essential to elucidating any question which may arise on the facts stated, I would be pleased to try to secure one.—Yours faithfully,

Workington. J. E. B.

GOOD PLAICE AND DAB FISHING WANTED.

SIR,—Can any of your readers tell me of a nice quiet village on the sea coast where my son can get plenty of plaice and dab fishing? Address 168, Temple-chambers, Temple-avenue, London.—Yours, &c., M. W.

GOOD BREAM-FISHING WANTED.

SIR,—In answer to "H. Lister's" inquiry, I would suggest Brandon, in Suffolk, as a good fishing centre for bream, chub, &c. The fishing is free, and he will find good quarters at the Ram Hotel, where the charges are moderate, and the landlord, Mr. Rolph, takes a personal interest in his guests having good sport. I was there about a month ago and saw a case of magnificent bream (caught last Whitsuntide) in one of the rooms.—Yours, &c., H. S. HARLAND.

8, Arundel-terrace, Brighton.

WANSTEAD BASIN.—A REPLY TO THE LESSEE.

SIR,—There are *two* sailing boats on the water at the time of writing, one 21ft. long. Fancy two sailing boats on a sheet of water under eight acres! It is perfectly certain that one subscriber, at the commencement of the frost, took great pains to break the ice daily—mainly around the stages, to prevent them from being "nipped" and lifted as on a previous occasion.

The water was advertised three years, and that at the expense of a subscriber, who also purchased and paid for a lock and thirty keys, twenty-one of which he handed over to subscribers at cost price, and when several were not found to fit well, was taken to task (for his kindness).

It is quite fair to state that the lessee did express a desire to refund the outlay in advertisements, but the offer was not accepted, for the simple fact that the advertiser's chief desire was to see the water prosper, and for a similar reason; he drew up and had printed a set of rules, a copy of which was handed to every subscriber. Not only this; the weeds were often cut by the united efforts of several subscribers, and they also repaired and renovated the punt, and built the wooden shed for shelter; and then to repay all this kindness by allowing *two* sailing boats on the basin is only adding insult to injury.

I do not intend to refer to this matter again, and if any of your readers are foolish enough to part with their money with the above ugly FACTS staring them in the face, they must put up with their folly.—I am, &c., GRASSHOPPER.

MALLTRAETH BAY, ANGLESEY.

SIR,—At Malltraeth the Government many years ago erected a long dyke to keep the sea from encroaching on the midland plain of Anglesey. In the hollow of excavating for *débris* a lake was naturally formed, into which the sea, to a certain extent, enters every day. Doors are set to prevent a too sudden influx of the sea, but the lake is, to all intents and purposes, a part of the estuary of Malltraeth. In course of time, sea trout, brown trout from the adjacent Cefni river, eels, and flat fish began to congregate to this forty or fifty acres of water, and a few anglers, with unerring instinct, found them out, and enjoyed uninterrupted sport. During the last fifteen years I have fished it in the company of preachers, doctors, and gentlemen of the highest social position, and not a doubt was raised in anyone's mind about the legality of the fishing. My visit there this year was on the evening of the 1st of May, in the company of a rev. gentleman, one of the first and fairest anglers in North Wales. It blew a perfect hurricane, and we experienced the greatest difficulty in keeping the fly on the water. However, I managed to pick eight pure sea trout, averaging about $\frac{3}{4}$lb. each, my rev. companion not being so successful. To my great surprise, rumours got afloat, and were kept alive by presumably quasi-commissioners and nonentities at Malltraeth, that we were to be summoned for daring to fish in this all-of-a-sudden preserved water. The lessee this year—a Mr. Richardson, Aberbraint, Llanfair, P.G., who pays £2 a year for the right of netting it—happened to be at the Meyrick Arms Hotel on the 18th inst., just returned with his friends from netting this lake. Being the last person on earth to trespass on another's rights, and to set the matter at rest, I accosted him in the most civil and respectful manner, and, by way of introducing the subject, asked him that, presuming he had the *whole* right of fishing the lake, would he give me, who was a flyfisher only, permission to go there occasionally. His answer, which precluded any further inquiries on my part, was this: that he "owned a portion of the lake, and 'we' cannot give anyone permission to fish it." To gentlemen from Bolton, Manchester, Liverpool, and Birmingham who come fishing to this neighbourhood, and who generally have a day's fishing at Malltraeth, this prohibitive reply will come with a great deal of surprise. Mr. Coles, Bodorgan Arms Hotel, rented it for netting last year, and he never interfered with a few anglers who went there occasionally; in fact, the lake has for many years not been let at all, and Mr. Meyrick, Bodorgan Hall, and his friends amused themselves by netting it and sharing the fish with the poor about. The lake is not even a part of the Cefni river, where a licence is required, and no sign is exhibited that fishing is not allowed, and I am told that no one at Malltraeth will rent the lake because of the open way in which the local fishermen net it. The question, then, arises, Has this Mr. Richardson the right to prevent fair fishing in the lake, inasmuch as it is in daily connection with the sea? In the interest of the angling community generally, and to prevent friction in future, perhaps he will be good enough to establish his claim to the satisfaction of readers of the *Fishing Gazette*.—Yours truly,

Abberffraw. W. H.

Waltoniana

FARMERS, who, it is said, are born into the world grumbling, go out of it in a state of discontentment, and are never satisfied between-whiles, may not have altogether approved of the glorious showers with which July came upon the scene on Wednesday last. But those same showers were exactly what the fisherman wanted, and though they had but little effect on very large rivers like the Thames, considerably freshened up the smaller streams, and caused an increase of sport to both the trout and the bottom-fisher.

As soon as perch are ready to be caught in rivers, and the time should not be far distant, a paternoster made of fine gut and small hooks, (say about the largest size used for roach) and worked among the weeds, the bait being minnows, will be found one of the best methods of taking these fish. The paternoster for summer use should be as much finer than the one commonly used in winter, as summer pike tackle should be finer than the gimp and hooks which are deemed essential on a December day by the great majority of anglers. As a matter of fact, I invariably fish very fine for perch, whatever the season, but generally speaking it is only in summer that exceedingly fine tackle is requisite. A great deal, of course, depends on the water to be fished. Tackle which would answer very well in private water where the fish are confiding and rarely fished for, would be quite useless in the Thames, where the fish know what's what, which has been said to be about as high as metaphysic wit can fly.

BUT the best tackle in the world is of little use if it is not worked properly. In summer perch fishing the paternoster has to be worked with considerable skill. To begin with, the perch do not love dead water, during the hot months, and are to be found principally among those weeds which grow in a gentle stream on a gravelly bottom. The rod should be of cane, long and light; the line should be fine. The lead should be small. All being ready, let the boat drift very slowly down over the perch-haunted shallows, and with skill and dexterity drop the paternoster lightly and without splash into every likely opening among the weeds. If for a first attempt you choose a part of the river where the weeds grow thickly on the bottom, you will wish I had never been born for suggesting this way of fishing, but in very truth the fault will be yours in not going to a suitable spot. There are many parts of the Thames where the weeds grow sparsely, and where every here and there are little openings, with clean gravelly bottoms, and those are the places for paternostering. Where the stream flows gently by the side of old camp-sheathing, and a few weeds grow on the bottom, there, between the weeds and the old wood-work, perch are almost sure to lie.

THIS kind of fishing is not for blunderers or clumsy persons. Paternostering in winter, when the minnows have only to be cast into a hole, is child's-play compared to paternostering among the weeds in summer. The lead should first be brought towards the angler and then by slightly raising the point of the rod swung out quietly without jerk towards the open space in the weeds, perhaps not more than a yard in diameter, into which the baits have to be dropped. Immediately the lead hovers over the hole the line is released and down shoots the paternoster to the bottom. An astonished perch suddenly finds himself face to face with two crippled minnows which struggle as he approaches but are not able to gain safety among the weeds. Up go his fins and for a second he hesitates, then he suddenly seizes one of the unfortunate little fish, and the paternosterer feels a something (much or little) at the rod-point or on the line which he is holding gently in his left hand. He lowers the point of the rod for a couple of seconds, so that the perch may feel no resistance, then strikes but not too hard, for the hooks are small and penetrate easily; and in two minutes later a fat golden perch of half-a-pound or more is swimming round the well of the punt vainly looking for a way out and much puzzled by this strange experience. "Cotswold Isys," who has given us in humorous verses the "Strange Experiences of an Angler," might find, in the still more strange experiences of fish, a no less worthy theme.

THE country is just lovely. The roses have come with a burst, and each tree seems to vie with its neighbour as to which can bear the greatest burden of sweet-smelling flowers. The more gaudy but scentless Sweet William makes a blaze of colour in every cottage garden. In the hedgerows and over-hanging old-fashioned garden walls, are great masses of delicate and fragrant elder-flowers. From the fields the summer airs bear the scent of newly-made hay. So strong is this after sunset as to be almost overpowering. Bright marigolds commence to show their yellow heads wherefrom the bees, coming home from their labours among the sweetest of sweet flowers (the honey-suckle) extract still more honey. By the river the sedge has grown rank and long, but is inter mixed with many flowering weeds and grasses. Here and there a stately Iris rises from among the lowlier plants, and looks a very queen of waterside flowers. In the evening great moths come out. Some these, which are brown, now and again forget to use their wings and attempt preposterous excursions in their leap across the river. Rarely do they reach the other side in safety, for lurking beneath the water and on the look-out for such fat morsels as these, are many hungry trout. Over the meadow and for the most part wisely avoiding the water, are fat yellow-bodied white moths which, as night falls, flit hither and thither in a ghostly and uncanny fashion. Bats and trout feed eagerly on swarms of tiny insects which fly in their millions over the water, and—but whither am I rambling? Writing of these things makes one long to put down the pen and take up the rod; so farewell for seven short days. TEMPLAR.

A SINGULAR FISHING INCIDENT.—The other day a party of ladies and gentlemen were fishing from a boat in the roads off Whitby. The fish were taking splendidly, and all were enjoying themselves vastly. Suddenly it dawned upon them that the supply of bait was becoming exhausted; and in the end they had to deplore the baiting with the very last bit. One of the party, however, hooked a fish, and on hauling it in it, was, much to the astonishment and delight of all, found to be a herring. This was speedily cut up, and served as bait till the close of the evening. The catching of a herring with a hook is a circumstance of very rare occurrence.—J. J. JACKSON.

DEATH OF A WESTMEATH LAKES VETERAN FISHERMAN.—On Thursday, June 11, one of the most respected and inoffensive of the fishermen of these lakes breathed his last at his residence in Mullingar. Mick Berne, familiarly known as "The Whacker," in consequence of his having bestowed the appellation of "whackers" on the big and lusty trout of Owell and Ennell, was a typical fisherman, and plied the craft upon these lakes from his childhood, always obliging and agreeable, ready and willing to help and guide novices in the art; a splendid fly-tyer, and ever liberal in imparting knowledge of the best patterns and how to dress them, he will be long remembered by the fishing fraternity of Westmeath and other places. He leaves four sons, who are each and all clever anglers, and worthy sons of a worthy father. The respect in which he was held was amply testified to by the large concourse which followed his remains to their resting-place, and by none was he held in more veneration than your correspondent—T. J. W.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

BY C. W.

ON Friday evening, June 26, an important meeting of the committee of the Birmingham Anglers' Benevolent Society was held at the association's headquarters. Mr. T. Coles presided, and Mr. C. White occupied the vice-chair. The roll-call was not so well responded to as it might have been, and mention was made of this at a later stage of the business. The secretary informed the meeting that the late concert had turned out a financial success, and that the funds of the society had been benefitted to the extent of about £6. Messrs. Marsden and Fitter gave in a report of their visit to the Spring Hill Society, which was of a very satisfactory nature, inasmuch as nearly the whole of the members had given in their names to be enrolled. Mr. Hughes, of the St. Paul's Society, spoke to the warm and hearty manner in which the members of this society had taken the matter in hand, and said that at the next meeting of the society a great number of the members would become identified with the Benevolent Society. Mr. Marsden, of the Camden Society, gave in a report of the way in which the members of this society had interested themselves in the work of the society, and announced that at the last club meeting a good number of members had been enrolled, and on the next club night seven more members would be enrolled. The whole of the reports were eminently satisfactory, and it was moved by the chairman that the best thanks of the committee be given to the members of the divisional committees for their endeavours in trying to obtain members for the society. This, upon being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously. Mr. Hall at this point spoke at some length on the advisability of each of the committeemen bringing the objects of the Benevolent Society before their respective societies, as much could be done by them adopting this course. He also spoke upon the attendance of the committee both at the committee and also at the divisional committee meetings, and finished his remarks by proposing the following resolution: "That any committeeman failing to put in an appearance at three consecutive meetings without sending an apology, his place shall be filled at the next general meeting. This rule to be made applicable to divisional and general committee meetings." This new rule was unanimously adopted, when Mr. Hughes brought forward the advisability of making arrangements for the annual contest on behalf of the funds of the society. The suggestion was adopted by the committee, and it was decided to hold an annual contest on October 4 next. This was carried by a small majority, as some of the members were in favour of it being fished on Saturday afternoon. Two places were brought before the committee as suitable places where the contest could be held—namely, Pershore and Fernhill Heath, and, the vote being taken, the latter place was selected. It was decided to leave the other portion of the contest arrangements over until the next committee meeting. Nothing under the heading of general business was brought forward, so the meeting was brought to a close.

ALTHOUGH our Midland rivers and streams are in first-class condition for all kinds of fishing, I have not heard of any large takes worth recording, the average per rod being about 3½lb. to 4lb. Perch, eels, and small pike are the chief fish that have been taken. Very few of the Birmingham anglers have visited their water on the Trent, as they prefer to wait until the fish are in proper condition. The roach are very backward round and about Abrewas, and are to be seen in large numbers in the shallows cleansing themselves. The Avon has been well patronised since the opening season. The roach in this river, as in the Trent, are not in anything like condition. Some of the chub are still spawning, but those who have got over the spawning have been seen rising pretty freely to the fly. The same may be said of the dace. Some few roach have been taken with the stewed wheat and malt, and a few decent perch have been secured by aid of the worm. Eels have been on the run, and some decent-sized ones have been taken with the rod, the worm doing the trick. On the Severn, sport has been very quiet, and up to the present I have not seen or heard of a decent take this year. I have seen a few roach and dace which were taken at Hampton Lode with the gentle. The roach were rather small, but were in nice condition. The river Anken at Tamworth has yielded some decent eels, and some of the private pools near to Birmingham have furnished some very good perch fishing.

I AM informed on the most reliable authority that the fishing in the canal at Witton, near to Birmingham, is equal to any canal fishing within thirty miles of Birmingham. This canal some five weeks ago was partially emptied, and the amount of perch and roach that were to be seen in the channel of the canal was something extraordinary. They were watched day and night until the water was let into the canal again. The water in this canal is purer than the water in the generality of canals, and is fed from the large reservoirs at Perry Barr by means of four powerful engines. These reservoirs are all well stocked with fish, and the fish during the pumping operation which is continually going on are carried with the water into the canal, and so keeps the canal well stocked with fish. The charge for fishing this water is one shilling per day, and tickets may be obtained from Mr. Hutton, secretary of Canal Company, Paradise-street, Birmingham.

THE committee of the Provincial Angling Association will meet this day (July 4) at the Drawbridge Hotel, Bristol, to transact important business in connection with the association. One of the members of the committee will bring forward a suggestion to the effect that the association, in order to make the contest for the Marston Challenge Cup a success, and as an inducement for the members to take part in the competition, the association should grant a sum for the purchasing of three suitable prizes independent of the cup. This, I think, will be carried out by the committee, who will leave no stone unturned to make the contest a success.

THE NORFOLK BROADS.—There is every probability of more litigation as to angler's rights. We hear another attempt is to be made to exclude the public from fishing in some of these Broads which are tidal. The interest of London anglers is to be aroused by four large meetings to be held in London, one in the East, West, and South respectively; and we see by the report of the Gresham Society they have consented for a city meeting, to be held at their room, Mason's Hall Tavern, on Tuesday, the 28th inst. Anglers' privilege tickets will secure admission.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, JULY 4, 1891.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

BOLTON anglers seem to be full of business. Just at present their attention is being given to a question of great importance. One of the favourite resorts has been polluted to a great extent, and in consequence a disease has resulted amongst the fish. As usual, they have faced the question boldly, and called in science to their aid. A speedy and satisfactory solution to the difficulty may shortly be confidently expected.

CONTESTS on every hand are the prevailing fashion. Already the St. George's, Exchange, Royal Walton, Palatine, Shakespeare, Openshaw, and many others have successfully fished their initial competitions. It would be interesting to ascertain the total value of the prizes given in Lancashire. Judging from those at the headquarters of the Hulme, Crown, the total would be very large. The prizes are good, useful, and numerous; we are not quite sure whether the list included "blankets."

WE would warn anglers in this district against wasting their money on "fishing secrets," as advertised in various papers, unless they have a desire to get free admission to one of H.M. State establishments reserved for poachers. A true sportsman never stoops to such tactics as those recommended.

IT is a step in the right direction that has been taken by the N.A.A. in approaching the various railway companies on the question of concessions in travelling. Most of the waters frequented by the fishermen of this district are at a great distance, so that any concession in the fare will be acceptable. We hope Lancashire will loyally help with their money and influence.

MANY veterans have been out lately and report good sport, the fly seems doing the best work. One basket is rather interesting, fifteen trout, weight 10lb., all taken with Red Spinner, Black Gnat, and Sand Fly.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

HEAVY thunderstorms on Thursday night brought on a most unexpected rise, the Trent rising upwards of four feet in less than twelve hours. Fly-fishermen were leisurely pursuing their craft until a dark hour, and imagine their astonishment when, on re-visiting the river early on Friday morning, they found the water the colour of a clay pit! Never in the highest floods do I ever remember seeing it so red, and there is no doubt the influx was chiefly caused by the pelting showers which fell in the Loughborough district, and which quickly found their outlet in the Soar, which flows into the Trent near the wear at the village of Thrumpton. The water began to recede on Friday night, and the stream was fishable on the following day, although the number of rods out was extremely limited. Eels were set freely on the move, and those anglers who visited such reaches as Trent, Sawley, Castle Donington, and Weston-on-Trent (which are above the Soar's junction with the parent river), returned with baskets far above the average. In one case a veritable monster was caught, but I have devoted a special paragraph to its capture. At Weston the coarse fish showed really excellent sport whilst the flood-water remained, and one of the subscribers surpassed previous feats by hooking and landing upwards of 30lb. of roach, bream, perch, and dace in less than a couple of hours. I refer to Mr. W. Atkinson, of Radford, who with Mr. W. Sudbury, of that place, caught in the same fishery, two winters ago some stones of most handsome roach from a punt moored off the backwater near the Cliff Inn. On Monday Mr. Atkinson was out again, but as the river had fined down considerably from Saturday afternoon, he only succeeded in getting a few roach and perch. The takes up to Wednesday night had generally been poor, but I apprehend that as soon as the water is low enough for barbelling the followers of these game fish will have something good to relate. All coarse fish are later this season and will be all the better for the change which has just occurred.

THE spring fishing with the rod for salmon is generally suffered to close with the advent of the legitimate season, and it may be interesting now to note the number of fish which have fallen to it, and compare them with the takes of last year. In a matter of quantity they are nearly identical, and as in 1890 the majority have come from the Shardlow and King's Mills districts. On April 15 Mr. G. Copenhurst, of Burton-on-Trent, had the honour of drawing "first blood" in the channel swim below Kings Mills weirs. The fish weighed 18½lb., and on the 27th of the same month, Mr. Copenhurst killed one of 26lb. in the "Long Swim" at Shardlow. On May 5, he caught a third of 16lb. near the spot where he landed his first, and in a subsequent outing he picked and lost further fish. On April 16, Mr. T. Wood, who holds the right of the fishery from Lord Donington, caught one of 18lb.; on May 11, he caught a second of 11½lb., and on June 2, he landed a third of 13lb. These were all taken from what is known as the Lane End Swim near the weirs, and in addition Mr. Wood lost one estimated at 25lb. At Holme Pierrepont on April 17, Mr. H. Green, the lessee, took one of 16lb. above the weir, and only on Tuesday week he lost a second. On April 28, Mr. J. Lowater, of Nottingham, killed one of 10lb. in the "Long Swim" referred to; and on May 20, Holmes, the local river keeper, landed one of 12lb. above the celebrated Wenham hole at King's Mills. On June 20, the best fish (27lb.) of the year was got by Mr. S. Marcer, of Derby, in the "Long Swim," and two days later the same swim yielded one of 14lb. to the rod of Mr. G. Beeton, of Radford. A fish of over 20lb. is reported as having been caught in April below Newark, and Mr. J. Wilkinson, of Derby, has the credit of having recently killed a couple in the teens in the Willington district. The number actually caught is fourteen, and it will be noticed that a splendid average in weight has been maintained. Last year the takes were: Mr. T. Wood, two, 16lb., and 17lb.; Mr. G. Wood, Nottingham, one, 18½lb.; Mr. W. Drewry, Nottingham, one, 15½lb.; G. Holmes, river keeper, two, 17½lb. and 24lb.; Mr. Birks, Derby, one, 18½lb.; and Mr. G. Beeton, Radford, one, 21½lb. All these were killed in the King's Mills and Shardlow sections, and at Holme Pierrepont, Mr. J. Lowater, Nottingham, landed a couple weighing 14½lb. and 15½lb. respectively. At Averham weirs, near Newark Mr. E. Smith, Nottingham, caught one of 14lb; and one of 20lb. fell to the rod of a Derby gentleman at Willington. There may have been others caught, but I have no record of them. By far the best year ever experienced on the Trent was that of 1885, and holders of licences must long for the time when they will be favoured with another like it. Salmon fishing is certainly a precarious pursuit on our rivers, for everything depends on early conditions as regards height and temperature of water in the ascent of the fish. Odd fish may still be caught in the barbel swims, but the cream of the sport is over until September.

A SOCIETY, which is doing a quiet but excellent work in its way in the town, is the one associated with the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Classes, held at the Albert Hall, in Derby-road. There are upwards of eighty members, and amongst them some very good all-round anglers. Mr. R. Mellors, the secretary of the Nottingham Chamber of Commerce, and a gentleman highly esteemed in the district, is the president, and the duties of hon. secretary are carried out in an efficient way by Mr. J. Moss, of Campbell-grove. Every summer the society has the privilege of fishing the private waters of Sir Henry Bromley, of Stock Hall, near Newark, and it was perhaps due to the intercession of Mr. Moss, that this concession was first granted. The waters in question are on the Trent, and are well stocked with most coarse fish, including barbel. The meadow below the coal wharf near the hall is a favourite place, and here the river is known to contain hundreds of these game fish. A few seasons ago Sir Henry Bromley took great delight in pursuing the sport, but of late he seems to have contented himself by taking only a passive interest in it. His son, Mr. Henry Bromley, is a keen fisherman, and is a Conservator of the Trent Fishery Board for the Notts. District. What is more, he is a hard-working member, and is likely to be of great service to the great brotherhood of the craft.

IT is not often that an eel weighing above 4lb. is caught in the Trent by an angler using his rod and line. The feat, however, was accomplished last Saturday afternoon in the Weston subscription waters, by a subscriber named Hitchins, from Melbourne. He was tight floating near the ferry during the high and coloured water when he hooked and landed the slimy creature in question. It weighed, so the keeper told me, 4lb. 2oz. A bream of 4lb. 8¾oz. has been caught at Wenham hole by Mr. J. Greaves, of the Larkdale Inn, Oliver-street, Nottingham. He was legering, and the fish showed very little play.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

No less than between thirty and forty applications have been received by the Severn Board of Conservators for the vacant post of water bailiff for the Shewsbury district; and these having been fully considered, it has been decided to appoint Mr. T. Morris, of Shrewsbury, a retired army sergeant, to the post left vacant by the retirement of William Darling, the late superintendent water bailiff. Mr. Morris has had a good deal of acquaintance with matters piscatorial, and with a few months' experience of the Severn will doubtless make a very faithful and efficient officer.

AT a committee meeting of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society, held a few days ago, a very cordial letter was read from the Ironbridge Severn Angling and Protection Society wherein they expressed their desire for a closer union between the two societies—suggesting a joint outing—and thanking the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society for the efforts they have put forward in restocking the river and improving the fishing generally. The members of the Ironbridge Society—who thus set an example which angling societies throughout the kingdom will do well to emulate—even go so far as to offer out of the somewhat limited funds at their disposal at present some pecuniary assistance, if necessary, to aid in the work of stocking the river with trout, as a slight recognition and appreciation of the services which the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society have rendered Shropshire anglers. The anglers from the county town are most anxious to meet the Ironbridge piscators in a joint outing as soon as it can be arranged.

AN important report, it is understood, has been issued by Mr. Berrington, Chief Inspector of Fisheries, wherein he intimates that he intends to visit the Severn and inspect the fish passes, at the suggestion of the chairman of the Severn Board of Conservators, Mr. Willis Bund. It is hoped that Mr. Berrington's inspection will lead to a considerable improvement, for there is no doubt that, whatever other causes are at work decreasing the stock of salmon in the upper waters of the Severn, the inefficient state of the passes has a very great deal to do with the matter.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

THE cry for more water is pretty general throughout the county of broad acres; and, indeed, the rivers are sadly in need of a freshet. The weather has been very changeable during the past week, and slight rain has fallen, but it has barely been sufficient to keep the streams up to their usual summer level. But then every allowance can be given to this requirement. If the rivers in this district are to be kept in "good form," as far as volume is concerned, it would require heavy rains every two or three days. Almost all the Yorkshire streams, with the exception of those in the East Riding, drain their waters from steep uplands, and the rain is not retained long enough in these carboniferous lime-stone hills to supply the rivers for any great length of time; consequently the result is one day a flood, and a couple of days after a want of water. Local piscators have, however, had fairly good sport. The Ouse has been fished well, and although the season is somewhat backward, the present one is described as the best on record for dace, while other kinds of fish have been pretty plentiful. At the time of writing the conditions are not very first-rate, and the prospects are but dull.

DERWENT anglers have experienced a good time of it during the past week, although about the best stretch of the river—including two admirable falls—is closed. The following ominous announcement still appears in the local papers:—"To Anglers.—Mr. Cholmley gives notice that he is obliged, with regret, to withdraw all permissions which he may have given to fish in the river Derwent, and to refuse, for the present, all fresh applications." Miss Mary Egerton has also, I hear, withdrawn all her permits; and Mrs. St. Quintin, on the opposite side, has done likewise. This action has not been necessitated through any illegal practices having been resorted to by anglers, but reflects on the conduct of certain piscators who unfortunately abused the kindness granted to them. On Saturday morning last, Mr. Preston, the keeper at Kirkham Abbey Hall, the residence of Mrs. St. Quintin, caught a finely-shaped trout, weighing no less than 6¾lb. I confidently believe this is the largest specimen that has been captured in the Derwent; at least, within late years. It was taken to the hall, and, I believe, will be preserved.

THE Spittal Beck, which flows into the Derwent some two miles below Barton Hill, has afforded excellent sport. A friend of mine had a day's fishing there last week and landed a weighty pannier of dace. In the district is situated Castle Howard Lake, and the happy rodster who is lucky enough to secure a permit to fish the waters need have no misgivings as to his success. Three gentlemen, not long ago, in two days' angling, caught no less than two hundred perch each about as large as herrings; and some time ago I had the opportunity of seeing—under preservation of course—a gigantic pike, weighing 40lb., which had been caught there. This monster, I was told, nearly capsized the boat when being landed.

IN the North Riding, angling matters are well to the fore. The Thirsk and Sowerby Angling Society has held a meeting of its committee at the house of Mrs. Bell, the Wheatsheaf Inn, St. James's Green, for the purpose of arranging the amount of money to be given away in prizes, and other minor matters in connection with their forthcoming match on the 18th of next month. This is the ninth year that the society has been in existence, and permission has been again kindly granted by Mr. Henry Reb for the competition to take place in the river Swale, in the vicinity of the village of Catton. In former years the competition extended over a five mile radius of Thirsk, but the society receiving little or no support in the way of subscriptions for the outlying villages, have now decided to limit the competition to residents in Thirsk and Sowerby. This year the amount of money to be awarded in prizes has been increased, also the number of minor prizes, and it is fully anticipated that these extra inducements will greatly swell the number of competitors.

THE question of increased railway facilities is now the all engrossing subject for consideration amongst angling circles at present. The sub-committee of the Northern Anglers' Association had two schemes before them in regard to the matter. The first one is that each centre should purchase from the railway companies concerned a number of return tickets to the angling places they frequent, at a reduced rate—say one and a-quarter fare—unsold tickets to be credited at the end of the season. These tickets to be placed in the hands of some responsible person, say a well-known tackle dealer in each town, for sale to anglers only; the date, place, and number of each member's card being entered by the said tackle dealer for reference, if necessary. It was also suggested, as an alternative scheme, that counterfoil cheque-books should be supplied to clubs, the cheques to be presented at the railway station booking office and filed by the clerk. This latter system, it is argued, will afford the greatest security against fraud, by enabling each club to watch its own members by means of the counterfoil. It would also stop, say its supporters, several well-known methods of swindling. The sub-committee are to consider both schemes at their next meeting, and the one voted for will be submitted to the central council for approval.

NEW PATENTS.

THE following is a weekly list of New Piscatorial Patents, specially compiled for the *F. G.* by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Patent Agents and Engineers, 76, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., authorised Attorneys for the procuration of English and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks:—

10,802.—James Laing, of Marine-villas, Tulles, by Aberdeen, for improvements in apparatus, for fair lead for trawling gear on ships' bulwarks.

11,135.—Philip Green, of Davenham Lodge, Richmond, Surrey, for a new or improved spinning-flight for natural dead-bait fishing.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—For bad legs, bad breasts, scorbutic and scrofulous sores this is a genuine specific. The grateful and earnest gratitude of thousands who have experienced its unrivalled power over these complaints, and who have been raised from prostrate helplessness and a condition loathsome to themselves and others, renders it quite unnecessary to enlarge in this place upon its extraordinary virtues. The parts affected should be bathed with lukewarm water, and when the pores are thereby opened the Ointment should be well rubbed in, at least twice a day. It is always advisable to take Holloway's Pills in these disorders, as this much assists the Ointment action. The Pills check the fever, purify the blood, and eject all morbid matter engendered by these diseases.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* Fishing Gazette, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* Club Report *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly meeting of the General Committee will take place on Monday evening next, July 6, at 8.30.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of 10s. 6d. from the Waltham Brothers Angling Society (donation), and from the donation boxes of the following angling societies: Mildmay, 17s.; Prince of Wales, £1 7s.; Highbury, 7s. 6d.; and the Globe, £2 5s. The next meeting of the committee will take place on Friday evening, July 10, at 8.30.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—The members showed up in good muster on the 29th inst. We fish a roving match for three prizes—viz.: Jack rod, first prize; running-line, second prize; Nottingham winch, third prize; on the 5th July next, two rods allowed. Hoping the prizes will be won, as our pegged-down match on the 21st was unsuccessful. No prize will be taken unless ½lb. of fish is obtained, not ¼oz. gudgeon. Messrs. Thompson and Roberts have been elected auditors for the ensuing quarter. We are still recruiting, H. Skelt and E. W. Cosgrove] were elected as working members of this well-known society, and several others have applied. Urgent business next Monday, July 6.—B. Abrahams, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—Our annual dinner takes place on July 5, at the Swan Hotel, Fittleworth; dinner on the table at one o'clock punctual. All members to meet at London Bridge Station, and proceed to Pulborough by the 6.55 train. On June 28, Mr. Moir weighed in bream and roach. Those members who want tickets for the competition on July 12 can have them by applying to the secretary. We also fish for a series of prizes on the same day. I may say that we do not weigh perch in our society under 8in. from any water.—W. H. Potter, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Gt. Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On June 28th, several of our members were out, a very nice show of fish being the result. Mr. Embleton, sen., had a very fine show of roach and bream. Mr. W. Hake had a nice show of roach, dace, and bream. Mr. Lambert, M.P., having some nice roach and bream; and Mr. Nunn, M.P., some nice roach. I should like our members to show up next Thursday evening, as there is very important business to be done.—E. R. Embleton, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our first outing this season takes place at Windsor on July 5, from Eton Bridge to Barney Lock, tow path only, jack barred. All to start by same train from Clapham Junction, at 8.15 a.m. Several of ours were out on the 28th, but the sport was so tame that it is hardly worth recording. But we hope for better luck in the future. I am very proud to say that we have made three new members.—T. Rich, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The above society held their weekly meeting, on Wednesday last, with a fair attendance. Mr. West had bream 5lb. 3oz., on June 28th. Members are reminded that we decide next Wednesday where the July match shall be fished. Tickets for the Central Association Competition, on the 12th of July, and the South London Match can be had on meeting nights. Privilege tickets are waiting to be taken up.—A. G. Smith, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—The following members weighed in on June 28th, Messrs. J. Smith, R. Smith, Moorby, Warman, and Allum, total gross weight 28lb. 3oz. The competition for the July series of prizes will take place on the 5th inst., place and conditions to be decided at the meeting on the 3rd.—A. Conn, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—On Wednesday we had a good attendance, and two gentlemen, Messrs. Saltor and Bourke, were elected honorary members. I omitted to mention in my last report that Mr. Stillman had been elected chairman for the remainder of the current quarter. I hope members will do their best to attend next Wednesday as we shall proceed to make out the prize list. We had a good show of fish on the 28th ult., Mr. Deplidge, an honorary member, and Mr. F. Barker, a working member, each having a basketful of rudd. The next visit on the S. L. U. V. L. will take place at the above address on Tuesday, July 21.—F. Roberts, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—Next Wednesday, July 8, is quarter night, and limit night. Wednesday, 15th inst. I hope that as many will attend as can. On the 28th June, Mr. Warren had a take of bream, 2lb. 15oz., and some roach and dace. We have room for a few more members.—J. Small, sec.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—Several of our members were out on June 28, but had very little sport. Mr. Aitchison had a nice show of chub, largest fish 2½lb.; Mr. Sanders also had some chub. I regret that in my report last week I made a mistake in the date of our first competition, of the season which will take place at Edenbridge on the 12th inst., not on the 5th.—H. Roach, sec.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—Since the opening of the season, we have had a fair show of fish by the following gentlemen: Mr. Wilson, bream and roach (a nice show of 12lb.); Messrs. Watkins, Bissell, Wilson, and Hawks, bream and roach. Mr. Bissell's prize was taken by Mr. Wilson. Members please attend next Tuesday, as we have two guineas offered to fish for. Members are joining each week up to the present.—T. Hawkes, sec.

Burton Piscatorials, the Globe, Derby-street, King's Cross.—The smoking concert for the benefit of Mr. P. Brierly, on the 21th inst., resulted in a great success, our large club-room being well filled by anglers and friends. The entertainment was pronounced *par excellence*, songs, recitations, mimicry, instrumental solos being performed in good style. I wish to thank those good friends who rendered such timely assistance, especially the undermentioned clubs, Golden Barbel, Alma, Great Northern Bros., Seymour Bros., Eustonians, and the Lincoln. I wish to remind members that pen, ink and books are always on duty Wednesday evenings.—C. Roberts, hon. sec.

Cambridge Friendly Angling Society, Masons' Arms, Titchborne-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 21th prox., Mr. Warsop had roach, rudd, and dace from the Lea, largest rudd, 1lb. 10oz.; largest roach, 1lb. 3½oz. An outing will take place on the 12th inst. at Yalding. Members can leave either on Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning. All fish to weigh. Two rods, bank only.—W. Sutton, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 28th June we had another fine show of fish on our trays: Mr. C. Chapman, tench, 50lb. 8oz.; Mr. A. C. Chapman, tench and roach, 17lb. 4oz.; Mr. E. Boxall, 19lb. 9½oz., tench, jack, and perch; E. Boxall, jun., tench, 5lb. 9¼oz.; Mr. W. White, bream; Mr. Marshall, bream; Mr. King, roach; Mr. Langton, roach; Mr. Fitter, dace; Mr. Sharp, dace.—E. T. White, sec.

Campbell United A.S.—Seventeen of our members fished the match at Langley, on June 28th, but no member had the requisite weight of fish to take a prize. It will be fished again at the same place, on the 12th inst.; but members can go down on Saturday night if they choose, if not they must report themselves to the first member they come to.—E. W. Wood, hon. sec.

Causton Angling Society.—Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—On Monday, June 29, Mr. Joseph Deplidge was unanimously voted chairman for the month of July. The meeting was marked by a discussion on "Angling v. other Sports," wherein reference was made to George Cruickshank's clever sketch of the "Three Mr. Rodds," viz., Nimrod, Ramrod, and Fishingrod. Mr. George Salisbury, of the Second Surrey A.S., was amongst the visitors and presented a prize for dace. Mr. Roberts, secretary of the Blackfriars A.S., was also present, and expressed a favourable opinion of the *modus operandi* adopted by the Causton A.S. with regard to fishing and otherwise. The show of fish has not been anything great during the past week, but it may as well be mentioned that Mr. Deplidge had nine rudd of almost equal size, the heaviest being 13½oz.—J. Smith, hon. sec.

Central Association of London Angling Clubs.—The next delegate meeting will be held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden, W.C., on Monday, July 6, at 8.30 p.m. The final meeting of the Competition Committee will also take place at the Bedford Head on Thursday, 9th inst., at 8.30 p.m., when everyone interested is requested to be present to settle the final details of the match.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—The following members were successful on the 28th ult.: Messrs. Garbrecht, roach, nearly 13lb.; Castell, dace, from the Association water, Sewardstone; Chambers, perch, from the same water.—Cas.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.—Since my last the following fish have been weighed in. On June 25, Mr. Wilson, 26lb. barbel; 27, Mr. A. Trowbridge, 6lb. 10oz. roach; 28, Mr. Painter, 6lb. 3½oz. bream; Mr. Turner, 2lb. 7oz. roach; Mr. Collis, 2lb. 1oz. roach; Mr. Scott, 2lb. 9¼oz. perch. I shall feel obliged by members showing up early on meeting nights, as the prize outings are being arranged.—A. Trowbridge, sec.

Clarence Angling Society, Red Lion Hotel, Harrow-road, Paddington.—Some good business was done at a well attended meeting on Wednesday night. The financial position of the club, after all expenses, proving very satisfactory. Several members have tried the rod and line with fair success in the shape of some good pike, chub, dace, and perch.—Alf. G. Evans, sec.

Clerkenwell and District United.—A visit in connection with the above was paid to the Crown and Buckland Angling Society on Thursday evening, June 25, Mr. Burwash in the chair, the following twelve societies being represented, viz.: Lincoln, St. John's, Convivial, St. Andrew's, Barbican, Crown and Buckland, City of London, Seymour Brothers, Eustonians, Amicable Waltonians, Funny Folks, and North London. The next visit will be to the City of London Angling Society, held at the White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—F. Castell, hon. sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We had a good show of fish weighed in on the 28th by Mr. F. Hannabus, weight, 20lb., of bream and tench; Mr. Parbury, bream; E. Baxter, roach and dace. It is proposed to fish a match for club prizes on July 19, conditions to be made next week. And I hope all members will attend.—A. Smith, sec.

Corinthian Angling Club, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, W.—A new member was proposed on the 1st inst., and will be ballotted for at the next meeting. One of our members has had a nice dish of roach from our fishing in the Colne, but no trout have been taken.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 28th, Messrs. Flowers, T. Midson, Cogswell, Parram, Malley, Hills, Wild, Legge, Killick and W. Midson, met with very fair sport, showing among them a good show of roach, perch, dace and bream. In my last report Cogswell should have read—Hills. Members please note that Tuesday the 7th, is general meeting night.—S. Malley, sec.

East London Piscatorial Society, London Hospital Tavern, Whitechapel-road.—At the meeting on June 25, a new member in Mr. C. Esmoud was made. Messrs. Morgan, Madden, Dyne, and Foggie, were elected committee men. Messrs. Myers, Woods, and Morgan, were out on the 28th, at the Grand Junction Canal, but did no good; Mr. Dyne went to Staines on the 25th with J. Keene, jun., and got 15½lb. of fish, including one barbel weighing, 2lb. 11oz.; one bream, 1lb. 12oz. A few eligible members are wanted; visit previously required. We meet on Thursday nights at 7.30.—Frank Woods, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—The smoking concert on Monday, June 22, for the benefit of the A.B. Fund, was a great success considering the weather. About fifty members and friends were present. The boxes were emptied by Mr. Jennings, and they were found to contain £2 2s., when our worthy host Mr. Frauks made it up to £2 5s. On the 23th, we were saved from a blank by Mr. Ellis, with 3lb. ½oz. of perch, one fish weighing 1lb. 9½oz. The new privilege tickets are in hand and members wishing to have them must be clear up to last quarter night.—A. Payne, sec.

Gloucester Angling Club.—The first competition of this club took place on Thursday, at the Lower Lode, near Tewkesbury, and although the weather was anything but good for fishing, a goodly number of members, together with their wives and friends, availed themselves of the day's outing. The start was made from the old historic Westgate Bridge, at 10.30, and two hours later the party arrived at their destination. Considering the morning was most awfully wet, those that took part in the outing, thoroughly enjoyed themselves. There were ten prizes to compete for, provided from the committee's reserve fund, which were won respectively by Messrs. Adshead, Yeoman, Green, Belcher, Curtis, Edwards, Harvey, Wood, and Rust, and an outsider's competition, subscribed on the boat, resulted as follows: C. Luker, first; Hopcroft, second, Dix, third.—W. Luker, sec.

Good Intent Angling Society, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch.—On Tuesday last there was a large attendance of members, it being our annual night. The members decided to fish for prizes on the 12th inst., at Burnt Mill, all start by the eight o'clock train, Liverpool-Street Station.—R. Murphy.

Grange Angling Society.—On Tues, the 30th ult., the members and friends of the above society celebrated their ninth anniversary by a visit to Yalding; the weather being favourable, and the scenery in this neighbourhood all that could be desired. A most enjoyable day was spent. Three prizes were offered for competition, by Messrs. Ryder, Varney, and Farrow, and were taken by Messrs. J. H. Rich, G. Wood, and Chris Green respectively. At the close of the day's sport a group of the party was photographed by Mr. Viner, of Southwark Park-road, after which an adjournment was made to the Bull Inn, where an excellent dinner was provided by the hostess, Mr. Hunt occupying the chair, and Mr. J. H. Rich the vice-chair. The usual toasts having been proposed and duly honoured, our season's prize list was successfully started. A pleasant journey to London ended a day, which thanks to the willing efforts of our indefatigable secretary, Mr. Kayes, proved a perfect success.—F. W. C.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Robin Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville, N.—We commenced our season on the 21st ult. The takes were small and the fish in poor condition, the following members weighing in bream and roach from the Central Association water at Pulborough: C. Watling, 4lb. 14oz.; W. Parkin, 2lb. 4oz.; C. Large, 1lb. 10oz.; J. A. Fitch, 1lb. 15oz.; H. Proehl and G. Cowper also had fish. From other waters, J. Hewitt, 1lb. 4oz., and W. Barnes, 5lb. of rudd. On the 28th ult., W. Barnes, rudd, 9lb. 1oz.; J. Hewett, 5lb. 13oz.; Messrs. C. Watling, C. Large, W. Parkin, and H. Proehl had bream and roach. At our meeting on the 22nd ult., Mr. Barnes presented a prize towards the Central Association competition at Pulborough. This (including two guineas from the society) will make the seventh prize presented by the members. As the season has just began, we are desirous of electing a few new members to complete our muster, as we are limited to sixty. Our prize list up to the present contains sixty-one prizes, in value from ten shillings and sixpence upwards, and the financial condition of the club was never better.—J. A. Fitch, sec.

Greenwich Angling Society, Prince Albert, Royal-hill.—We had a very pleasant meeting on Wednesday last, the chair being occupied by our president, E. Spencer Stidolph, Esq., faced by Mr. C. Howett. After the usual routine business had been got through, and it had been resolved that the committee draw up a list of fixtures for the ensuing half year. Several members gave amusing and practical experiences of recent fishing excursions. Mr. Dryden, three chub, 5½lb., best 2lb. 6oz.; Messrs. Young, Church, and Toynbee reported a take of about 40lb. of dabs and flounders between them and a friend from Southend-on-Sea, fishing with rod and line. Messrs. E. Lewis and Bassett were unanimously elected honorary members of the society. The following prizes were announced:—E. Spencer Stidolph, Esq., £3 3s., for the best specimen fish taken during the season; Mr. W. Murrin, £2 2s., best pike; Mr. Young, £1 1s., best barbel; Mr. Salter, £1 1s., best chub; Mr. Lewis, a Japanese curio, best dace; Mr. Justice, 10s. 6d., best gudgeon; Messrs. Webb and Bassett, £1 1s roach; Mr. Dryden, £1 1s., best perch; Mr. Child, £1 1s., best bream; the Society, 10s. 6d., best carp. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Jesse Birch for his present to the library of Walton and Cotton's "Compleat Angler" and Bickerdyke's "Angling in Salt Water." The meeting concluded with harmony and the usual votes of thanks.—G. J. Toynbee, hon. sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting of this society was held on Tuesday, Mr. J. B Close in the chair. A new member was elected. The question of upholding the rights of the public to fish in the Norfolk Broads was discussed, and it was resolved that Mr. Woodrow be invited to address a meeting of London anglers on the subject at the Gresham room, on Tuesday, July 28, at eight p.m. Anglers will be admitted on presenting their privilege tickets. Mr. C. S. Bentley read an exceedingly interesting paper on "Fish in Legend and Fable," quoting many ancient fish stories, some of which were very curious. He was heartily thanked for his paper. Several members reported having been fishing, but the results were not very good.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On June 28, several of our members were out, but Mr. H. Wells, and J. Pleydell were the only ones to weigh fish, those being rudd.—W. Fenner, secretary.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—We had an excellent show on the 23rd inst., Mr. Rutherford having 16lb. of fish, two tench, weighing 8lb., some fine perch and roach; Mr. Wymer also having 6lb. of tench. Several of our members have been out amongst the trout and chub, lately, with some good results, Mr. Gelviling has been quite busy in private waters. I shall be pleased if members and friends will kindly give in their names for the supper to be held at the new club house, by Thursday week, the 9th inst.—J. T. G., sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—Since the opening of the season the following members have weighed in fish:—J. Huntley, bream; J. Row, tench; H. Du Costa, trout; and A. Hattemore, roach from the Upper Thames. The special prizes left over from last season will be fished for in the Stort, at Burnt Mill, on July 12. The annual dinner will take place at the Rye House, on July 26. The next return visit No. 1 Eastern District Anglers Association, will take place at the Swan, Bethnal Green-road, Shoreditch, on Tuesday evening, July 14.—R. Ghurney.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 21, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—On June 28 several members were out, and the following weighed in: Mr. Pope roach, gudgeon, and tench, and Mr. F. Pain, roach. Mr. T. Morris and Mr. J. Woolcot were elected as chairman and vice respectively, and Messrs. A. Pain and Gordon, auditors for last quarter's accounts. Members and friends are asked to note our change of address to above house, and our meeting nights will be Thursdays and Sundays, and not Tuesdays and Sundays as heretofore. The members think that the change will have a beneficial effect; but, at the same time, we cannot help thanking Mr. Galloway for his many kindnesses shown us in the two years we have been in his house.—Snap.

Islington Angling Society, Jubilee House, Hornsey Rise, N.—At the meeting on Monday evening last, Mr. G. A. Smith took the chair. Mr. C. S. Bentley was requested to act as secretary *pro tem* in the absence of the honorary secretary, who was unable to attend. The names of two gentlemen as proposed members were submitted to the meeting, the ballot to take place on the 20th July. At the meeting taking place on Monday, 6th inst., there will be a discussion on the subject of "The lines used for angling." A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.—C. S. B.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, the Rose, Popham-road.—Very little sport was obtained on the 28th ult. The following showed fish: Messrs. W. Stretch, bream, 2lb. 5oz., and J. G. Willsher, dace. We have room for a few more members.—J. H. Herbert, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The annual dinners will take place at the Pied Bull, Stanstead, St. Margarets. The week members will dine on Wednesday, 15th inst.; those who intend being present will please send in their names not later than the 12th inst. The other members will dine on the 19th inst.; those who intend being present on this occasion will please send in their names not later than the 15th. The four special prizes competed for at Hatfield Peveril on 1st were not taken; they will be fished again, conditions will be settled on Wednesday next. Mr. G. Rogers had a tray of handsome dace on the 28th ult., Mr. G. Bliss had bream, Mr. Chas. Layton had perch.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—On June 28 the only members weighing in fish were the brothers Challen, who had roach, tench, and bream; and Mr. Ouree, who had roach and tench. Tuesday next being quarterly night, I hope as many members as can possibly attend will do so, as important business will be brought forward.—A. Ide, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—The success attending this association is without precedent. Angling and hon. members now attend meetings in numbers far exceeding previous records. At a committee meeting on the 26th ult. (at our new quarters, the Queen of England Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush), several new members were proposed. The prize list was increased by £6 6s., given by hon. and angling members. Many of our members have been out during the week, and have had fair sport in the Stour, Ouse, and Thames.—T. Walter, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road.—On June 28 several members were out, but very few fish were taken—Mr. Belton, dace and gudgeon; Mr. Holmes, one jack. Members who have not got their privilege tickets must take them up before July 12, or they will not be able to compete in the Central competition at Pulborough on that date. I hope members in arrears will turn up on Wednesday next to square up, or they will be subject to rule 4, which comes into force that night.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—We had again a very good meeting last week, and one new member was elected. Several letters were read from gentlemen giving the members permission to fish in their private waters. An outing was fixed for the 9th and one for the 16th inst., both to well-stocked lakes, and these excursions will be almost continuous till the end of September. We have had a twenty-four hours' thunderstorm and very copious rains, which will no doubt be of great benefit to the streams affected thereby. Returning home from a day's fishing the other night, I called at a wayside hostelry for a glass of bitter, and a young man asked me if I belonged to a fishing club, and, on my answering yes, said there was one in the place where he lived (I think he said Blackbrook or Blackrod), and at a competition they had in the Cheshire Dee, the first prize (a copper kettle) was won by three flukes, weighing 4oz. Prodigious!—Rd. Woolfall.

Liverpool East End Friendly Angling Association, 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool. At our meeting on the 23rd the match we were about to propose was postponed till beginning of August, as coarse fish are not fit to be taken yet, and I believe are fully six weeks later this season. It was proposed that two members of the committee should go over to Cheshire to make inquiries as to rent some waters for this new society. Our books were audited by the committee and found to be correct. Several members have been out, one having caught a nice roach, upwards of 1lb. A new member was duly elected on the 23rd—T. C. Segar, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On June 28 our members were out at various waters, and we had some good shows of bream, barbel, dace, and tench, by Messrs. Penfold, W. Pearce, E. Clarke, A. Clark, J. Milburn, and W. Fisher.—W. F. Pearce.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Ball's Pond-road.—Our usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, Mr. E. Jermy in the chair. Two more new members were made during the evening. We still have a vacancy for a few more. Messrs. Jermy and Garratt weighed in roach, dace, and perch, during the week. I hope all members will make it convenient to come up on Tuesday next as it is the night for election of officers, &c., and we have other important business to settle. Mr. Manning opened our benevolent box during the evening, and gave a good account as to how the Anglers' Benevolent Society was carried on, which very much pleased the members present.—J. Comber, sec.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway-road, Highbury.—Our smoker takes place on Monday next, when I hope we shall be well supported, as it is to inaugurate the formation of the above club, and to give our Host the opportunity of seeing a good number of anglers together.—H. Stretch, hon. sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park.—On the 28th ult. the following weighed in: Messrs. Swain, tench; Schultz, sen., perch. Several other gentlemen were out, but did not weigh in.—G. Schultz.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—On Monday last the return visit in the Central Association took place at the above address. Twelve clubs were represented, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.—J. Cuthbert, sec.

Original North Lambeth Angling Society, the Wellington, South-street, Hercules Buildings, Lambeth, S.E.—Tuesday, June 30, being quarterly night, we had a good muster of members, and elected Messrs. H. Spencer and C. Bailey as working members. It was decided to hold our second competition on July 12. Members are requested to attend early on the 5th inst. to make final arrangements.—J. Mann, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—The remainder of the prizes were taken by Messrs. Stidolph, Gardham, and Brancher, the trays being full with a mixture of bream, dace, and rudd. There is a copper kettle to fish for on the 5th open go as you please. Mr. Holbrow was duly elected a fishing member of this society, and Mr. Luff, honorary member.—A. S. Duke, sec.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Old-street, N.W.—On Monday last our return visit took place, twelve clubs responding to the roll call, Mr. Heclas, chairman; Mr. Mares, vice. A very enjoyable evening was spent. All those gentlemen that attended, please accept our thanks. On Tuesday, Messrs. Morgan, Heclas, Foster, and B. Forster, weighed in some nice fish, especially B. Forster. All members must please attend next Tuesday.—W. Elbourn, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—The quarterly meeting of the above society took place on July 1, when the following gentlemen were elected to fill the offices: Mr. Rodber, chairman; Mr. W. Arnold, vice; Mr. Corney, auditor. The balance sheet of the past year was received with applause. On the 28th Mr. Rodber weighed in two fine barbel and a roach from the Thames. I hope members will attend on Wednesday next to make themselves eligible to fish in the match at Cookham on July 12, also to receive their privilege tickets.—J. W. Harris, sec.

Richmond Piscatorial Society.—The half-yearly meeting of this society, was held on Friday, June 26th, at the Greyhond Hotel, Richmond, Montague Davenport, Esq., in the chair. The hon. secretary's statement showed the society to be in a most satisfactory and prosperous positian, and although, perhaps, the past season has not been quite so successful in the way of fish taken, an excuse can be found in the exceptionally severe winter, which entirely put a stop to angling during the best part of the season. It was decided to hold several competitions during the ensuing half-year, particulars of which will be duly published. The annual dinner of the society will this year be held, at one of the up river hotels, the precise date will be announced next week. This summer dinner is always a most enjoyable event, and the members of the R.P.S. will be pleased to welcome any brother anglers upon that occasion. Tickets and full particulars can be had from the hon. sec. An important discussion took place upon the present rules of the society, and several alterations were proposed—the most important of which related to season prizes. It was proposed by Mr. J. T. Emery, that a medal be struck bearing the arms of the society upon the obverse, and inscribed upon the reverse with the name of the winner, and the fish for which it was given. It was suggested that this would be an inducement for members to register their fish in the books of the society—no matter in what water taken so long as it was a public water. In order that these medals might be really of value, the following minimum scale of weights was suggested:—Pike (gold medal), 10lb.; trout (gold medal), 6lb.; barbel, 8lb.; bream, 4½lb.; carp, 8lb.; chub, 4½lb.; perch, 2lb.; roach, 1½lb.; tench, 4lb.; and dace, ¾lb (silver medals.) These weights were, however, considered by the majority of those members present to be too prohibitive; and in order to give an opportunity for a full consideration of the question, it was decided upon the motion of Mr. Holt to adjourn the discussion until the 24th July, when all members are earnestly asked to attend. In the meantime members are requested to weigh all specimen fish, and to record them in the society's books, as the proposition if carried will be retrospective to the 26th of June, 1891. The rule relating to recording fish taken must, however, have been observed—viz., that all fish taken must be recorded within three days of capture, to be eligible for any season prize.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The result of our punt match at Twickenham on 28th June, was a success. All prizes were taken as follows:—Messrs. Wigley, first; Utting, second; Naylor, third; Mitchell, fourth. One new member was elected, and two others were nominated for election. The next visit on the A. S. V. L. comes to this society on July 14, when I hope to see a good muster from all clubs.—F. T. Lamberton, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—The following members weighed in on June 28: Messrs. Webber, Holder, Gibbons, and myself. I trust members will try and do better in future, as there is a very long list of prizes to be competed for. Members who require privilege tickets had better have them at once.—F. C. Longland.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—On the 28th ult. most of our members were out, but did not get a very large show. The following gentlemen weighed in fish: A. Barclay, 10lb. 11oz. roach, rudd, and dace; Mr. Stanley, 4lb. roach, dace, and chub; Mr. Smith, 2lb. ½oz. roach and rudd; Mr. Wells, roach and rudd; Mr. Day, bleak; Mr. Perry, rudd. Members will please note that there is a prize for the greatest number weighed in.—A Barclay, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth—The members were out in force on the 28th ult., but the trays were not overburdened with fish, as only Messrs. Wood and Stone weighed in. Total 7lb. 2oz., roach and dace, Messrs. Green, Brocken, and J. Wright had fish, but did not weigh them in. The three gentlemen proposed last meeting night were unanimously elected members, and several prizes promised. A full list will be published later on.—J. Wright, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On June 21, eighteen members were out on the war-path, with the following result:—Messrs. C. Holmes, roach (one fish, 1lb. 3oz), G. Sanders, roach; J. Barnes, roach, dace and chub; J. Petrie, dace and perch, 2lb. 2oz.; H. Docker, and S. Cane, roach and dace. On the 28th we had a very handsome lot of bream, eleven fish 26lb. 7¾oz. (one fish 2lb. 11oz., taken by Mr. W. North); J. Petrie, roach and dace, 5lb. 10oz.; J. Barnes, roach and dace. On Tuesday two gentlemen were elected working members, and one honorary. All members will greatly oblige by attending on Tuesday next, quarterly night, for the election of officers and other important business for the ensuing year. Members in arrears will also greatly oblige.—S. E. Cane, sec.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.—On the 28th June only one of our members weighed in, Mr. Curtis having roach, rudd, jack, and tench. Tuesday we had a very good meeting, and another new member was elected. Our outing at Amberley, on July 5, will be fished under the usual club conditions, four prize winners to choose their prizes. The committee met and completed the prize list for the coming season. A special general meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 14, for important business. A bag containing a quantity of fishing tackle was left in the Shepperton train on Sunday evening last at Twickenham, the finder will greatly oblige by communicating with me at the above address.—Pelican.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—An outing for seven valuable prizes will take place at Amberley on July 5. The following members weighed in fish on the 28th ult.: Messrs. Jones, bream and roach; Hooper, bream and roach; Quinn, bream; Spenceley, dace. July 9 will be quarter night, and I should like to see members early.—R. Spenceley, sec.

South London Angling Society, George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell-road.—At a special meeting held on Wednesday, July 1, it was decided that a fine of one penny be imposed on each undersized fish shown in the club-room. There is an outing on Wednesday next, July 8, for four prizes. Three members weighed in fish this evening, from St. Albans, *via* Wellingboro', the train they went by stopping for the first time at the latter place.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—A visit of the clubs enrolled on the above list was paid to the Waggoners A. S. on the 30th ult. On the roll being called by Mr. Y. Wright, vice-president of the list, the following seventeen clubs responded:—Bermondsey Bros., Second Surrey, Rodney, Peckham Bros., Anglers' Pride, Battersea Friendly, Kenningtonians, Blackfriars, St. George's, Clapham Junction, St. Thomas's, Earlsfield, Cliftonville, Causton, Original North Lambeth, City of London, and Waggoners. The next visit will be to the Blackfriars. Due notice of date next week.—A. Conn, hon. sec.

St. Andrew's Piscatorial Society, Turk's Head, East-street, W.C.—We had a very good show of fish on the 28th ult., Mr. A. Long being top scorer with 12lb. of bream, Messrs. H. and J. Long had a few good roach; Mr. Chevalier, roach and bream; and Mr. E. Roberts, roach and bream.—B. Chevalier, sec.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Stepney.—On the 28th inst. the following returned to club-house with fish, viz.: Messrs. Marrows, Willshire, Jolly, Bounds, all with bream; Gerrard, roach and bream.—E. N. P.

Stoke Newington Angling Society, the Dun Horse, Kingsland-road, E.—The opening competition of the season for three prizes will take place at Yalding on the 5th inst. under the usual conditions. The complimentary visit to our club on the 29th ult. was very well attended, the Anglers' Association being represented by Messrs. Manning, Ghurney, Murphy, and S. Malby, and the the special thanks of the society are tendered to the Good Intent, Hoxton Brothers, Hearts of Oak, and Burdett Angling Societies for the handsome manner their members responded to the invitation, and also to Mr. George Manning for carrying out the duties of chairman. The eleventh annual dinner of this society will take place on Wednesday, 22nd inst.—T. Gretton.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—The members of the above club visited Pulborough, on June 28, to fish a peg down competition, for prizes given them at their annual dinner, but returned unsuccessful. Lost on Pulborough station, a top joint, should any angler have found same and return to above club the members will feel grateful.—G. Morton, sec.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above were out on the 28th ult. Mr. J. Bolton weighed in three fine tench, each fish weighed over 4lb.; G. Marshall, bream; and S. Cockerton, bream. The members of the above will fish a match on July 5, in the Medway, for several money przes. Hope all members will turn up on this occasion.—H. Tyler, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall-cross.—Our visit on the S.L.U.V.L. took place on the 30th inst. The following seventeen clubs answered to the call of the roll: Bermondsey Brothers, Second Surrey, Rodney, Peckham Brothers, Anglers Pride, Battersea Friendly, Blackfriars, Waggoners, St. George's Clapham Junction, St. Thomas's, Earlsfield, Original South Lambeth, Cliftonville, Causton, and City of London. Result ofour match on the 28th ult., Mr. Smith, jun., first; Mr. H. Ilsley, second; Mr. Skinner, third, roach and dace. Mr. Clegg weighed in rudd. Several others had fish, but not the stipulated weight. Members are requested to attend early next Tuesday as an important discussion will take place.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walham Green and Fulham Angling Society, Stansford Arms, Fulham.—Mr. C. Weyer was proposed to become a member. I have to remind members that Wednesday, July 8, is quarterly night, when all are earnestly requested to attend. Since the opening day several of our members have been out, but have met with very indifferent success.—E. Sutchall, sec.

Waltonian Angling Society, the Cape of Good Hope, Albany-street, Regent's Park.—On the 21st ult. several of our members were out, but met with very little sport. Messrs. H. Putnam, Wallham, Good and Miller, weighed in. June 28, Messrs. H. Putnam, dace, 2lb. 3oz.; Morris, roach, 2lb. 2½oz.; Miller, roach, 1lb. 8oz.; and Wallham, roach, 1lb. 7½oz. I wish to remind members that we should be glad to see them sometimes, as we want to arrange for the day's outing, and also the drize sheet.—J. Packman, sec.

Walworth Waltonian Angling Society, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—On Wednesday last we had a good muster, Mr. H. Bayley in the chair. It was decided that the first competition of the season took place on July 12 for two prizes. First, cash one guinea, given by Mr. J. Rump; second, Mr. Resdon, value 10s. 6d. Also the first Wednesday competition of the season to take place on Wednesday, July 29, for two prizes. First, cash, given by Mr. Hardy; second, copper tea kettle, given by Mr. W. T. Crisp. Mr. T. Gill and Mr. C. Johnama were duly elected honorary members of this society. There will be a committee meeting on Wednesday next, July 8, at 7,30, at St. Pauls' Tavern, for important business.—C. Hibble, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On June 28, Mr. C. Newbery, one of our honorary members, showed 30lb. of barbel and bream. The following members also showed fish; Barnes, bream and roach; Jenkins, bream and roach; Wyre, bream; Dartnall, bream; and Gordon, rudd. On July 5, the first competition of the season will take place at Amberley. All members to go down by 6.55 from London Bridge, cease fishing at 5.30, show fish at the Bridge, and return by 6.15.—R. J. Dartnall, sec.

Western Piscatorials, Bear and Rummer Tavern, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square.—On Wednesday, June 24, Mr. R. S. Buffery had the pleasure of weighing in the first lot of fish of the new season, consisting of bream, chub, and barbel, one bream alone weighing 4lb. 2oz., a total of 10lb. 12oz. Mr. J. F. Moon was also successful on July 1 with roach, tench, and rudd, one tench weighing 3lb. 2oz., total 13lb. Society prizes for the new season have been decided, and the balance-sheet for last quarter shows the sound financial position of the society.—D. W. Evans, sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—Since my last report we have elected three new members. I was out on Thursday with my brother fishing with J. Brain, jun., wo had six nice barbel and several dace. These fish are very numerous in this district, but are not yet thoroughly clean. A few sharp showers of rain are required to make the sport brisk, and and anglers may depend upon having some first class takes. —J. J. HUNTER, hon. sec.

Worcester Angling Societies.—The Izaak Walton Angling Club had their first competition for prizes at Holt, on the Severn, on Tuesday last. The weather was most unfavourable, strong, cold east wind made it difficult to keep a line in the water, and the rain came on in torrents, consequently the takes of fish were small, first prize being taken by Mr. Webb; second, R. J. Maund. A capital feed at the Holt Fleet Hotel made amends for the cruel weather, and a pleasant evening was spent. The St. John's Angling Society had their annual competition on the club water, the Lower Teme, on Thursday. Their take of fish was small, and consisted chiefly of chub, perch, and gudgeon. The water was much discoloured, and rapidly rising, and a heavy thunderstorm drove tho members from the water, some of them drenched to the skin. First prizo was won by Mr. A. Salter, A. Williams being second, Chamberlain, third.—R. WINGFIELD.

Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, Earl Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney.—The usual weekly. meeting, was held on Wednesday, 1st July, Mr. Hesse in the chair, when another new member was proposed for election at the next meeting. Mr. Bursell was elected as a member of the committee. The secretary having read two circulars addressed to him by Mr. Woodrow, hon. sec. of the Norfolk Broads Protection Society, regarding the attempt now being made to close Hickling and Wroxham Broads against fishing, shooting, and sailing, it was resolved that a meeting be held here on Wednesday, 15th inst., at eight p.m., to hear Mr. Woodson and others, on the question to which anglers and others will be admitted on presentation of privilege ticket or private card, and it is hoped this will prove a representative meeting of anglers, etc., in the North and East of London. Messrs. Raynor, Custland, Russell, and a friend fished the Weir Pool, at Broxbourm, on Saturday, 26th ult., dace and four jack (which were all returned), also, two eels, all with lob worms; but they report that the fishing was entirely stopped at the best time of the day, by a large party of bathers, taking possession of the water which they had paid to fish. It is proposed to hold our next club outing on August Bank holiday, at our private water at Hildersham, near Cambridge. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded a very businesslike and enjoyable evening. I would inform all and sundry gentlemen, that they can join this high class society on very favourable terms, from the 1st July to 31st December. —HY. RICHARDSON, hon. sec.

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REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

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Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea.		Add	55 min. for Kew.
	40 " " Putney.			75 " " Richmond.
	45 " " Hammer-smith.			80 " " Twicken-ham.
	50 " " Barnes.			85 " " Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Evening
Saturday,	July 4	0. 3	0.31
Sunday,	" 5	0.56	1.23
Monday,	" 6	1.48	2.10
Tuesday,	" 7	2.33	2.54
Wednesday,	" 8	3.13	3.33
Thursday,	" 9	3.53	4.12
Friday,	" 10	4.31	4.49

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—It is satisfactory to learn the small fry of porch in the pond at Sunbury are going on well, and are thriving rapidly. There is no chance of other fry getting into it, but in the lower part the opening which has been embedded up with fine sand, is being removed, so that the youngsters can get into the channel below, and the grating at the end is so fine, it is impossible for them to pass into the river. I have received a letter from Mr. A. E. Armstrong, the honorary river keeper at Chertsey, who says, "I have now placed the whole of the trout fry into the stream, as I feel sure they would get far more food than bringing them up by hand in tanks. I have shown my stream to several practical friends, and they say it is so near perfection for trout rearing as it is possible for a natural stream to be." This also is satisfactory, and all anglers will join in wishing him success with the rearing of about one thousand young trout, and feel grateful for the trouble and time he is giving himself about them. I have promised to go down this week to see them. There has been the destruction of a large quantity of fine barbel and dace between Kew Bridge and Mortlake—the fish have been found swimming on the top of the water in a very bad condition, and easily caught by hand, whilst others have been found dead on the banks. There are various opinions as to the cause. Some think it is from poisonous fluid escaping from the gas or dye works; others from the disinfectants in the gullies and ditches getting into the river; others from the severe winter and late spawning, which has left them in an unusually weak state. One of my correspondents states that he picked up a fine barbel between 2ft. and 3ft. in length, and there was no mark or injury of any kind about the fish, which was rather putrid and poor. The matter is now in the hands of Mr. G. I. Rough, the intelligent and active head keeper of the Thames Conservancy, and from him I shall learn all about it. The report from Staines, as regards fishing, is very satisfactory, and from all accounts the barbel appear to be very plentiful in the river, and are to be seen jumping about in all directions. The sport in other places has been of an indifferent character.—B.

RICHMOND.—Henry Mansell, in one day, 7lb. of roach and dace and one barbel.

TWICKENHAM.—John Coxen, senior, during the week, four jack, one bream, and three dozen of roach and dace; John Coxen, junior, seven dozen of roach and dace and a couple of bream.

TEDDINGTON.—Joseph Baldwin, in three days, fourteen dozen of roach, dace, and gudgeon; Mr. Shipton, in one day, with B. Stevens, five barbel.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, during the week, ten dozen of roach and dace and two chub.

SURBITON.—The anglers have been getting roach, dace, bream, chub, and perch. A fine carp caught in the park, weighing 10½lb., is in the hands of Mr. J. R. Richardson, for preservation.

HAMPTON COURT.—Very little has been done, and the punts have been getting from five to six dozen of roach and dace and a few barbel.

SUNBURY.—Messrs. T. and A. Stroud, during the week, twenty dozen of roach and dace, three jack, and two perch, the largest 1½lb. One of their men had a take of fifteen dozen of roach and dace.

CHERTSEY.—J. Poulter, one day, seven barbel, two chub, a bream of 2lb., and two dozen of roach and dace, and in three other days, twenty dozen, and an eel of 1½lb.; L. Hackett, during the week, fourteen dozen, and four bream.

WEYBRIDGE.—Herbert Curr reports there is a large show of barbel this season in his district. One day with Mr. Harris he got ten barbel, five eels, and one chub, and another day, seven barbel and one eel.

STAINES.—John Keene, junior, says he has been out the whole week, and done well with the barbel and bream. One day with Mr. Gambler and friend, of the Larkhall Angling Society, who got twenty fish, weighing 56lb.; another day, with Mr. Millar, twenty-six fish, weighing 63lb.; another day, with Mr. Wilson, of the Clapham Junction Angling Society, fifteen fish, weighing 30lb.; another day, with Mr. Dyne, of the East London Piscatorials, five dozen of dace, four barbel, and two bream, weighing altogether 18lb.; another day, in five hours, with Mr. Horton, of Staines, eight barbel and two bream, weighing 25lb., all of which he put back again; and another day, with Mr. Newbury, of the New Albion Piscatorials, ten barbel and four bream, weighing 30lb.; the gross weight of the six days being 222lb.

Upper Thames.—Thursday Evening.—The recent rains do not seem to have had much influence in pushing up the water, and as I write the river is in grand all-round trim, and fish well on the feed, but unfortunately Henley-bound folks are also on the feed, and in the channel of the river just now it is impossible to fish with comfort or success, because of the procession of boats fearfully and wonderfully made, all bound Henley-wards to see the human race and "form" divine on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday next. At Marsh weir, Major Rogers, with "Bob," a day or so ago, had eighteen barbel, best fish 9lb., and two next, 8lb. each. At Marlow, Mr. Browne is again to the fore with a trout of 5½lb. Weather glorious, with nice breeze from the S.W. Roach, chub, and barbel to be had in out-of-the-way back waters and weir pools.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Datchet).—Very few anglers about, they are expecting to hear of something being done. I was out to-day. The dace feed very well. Caught a good many fine ones. Had a few barbel bites. Caught one another. Big fish broke away. Bank anglers are catching some very fair roach in the evening. The barbel are not jumping so much as they did a week ago. A large barbel, estimated at 8lb., was found on the tow-path below the Albert Bridge. G. LUMSDEN.

Thames (Richmond).—This well-known angling resort has been considerably patronised of late, but as far as my information goes, sport amongst the barbel, roach, and dace, has not been at all up to the mark. The professional fishermen are, I am glad to say, being fairly well employed, and it is to be hoped that with good weather they will make up for the bad wind-up they had last season, consequent upon the memorable frost. The recent extraordinary assemblage of fish under Richmond bridge still forms the topic of conversation in angling circles, and the professional fishermen say they never witnessed such a sight before. Although there is a good show of barbel, these wary gentlemen up to the present have not fed at all briskly, and I can only hear of takes consisting of from one to half a dozen fish, and the majority of these mere babies. I understand, however, that a gentleman out with J. Brain, senior, has caught one of 6lb. On Saturday another angler, fishing from a punt at the railway bridge, landed four barbel. I watched several anglers there on Sunday, but during the time I stayed on the spot nothing was done. Wednesday's rain has freshened up the river considerably, but we could still do with more rain, in fact, in the words of the song we could do with "A lot of wet—such a lot of wet." Then there might be a chance of getting among some of those fine bream which disported themselves under the bridge. I saw one caught on Sunday near one of the drain-pipes, but it was only a small fish of about ½lb. Some consternation was caused here last week by the appearance of a quantity of dead fish—barbel, roach, dace, and gudgeon—floating about, and I hear that at Kew, Isleworth, and Strand-on-the-Green, similar scenes have been witnessed. Up to the present the cause of the mortality is a mystery, but I hope the officials of the T.A.P.S. have been on the *qui vive* concerning it. I have also heard of fish being seen swimming about in a stupid, sickly condition. Has the pollution fiend been at work? Last Sunday the river was literally crowded with boats and steam launches, and the bank anglers had a sorry time of it. The punt anglers were little better off, and on one or two occasions I saw them "run down" by a crew of hobbledehoys. I believe in their heart of hearts, rowing men seriously think that the Thames was specially made for their own pet hobby, and especially did I think so on Sunday, when, standing near the railway bridge, I witnessed a pretty little scene. Several punts had their rypecks in there, and because one of these individuals found himself rather crowded for room, as he urged on his slim outrigger, he poured forth such a volley of abuse on the "gentle" disciples of Izaak Walton, that I thought the doctor would have been required. Not only was it abusive but filthy language, and there were several ladies standing on the towing-path at the time who must have heard it' And he was a "gentleman," so a sun-burnt boatman informed me!—GOOSEQUILL.

Thames (Twickenham).—Like Richmond, this angling station has not produced any noteworthy takes of fish this season. On June 21 anglers met in large numbers, and punts could not be obtained for love or money after ten in the morning. Since then the river has been well fished, and the local people have made great exertions to get on terms of close acquaintanceship with the barbel. He (tho barbel) has been opposed to the desired intimacy, and has daily "winked the other eye" at his treacherous friends. By the way, a big barbel was pulled up dead in the neighbourhood of the island the other day, and I hear that if it had been in condition it would have gone 15lb.! Whether it was any relation to the barbel called "Paul Jones," which was said to weigh 30lb., and whose mouth used to glisten with hooks when it reared its head out of tho water at Hampton Court to see who was about, I am unablo to state. However large the fish was, its untimely end is much to be regretted. June 28 was again a busy day for the puntsmen, but a bad day for their patrons, even dace being off feed. Early in the afternoon I met several anglers *en route* for the station. Several jack have been caught here lately, but I should fancy they cannot be in very good condition. At the time of writing (Wednesday) rain is falling, and angling prospects look brighter for July 5.—GOOSEQUILL.

Thames (Windsor).—At time of writing the river is in good order and every appearance of rain which must still further improve it. Chub continue to feed well and many have been taken, but beyond fish of 2lb. no large ones have been caught. The same may be said of roach, largest 14oz., but that rare fish in these waters, the carp, have shown up in Bell Weir, three being caught, 11lb., 6lb. and 7lb., the two latter by G. Roules of Egham, and the 11lb. fish together with a jack of 6½lb. were caught at the same time by the same angler who had two rods laying down, both fish taking the bait at the same time. A few barbel have also been caught but very small. Dace are had on the shallows with the fly, Black Gnat proving best, gudgeon have not been tried as far as I can ascertain. Jack also have been left alone, with the exception of the one mentioned above, and ought to be till August at earliest. That favourite little crustacean the cray fish I am pleased to say, has again made its appearance after being looked upon as extinct. Some four years ago requiring a few for scientific purposes, I offered one shilling each for all that could be got, and though several men and boys hunted over the most likely haunts, not one was found. These under notice were caught at Boveney Bridge by some boys whilst bathing, and a specimen brought me was extremely fine being just over 5in. in length. A fine pike of 18lb. has been picked up dead near here, supposed to have been struck by propellor of a launch.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—The following are the chief catches during the past week. On Wednesday, Mr. A. Rowe had 7lb. of roach and perch, the latter very fine. On Thursday there were a good many visitors all getting fish. Mr. Scott had 8lb. of roach. On Friday, Mr. Hawkins had thirty roach; and on Saturday, a bag of roach and dace. On Monday, Mr. J. R. Ealey had a bag of bream from 1lb. to 2½lb. each; and Messrs. Surley, 8lb. of roach; Mr. Wray, of Hull, is credited with a roach of 2lb. 2oz. The Drake is about over on the trout brooks. The Alder is now one of the leading flies, and there are a good many Duns in the evenings. Messrs. Holebone and Shipley are credited with two trout, and a basket of coarse fish at Kiverhead.—THOMAS FORD.

Barle (Dulverton).—The river is very low at present, but fish are killed after nine p.m. Rain has just commenced to fall, and if it keeps dropping for the next six hours good baskets ought to be killed with Quill Minnow.

Brighton.—SEA FISHING.—There are plenty of sea bream, mackerel, pout, small conger, &c., to be caught just now, but the sea has been rather too rough for boat anglers to venture out since Monday last. To-day (Thursday) it is nearly calm enough, so that sport may be had by "whipping," by which means some nice mackerel were caught close in on Friday last.—H.

Chichester and Sussex Rivers.—More like old times has sport proved during the week, and although not welcome to the haymakers, roots are improving, never looked better, and in our own especial line, rivers are in excellent condition, thanks to the heavy rains. At Chichester canal sport has been above the average. Mr. S. Young, one of the most enthusiastic anglers I have met with for some years, had a grand take of bream a few days since from the lower reaches, over 30lb., and some fish up to 2lb. Mr. H. Terry was not far behind, and Mr. Bedford with Jas. Wright in the Houston reaches has made good record. A tench of 1lb. was taken by Mr. Bedford, jun., and the host of anglers who have frequented the water side have had excellent sport. The Arum in the Amberley and Pulborough district has yielded some good bream. The Odur good baskets of dace, roach, and flat fish, and frequenters of the Ouse have had good sport among the chub and roach. Salt water votaries are having a good time among the bream, whiting, and congers. Trailing for mackerel is remunerative, and in the harbours bass, a few codling, and smelt, make variety baskets.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Derwent (Ambergate).—Both Derwent and Amber cleared down into good condition on Saturday last after the heavy storm, and good sport was the general rule. Many anglers were out on the Ambergate and Whatstandwell lengths. Mr. J. Musgrave secured the best basket of thirteen trout, with an average of nearly 1lb. each, taken with the Yellow Sally. Prospects for fly-fishing are good for the week end, and the best flies are the Yellow Sally or Throstlewing, Ash Dun and Downlooker. Bottom fishers are doing little or nothing.—AMBER DUN.

Dove and Tributaries.—The May-fly season has now ended. On the whole it has been a good one. We have heard of more good bags being got this year than for many seasons past. Mr. Wheen took over fifty brace during the week ending June 20. These from the Okeover water, and Mr. Gray, who fished the Dove Dale length for some days, took over sixteen per diem on the averoge. This, with Mr. S. Thomas's forty-nine brace for same week on same length, is not a bad record. Mr. G. Ditchfield took a total of ten brace in the three last days of the season last week. D. AND W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourn.

Eden (Carlisle).—The foot of fresh water in the river at the end of last week, though not enough to clean out the bottom, seems to have put the trout more on the feed. Several anglers have made fair baskets. Mr. M. H. Humble, an expert hand, killed forty-five with the worm on Monday, chiefly on the Doctor's Flat, and Mr. Slater had a nice lot with the fly the same evening after eight o'clock. Sea trout and grilse are running freely, and the Solway fishermen are to some extent making up for their want of success in the early part of the season. The netting men at the mouth of the river are also having a good time of it.—SILVER GREY.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—Angling is now becoming remunerative on many of the better waters. Roach are coming into condition, and in the fine evenings there are plenty of dace to be had by fly-fishing. Perch are also to be met with in the districts of the drains containing them, and anglers are getting very satisfactory takes. Bream are also showing themselves, but are very shy at present. It is expected the present will be a fine summer for bream, and especially in the Welland and other known bream waters. The rains are putting a little colour into the water and causing it to freshen, but very much of the rain soaks into the soil, which is very dry for the season.—Limpet.

Idle (North Notts).—I hear that anglers are able to do very well on the Idle, and also on the canal, both of which are in fine order so far as the height and the colour of the water is concerned. The intolerable nuisance of weeds is again cropping up, and sometimes the river is full of them. A little care on the part of mowers up stream would be a great help to the fishermen. Weeds on the drains in the lower district are growing remarkably fast, and require cutting. Cutting is also said to be started by the Commissioners. Good roach are now procurable, and in some places dace are being caught, and so also perch; but the standing dish when these fail are still the flounders, plentiful on the lower reaches.—L.

Itchen (Winchester).—Fish rise well from nine till eleven a.m.; evening rise from seven till eight. Best killing fly, Pale Olive; wind, S.W.—Ginger Quill.

Lea and Stort.—The changeable weather seems to have put the fish off the feed. The rivers have been improved by the recent rains, but just now the growth of weeds makes it rather difficult for fishermen to find swims where their baits can be put prominently in front of fish. Wherever a decent swim can be found between the beds of weeds, good sport may be had, small red worms, gentles, or caddis baits being preferable to the supposed orthodox Lea angler's paste bait. On Thursday I found both the Lea and Stort in capital condition, and fish were to be seen during the sunny hours in the middle of the day very busily rising at the natural flies. Eels have been running remarkably well, and some capital baskets have been made. Now that all the Lea waters are open, sniggling and ledgering will be found good business. Some few roach and a good chub or two have been caught near St. Margarets and Rye House. In the lower waters at Cook's Ferry, Games's, and Ferrie Boat, some very good roach and plenty of eels have rewarded the efforts of fishermen who know their business. At Sewardstone the water is very low, but fish are plentiful and easy to be seen under the present circumstances. A case of poachers at their nefarious traffic has lately been met with by two members of one of our leading London angling clubs, and I trust that this will begin to open the eyes of the authorities to the fact that the prevention of netting is of much more importance than the question of gross weights or sizeable fish.—Spliced Joint.

Leicester.—Anglers continue to pay attention to the waters in the vicinity of the town, in good round numbers. The few showers that have fallen instead of interfering with sport have tended to keep the waters in excellent order; but with the roach and pike in poor condition. Anglers mostly try for perch, chub and eels. These have furnished ample sport, from the Leicester waters. Messrs. Frisby, Mee, Ellis and Thomas have shown rattling takes fish averaging from 1lb. to 2lb. During the latter part of last week, Messrs. Howard, Green and Pinnock obtained fair baskets of roach; and Mr. Reeves chub fishing had good specimens up to 2lb. Mr. G. Stevenson's basket of fish, is also worthy of mention. The Anglestone brook is not yet available for fishing. At Brooksby, Rearsby, and Blaby matters have been lively, but it is to be regretted that at the Abbey-park waters, pike 6oz. to 1lb. have been taken, which amounted almost to murder.

Loddon (Earley).—The river is in good condition and some good chub has been taken this week by Mr. Griffin, his heaviest scaling 3½lb. Roach are also feeding well, and several nice baskets have been taken.—J. R. Gould.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams which were running coloured at the end of last week, are now clear and in good order for fishing. The Pinsley is low and clear.—Gwynne.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—These rivers are in capital order, but since the May-fly went off sport has not been good, although a few fair baskets have been made. Stone, Orl, Yellow Dun, Orange Palmer, and Coch-y-bondhu by day, with Spinners, Owls, Caddis, and Sky Blue for evening, are the best flies. Minnow fishing has not been as good as usual this season owing, no doubt, in a great measure to the unsettled state of the weather and frequent thunderstorms.—R. T. Williams.

Medway (Maidstone).—The Medway is simply beautiful. The angler who is fond of the gentle art is gratified if not in a sporting sense, by the beautiful surroundings of the glorious Medway. The anglers have met with little success. The fish have not yet cleaned themselves, in fact some of the bream a week ago had not spawned. I hope to get among the chub at Yalding very soon, it is no use to say anything about bait roach or bream are taking, for the simple reason they are not taking at all. Hope to send you a better report in course of a few weeks.—W. Shrubsole.

Medway (Yalding).—A friend of mine says the fish are very dirty here, and that sport has not been at all encouraging since the opening of the season. A party of London anglers were here on Tuesday, but the most successful member only took two chub. There are plenty of fine fish here, but the backward spawning season has been against them.—Goosequill.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—There is really nothing of importance to report from any of our waters in the eastern counties. Roach are busy in every creek, dyke, and cutting depositing their ova. Perch have got over their process. Chub and dace are all right. The only sport really to be obtained is amongst the bream in the Norfolk and Cambridgeshire waters, and they are feeding very indifferently. I do not like the idea of painting up rivers and fishing. I have always been careful to avoid that. Nothing, in my opinion, is more disappointing to the angler than to read great takes of fish made here and there, and the first thing he finds out on his arrival is fish are not feeding at all. That there are swarms of fish in most all our rivers there can be no doubt, but the severe and continued frost have had such an effect on them that they are more than a month behind their regular time for spawning. And this is not all; they have become so weakened by the extreme cold and continued frost that quantities of them are now at the present time dying off. In a walk of four miles I had on Sunday along one of the Cambridgeshire lodes, I counted over sixty large roach, dead and dying; no disease, but simply from sheer weakness and inability to deposit. Sharp-running waters like the Brandon Ouse fish have done better, but even there they are not feeding well. My advice is to wait. The best take of fish I have seen for some weeks were taken at Southery yesterday (30th). All bream, and several of them over 4lb. each.—William Howlett.

Plymouth.—Sea Fishing.—There is plenty of fish to be had now in any part of the bay or sound. Hundreds of boats have gone out every day, and have returned laden with fish of all kinds, chiefly bass, mackerel, whiting, pollack, pouting. Mackerel are now paying us a visit nearer land; they are chiefly taken with a Baby Spinner and a strip of mackerel. Last Wednesday one of our boats was fortunate enough to get six hundred of the fish, and they were all taken with a line; they are sold in the streets for about tenpence per dozen. The next two or three months will make all our fishermen very busy with every kind of sea fishing. Bass can now be obtained at Penlee Point and the Rame by casting for them as you would for salmon from the shore; thirteen were taken by one rod alone last week. Now would be the time for those who enjoy sport of this kind to visit Plymouth. I will not describe this mode of fishing unless requested, as I have done so frequently. Pollack can be taken very near the pier, where you can obtain boats at sixpence per hour. They are also taken in any part of the Sound with the grub bait, with a natural worm for the tail; some prefer using the sole skin and worm, and are well rewarded for their toil. A friend of mine caught four dozen before breakfast last week, and they weighed from 2lb. to 7lb. each; they were all caught with the grub and worm. The weather still continues fine, but there is a slight breeze up.—William Hearder.

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—The heavy rains during the past week have slightly affected both rivers, and caused the eels to move freely, a great number having been taken by the bottom-fishers, and some heavy baskets of coarse fish have been taken on the Severn. Mr. Phillips, jun., of Camp Locks, while trolling with one of Warner's pike baits, caught a splendid trout of 6lb. weight in grand condition; Mr. J. Davis (Izaak Walton Club) has also weighed in a grand lot of trout and roach, the latter averaging ½lb. each. The Blue Dun, Cow-dung, and Black Gnat have been killing well on the Teme, and some capital baskets of dace have been taken, but the trout taken have run small, the rapid rise and discolouration of the water on Thursday evening interfered with fly-fishing for a day or two; but both streams are in fair fishing order now.—Fieldwing.

Taw (North Devon).—The rivers have not risen as one would have expected with the rain—only just freshened it; but fish do not this season take properly. The Lynton water is good, and many good catches had. Salmon with the net-men are not so plentiful as years gone by.—Rusty Game.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this district the water has cleared since last week, and has run into good fishing order. The weather is dull. The fish have been rising well.—Worcester.

Trent (Newark).—Atmospheric influences have been antagonistic to the Trent anglers' success during the past week, for shortly after the despatch of my last report the river rose rapidly, and on Friday evening a heavy volume of highly-coloured water was coursing merrily along, and high winds and storms have been prevalent daily since. Worm fishing has been attempted with but moderate success, and no heavy takes are registered, eels being principally taken, and without more settled weather neither the bottom fisherman nor the surface angler can hope for much sport.—Trentsider.

Trent (Nottingham).—The Trent has undergone a substantial rise since my last, although on Wednesday the river had again settled down, and was in splendid condition for all descriptions of angling. There is no doubt, too, that the influx will improve bottom fishing all round. At Weston, on Saturday, one of the subscribers, Mr. W. Atkinso, of Radford, killed with the worm a miscellaneous bag of roach, dace, perch, and bream. The lot weighed over 30lb.; and most of the fish were in very fair condition. Below King's Mills in the same fishery, W. J. Greaves, a member of the Nottingham Wellington Society, has taken a very fine bream of 4lb. 8¾oz.; and an eel of 4lb. odd, has fallen to the rod of Mr. Hitchin of Melbourne, Mr. H. Green, of the Holme Pierrepont, length, has been bagging roach, and white bream on the scours, but the fish were sickly and ought, perhaps, to have been returned. A few lots of roach have come to hand from Hilford.—The-Man-at-the-Clubs.

Yore, Wharfe, Swale, Nidd, &c.—Very little alteration has been made in the above by recent rains, the ground being so dry, that it will require at least two days continuous rain to bring down a perch. A Pateley angler killed eighteen trout with bustard on Tuesday night, some capital sport has also been experienced at Boroughbridge and Tadcaster with chub, roach and barbel.—Francis M. Walbran.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire).—A nice fresh came down the rivers last week, and a good many sewin went up. The water is now in good fishing order, and nice baskets of trout taken with the fly, more especially by evening fishing.—H.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—During the past week we have had a heavy rainfall and very fair baskets have been made. In a succession of thunderstorms on Thursday, Mr. H. I. Bromilow caught twelve very pretty trout, 10lb.; and Messrs. Brookes, eleven, 10¼lb. On Saturday sport was good, and Messrs. C. W. Gedney and G. Ward brought in sixteen lovely fish, 14½lb.; same two anglers in a gale of wind on Monday, got seventeen fine fish, 15lb.; and on the afternoon of Tuesday, twelve, 10lb. 13oz. Heaviest fish: Mr. Bromilow, 1¾lb.; Mr. Ward, 1lb. 10oz. Most successful flies: Black and Grouse, Claret and Grouse, and Alder. There is plenty of fresh water now and heavy baskets ought to be made this month.—Long Drift.

Tan-y-Bwlch Hotel (Capel Curig, N. Wales).—After the recent rain trout have been going very well indeed—one local fisherman taking seventy-eight in a few hours—to-day, July 1st., Mr. J. Dodd took twenty-seven fish, averaging nearly ½lb.; and Mr. E. Cobden, twenty very good trout.—F. C. C.

Teifi (Lampeter, Cardiganshire).—Notwithstanding the recent thunderstorms, the river still remains very low, somewhat coloured from the road washings, but that is all, hence but few trout have been taken during the past week, and sport will not improve until we have had a good heavy downpour.—H.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—Towards the close of last week we had a welcome flood of water down the river, and as Sundays are close days for salmon netting, we shall probably have a further supply of salmon and sewin up during this week or next. Nice catches of trout are now being made, the heaviest by minnow and worm. Dr. Nawnton Davies—a first-rate fly fisher by the way—is having good sport, as also Dr. Lloyd, on the "Dynevor" water. A number of pike have also been captured, up to 10lb. in weight each. We have an unusual number of sea lampreys up the river this season, and several have been caught up to 4lb. in weight.—H.

Usk (Abergavenny).—Three salmon weighing 13lb., 13lb., 11½lb. each, were caught by Mr. W. Davis, on Monday; and on the same day three more weighing 15½lb., 12½lb., 12lb. each, by Colonel Dalton. And two others weighing 12lb. and 10lb. each, by the Rev. F. de vie Beamish, on Tuesday. Some very fine trout have been taken with the white and brown moths, and Red Spinner. Having had a quantity of rain during the last few days, good sport is expected during the coming week.—Joseph Clare.

Usk (at Usk).—There have been several slight freshets during the past week of a few inches, but this has not materially suspended angling. A big run of salmon has taken place, and grilse are now numerous in the river. On Monday, General Sir C. L. Barnard, K.C.B., caught one 14lb. on No. 2 beat, and Mr. Brown, one, 10lb., on the same beat. Tuesday, on the upper association waters, Mr. Barker had one; Rev. Hair, three; Mr. W. Stone, two; and Mr. Seymour, one; Mr. Clive, one, 16lb., on No. 3 beat; and Mr. H. E. Cole, a grilse, 4½lb.—T.

Yare (Norwich).—Excellent bream fishing is now being had on this river right away from Coldham Hall, Brundall, down past Buckenham Ferry to Cantley. At each station good catches have been had during the past week; fish in numbers up to 3lb. have been landed, and several catches of from four to five stones per two rods are reported. To-day (Thursday) I've tried, but failed altogether, but, I am pleased to say, in good company, as several of the most experienced anglers of the district were there, and they were equally lucky. On the Bure, I am told, sport is good, and improving from week to week. Roach are coming into condition on this river; but it will take another fortnight on the Yare. I trust to be able in next report to send you some accounts of catches which have not been heard for several years, as all the best authorities admit that we have the best possible prospects.—Robert Moll.

Scotch Reports.

Altnacealgach Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—On Tuesday, last week, Mr. Mann, Shrewsbury, on Loch Cama, twenty-seven trout, 8lb.; and Messrs. Eskrigge, Hall and Lupton, Liverpool on Loch Veyatie, half the day only, twenty-eight, 10½lb. Loch Urigill was fished by Mr. Hutchison, Perth, three dozen, 10lb.; Mr. Smith, Perth, three dozen, 10lb.; and Mr. Moncrieff, Perth, forty-five, 11lb. On Wednesday, on Loch Urigill, Mr. Mann, forty-two, 12lb.; Mr. Smith, thirty-five, 8lb.; and Mr. Moncrieff, thirty-four, 11lb. On Loch Veyatie, Mr. P. D. Malloch, Perth, six dozen, 21½lb.; and Mr. Hutchinson, three dozen, 13½lb.; Messrs. Eskrigge, Hall and Lupton, on Loch Cama, one hundred and thirteen, 28lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Barrett, Perth, on Loch Boarlan, half day only, fifty-nine, 14½lb.; and Mr. Clay, London, a short time, 3½lb. On Thursday, which was the yearly communion fast day, anglers had to fish from banks, as neither boats nor gillies were obtainable. On Loch Urigill, Mr. Malloch had ninety, 21½lb.; and Mr. Smith, twenty-three, 6½lb. On Loch Cama, Messrs. Clay and Mead, London, and Messrs. Eskrigge and Hall, had in all fifty-seven, 14lb. Friday was stormy, and many of the anglers were out only a short time. On Loch Veyatie, Messrs. Hall and Eskrigge were blown off; and Mr. Mann had twenty-three, 6lb. On Loch Urigill, Mr. Malloch, eighty-four, 25lb.; Mr. Hutchison, forty-nine, 13½lb.; and Messrs. Smith and Moncrieff, blown off early, thirty, 10lb. On Loch Cama, Mr. and Mrs. Barrett, fifty, 17½lb.; and Messrs. Clay and Mead, ninety-four, 16½lb. Messrs. Lupton and R. B. Eskrigge, on Loch Boarlan, sixty, 11½lb. On Saturday, on Loch Veyatie, Mr. Mann had twenty-six, 10lb., one of which weighed 1½lb., and contained an adder 18in. long. On Loch Cama, Messrs. Hall and Eskrigge, fifty-seven, 19½lb.; and Messrs. Lupton and R. B. Eskrigge, eighty-two, 24½lb. On Loch Urigill, Mr. and Mrs. Barrett, seventy-four, 20lb.; and Messrs. Clay and Mead, sixty-three, 16lb.; Mr. Clay, with green and teal fly and small trout rod, landed a beautiful *Salmo ferox* of 7lb., it was in perfect condition, and has been sent to Mr. Malloch, Perth, for preservation. On Monday, this week, Loch Urigill was fished by Messrs. Eskrigge, forty, 11¾lb.; and by Messrs. Lupton and Hall, eighty-three, 26lb.; Messrs. Clay, Mead, and Headlam, London, on Loch Cama, six dozen, 23½lb.; and Professor Harrower, on Loch Boarlan, thirty-nine, 11¾lb. Total basket for the week, 1,675 fish, 466½lb.—McB.

Auchintaple Loch (Forfarshire).—Good sport is the order of the day. On Monday, Messrs. C. Henderson, Glenisla, and J. G. Henderson, U.S. America, landed twelve trout, which weighed 17lb. One trout was exactly 3lb., two stood at 2½lb. each, while another scaled fully 2lb. On Wednesday last week, Lord Alexander Kennedy, Major D. M. Robertson, and Lieutenant D. S. Johnstone, of Alyth, had good sport on the same loch.—David G. Grewar.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—For the first time during the past four months, sport on this river was *nil* for seven consecutive days. With a burning sun overhead, and a river almost dried up, salmon angling was for a while out of the question. The only fish landed last week was by Mr. W. Allis Smith, of Glencalon, who fished the upper waters on Saturday, and got a salmon weighing 10lb. A good deal of rain fell on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, and the water is now in fair order. On Tuesday, this week, Dr. MacPherson, Bonarbridge, and Dr. Polson, Edinburgh, fished the waters connected with Balnagown Arms Hotel with success, the one landing a salmon of 9lb., the other a grilse of 5lb.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—The past week has been one of drought, heat, thunderstorms, and general ups and downs, which have reduced salmon angling to a minimum; but have induced more attention to the streams in search of trout, and many good baskets have been made. In the upper pools of the Dee, which are actually congested with fish, disease is very serious, and the mortality very considerable. It would be beneficial were some of the more crowded places cleared out of the worst pest which can affect our *Salmonidæ* and this can be easily done about the Braemar district. On the Balmoral and Birkhall reaches the royal keepers have landed several salmon and a good few grilse. On the Invercauld waters at Ballater, Rev. Mr. Upcher, Mr. Upcher, jun., Mr. Lister, and Mr. McGregor landed thirty-one salmon last week, scaling from 7lb. to over 20lb. each. On the Cambus O'May water Captain Gaskill and friends have enjoyed a good time of it during June. On the lower reaches the smallness of the river has been very much felt, and the expectations of a good grilse season have as yet been disappointing. On the Ballogie section, Mr. E. Drummond has just completed his spring lease, and on the whole has had a very successful season. Last week he added to his score, which is above the average, two, 7lb.; one, 19lb.; and a grilse of 3lb. In the previous week he had two of 9lb. and 13lb., which were omitted from that week's report. On the Upper Dess water, Captain Davidson landed a grilse of 3lb. On the Woodend water, Mr. Campbell, keeper, landed two grilse of 3lb. and a salmon of 7lb. On the Blackhall Castle reaches and the Lower Crathes and Feugh waters, a good few small grilse have been got, while anglers for sea trout in the tidal reaches have been making glorious baskets nightly with bait. The show of fish on the coast last week was said to be unprecedented, and a flood just now would be a welcome boon all-round. It is reported that three hundred and three salmon and grilse were got one morning at the Aberdeen Harbour fishing station at the mouth of the river.—Deesider.

Esk (Langholm, Dumfriesshire).—Day fishing has been useless in the bright weather. The whole of the takes were made after sunset. Sea trout are not so plentiful as they might be at this season, but with more water a good run is looked for, and all the more confidently as they were showing well last week in the Solway. The following takes are reported from the lower waters: Mr. Craig, Crosskeys, three sea-trout and a few yellow trout; Mr. J. Graham, Rowanburn, five sea trout; Mr. James Graham, Crookholm, six sea trout; Mr. D. Edgar, Rowanburn, six sea trout; Mr. James Park, Marchbank, three sea trout; Mr. J. Graham, Loaninghead, two sea trout; Mr. William Riddle, Byreburnfoot, three sea trout, and Mr. A. Irving, Rowanburn, two sea trout. In Langholm water, Messrs. William Thorburn, Thomas Martin, John Barnfather, James Bell, George Armstrong, Frank Storey, and Matthew Laidlaw, have had sea trout, the majority of the fish being taken at the Skippers' Gullets. They have not been of large size, the best weighing 2¼lb. Since the above was written, the weather has changed completely, a severe thunderstorm having passed over the district, rain has fallen in torrents; and good sport may now be expected. —W. Douglas, Eskdale Hotel.

Helmsdale (Helmsdale).—Since my report of last week a good deal of rain has fallen, but not sufficient to raise the river in the slightest degree. The consequence is, of course, that anglers have done very little indeed; the only fair basket I have heard of was got by the Suirgill party, who on Friday last landed four salmon, and three grilse, latter fresh run. The river lessees are at present making a salmon channel in the fords which lie between Helmsdale and Kildonan, with the object of allowing fish to run up in any state of the river. I have no doubt it will be of some good even when the water is at its lowest. The netsmen continue to secure great hauls of fish, both grilse and salmon, and are now far ahead of their total catch of last season. The lochs are yielding good sport. The other day Mr. Muir and his brother landed 56lb. trout on Loch Baden. Other lochs are also yielding fair sport.—S. C.

Inchnadamph Hotel Waters (Sutherland).—The following record of the past week's sport will indicate the nice baskets now made on the various lochs attached to this hotel. On Tuesday last week Mr. Cookson, York, fished Loch Assynt and landed three and a-quarter dozen trout, weighing in all 14lb.; and Colonel and Mrs. Flower, London, on Loch Awe, three and one-third dozen, 15lb.; Mr. Cookson fished Loch Awe on Wednesday, and caught two and a-half dozen, 10lb.; on Thursday, Major and Mrs. Gillespie tried Loch Awe and made a basket of forty-four trout, 13lb.; and Mr. Cookson, on Davies' Loch, had four fine trout averaging 2½lb. each; on Friday, Colonel and Mrs. Flower, on Loch Awe, one and a-quarter dozen, 6lb.; Mr. Cookson, on Loch Assynt, two and a-half dozen, which averaged ½lb. each; on Saturday Colonel and Mrs. Flower, on Loch Assynt, five, 3lb.; Mr. Cookson, on Davies' Loch, five, 10lb.; Major and Mrs. Gillespie, on Loch Awe, twenty-five, 8lb.; on Monday, this week, Mr. Cookson fished Loch Awe and made a fine basket of fifty, 17lb.; Colonel and Mrs. Flower, on Loch Assynt, twenty-five, 8lb.; Major Gillespie on same loch, nine, the heaviest of which weighed 2lb.—McB.

Isla (Forfarshire).—Perhaps within human memory the Isla has not been so low as it is at the present time, yet good sport is being got with fly, the trout rising very freely. Worm and natural minnow lures do well in the early mornings. The bed of the stream is very dirty and stands much in need of a spate to clean it out.—David G. Grewar.

Kilmelford.—General and Lady Tower, Messrs. Lyle and Usher, Drs. O. Fergus and Giles, Captain and Mrs. Falls, R.N., and Miss Leggatt, Messrs. Bankart, James Waddell, Kirby and Stott, presently residing at Cuilfail Hotel, are having splendid sport on the Hotel waters, and deep sea fishing on Loch Melford. The total catch during the week was one thousand two hundred and fifty-two trout in grand condition. Two days sea fishing, 60½lb. cod, 37lb. flounders and garnets. Angling weather now in earnest; season in full swing; new visitors arriving daily, at the anglers' favourite resort, Cuilfail Hotel.—John M. Frazer.

Kyle of Durness.—Mr. H. W. Davies, of London, fishing the Kyle during the past five days' has had the following takes: June 23, twenty-one sea trout, 32lb., largest 4lb.; 24th, twenty-six sea trout, 35lb., largest 3½lb.; 25th, eighteen sea trout, 24lb., largest 2½lb.; 26th, two Crosspuil trout, 3lb., largest 2lb.; 27th, thirty-five sea trout, 51lb., largest 3lb.—Ada Turnbull.

Kyle of Sutherland (Bonarbridge, N.B.)—Several anglers have been sea trout angling on these tidal waters during the past week, but details of baskets are not procurable, excepting those by Dr. Polson, Edinburgh, who on Tuesday week landed four sea trout, weighing 1½lb. On Wednesday he got three fine fish of over 2lb. each, and six smaller ones averaging about ½lb. On Thursday he got four sea trout, 2lb.; and on Saturday, five, 2¾lb. On Monday this week he landed five, the heaviest being 1½lb., and hooked a grilse, but it broke away. The net salmon fishers have been very successful of late, the hauls of salmon and grilse during the past week being heavier than in any week since the opening of the season. As compared with the previous week, Mr. Anderson's, South Bonar, Scalp, and Rivermouth fishings showed great improvement, while the takes on Mr. Smith's, Cruggandubh and Inverchurron fishings, almost doubled in productiveness; but Messrs. Powrie and Piteaithley's Skibo fishings at the head of the Dornoch Firth showed a falling-off. The weight of salmon and grilse consigned to Billingsgate from all these fishings in the course of the week is estimated at over five tons.—McB.

Lairg, N.B.—The following is the record of the sport on Lairg Hotel waters during the past week. Weather of greater part of the week was unfavourable for good sport. On Monday, 22nd, Col. Church killed four trout, 3½lb., on Loch Beannoch; Mr. Clay, three, 2¼lb., on Loch Cracail; and Major-Gen. Stafford, seventeen, 8lb., on Loch Namfuar-leachd. On Tuesday, Mr. A. C. Giddes, eight, 3¾lb., on Loch Nam fuar-leachd; Major-Gen. Stafford, eight, 3½lb., on Loch Shin. On Wednesday, Col. Church fished Loch Beannoch, six, 2½lb., and Major-Gen. Stafford, three, on Loch Shin. On Thursday, Mr. Dickens, seven, 5lb., on Loch Craeail; Major-Gen. Stafford, eight, 3¼lb., on Loch Shin. On Friday, Mr. Dickens, four, 3lb., on Loch Beannoch; Major-Gen. Stafford, eight, 3½lb., on Shiness Bay. Saturday forenoon was thundery, with a heavy fall of rain. Mr. Dickens fished Loch Shin for two hours in the afternoon, and killed eleven, 6lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Spicer on same loch had over a dozen.—J. Y.

Loch Garry and River Garry (Tomdoun Inn).—Water in nice trim; excellent sport. Weather favourable. —Hison.

Loch Garry (Invergarry Hotel).—Visitors at this house have been very successful during the past week. Trout up to 3¾lb. have been landed. Particulars next week. Prospects excellent.—Hison.

Loch Leven (Kinross).—Little sport continues to be got, owing to boisterous winds and heavy thunder showers with thunder. The average sport obtained by private parties is about 5lb. The heaviest prize basket of the week was got by Mr. Gibbs, of the Edinburgh Waverley Club, with six trout, 7lb. 6oz. Mr. Gordon, Glasgow, was the most successful of private parties, having captured seventeen trout, 15lb. Several days ago a trout scaling 1¼lb., was captured with the rod, marked with a silver ring. From the markings it would appear to be one marked two years' ago at "back of Castle," it then weighing 6oz. Several other marked fish have been got, all of them showing a development of about 8oz. per annum.—Robt. B. Laing.

Loch Ness and Loch Tarff (Lovat Arms Hotel, Fort Augustus, N.B.).—The fishing got on these waters can hardly be surpassed. Mr. Muir, of Glasgow, has been enjoying good sport during the past ten days. Fishing on Loch Tarff yesterday (30th ult.), Gen. Monsey Grant had a basket of forty trout, weight 23lb., ten of the largest weighing 8lb. Gen. Monsey Grant is one of the best fly-fishers in the North. The waters are now of a good size, and the wind blowing steadily from the west. Prospects for the next week remarkably good. Several large salmon have been seen at the mouth of river Oich, and, with a little more flood, they will be able to ascend and give a chance to anglers on the river.—Hison.

Loch Rannoch (Kinloch Rannoch).—On Friday, the 26th ult., Captain Causton, from the Dimalastair Hotel, had a basket of forty-four trout on Loch Rannoch; and on same water, Mr. Pearce had a take of 9¼lb. On the river, Mr. Wilson and son obtained a basket of 4¾lb.; and on the following day, on Loch Rannoch, the same gentlemen had a basket of 9¾lb., and a beautiful *Salmo ferox*, weighing fully 13¼lb. The *Salmo ferox*, when struck, proved very ferocious, and gave play for about three quarters of an hour, but after it became exhausted its capture was speedily accomplished. On the loch, on same day, the Rev. Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Pearce had a basket of fully 10¼lb. On the following day, Mr. Wilson and son obtained on the loch four trout, 5lb.; and Mr. Noble and friend, a basket of 10½lb.; Mr. Nash and the Rev. Mr. Stevenson, on same water, had a basket of 8¼lb.; and Mr. Singer, one of 7½lb. Captain Causton, within a few hours, had a basket of 4¾lb. On the 30th, Mr. Nash killed thirty-two trout on the loch; and Mr. Noble and friend killed eighteen; on same date, Mr. Graham had a basket of 5lb.; and Mr. Wilson and son, on the river, one of 4lb.; Captain Causton and the Rev. Mr. Stevenson killed seven trout; and Mr. Singer had fourteen. On the following day, Mr. Nash had a basket of 10¼lb. on the loch; Mr. Graham killed twenty-eight very nice trout; Mr. Hodgson, a nice take of sixteen trout; and Mr. Noble and Mr. Turner secured a take of 3¼lb. on the river.

Loch Tay (Kenmore, N.B.).—On the Hotel water on the 25th, Mr. Lewis, nine trout, 4lb.; Mr. Allgood, six trout, 3½lb.; Mr. Anderson, eighteen trout, 5lb. On the 26th, Mr. Allgood, thirteen trout, 4½lb.; Mr. F. Graham, seven trout, 3½lb.; Mr. Anderson, nine trout, 3½lb. On the 27th, Mr. Anderson, five trout, 3½lb. On the 29th, Mr. F. Graham, fifteen trout, 4lb.; Mr. Allgood, twenty-seven trout, 8½lb.; Mr. Anderson, fifty-two trout, 14lb.; Mr. Parker, fifty-seven trout, 12lb.; Doctor Rowlands, fifty-seven trout, 11lb.; Mr. Gardiner, twenty-seven trout, 8lb. On the 30th, Mr. Anderson, sixteen trout, 8½lb.; Mr. Parker, eleven trout, 3½lb.; Mr. Straker, thirty trout, 18lb. Mr. Allgood had fine sport, sixty-four trout, 8lb. Loch is in good ply after the rain.—Knight.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—Heavier baskets are now being made. On Tuesday last week Mr. Sample, Bothal Castle, Morpeth, fished Fiag beat on Loch Shin, and caught sixteen trout, 8½lb. in all. A good basket was also made on Loch Merkland by Mr. R. Ormond and Mr. W. Ormond, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The Rev. Canon Faber, Doncaster, on Loch Fiag, fifty trout, 12lb.; and Mr. A. Paradox and Master Paradox, on Loch Merkland, thirty trout, 10¼lb. On Wednesday, Messrs. Ormond, on Loch Griam, eighteen trout, 7½lb.; Rev. Canon Faber, on same loch, twenty-nine trout, 7½lb.; and Messrs. Paradox on Loch Shin, eighteen trout, 7lb. It should, however, be mentioned that the day was so rough that all the boats were blown off the lochs. On Friday the storm was worse, and the only baskets made were by Rev. Canon Faber, who had twenty-five trout, 7lb., on Loch Merkland; and by Mr. A. Paradox and Master Paradox on Loch Griam, thirty-six trout, 11¼lb. On Saturday the last-named anglers on Fiag beat, forty-nine trout, 20lb.; Rev. Canon Faber, on Loch Fiag, five dozen, 18lb. On Monday this week, Rev. Canon Faber, Doncaster, on Fiag beat, landed twenty-nine trout, 6lb.; and Messrs. A. and R. Paradox, on Loch Shin, forty trout, 14lb.; besides a *Salmo ferox* of 3¼lb., caught by Mr. R. Paradox.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.)—On Monday last week Loch Na-Blarloch was fished by Capt. Burton, Gloucester, who landed twenty-eight trout, weighing 8lb. in all. On the mountain streams, on Tuesday, the same angler had twenty-two trout, 7lb.; on Loch Inchard, on Wednesday, 16lb. lythe; on Loch Tigh Sheilg, on Thursday, twenty-three trout, 11lb.; and on Friday, on same loch, forty-four trout, 17lb. On Saturday, Captain Burton fished Loch Inchard, and got a sea trout of 3lb., and sixty lythe; and Mr. Maitland, fishing off Cape Wrath, got a number of sea fish. Angling prospects for this week are very good, as the spate of Saturday and Sunday enabled sea trout to ascend, and seldom were so many seen in the kyle waiting to get up. The outlook in brown trout fishing is also encouraging.—McB.

Shin (Inveran Hotel Waters, Sutherland, N.B.).—This river has been prolific in sport all through the season up to date, and the past month has been the best June for a great number of years. There can be but little doubt the Shin is now reaping the benefit of the withdrawal of the nets from its mouth. These net fishings of the Invershin, as they were called, were abolished by the Duke of Sutherland, two or three years ago, and the beneficial effects as regards angling are now plainly perceptible. Last week, although the water was not at its best for fishing, the following sport was got by Mr. Buxton and party, Sutherland Arms Hotel. On Monday, a 6lb. grilse on Cromarty Pool, and two of 5lb. and 3lb. on Falls Pool. On Tuesday, one grilse, 5½lb., on Cromarty, and two 5lb. and 4lb. on Coolag. On Wednesday, a 6lb. grilse on Angus Pool, and two of 6lb. and 5lb. on Falls Pool. On Thursday Coolag yielded a 6½lb. grilse, and the upper waters one of 5½lb. On Friday, an 11lb. salmon was grassed on Herbert Pool, a 5lb. grilse on Coolag, and another of the same weight on Falls Pool. On Saturday three salmon of 14lb., 15lb., and 16lb. were caught on Fir Dam, and two grilse weighing 6lb. each on Cromarty Pool. Miss Elwys has been trout angling, and caught a number of nice fish. Heavy rain fell on Saturday and Sunday, and numbers of fish are now seen daily ascending the falls.—McB.

South of Scotland.—On Friday night and Saturday morning there was a heavy rain fell in the Annandale and by mid-day on Saturday the waters were up 18in. Still although the conditions are somewhat more favourable than last week, none of the South of Scotland rivers are in good order. The all-important flood has not yet come. With the colour in the water on Saturday, bait fishers were not in numbers in the Annan, and some heavy baskets of sea trout were caught at Newbie Mill. Mr. James Pollock, High-street, killed four sea trout, weighing from 1lb. to 2½lb. each, and he had besides a grilse of 3lb. Mr. James Scott, Lodge Cottage, caught four sea trout from 1lb. to 1½lb. each, Mr. James Dixon, High-street, had one sea trout of 2½lb.; Mr. Henry Boyd, two sea trout, and he hooked and lost a salmon. On the previous day Mr. Dirom, of Mount Annan, killed two sea trout of 1lb. each, and ten yellow trout, the heaviest of which weighed ¾lb.; a visitor from Manchester had a brace of herling. On Saturday in Mount Annan Water, Mr. A. Bell, killed one sea trout, 1lb. On Monday there were again kills with worm, at the Water Mill, Mr. Barrett, Lady-street, had a couple of sea trout; and Mr. Pollock caught three fine ones. Besides these catches other anglers had baskets of yellow trout, and odd herling have also been caught. In the higher waters some capital angling has been had since the rise of water. On Monday, the Rev. Mr. Colchy, the Parsonage, Annan, killed a beautiful basket of thirty yellow trout in Jardine Hall water, which weighed 12lb. Mr. Robison, Bernock Lodge, Moffat, killed a similar basket; Mr. Jamieson, Ashmount, Moffat, landed a very fine yellow trout out of the Oakriggside water, which weighed 3lb. In the middle reaches Mr. Banning, Lockerbie, had four sea trout and a nice lot of yellow trout, the heaviest of which weighed 2½lb. On Hoddom Castle section, one of the keepers had a sea trout of 2lb., and a yellow trout of 2½lb. Other anglers had smaller baskets, the Border Esk has been slightly improved with the rainfall. On Friday night Mr. Graham, Crookholm, had a salmon of 8lb. in the Double water, with worm. John Edgar Rowanburn had four sea trout in the same water on the following morning. On Monday Mr. James Morrison, Langholm, killed six sea trout in the Skipper Pool, weighing about 2lb. each with worm fishing. Mr. John Reid had three sea trout, and other anglers had smaller catches. Weather is unsettled-looking this (Thursday) evening.—Heatherbell.

St. Mary's Loch and the Meggat (Rodono Hotel, Selkirk).—Anglers are enjoying good sport here at present. Mr. James Anderson, of Edinburgh, fishing with worm on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week, basketed over thirteen dozen trout of fair average size. The heaviest, scaling over 1lb., was killed in the loch. Mr. J. B. Mackie, of Edinburgh, fishing with fly, has also had nice baskets. The streams are low and clear, and the loch is much below its normal level.—W. White.

Tongue Hotel.—June 25, Messrs. Bolton on Loch Slamm, twenty trout, 9lb., and a salmon weighing 4½lb. June 26, Messrs. Bolton on Loch Hope, three sea trout, 9lb. June 27, Messrs. Bolton, on Loch Slamm, twenty trout, 7lb.: also a salmon weighing 4½lb.—A. Campbell.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—Trouting is slightly improved on the Ballinderry and its tributaries by the recent heavy rains, which put the water in nice volume and colour, but the frequent violent thunderstorms were against good baskets being made. Monday last in the Tullyleggan preserves, Mr. James Stevenson had four nice trout, and in the Finvay reaches Mr. J. Hardy killed a 19lb. pike. Friday on the Ardtree sections Mr. William McCord had a brace, and Mr. Robert Campboll three brace of brown trout. Salmon are commencing to run up from Lough Neagh, and some twenty-pounders have been seen, but none have been taken that I hear of. Monday last on the Coagh reaches, Mr. C. B. Irwin had ten trout, Mr. Stamford Leitch had twelve; and Mr. Thomas Bell, nine brown trout. At the time of writing the river is still rising, and the prospects of good sport are increasing.—East Tyrone.

Blackadder.—Ballynahinch fishery, since my last report, General Beresford has headed the list with a total of twenty-three fish, salmon and peal; General Coote, fifteen; Mr. Pike, three; Capt. Coote, three; Mr. Taylor, two; and some sea trout which are now appearing in the lakes, we have had two slight rise of water, but want a good spat to really improve the fishing.—Toombeola.

Erne and Lough Melvin.—The weather continued very hot and bright for the greater part of last week, and but little angling was done until Friday and Saturday, when some heavy rain fell, and since then capital sport has been obtained. The weather at present is very wet and stormy. —M. Rogan and Sons.

Moy and Lakes (Ballina).—The change of weather, from bright sunshine to dark and cloudy, with the fall of rain we have had, has improved sport very much. Suffice to say that rods average from one to three grilse, and while a good many are hooked, played, and lost. Amongst the most successful anglers are Mr. R. W. Murray, Mr. R. Gunn MacKay, Mr. Roberts and friend, Mr. Boyd, and Mr. Wilkinson. There is now fully 9in. of fresh water in the river, which will keep it up some time. More rain to come. The river crowding with hundreds of grilse and sea trout.—Frank Hearn.

Westmeath Lakes.—Now that the Green Drake season is virtually over, fishing as a consequence has lattely been very dull indeed; the weather has also become stormy and showery, and rendered dapping with flies other than Green Drake, a matter almost of impossibility. A second rise comes on in July and August, upon Lough Ennell, and splendid fishing is often obtained. The trout are then in the pink of condition, and again turn to fly-food when satiated with the perch fry. Trolling for pike will be in full swing immediately, and very few days pass over without at least one trout from 4lb. to 7lb. being added to the basket as also some prime perch.—T. J. W.

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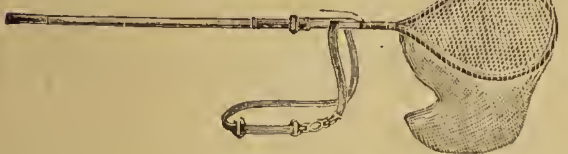

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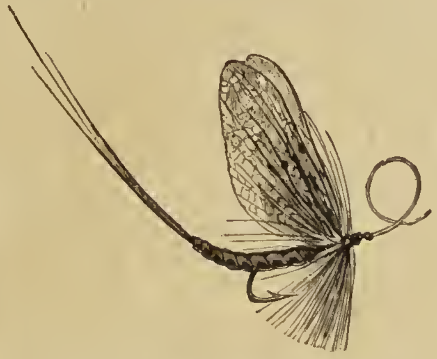

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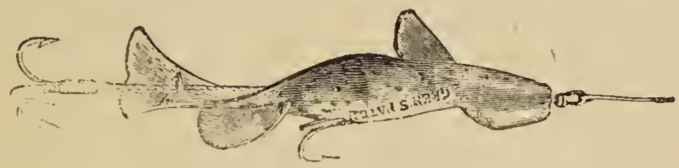

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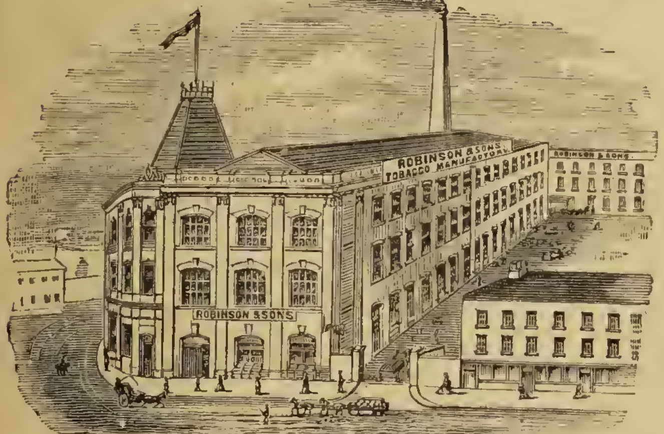

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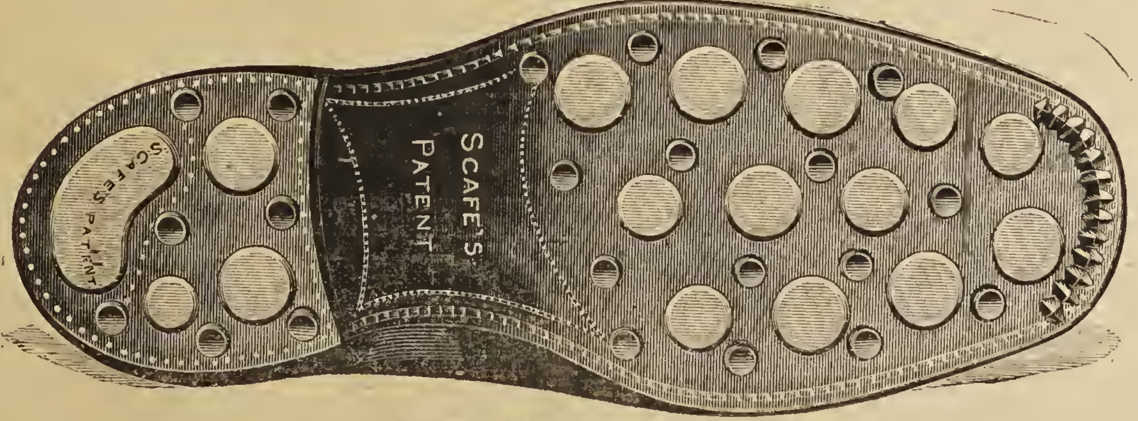

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TO FISHERMEN AND OTHERS.

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JOHN T. WOOLLEY is instructed by the executors of the late Mr. T. G. Targett to Sell by Auction, on the premises, on Wednesday, July 22nd, 1891, a very valuable Collection of OIL PAINTINGS, including 20 works by the late Mr. T. G. Targett, who was awarded a Silver Medal and a Diploma at the International Fisheries Exhibition, 1883, and who was so deservedly renowned as one of the greatest Piscatorial Artists of the day. The Sale will also include about 50 Oil Paintings by other Artists, a number of valuable old Engravings, Prints and Water Colours, also a choice collection of OLD CHINA; and on Thursday, July 23rd, the whole of the Household Furniture and other effects.--Catalogues of the Auctioneer, the Castle Auction Mart, Salisbury.

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TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The —
The Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, JULY 11TH, 1891.

FEUGH AND DEE.

TEMPERATURE: ITS BEARINGS ON THE "RUNS," AND TRAVELLING PACE OF THE MIGRATORY *SALMONIDÆ.*

By W. Murdoch.

Given frequent pushes of water at the right time of the year, and, for its size, this stream is one of the best grilse plenished waters in the whole of Scotland. It is now about twelve years since I first became acquainted with it, and saw the grand fishing which, when the water is right and fish are up in plenty, it gives in its proper short season. That season, it may be stated, is from the 18th or 20th of June to the 10th or 12th of July.

Frequently I have pointed out that if, owing to an insufficient body of water, salmon, grilse, or sea trout are kept from ascending at the time they first incline—the natural time—they do not afterwards, even supposing they run in as great strength as they would have done in their proper season, take with anything like the freeness which is shown by undelayed fish that are quite fresh run, or but a few days up from the sea. In corroboration of this statement of fact, the Feugh grilse and sea trout fishing furnishes conclusive evidence.

The Feugh is a mountain stream of Kincardineshire, and an important tributary of the Dee, which it enters about twenty miles from the sea. It flows in the main through a pretty expansive valley, and to many parts of it the lines of the poet, which rendered another stream more famous, pretty accurately apply—

> "You may trace it through the valley
> By the rushing in the springtime,
> By the alders in the summer,
> By the white fog in the autumn,
> By the black line in the winter."

Before sport can be got fish must be up! This will be admitted. Plenty descend in spring and plenty ascend in autumn, but these are neither worth-taking fish, nor fish worth taking. The Feugh is a summer river pure and simple; its right season is at the time stated. This will scarcely be properly understood by those who have no belief in the fact that the runs of the migratory *Salmonidæ* are influenced by temperature. In spring many thousands of fish running the Dee pass the mouth of the Feugh, which not a single one enters till May. This is remarkable; but not until the temperature of the Feugh gets to be about as high as that of the Dee do any fish run up the former. When this state of matters is reached they run about equally freely up both, though only, however, for a short time. The volume of water in the latter must on ordinary occasions be six or seven times greater than that in the former. Yet strange it is that when it is the best time for the Feugh's fishing, and the Feugh is somewhat more flooded for its size than the Dee, scarcely a fish on the run will show a preference for holding on up the larger river. Till the temperature of the two rivers becomes equalised, all the fish hold up the Dee. During most of May and into June a bit, the water in both rivers usually has about an equal temperature. Afterwards, for a long time, the Feugh again has almost constantly the lower temperature. But this temperature it would now seem is more to the taste of the fish than the higher temperature of the Dee. Were it not so it is natural to infer that the mass of the fish would go up the greatly larger river instead of turning out of their straight along and free course abruptly to the left to ascend the feeder. It is obvious that when the water has reached a certain point of warmth the fish show a marked disposition to steer clear of it. The same fact is apparent when the temperature is down below a certain degree. In the case of the Dee and the Feugh—two connected waters, both accessible to the fish—this is strikingly exemplified. Rarely at any time during the whole long time of the year, say from January to August, does the Feugh register a higher temperature than the Dee. Between spring and summer, that is in May, it may, now and again, vary to have a temperature a degree higher, but this is the utmost of the exceeding limit. In spring its water, which at this season of very low temperature is colder than that of the Dee at the confluence, is shunned by the fish, which all pass on up the Dee; while in summer its water, which then also, in the warm weather, has a lower temperature, is preferred to that of the Dee, which running a greatly longer distance exposed to the bright sun, has, when it reaches the Feugh, the higher temperature—a temperature distasteful to the fish as evinced in a very remarkable degree by their almost universal preference for pushing up the Feugh.

The Feugh, as I have already remarked, is a purely summer angling stream. It has only one natural migration of fish—a summer one, as will be understood. The fish found in it in the spring months are the descending kelts, and those noticed going up it in the autumn are the delayed back-lying fish, now filthy discoloured beggars. No salmon—large, bright, and sound—such as ascend the Dee in the autumn past its mouth in thousands, seek its waters. It is a short-seasoned river—as short a seasoned river as one could well imagine; it is fickle also—cannot be depended on. Unless frequent good pushes of water come within the three weeks of its really good time the season will pass without almost anything being done. It does not keep in right fettle for fishing for more than a few hours at a time, unless, indeed, rain should happen to keep on falling heavily for some hours at intervals during the day and night. When the state of matters is such the fishing is best. Once on a time the water stood up well even for some days, but since drainage on the hills of the water-shed became so extensive, it runs out as quickly as it floods, and this it takes precious little time to do.

In summer what a speed the fish must come, in running up river, compared with that which marks their journeying in spring. With a fairish water to run in—a water just the thing for good angling—they seem to run fastest. Let such a circumstance exist, and they will swim from the sea at Aberdeen to the Bridge of Feugh at Banchory, a water run of nearly twenty miles, in eight to nine hours. In the heavier and very much colder water of early spring, most of them take little under a week, and many a longer time to run the same distance.

The Bridge of Feugh spans the stream immediately below the falls—which picturesque sight is only some three hundred yards higher up the Feugh than its entrance into the Dee. A pretty heavy spate occurring within the period mentioned at the commencement of this sketch will insure good sport, provided of course that other conditions and circumstances which are inseparable are conducive to the same end. Should Dee and Feugh both run high, the Feugh for its size higher than the Dee, there is certain to be better fishing than if only the Feugh was flooded. And why? Because the Feugh, however much flooded, will not raise the Dee appreciably. The large broad river below the confluence seems only a trifle changed in colour—nowise increased in size—by the flood of its tributary. Such being the case, the fish do not readily run it, and so are not passing on to the Feugh in sufficient numbers to give good sport. Both waters (the Dee especially) require to be in good volume, and when such is the case the fish if they get away during the weekly slap, or can dodge the netters at other times, run merrily. With a heavy flood on a Saturday in the Dee—the water running down quickly by six or seven o'clock—the mass of grilse, which owing (it is assumed for the purpose of illustration) to great drought for days before, had congregated near the mouth of the river, will begin early in the evening and continue during the night to run splendidly—making all haste for the brown freshened water of the Feugh. The first—a detachment of say a dozen or twenty fish—of a shoal leaving the Dee (seen crossing the fords at Aberdeen) between seven and eight o'clock will, with a fast swimming water get to the Bridge of Feugh about four o'clock on Sunday morning.

I hope to give, in next week's paper, an account of the worm rolling in the Bridge of Feugh pool for salmon, grilse, and sea trout, which was the subject, when I commenced this article, that I intended to make much the most prominent one.

FISHING IN ITALY.

By Rux.

In ancient days no Roman banquet was complete without its fish course, and most lavish prices were paid for turbot and mullet. The Romans used oysters from Britain with their pickled tunny, whilst turbot, mullet, sturgeon, char, eels, lamprey, and pike formed part of the patrician's first course. The taste of the Roman gourmet for fish was so fine, that various kinds were selected from different waters, and placed in fish-ponds, where they were preserved and fed for table. Neither were the Epicureans content with the supply from the Mediterranean and the lakes and rivers of Italy, but fish was imported from Greece, Egypt, Britain, and the Danubian provinces. Lucullus, we are told, dug large trenches or canals from his fish-ponds to the sea near his house at Tusculum, in the Gulf of Naples. Fresh water ran down the canals to the sea, and up them sea fish which spawn in fresh water ascended to deposit their ova. When the fish had entered, the gates at the entrance of the canals were closed, and while the eggs were hatching into young, the parents which had spawned were used for food.

The Italian fisherman is strictly conservative, and his manners, habits, and customs are, in all probability, similar to those of his forefathers five hundred years ago.

In past generations grand *fêtes* and fish carnivals took place every year during Lent, the principal one being held by the inhabitants who lived in the vicinity of the lagoons at Commachio, at the mouth of the River Po. The great eel farm at this point is one of the specialities of the fishing industry which were common a few centuries ago, and is still in existence.

The inhabitants of the Italian sea-board have always been famous as fishermen with nets, and a large proportion of the population of the present day not only follow, but are very expert in the ancient craft.

If historians be correct, in past ages fish abounded in the Mediterranean, and the old proverb says: "There is as good fish in the sea as ever was taken out of it." They must, however, have vastly decreased, both in size and numbers, and this I judge from the catches of fish I have seen taken on several occasions at Genoa, Naples, and other seaports. The draft on each occasion consisted of small fry, no larger than whitebait, also a few crabs. I believe exception proves the rule, and during the months of May and June the Italian toilers of the deep reap a large harvest. During this period the tunny fish move along the shores in large shoals, seeking suitable spots wherein to deposit their spawn. A sentinel is kept continually on the watch from a lofty eminence, and, on perceiving the "school," warns the inhabitants, who at once make ready their boats and nets, and proceed to the spot indicated.

The fresh-water fishing in Italy will in no way compare to that of countries in the north of Europe. In Italian rivers netting is prohibited from April to the middle of October. This law is, however, not strictly enforced, and is often ignored altogether. The fish are not protected in the estuaries of rivers, and the mesh of the nets in general use are so small as to catch even the smallest of fry. Everything is fish that comes to the Italian fisherman's net, and instead of returning to their native element those fish which are of no use for food, he prefers to start a miniature aquarium, but this undertaking has never been attended with any success. Under such circumstances it is not to be wondered at that fish which leave the sea to spawn in fresh waters are scarce, and the streams of Italy afford but little sport to the angler.

Although the Roman patrician had a gastronomic taste for fish, it is not recorded by ancient writers that he or his plebeian brethren were true lovers of the gentle art.

The Italian aristocrat of the present day has on more than one occasion given ample proof of his powers with the gun, but I have yet to learn that he is a keen disciple of Izaac Walton. Occasionally at sea-port towns a few of the Lazaroni, who seem to enjoy poverty and idleness, may be seen stretched at full length on the cliffs, with their bamboo rods stuck between the rocky crags, whilst their lines, supported by small corks, listlessly float on the tideless sea. For a time the fisherman eagerly watches in hopes of a bite, but eventually the heat overcomes him, and the end is peaceful slumber and no fish.

Although the principal rivers of the "Sunny South" afford but little sport to anglers, tourists to Italy who are enthusiastic lovers of the rod may, if they wend their way to the Italian lakes, obtain some little return for their time and money. Lakes Como, Garda, and Lugano are full of fish, amongst which is a species of large trout, weighing from 10lb. to 20lb. That these fish have not been exterminated is due to the great depth of the lakes (900ft. to 2,000ft.), and as the trout generally swim some 300ft. below the surface of the water, the nets are of no avail. The Italians had for years given up all hopes of catching trout, and it was not till an ingenious English angler showed them the way that but few of these splendid fish were taken.

The best time for trout fishing in the lakes of Lombardy is in September and October. They can also be caught before daylight in the summer, but during the months of April and May, which is the spawning season, these fish cannot be hooked with even the most tempting bait. For this sport a flat-bottomed boat is required, as also a strong line some two hundred yards long. One end of this line is fastened to a winch, fixed in a frame a few feet above the gunwale of the boat. The other end of the line must be leaded, and at intervals, say of one hundred feet, smaller lines are tied on with hooks attached which are baited with a kind of small fresh-water herring; the whole tackle is then gently dropped over the side of the boat, which is quietly rowed along.

Besides trout two kinds of fish, known respectively to the Italians by the names of "Pigo" and "Scardola," frequent the lakes of Northern Italy in large numbers. The first-named (Pigo) are a very voracious fish, and when on the feed will take any ordinary bait, and even the fly. The Scardola is a species of roach, and sometimes affords a little sport to the angler. In Lake Como carp are also plentiful, and are occasionally caught weighing 200lb. Although all the lakes in Lombardy are well stocked with the different fish already named, The most suitable water for the lovers of the rod is the romantic Lake Iseo, and I am also given to understand that there is some fair trout fishing to be had in the Sesia river, near to Vorallo, as also in the streams that run through the Sermenta and Mastelone valleys.

There is good hotel accommodation at many of the villages situated on the several lakes in Lombardy, and the various routes by which these waters can be reached are given in Murray's "Handbook of Northern Italy."

In summing up the chances of sport in Italian waters, the angler must not be disappointed if the fishing in Italy does not come up to the standard of other countries, but he will be compensated in a measure by the romantic scenery and lovely climate of the lakes of Lombardy.

A TREATYSE OF FYSSHYNGE WYTH AN ANGLE.

By Dame Juliana Berners.

Written Four Hundred Years Ago.

We think our readers will be interested in our reprint of the oldest work in England on the art of angling, published nearly four hundred years ago, and a hundred and fifty years before Walton published his "Compleat Angler." The *Bibliotheca Piscatoria* thus refers to this interesting work:—

"Dame Julyans or Juliana Barnes, Bernes, or Berners, to whom treatises are ascribed, is supposed to have been a daughter of Sir James Berners, of Roding Berners, in the County of Essex (a favourite of Richard the II.) who was beheaded in 1388. It is said that she was celebrated for her learning and accomplishments, and that she held the office of Prioress of the Benedictine Nunnery of Sopwell, near St. Albans, but as far as we can learn, these statements rest on pure conjecture on meagre inference. The first edition of her Book of St. Albans, was printed by the schoolmaster printer of St. Albans, in 1486, and was one of the first books printed in English. Here begynneth a treatise of fysshynge with an angle [Colophon:] Here endeth the boke of Fysshynge with other dyvers maters. Imprynted at London, by Wynkyn de Woode, dwellynge in Flete-street, at the synge of the sonne. [Circa 1500.] 4º. Black letter A to D IV. The woodcut of a man angling is under the title. This edition appears to have been published as a "lytyll plaunflet" notwithstanding the caution of the authoress against this course, given the concluding paragraph of the treatise in previous editions, which in this instance is omitted. "And for by cause that this present treatyse sholde not come to the hondys of eche ydle persone, whych wolde desire it yf it were enprynted allone by itself, and put in a greter volume of dyverse bokys concernygne to gentyll and noble men to the entent that the forsayd ydle persones whyche sholde have but lytyll mesure in the sayd dysporte of fysshynge sholde not by this meane vtterly dystroye it."

This edition varies the orthography and has some slight corrections of the text and some omissions. The only known copy which was formerly in the Harleian collection subsequently passed through the hands of Mr. Gulston, Mr. Ratcliffe, Mr. Haworth, and Mr. George Wilkinson.

Salamon in his parablys sayth that a good spyryte makyth a flourynge aege, that is a fayre aege and a longe. And syth it is soo: I aske this questyon. Whiche ben the meanes and the causes that enduce a man into a mery spyryte? Truly to my beste dyscrecion it semeth good dysportes and honest gamys in whom a man toyeth without ony repentance after. Thenne folowyth it, ye gods, dysportes and honest games ben cause of mannys fayr aege and longe life. And therfore now woll I chose of foure good dysportes and honest gamys, that is to wyte: of huntynge: hawkynge: fysshyne: and foulgnge. The best to my symple dyscrecion why then is fysshynge callyd anglynge wyth a rodde, and a lyne and a hoke. And therof to treate as my symple wytte may suffyce, both for the sayd reason of Salamon and also for the reason that phisyk makyth in this wyse (*Si tibi deficiant medici tibi fiant: hac tria mens leta labor et moderata dieta*). Ye shall vnderstand that this is for to saye, Yf a man lacke leche or medycyne he shall make thre thynges his leche and medycyne: and he shall nede never no moo. The fyrste of theym is a mery thought. The second is labour not outraged. The thyrde is dyete mesurable. Fyrste that yf a man wyll ever more be in mery thoughtes and have a gladde spyryte, he must eschewe all contraryous company and all places of debate where he myghte have ony occasyons of malencoly. And yf he woll have a labour not outrageous he muste thenne ordeyne him to his hertys ease and pleasaunce wythout studye pensyfnesse or traneyle a mery occupacyon whyche may reioyce his herte: and in which his spyrytes may have a mery delyte. And yf he woll be dyetyd mesurably he must eschewe all places of ryotte whyche is cause of surfette and of syknesses, and he must drawe him to places of swete ayre and hungry, and etė nourishable meetes and dyffyable also.

Now thenne woll I descryue the sayd dysportes and gamys to finde the beste of theym as veryly as I can, alle be it that the ryght noble and full worthy prynce the Duke of York, late callid mayster of game hath discryued the myrthes of huntynge like as I thynke to dyscryue of it and of alle others. For huntynge as to myd entent is to laboryous. For the hunter must alwaye reune and folowe his houndes: traveyllynge and swetynge full sore. He blowth tyll his lyppes blyster, and whan he wenyth it be an hare full oft it is an hegge hogge, thus he chasyth and wote not what. He comyth home at euyn rayn beten pryckyd, and his clothes torn wete shode all myry. Some hounde loste: some surbat. Suche greues and many other hapyth vnto the hunter, whyche for dyspleysaunce of theym yt lone it I dare not reporte. Thus truly me semyth that this is not the beste dysporte and game of the sayd foure. The dysporte and game of hawkynge is laboryous and noyouse also as me semyth. For often the fawkener loseth his hawkes as the hunter his houndes. Thenne is his game and his dysporte goon. Full often cryeth he and whystelyth tyll that he be ryght euyll a thurste. His hawke taketh a bowe and lyste not ones on hym rewarde. Whan he wolde have her for to flee: thenne woll she bathe, with mys fedynge she shall have the Frouse: the Rye, the Cray, and many other syknesses that brynge theym to the Sowse. Thus by prouff this is not the beste dysporte and game of the sayd foure. The dysporte and game of fowlynge me semyth mooste symple. For in the wynter season the fowler spedyth not but in the moost hardest and coldest weder: whyche is grevous: for whan he wolde goes to his gynnes he may not for colde. Many a gynne and many a snare he makyth. Yet soryly dooth he fare. At morn tyde in the dewe he is weete shode vnto his taylle. Many other suche I could tell: but drede of magre makith me for to lene. Thus me semeth that huntynge and hawkynge, and also fowlynge ben so laborous and greuous that none of theym maye perfourme nor bi very meane that enduce a man to a mery spyryte: whyche is cause of his longe lyfe acordynge unto ye sayd parable of Salamon.

Dowteles thenne foloweth it that it must nedes be the dysporte of fysshynge wyth an angle. For all other manere of fysshyng is also laborous and grevous, often makynge folkes ful wete and colde, whych many times hath been cause of grete infirmytees. But the angler may have no colde nor no dysease nor angre, but yf he be causer hymself. For he maye not lese at the moost, but a lyne or an hoke, of whiche he maye haue store plentie of his owne makynge, as this symple treatyse shall teche hym. Soo thenne his losse is not greuous, and other greyffes maye he not haue sauynge, but yf ony fysshe breke away after that he is take on the hoke; or elles that he catche nought: whyche ben not greuous. For yf he faylle of one he maye not faylle of a nother, yf he dooth as this treatyse techyth; but yf there be nought in the water. And yet atte the leest he hath his holsom walk and mery at his ease. A swete ayre of the swete sauoure of the meede floures: that makyth hym hungry. He hereth the melodyous armony of fowles. He seeth the yonge swannes: heerons: duckes: cotes and many foules wyth theyr brodes, whyche me semyth better than alle the noyse of houndys: the blastes of hornys and the scrye of foulis that hunters: fawkeners and fowlers can mak. And yf the angler take fysshe: surely thenne is there no man merie than he is in his spyryte. Also who soo woll vse the game of anglynge: he must ryse erly, whyche thyng is prouffytable to man in this wyse: That is to wyte: moost to the heele of his soule. For it shall cause hym to be holy, and to the heele of his body. For it shall cause hym to be hole. Also to the encrease of his goodys. For it shall make hym ryche. As the olde Englysshe prouerbe sayeth in this wyse (who so woll ryse erly shall be holy, helthy, and syely). Thus haue I prouyd in myn entent that the dysporte and game of anglynge is the very meane and cause that enducith a man in to a mery spyryte. Whyche after the sayde parable of Salamon and the sayd doctryne of phisyk makyth a flouryng aege and a longe. And therefore, to al you that ben vertuous: gentyll: and free borne I wryte and make this symple treatyse, folowynge: by whyche ye may haue the full crafte of anglynge to dysport you at your luste: to the extent that your aege maye be the more floure and the more lenger to endure.

(To be continued.)

BRIGHT WEATHER SALMON AND GRILSE FLIES.

Mr. Wm. Murdoch, of Crown-street, Aberdeen, writes: "I send you a set of my bright weather salmon and grilse flies, and may you have much luck with them! What think you of the flies and the tying?" The flies are—

Green Peacock }
and }
Variety of same. }
Fail Mo Never.
Golden Wasp.
Blue Charm.
Golden Blue.

They are all first-rate, the Blue Charm and Fail Me Never being our favourites. On the 16th May this year we gave a full description of these flies. Mr. Brown, George-street, Aberdeen, and Mr. James Wright, of Sprouston, Kelso, dress them; and both make a speciality of Mr. Murdoch's loch and sea trout flies for Sutherland and northern and north-western Highlands. We are very much obliged to Mr. Murdoch for the set, which make us wish we were on a grilse river instead of listening to a thunderstorm in London.

Two Fish on the Same Bait.—"In last week's issue, under the above, a curious incident of two perch being taken at the same time on a spinning flight is stated, and the writer asks if such a similar experience has been met with. Whilst fishing one of the small lochs, I believe Loch Fad, near Rothesay, Isle of Bute, about four years ago, I took two perch, about ¾lb. weight, with a Derby Killer, such as is used for salmon, whilst spinning. The perch were caught one on each of the side triangles, and were evidently seizing the bait from opposite sides at the same time.—Richard Clarke, hon. sec. to the Burton-on-Trent Angling Association."

Black Forest.—There is good fishing to be had in the Black Forest on the Murg. Headquarters at Gernsbach, Pfeiffer's, or other hotel, according to choice. Go to Baden-Baden, where you can get your fishing ticket and your police permission, both of which it is always necessary to carry with you. Drive from Baden-Baden to Gernsbach. From this place you can fish up to Forbach, and by taking another ticket fish in the water rented by the town. The ticket gives permission to fish below the town water. If "G. W." likes, Pfeiffer, the landlord of the hotel, will buy his fish from him, sending a boy with large can to keep them alive, as they are turned from the can into a tank to be kept till wanted for use. The hotel is not very expensive.—"*M. M. R.*" *in* "*The Field.*"

ROACH FISHING.

"In concluding our remarks upon the roach, it is advisable to consider the question whether gut or hair is the more suitable for the bottom line. Mr. Fennell, in his book on roach-fishing, gives the following opinion of a friend of his, who had great experience on the subject. He says:—

"'I can fully corroborate the experience of those who find hair far superior to gut for fine fishing, and I never use anything else for bottom fishing, except among heavy barbel. I have frequently, on the Thames, killed two, three, and four for one when fishing alongside a friend who used the finest gut. The strength of hair is far greater than is generally supposed—one of moderate quality will lift a pound weight; and it may be obtained occasionally capable of lifting 2lb. Now, few roach rods will take a strain of half a pound without injury; therefore the only risk is in striking, which throws a far greater stress on the line than killing a heavy fish. Striking with a long rod in still water, with the top over the float, is a very different matter from striking in a heavy stream with from 6ft. to 10ft. of water, where a long line is indispensable, and the strikes must be quick and sharp. In fishing such places I use a light rod, Nottingham fashion, about 10ft. long, made with deal butt and lancewood top, a quick reel, very fine silk line, weighing one-eighth of an ounce to the hundred yards; at the bottom of this I have about one yard of twisted human hair, then a yard of single horse-hair, and the hook wrapped on to a length of the finest hair. The hair is always looped together, additional strength being thus obtained at the weakest part; before whipping the loop, a knot should be tied near the end, the whipping being carried past it; this is necessary with hair to prevent it slipping, but not with gut. The silk used should be slightly waxed, and the whipping varnished; the best varnish for this purpose is made by dissolving gum damar in benzole, this unites with the wax and dries very quickly. I believe the inferiority of gut in clear water to arise from its much greater refractive power, as may be readily seen by putting some gut and hair together in a tumbler of water. I was first led to notice the great advantages of hair by seeing a man use thick black hair on the river Trent at a time when the water was as clear as crystal; he told me he had used it for many years, that he preferred it for its great strength, and because it was not noticed by the fish in the water so much as white hair. I have often tried it with success, but prefer hair of a natural shade of cinnamon, sorrel, or chestnut; hair of the latter colour being finer and rounder.'

"Salter, another authority on roach-fishing, writes thus:—

"'In respect to the advantage arising from angling with lines made of single horse-hair, and hooks tied to the same, over those which are made of fine gut, some difference of opinion exists among anglers. The advocates for gut say, when it is equally fine and of the colour of horse-hair, it is not likely to alarm fish any more than the latter, and being much stronger, it certainly deserves the preference. This seems plausible; but I know from practice that fish may be taken when angling with a single horse-hair—especially roach—that will not touch the bait when offered with a gut line, though the line shall be as fine and of the same colour, &c., as the hair one. To ascertain the fact, I have several times taken off my hair line when roach have been well on the feed, and put on one of gut. I could then hardly get a fish. Again, I have changed again for the hair line, and again had excellent sport. Such has invariably been the case with me and many experienced anglers of my acquaintance; therefore I should most certainly recommend hair to those who fish for roach, &c., and assert, without fear of contradiction, they will kill nearly two to one to others who use gut, however fine it may be.'

"Now, I used to be a great believer in hair myself, in fact, used to use nothing else, either for fly or bait fishing; but of late years good single-hair has become so exceedingly scarce that I have taken altogether to the use of the finest drawn gut of the very best quality. Flat hair is more visible, I contend, than drawn gut, and there is no comparison in the strength."—"*Halcyon,*" *in* "*Leeds Weekly Mercury.*'

Notes

NORFOLK BROADS PROTECTION SOCIETY.

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly give *prominent* notice, in your next issue, to the fact that the meeting at Ye Pluckie Percho headquarters, on the above question, has been altered by Mr. Woodrow from the 15th instant to Monday next, the 13th instant, at 8 p.m.; and oblige, yours faithfully,

H. Richardson,
July 8, 1891. Hon. Sec., Ye Pluckie Perch P. S.

A sale of oil paintings of fish by the late Mr. T. G. Targett will take place on July 22 at Mr. Woolley's, the Castle Auction Mart, Salisbury. This sale offers a chance to collectors such as will probably never occur again. Some of the best works of the artist will be in the sale.

A correspondent writes: "I personally wish you could give us some hints when and with what wind, weather, and atmospheric conditions to use the various patterns of flies, which are acknowledged really good, all-round killers in loch fishing, in Scotland more particularly. I mean something that would be a guide when to use a Claret and Mallard, and when to use Green and Mallard or Scarlet and Teal. I have talked it frequently over, and everyone has a kind of rule-of-thumb idea. I think that so frequently the use of Zulu, Magenta, and Scarlet and Teal, is empirical."

It is reported that never was poaching so persistently and extensively carried on, on the Aberdeenshire trout rivers, as it has been most of this year. As a consequence, many waters have had to be staked. Where the water is deep, stakes serve admirably to frustrate the poacher's intentions, but in shallows they can be easily got at and lifted out. The poaching adepts use a small mesh net of silk, which they stretch across the water, one poacher holding the (attached) line at the one end, and another at the other. The net being so fine, they can feel the slightest touch of a fish, which when felt, they haul in. The net is never "booled." The plan is to haul it down the river between two poachers, one of whom when a fish is found to have struck draws it to him. The fish if startled run up stream—and where, for stones, the net cannot be got to sweep the water satisfactorily, it is stretched across stream at a clear place and one or two poachers go into the water and stir up the fish from under the banks and amongst the stones. They thus drive them up into the net. It is a mistake to think, as many do, that they drive the fish down stream. The fish persist in running up. Two or three poachers thoroughly up to the game will clean the largest and longest unobstructed pool or stream of Don or Deveron completely of its sizeable fish in ten minutes. Smart work! But they know how to do it.

A Langholm correspondent writes: "Of late the river Esk has been in grand ply from the weather, which has at last broken, being very showery. The water is kept just right for worm or fly. A good supply of sea trout have ascended. Anglers who get up early in the morning have much the best chance." It is a case of "The early bird picks up the worm"!

Of late thunder showers have been pretty frequent over most of Scotland, and as a result the great bulk of the summer angling rivers have filled and freshened, though in but few cases sufficiently to clear out the sun and heat induced filth accumulated during the recently ended long spell of dry bright weather. Till this filth has been thoroughly swept away by a roaring flood, there is little chance of the angling proving really good. The showers, however, in the case of all rivers which have a summer run of sea trout, have caused the sea trout, where not before begun, to begin ascending. Grilse have almost everywhere been showing a great desire to push inland. Estuary and tidal net-fishing has accordingly been doing remarkably well.

With a few deft hands and old frequenters the Cabrach waters of the Deveron this past spring fairly lost their good name for trouting. In April and May the weather for most of the time was wretched. Snow often fell, and there was a deal of it lying on the mountains near at hand. Besides these sport-precluding conditions, it was evident that the poacher netter, and the trout-lifter had been responsible for a great decrease in the number of good-sized fish. Lately, however, matters have mended somewhat. Rain fell daily for a week on end, and some very fine trout, with an occasional grilse and salmon, rewarded one or two anglers fishing below the Blackwater's junction with the Deveron.

OUR correspondent, Mr. Donald Watson, 19, Inglis-street, Inverness, writes about what seems a nice place in that fine highland glen, Glen Urquhart. It is a house suitable for a fair-sized party or family. The accommodation is two sitting rooms, six bedrooms, kitchen, &c., and the adjuncts are use of garden, pony and trap when required, salmon and trout fishing free on loch and river, and some rabbit shooting. Mr. Watson adds, "You can recommend the place as a very good one. Both on Loch Ness and the Urquhart river sport is excellent at present, and on the latter it will continue so till the end of September."

THE season runs on apace, and still in most localities in Scotland sea trout seem to be scarcer than usual.

UP till the other week the bulk of the Scotch grilse looked fine, healthy, well-fed fish, but since then a large number of thin, rather kelt-looking grilse have been netted in not a few districts. All round, this should now be about the time for the flush of the "crop" of these fish.

THE Tay is the only river in Scotland which has four seasonal migrations of salmon. The Thurso, Naver, and Helmsdale, with their runs of spring, summer, and winter fish, have the same number of salmon migrations as *naturally* have Dee, Spey, Don, Deveron, &c., with their *three*, of spring, summer, and autumn fish, the latter brood or gravid, and on their way to the spawning grounds.

Notes and Queries

A WELL-KNOWN figure to Shrewsbury anglers, whose shady attire, primitive rod, and rude tackle were as striking as they were effective, has just passed away in the person of Tench, an old Italian, who has for years fished the Severn in the neighbourhood of Shrewsbury. The deceased was seen to jump into the river, near Frantwell, on Thursday week, and was quickly drowned. The river has been dragged to a distance of a mile below the spot, but the body has not yet been recovered.

HAY FEVER.—The disciple of Izaac Walton, who is also subject every summer to an attack of that curious malady—hay fever, is indeed in a pitiable plight. This disease has certain peculiar characteristics, among which are its tendency to be hereditary, and the singular regularity of its annual return. Its chief exciting cause is the aroma, or pollen of flowering grasses, rye, and hay; but it may frequently be brought on by a walk along a dusty road, and although damp in the atmosphere is what the sufferer should pray for in the early weeks of June, yet once the malady is started, not all the streams in England will suffice to wash it away. The symptoms of hay fever are somewhat varied, and many persons have suffered from it year after year, without knowing the real nature of their complaint. Frequently it bears so strong a resemblance to influenza, bronchitis, or asthma, as to be mistaken for one of those ailments. The patient usually has symptoms similar to those of severe catarrh, accompanied by paroxysms of sneezing, headache, catarrhal fever, and a general disturbance of the nervous system follow, and these all persist for probably six weeks of the finest out-of-doors this peculiar climate affords. The older medical text-books contain very little on the subject of this curious malady, and modern medical men have hitherto most unscientifically agreed to call it incurable. An American physician, however, has made a discovery which proves that this is only another case of glossing over our ignorance by calling that incurable for which we do not happen to know a cure. For a cure he has found. This is no other than the Carbolic Smoke Ball, which, during the past winter has become so famous in London as a cure for colds, bronchitis, asthma, and all diseases caused by taking cold. The Carbolic Smoke Ball acts homœpathically, and for a short time appears to aggravate all the symptoms with which sufferers from hay fever are so familiar; but it gradually exerts a soothing effect on the irritated mucous membrane, and stops the burning flow of mucous from eyes and nostrils. And not only will it relieve an attack of hay fever, but it will, if inhaled in time, effectually ward off what has hitherto been looked forward to with dismay as an inevitable annual disease. Let the Waltonian therefore reckon his outfit incomplete unless he has invested half a sovereign in the purchase of a Carbolic Smoke Ball.

ANGLING EXCURSIONS.—Some of the orderly folk living in towns and villages visited intermittently by angling excursionists—say, from London or from any other large city and town, view the arrival of any number of amateur fishermen as an unmixed evil. Selfishness is not absent from the minds of certain of the local residents, because a certain type of provincial angler is desperately "Conservative" even over the free fishery; and if a reputable London or any other city's angling club should rent a water close by, the said provincial angler is far too prone to condemn *all* "excursionists" with rods, bait-kettles, and landing nets, as make-believe fishermen, who, getting no fish, set about to damage the growing crops, or break down rails, and make gaps in growing fences, from very devilment. Your provincial pessimistic angler thinks he has some reason on his side from the circumstances that a native of village or small town migrates to London, and perhaps develops the inanities of 'Arry, with a clumsy imitation of the dude. He returns home on a visit, not in an angling "excursion," but in the ordinary "parliamentary," assumes asinine airs, and generally conducts himself as to be a by-word and a reproach. Now, London, or Sheffield, or Leeds angling clubs, when organising a "pegged-downer," or "a go-as you-please" competition, the secretaries know the individual contestants; and men who readily submit to be limited to a certain number of yards, beside a river or rented water, are subjected to a training, so to speak, and if an inexperienced member should be among, the competing excursionists, he would be obliged to behave himself even if no fish smelt at his lure. Well, as angling will doubtless win more and more members of the middle and the artizan classes, the last-named at all events will have greater chances of sport by becoming members of recognised clubs, and "destructive" bumps will get reduced to a *minimum*. Anglers generally have several times in the *Fishing Gazette* been reminded how important it is that gates should be never left open, fences never injured, and also to remember that the tenant-farmers or the owner of waterside meadows, and growing crops can ill-afford to have their property damaged in any way, either by "excursionist" anglers, or the none too innocent local fishermen. But the warning is hardly needed nowadays, and seeing that working-men generally have more self-respect; and every order-loving member of the increasing angling clubs throughout the country must exercise a restraining influence on a larky adult or an occasional thoughtless schoolboy.—*Rusticus*.

A METHOD OF OLD FLY-TYERS.—"For many years I wondered why the old original tyers of salmon flies always selected the rarest and most expensive feathers for their flies. I think I can explain the "why" in at least one case and show that there was "method in their madness." In nearly every salmon fly with a mixed wing, the bustard feather is used when turkey would answer the purpose about as well. In examining a lot of these feathers lately, I put them under a strong glass and found them covered with little globules of oil, which exuded from their fatty skin, making them, to a certain extent, waterproof and very buoyant. As heavy, strong hooks are used for salmon flies, these two points are very essential. As such good judgment was exercised in regard to the bustard feather, certainly there must have been just as good reasons for the use of other rare and expensive feathers. Can "Silver Doctor" or any of your other readers throw any light on the subject?"—"Amateur," in "AMERICAN ANGLER." [This is somewhat like those admirers of a poet who find beauties in his work which he never dreamt of.—ED. *F. G.*]

BARBEL FISHING IN YORKSHIRE.—General anglers have experienced "a royal time," especially among chub and barbel. Tadcaster and Boroughbridge have been the chief scenes of these triumphs, one angler catching 75lb. of barbel in one day by fishing from the bridge at the latter-named place, and having an attendant below to net the fish for him. His bait was a curious one—in fact, long though my experience has been in every branch of angling, I cannot say that I ever heard of it being successful, or in fact, ever used in fishing for barbel. He simply used a dead gudgeon, allowing it to roll down stream with the current. My informant was told of this catch by the landlady of one of the inns. He was sure that she was mistaken and meant pike; but she was mighty indignant at being thought incapable of distinguishing between a pike and a barbel, and replied, "No'wt of t' sort; they all of them had whiskers," a graphic mode of description of the wattles characteristic of the fish in question. Mr. C. Parkinson has also had some capital sport; he had a mixed basket one day, weighing 9lb., and 15lb. another day.—"*Halcyon*," in "*Leeds Mercury*."

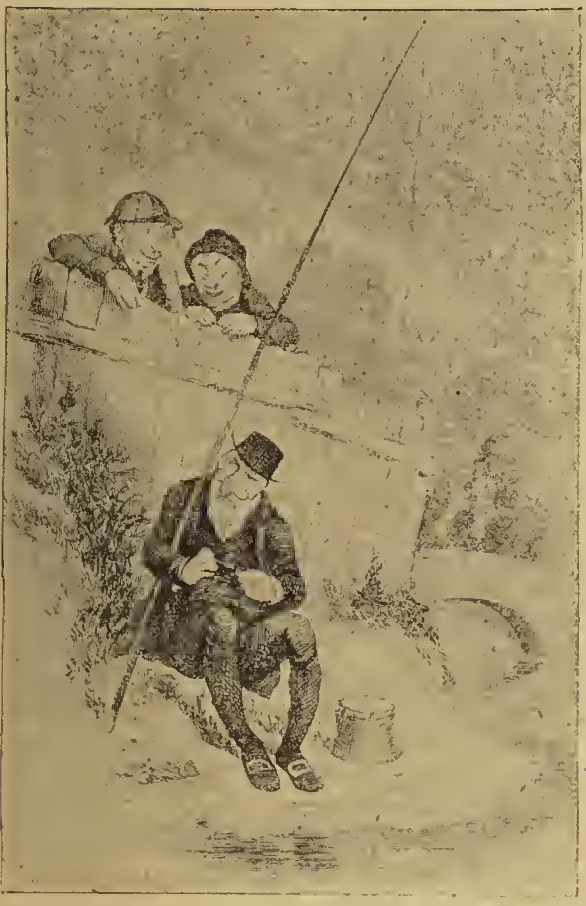
AN ANCIENT ANTON TROUT.—"I wonder if any of my readers can tell what the age of a trout may be? If such there be, he can exercise his ability in this direction by casting a look into the fish trunk at the Star and Garter Hotel, Andover, where he will see something which will rather puzzle him. A fish, with a head as large as a jack's, narrow body, about 2ft. in length, and weighing over 6lb., the colour and shape being so different to the fish usually taken out of the Anton that at first sight a fisherman of my acquaintance was doubtful as to what class it belonged. There can be no doubt, however, that it is a trout, and a very, very old one, and seeing that it was caught somewhat near what is known to fishermen as "Hamman's Corner," it is one that for seasons past—even as far back as the time when the late Colonel Earle fished this water—has been tried for by all the dodges known to fishermen. The poor old fellow cannot have had a very jolly time of it of late years, there being suspicious marks of a bracelet encircling its body. It is an illustration of the size which trout attain in this little stream of ours, as, looking at the length and apparent age of this fish, I don't think that I shall be far wrong in saying that at one time, when in its prime, it would have scaled 8lb. or 9lb."—*Andover Standard*.

SALMON FISHING DISPUTES.—In the Court of Session, Edinburgh, Lord Low last week disposed of two actions of interdict in regard to salmon fishings near Ness Castle. They were raised by Fountain Walker, of Ness Castle, against Geo. Paterson, salmon fisher, Markie Bay; and Wm. Turnor, tenant of those at Kincundy Point, in the Ness. As proprietor of the fishings in the Ness, Mr. Walker complained that respondents had for some time taken salmon from the estuary of the Ness by means of a click net, and that Turnor had fished in the high salmon fishing station adjoining the lands of Kincundy. Recently an interim interdict was granted on the grounds that the operations complained of were illegal, and in respect of no appearance for the defenders, the interdict was made perpetual, and the complainer found entitled to expenses.

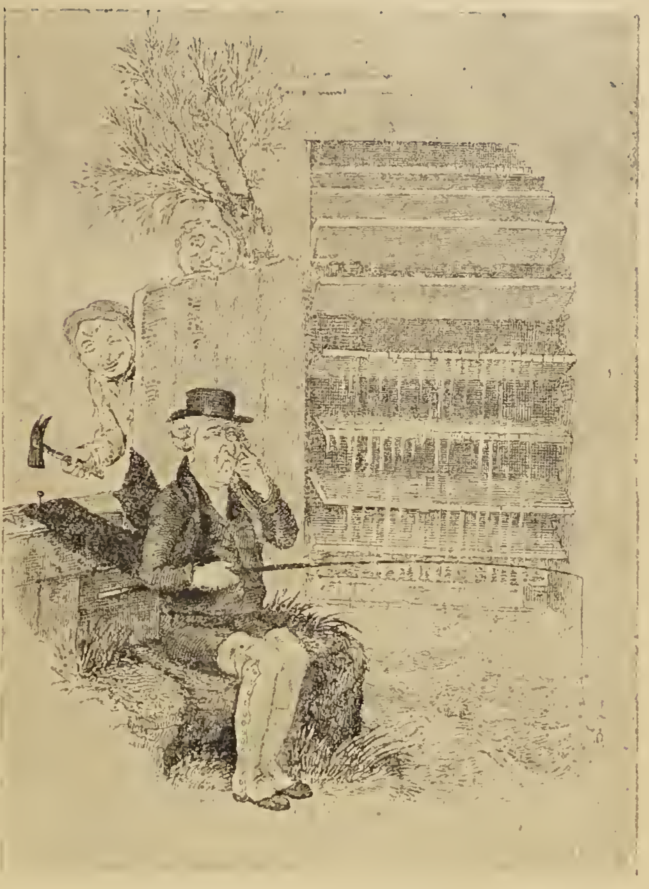
THE following has been recommended in the *Field* as a good recipe for exterminating the worms on a lawn, and it might be worth trying in dry weather, when worms for barbel fishing, &c., are almost unobtainable by the ordinary methods. Pour thirty gallons of water on 12lb. of slaked lime, stir, and let the mixture stand for four hours. Then sprinkle the grass with the mixture by means of a watering-pot, and the worms will come to the surface. But if it is not desired to altogether exterminate the worms (which the shade of Darwin forbid!) I would suggest not more than half the quantity of lime being tried to begin with.—TEMPLAR.

SKETCHES BY SEYMOUR.

— II. —



No. 5.—"Don't you be saucy, boys."

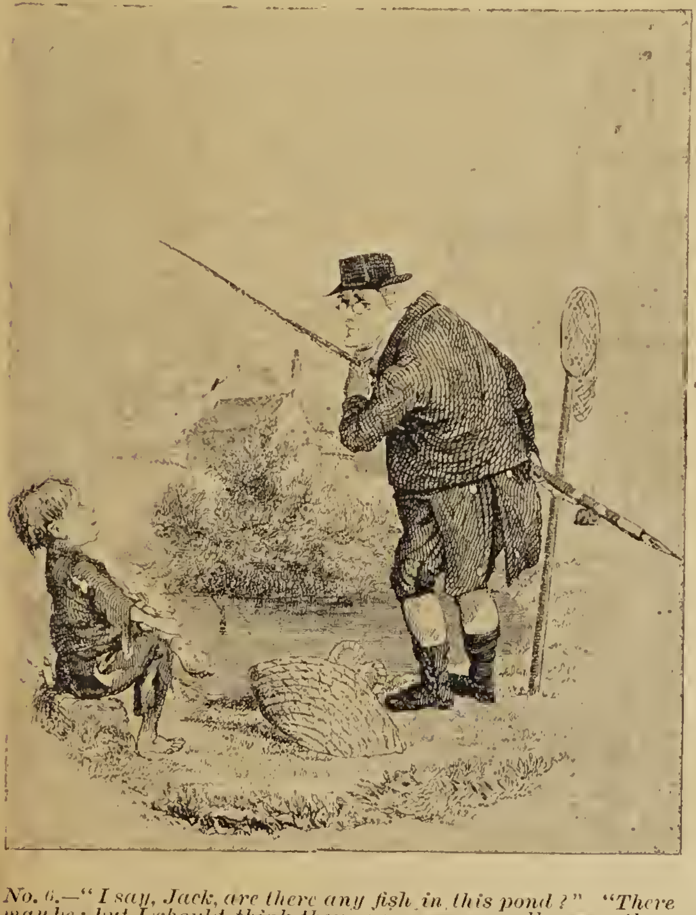


No. 7.—"This mill makes a plaguey hammering."

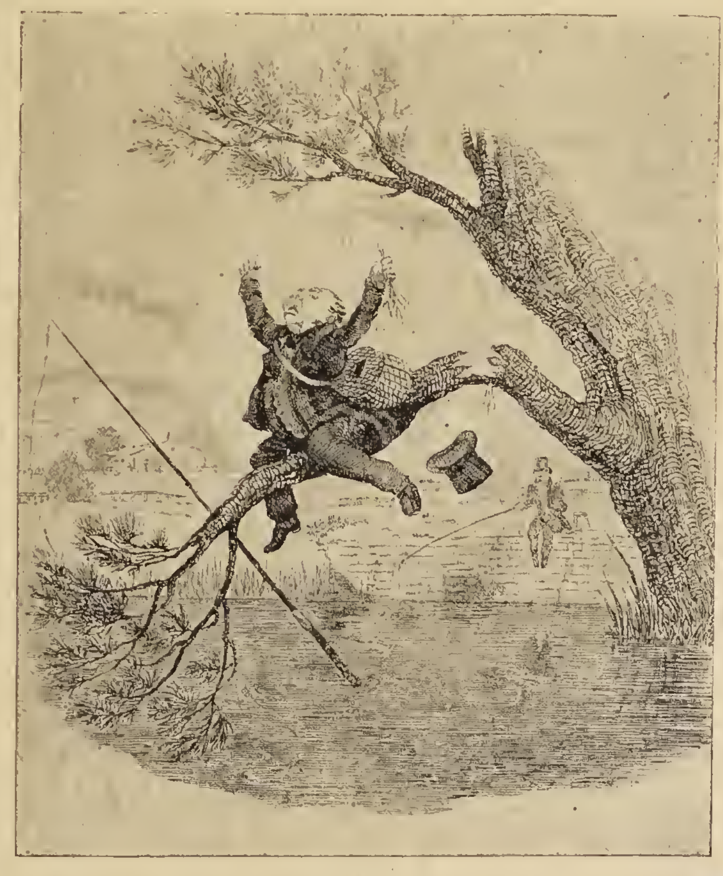
IN our issue of the 20th ult., we gave a condensed sketch of the career of Robert Seymour as an artist, and we now record one of the most important periods of his life. In the autumn of 1835 he had conceived the idea of publishing a series of humorous sketches of sporting life, blended into a connected story by assuming the different individuals to be members of a cockney club. Two or three publishing friends cordially approved his scheme, and he determined to proceed with it. He casually mentioned it to the energetic firm of Chapman and Hall, and they immediately closed with him.

The next object was to find a comic writer of adequate powers to furnish the letter-press; and Mr. Charles Dickens, who had already distinguished himself in humorous writing, under the pseudonym of "Boz," was finally the author engaged. Seymour, we are told, took home the volumes for his wife's critical opinion as to whether "Boz," "a poor and struggling author, would answer the purpose." His wife consented; and, after this, all the parties concerned met, and the first number of the now world-famed Pickwick Papers, containing four etchings by Seymour, appeared in due course. Its reception by the public, though not so unanimous as it became after the introduction of Sam Weller in the fourth number, was unequivocal; and the author, artist, and publisher could not but be elated. Mrs. Seymour thought all the success was due to her husband's sketches, and that Mr. Dickens would have been nowhere without them, or, to quote her exact words: "Consigned to obscurity for the remainder of his days, unless Mr. Seymour had permitted him to edit the Pickwick Papers." Everybody else will be apt to think that Mr. Dickens's writing had a great deal to do with it; but we must make large allowances for conjugal affection.

Mr. Dickens's own account of the origin of the "Pickwick Papers" may well be quoted here:—"I was a young man of three-and-twenty when Messrs. Chapman and Hall, attracted by some pieces I was at that time writing in the *Morning Chronicle* newspaper, waited upon me to propose a something that should be published in shilling numbers. When I opened my door to the managing partner, I recognised in him the person from whose hands I had bought, two or three years previously, my first copy of a magazine in which my first effusion—dropped stealthily one evening at twilight, with fear and trembling, into a dark letter-box, in a dark office, up a dark court in Fleet-street—appeared in all the glory of print. The idea propounded to me was that the monthly something should be a vehicle for certain plates to be executed by Mr. Seymour, and there was a notion, either on the part of that admirable humorous artist or of my visitor (I forget which) that a 'Nimrod Club,' the members of which were to go out shooting, fishing, and so forth, and getting themselves into difficulties through their want of dexterity, would be the best means of introducing these. I objected, on consideration, that, although born and partly bred in the country, I was no great sportsman, except in regard of all kinds of locomotion; that the idea was not novel, and had been already much used; that it would be infinitely better for the plates to arise naturally out of the text; and that I should like to take my own way, with a freer range of English scenes and people, and was afraid I should ultimately do so in any case, whatever course I might prescribe to myself at starting. My views being deferred to, I thought of Mr. Pickwick, and wrote the first number, from the proof-sheets of which Mr. Seymour made his drawing of the club and that happy portrait of its founder, by which he is always recognised, and which may be said to have made him a reality. I connected Mr. Pickwick with a club because of the original suggestion, and I put in Mr. Winkle expressly for the use of Mr. Seymour. We started with a number of twenty-four pages instead of thirty-two, and four illustrations in lieu of a couple. Mr. Seymour's sudden and lamented death before the second number was published brought about a quick decision upon a point already in agitation; the number became one of thirty-two pages, with two illustrations, and remained so to the end. My friends told me it was a low, cheap form of publication, by which I should ruin all my rising hopes; and how right my friends turned out to be everybody knows."



No. 6.—"I say, Jack, are there any fish in this pond?" "There may be; but I should think they were werry small, cause there was no water in this here pond afore that there rain yesterday."



No. 8.
In for it; or, Trying the Middle.

We shall shortly refer to the painful feud between Seymour and Gilbert A'Beckett, and give four more illustrations; this week we give four more of his sporting sketches.

No. 5 needs no comment—it tells its own tale, and tells it well. It is one of Seymour's very best.

"Crowquill's" remarks upon Nos. 6 and 7 are worthy of reproduction here as showing how contemptible he fancied angling was; the latter part of his description of No. 7 is especially "rich."

No. 6.—There is a certain period of life beyond which the plastic mind of man becomes incapable of acquiring any new impressions. . . . There are, indeed, some rare exceptions to the rule, but few, very few. . . . There are many who, having passed a life in the sole occupation of making money, in their retirement entertain themselves with such fantastic pranks and antics as only serve to amuse lookers-on. The subject of this sketch, undoubtedly, has accidentally dipped into the tattered tome of "Walton's Compleat Angler," and the vivid description of piscatorial pleasures therein set forth has so won upon his mind, that he has resolved to taste them. Having more money than wit to spare, he presently supplied himself with reels, and rods, and tackle, landing-nets, gentle-boxes, and all the other necessary paraphernalia of the art. Donning his best wig and spectacles, he sallied forth, defended from the weather by a short spencer buttoned round his loins, and a pair of double-soled shoes and short gaiters. So eager was he to commence, that he no sooner espied a piece of water than, with trembling hands, he put his rod together and displayed his nets, laying his basket—gaping for the fish—on the margin of the water. With eager gaze he watched his newly-varnished and many-coloured float, expecting every moment to behold it sink, the inviting bait being prepared *secundem artem.*

Our picture tells the rest. After awaiting some time, the ragged urchin, who has meantime shown up, informs him of the real state of affairs: "Well, there may be; but I should think they were werry small, 'cause there was no water in this here pond afore that there rain yesterday!"

No. 7.—

"Beside a meandering stream
An elderly gentleman sat;
On the top of his head was his wig,
On the top of his wig was his hat."

I once followed a venerable gentleman along the banks of a mill-stream, armed at all points with piscatorial paraphernalia, looking out for some appropriate spot, with all the coolness of a Spanish inquisitor displaying his various instruments of refined torture. He at last *perch*-ed himself near the troubled waters close to a huge revolving wheel, and threw in his float, which danced upon the mimic waves, and bobbed up and down as if preparing for a reel. Patiently he sat, as motionless and unfeeling as a block. I placed myself under cover of an adjoining hedge, and watched him for the space of about half-an-hour; but he pulled up nothing but his baited hook. What his bait was I know not, but I suppose from the vicinity he was fishing for a *Miller's thumb.* Presently two mealy-mouthed men from the mill made an appearance, cautiously creeping behind him. I drew myself up in the shadow of the luxuriant quickset to observe their motions. A paling in the rear offered the rogues an effectual concealment in case the angler should turn. Close to his seat ran some wood-work, upon which they quietly drew the broad tails of his coat, and driving in a couple of tenpenny nails, left the unconscious old gentleman a perfect fixture, to be taken at a valuation, I suppose, part of his personal property being already brought to the hammer, the clattering clamour of the wheel precluding him from hearing the careful but no less effective taps. I certainly enjoyed the trick, and longed to see the ridiculous issue; but he was so intent upon his sport—so fixed!—that he did not discover the nature of his real attachment while I remained, having merely exclaimed to himself in a half tone, "This mill makes a plaguey hammering!" Doubtless if he were of a quick and sudden temperament, a "snatch" of his humour rent his broad cloth, and he returned home with a woeful tail, and slept not, for his nap was irreparably destroyed.

I hate all twaddle, but when I see an old fool with rod and line, "Sitting like Patience on a monument," and selling the remnant of his life below cost price in the pursuit of angling—"that art of ingeniously tormenting"—a feeling "more in sorrow than in anger" is excited at his profitless inhumanity. Vainly do all the disciples of "honest Izaak Walton" discourse in eulogistic strains of the pleasures of the sport. I can imagine neither pleasure nor sport derivable from the infliction of pain upon the meanest thing endowed with life. This may be deemed Brahminical, but I doubt that man's humanity who can indulge in the cruel "recreation" and "murder while he smiles."

"What heretical sentiments!" exclaims some brother of the angle (now, I am an angle, but no angler). "This fellow hath never trudged at early dawn along the verdant banks of 'the sedgy Lea,' and drunk in the dewy freshness of the morning air. His lines have never fallen in pleasant places. He has never performed a pilgrimage to Waltham Cross. He is, in truth, one of those vulgar minds who take more delight in the simple than the—gentle! and every line of his deserves a rod."

"In for it; or, Trying the Middle."

A little fat man,
With rod, basket, and can,
And tackle complete,
Selected a seat
On the branch of a wide-spreading tree,
That stretch'd over a branch of the Lea.
There he silently sat,
Watching his float, like a tortoise-shell cat
That had scented a mouse
In the nook of a room of a plentiful house.
But, alack!
He hadn't sat long, when a crack
At his back
Made him turn round, and pale,
And catch hold of his tail!
But, oh! 'twas in vain
That he tried to regain
The trunk of the treacherous tree;
So he
With a shake of his head
Despairingly said:
"In for it—eeod!"
And away went his rod
And his best beaver hat,
Untiling his roof!
But he cared not for that,
For it happened to be a superb waterproof,
Which *not* being himself,
The poor elf!
Felt a world of alarm,
As the arm
Most gracefully bow'd to the stream,
As if a respect it would show it,
Though so much *below it!*
No presence of mind he dissembled,
And the ease was no longer a riddle
Or joke,
For the branch snapp'd and broke!
And although
The angler cried, "It's no go!"
He was presently "trying the middle."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

S. Masters: You must belong to a club enrolled with the Central Association before you can fish the Pulborough Association water. We think the charge is one shilling per day for fishing at Dagenham Lake. There used to be fair fishing for roach, perch, eels, &c. Sixteen is about as young as most clubs care to take members.

Gaff: Write to Mr. Blackadder, Anglers' Hotel, Ballinahinch, Ireland, and ask if the white trout will be up at the time you name.

Correspondence

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

FISHING AT PENZANCE.

Dear Sir,—I should be very glad if any of your numerous readers could give me a little information as to the fishing obtainable at Penzance, and whether the paternoster and leger would be suitable to fish with about the middle of August.—Yours, &c., John Sheffield.

P.S.—I beg to thank you very much for information I obtained through your columns last year as to fishing at Weymouth, and in consequence of that information was able to "boat" (not grass) about four-score per day, some going 2lb. and 3lb. each. Not a bad result for an inland fisherman, I thought. Must congratulate you on your fine production of '91 Summer Number.—J. S.

FISHING AT BARNARD CASTLE.

Dear Sir,—We have refrained thus far from joining in the discussion between your correspondents "J. H. R." and "Reader of *Gazette*," but we now feel bound to interfere in order to save our reputation.

"J. H. R." in his last letter says that "R. of *G.'s*" statements are incorrect. Now, as "R. of *G.*" must have had the authority for what he wrote indirectly from us, "J. H. R.'s" letter necessarily accuses us of falsehood.

We therefore beg to state that "R. of *G.'s*" assertions are quite correct, except in one particular, viz., instead of 18lb. there were 19lb.; for "J. H. R." states that there were 9½lb. in Mr. Graham's pannier, and we are equally sure that there were 9½lb. in the other two, thus making altogether 19lb. We also think that before "J. H. R." casts a slur on anyone's character he might at least give the person a chance of vindicating himself. During the whole of the discussion he has referred everything to Mr. Graham, and never once questioned either of us regarding the point in dispute. As to "Blue Dun's" letter of July 4, we can simply assure him and all others that, wherever we fish, whether our leave restrict us to a certain size of fish or no, we make it a rule to throw back all fish under 7in.; and as to the particular catch of which he speaks, we might inform him that the greater number of the fish had been out of the water over twenty-four hours before being weighed, and that, as before said, they then scaled 19lb.

In conclusion, although anglers are credited with strong imaginations, we never before believed it possible for one even to suppose that "*all*" the hundred and twenty-six trout could be pressed into such a small compass as "*just exactly 7in.*'—Yours truly, R. Scott and W. Lockey.

[This discussion must now close.—Ed.]

FISHING IN CANADA.

Dear Sir,—Some months ago, when I wrote a series of articles on "Fishing in Canadian Waters," I was called over the coals by a correspondent from Montreal—"Silver Doctor." I am glad to see in your issue of last Saturday that Mr. W. H. Elsmore, of the West London Angling Club, bears out my statements. Strange to say, on the same date (July 4, 1891) I lunched at the Junior United Service Club with a very old angling friend of mine who has only just returned from Canada. I took the opportunity of making inquiries about the salmon fishing across the Atlantic, and was informed there was plenty of fish and plenty of fishing still to be had in the Canadian dominions.—Faithfully yours, Rux.

LAKE VYRNWY—A CORRECTION.

Sir,—In my letter to you last week, I gave the totals of the fish killed on above lake, from March 26 to June 27, as three thousand and eighty-five, weighing 2,647lb. The weight was quite correct, but the number of fish was incorrectly given (I cast the column after midnight!) and as this error reduces the "averages," perhaps you will allow me to correct it. Instead of three thousand and eighty-five, the number killed to June 27, was two thousand eight hundred and thirty-five. *Baily's Magazine* for July has an appreciative article upon the fishing and natural beauties of Lake Vyrnwy, which lovers of the rod ought not to miss. Next to Loch Katrine, I consider Lake Vyrnwy one of the most beautiful lakes in the United Kingdom, and its fishing capabilities are unlimited. The score of myself and friend for five and a-half day's fishing (three days in a raging gale), was seventy-six fish, of which more than a dozen exceeded a pound each, the two best being 1lb. 12oz., 1lb. 10oz., and three of 1¼lb. each.

Thanks to the bad weather and strong south-westerly gales, I did not get a chance to try those big fellows in mid-lake with a dry fly, but their evening rises in a dead calm are something to be remembered! They held one of these high festivals on Sunday week, and I saw rises of scores of fish that were certainly not less than 6lb. or 8lb. each! These big fellows are supposed to have been the tenants of the original lake, which was absorbed by Lake Vyrnwy. They have never been fished for. I was so assured by Mr. Ward, the lessee; and the man who gets over them—when rising—with a biggish Palmer, black or furnace, dressed with showy flat tinsel wound round body, will make a record which will beat all previous performances with the dry fly. I omitted last week to mention the fact that this lake fishes quite as well during the hot weather of August and September, as in the early spring months; and autumn holiday folks would do well to make a note of this fact, because good fishing at such a time of the year is very difficult to obtain, especially in places so accessible and so beautiful as Lake Vyrnwy.

With the exception of one shallow bay—which is one of the best spots on the lake—the fishing is all done around the edges of the lake, where there is much cover amongst boulders, and this gives to the angler more of the variety found in river fishing. There is none of that ordinary lock-fishing monotony of casting your flies aimlessly over a dreary waste of water, the boat meanwhile drifting before the wind. Here on Lake Vyrnwy you must cast your flies deftly into the bank, and fish them out towards you into deep water—or *vice versâ*—the trout often following and rising at the moment of lifting for another cast.

Mr. Ward, the lessee, is a keen sportsman and first-class fly fisherman, and he has supplied his manager of the hotel, Mr. Gibbins, with a good stock of all the most killing flies which have scored upon the lake. This is a great convenience to visitors going to fish strange waters, because it relieves them of all trouble about patterns, and ensures their getting the latest killers up to date.—Yours, &c., C. W. Gedney.

THE HICKLING BROAD DEFENCE FUND.

Dear Sir,—Please find cheque enclosed—one guinea—towards the Hickling Broad Defence Fund, from the Bostonian Angling Society. I take the liberty of sending it to you, knowing how deeply you are interested in these matters, to forward to the right quarter.—Yours faithfully,

J. Jennings, sec.

SEVERN PERMITS.

Dear Sir,—On Saturday afternoon last, at the conclusion of the provincial committee meeting at Bristol, the vexed question of the Severn permits was privately discussed by several members of the committee, and it was finally decided by myself and Mr. Wingfield to let the matter rest, and that steps should be taken next year to prevent a re-occurence of what has been going on during the past close season; and I would suggest that no permits of any kind be sent to any of the Birmingham societies. This will prevent any of the members getting into trouble through not knowing the exact locality where the permit entitles them to fish.—Yours respectfully, C. White.

42, Tenby-street North, Birmingham.

APPEAL TO CLUB ANGLERS AND FRIENDS.

Dear Sir,—Since my last report in *F. G.* of the 4th inst, I beg to acknowledge with thanks £1 14s. from the members of the Cobden Angling Society, which the late Mr. Camm was secretary of.—I am, yours truly, B. Abrahams.

25, Silver-street, Notting Hill Gate, W.

Cheques and Postal Orders can be crossed "Alliance Bank and Co."

P.S.—I hope those clubs that have not yet forwarded me their mite will kindly remit it as soon as possible, as the list will, I hope, soon be handed over to our committee.

THE CHAMPION ROACH FISHER.

Dear Sir,—In the year 1871, a Mr. Hughes, a London angler, wrote to Bailey, of Nottingham, for some fishing tackle, and in some correspondence that ensued Bailey laid claim to be the champion roach fisher of England. It is not easy to trace, after this lapse of time, how or when Bailey became possessed of the championship, but it is well known that he had held it for some time previously.

Joseph Woodard at that time claimed to be the champion of the Lea, and Mr. Hughes made an arrangement that Woodard should fish Bailey the best of three matches for £100.

The *Sporting Life* of Dec. 13, 1871, contains an account of the first match, which was fished at Ponders End, and was won by Bailey. It goes on to say, "As everybody knows who Mr. W. Bailey, of Nottingham, is, there is little occasion to give his history. Suffice it to say, he is the St. Anthony among the fish." The second match was fished in the Trent, and was won by Woodard, as also was the third match, fished in the Stour. Thus Woodard defeated Bailey's championship, and according to his own authority he fished several matches during the next eleven years without having been beaten, and for the last nine years he has not received a challenge.

In a note to the Bi-centenary edition of Walton and Cotton, Mr. J. P. Wheeldon—who was well acquainted with all the particulars connected with these matches—speaking of roach fishing, says:—"Excellence in the art of roach fishing, and such excellence as pushes one man forward, making him a shining light far ahead of all other competitors, can only be achieved by constant and consummate practice in this particularly delicate and skilful branch of the craft of angling. This practice was it, allied perhaps to a natural aptitude, that made Woodard of London *the acknowledged champion amongst roach men*."

Under these circumstances, I think, until Woodard has been challenged and beaten, he is fairly entitled to the honour I claimed for him—that of being *the champion roach fisher of England*.—Yours faithfully, James Tayler,

Secretary of the Gresham A. S.

Waltoniana

It may interest a good many readers of the *Gazette* to know that five or six weed-cutters of the Lambourne have been summoned by the Thames Conservancy for not removing the weeds as soon as cut, and allowing them to float down into the Thames. The matter will be investigated by the local County Bench, sitting at Newbury, on the morning of Thursday next, the 16th of July, when it is to be hoped there will be no weed-cutting magistrates on the bench. I hope to give the result of the proceedings next week.

Last week, in company with Mr. Munro, I spent a holiday on the Pomahaka, king of Otago waters, but found it rather high after the rain in the beginning of the week. However, we managed to land in a day and a-half twenty fish, as fine a lot as ever graced the basket of an angler. They weighed from 3lb. to 5½lb., and were all in splendid condition, with any amount of go in them. But, my friends, when I say "I" spent a holiday, I do not refer to myself, but to a fortunate individual in New Zealand, whose words I am simply quoting. We over here who swagger about and talk big after catching five dozen moorland trout going four to the pound (with the assistance of the basket), or who receive telegrams congratulatory when, after hours of toil, we land a brace of four-pounders, let us hide our heads and talk big no more. What a country for the emigrant! What matters climate, soil, markets, drought, natives, serpents, wild beasts, or scoffers in a land where such fishing is to be obtained!

Both the Chinese and Japanese possess the secret of varnishes and laquers, which are in several respects superior to anything of the kind in Europe. In view of the importance of a good wearing and weather-resisting varnish for fishing rods, the report from the British Consul at Hankow on the subject of the varnish exported from that place seems to deserve attention. It is the gum of the *rhus vernicifera*, and it is obtained in a very peculiar manner. Incisions are made in the tree before daylight and gum which runs out is collected in the dark and strained through a cotton cloth bag. Light spoils the gum, causing it to cake with the refuse in it. It cannot be strained in wet weather as moisture causes it to solidify. On this account it is best applied in wet weather, as in dry weather it will not dry, but remains sticky. The Chinese lay it on the articles to be varnished with a sort of miniature mop, made of waste silk, and in the manner they use it it takes about a month to dry. Altogether it is a remarkable product, and as it appears to work best in wet weather might be valuable for split cane rods.

I was glad to see that our American contemporary, *Forest and Stream*, agrees with the views respecting fry and yearlings, which have more than once been put forward in this column, and in other parts of the paper. "It seems," says the writer of some angling notes in the American journal, "to be the universal opinion of those who have had experience in re-stocking trout water that one hundred yearlings will improve a pond or stream more than ten thousand fry. The only way fry seem to thrive is by placing them in tiny trickling springs, where it is impossible for their enemies to follow them or see them, or else to keep them in little artificial ponds where they can be fed and protected until able to look out for themselves."

I am inclined to take exception to the word "little" in the foregoing paragraph, for our experience in England rather tends to show that fry get on better in deep ponds than in shallow ones. This can I think be explained thus: The water in a shallow pond rapidly rises in temperature in summer and the fry get weakly and die. The water, too, must be constantly changing its temperature with every change of heat and cold in the air. In a deep pond the temperature is more equable. I have recently had the misfortune to lose a pond full of fry owing to the supply of water being cut off for a week. The water in the pond sunk to about a foot, its temperature rapidly rose and the little fish all died one fine day. In another pond where a slight trickle of water continued to run, no fish died so far as I could see. In rivers trout fry are usually found on the shallows, and so it might be argued that they thrive best in shallow water. This they may do, provided there is as great a flow of water as there is in a river. But we never get such a flow of water into our ponds, therefore it has been found necessary to make the ponds deep. In other words it comes to this: If there is a great abundance of flowing water the fry will thrive in shallows, but if the supply is limited and has to be economised the ponds must be deep. Templar.

CHERTSEY ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

One of the principal objects of this association is to supplement the efforts of the T.A.P.S., in the protection and preservation of the river in that neighbourhood, the honorary secretary, Mr. A. E Armstrong, being an honorary river-keeper in connection with the society. At the present time, in a beautiful stream running through the land of Mr. W. Webb, into the Thames near the weir (but at present protected from any of the youngsters escaping), there are about a thousand young fry of trout hatched in the apparatus belonging to Mr. Armstrong, and on an inspection they could be seen in various parts in a most healthy condition. The stream has been kindly lent to the association by Mr. Webb, and is most admirably adapted for the purpose of rearing fish. It is the intention of Mr. Armstrong, who has entire charge of the young fish, to let them remain there until next year, and then by removing the obstruction to let them pass quietly into the Thames.

The eighth annual dinner of the association took place on Thursday evening, July 2, at the headquarters, the Cricketers' Hotel, Chertsey Bridge, of which Mr. Arthur Hebburn is the piscatorial proprietor. Mr. W. Webb occupied the chair, and was supported by Messrs. A. E. Armstrong (hon. sec.), A. Graves (assistant hon. sec.), John Roake (treasurer), W. H. Brougham, W. Dix., jun., F. Hammett, W. Garrett, H. Chaldecott, W. J. Kersley, E. Squire, F. Hadden, Desvignes, and Arthur Hebburn, &c. The dinner, which consisted principally of joints cooked to perfection, gave great satisfaction and evidenced the capacity of the hostelry for similar occasions in the matter of catering and good service. After the loyal toasts came that of the "Thames Angling Preservation Society," which was given in some appropriate remarks by Mr. Graves, who, in associating Mr. Brougham's name therewith, referred to that gentleman having completed thirty-three years in working for the anglers of the Thames. Mr. W. H. Brougham, in his reply, recognised the assistance of the association, with especial reference to Mr. Armstrong, that had been so freely given, both in the protection of the river and in increasing the stock of fish in it by netting the Pound Pond. The chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, made some graceful allusions to the working of the Chertsey Angling Association, and expressed the pleasure he felt in any assistance he could render them. Mr. John Roake acknowledged the toast, and gave evidence of the healthful position of the association, at the same time hoping others would come forward and join them, as there was plenty of room for more members and an increase of funds.

In the distribution of the prizes which followed, it is well to remark that the association recognises nothing but specimen fish of an increased standard, and in view of the depleted stock of perch, no prizes are offered for that fish. There are only three prizes for "gross weights" of the specimen standard, two of them for all the species excepting perch, and one for roach only. The amount of the prizes in money was £12 6s. 6d., three fishing-rods (two being the gift of Mr. Hebburn, in addition to £2 in money), a silver watch, barometer, teapot, and other useful articles; and the prize-winners were Messrs. H. Grinstead, A. E. Armstrong, G. Stevens, W. Cartwright, John Roake, J. Chapman, A. E. Statham, W. Cosson, F. Hammett, H. Vincent, J. W. Smith, and A. E. Little, each prize being being presented by the chairman in pleasing and congratulatory words.

Mr. Hammett then gave "The Health of the Chairman," in some brief but courteous observations, and Mr. Webb, in reply, expressed the pleasure he felt in being their chairman that evening, and assured them of his desire to help them in every way that he could. On the suggestion of Mr. A. E. Armstrong, the toast was given with musical honours. Other toasts followed, and the remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony, several of the toasts being interspersed with a song. The last toast was that of "The Host," and from the manner in which it was received there can be no doubt as to the popularity Mr. Hebburn has acquired since he has become proprietor of the Cricketers.

The evening altogether was one of great enjoyment, and will not easily be forgotten. B.

BIRTH.

Marston.—July 7, at Pagoda House, Richmond, Surrey, the wife of R. B. Marston, of a son.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. **Best quality only.—East London Rubber** Co, 8, Shoreditch, E.

THE THAMES ANGLING PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1890-91.

"THE committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, at the close of another financial year—the fifty-third of its existence—have every reason to be satisfied with the result of what has been done during that period.

"Your committee during the past year have received the following contributions: Twenty-five guineas from the Fishmongers' Company, five guineas from the Flyfishers' Club, and £4 3s. 3d. as a moiety of profit from the anglers' tournament at Twickenham, which they desire now most gratefully to acknowledge, and to express a hope in the forthcoming year other City companies will support them in their philanthropic work. They have also the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of the customary subscriptions from the Anglers' Association and the Central Association of London Angling Clubs, and are gratified to find the utility of the work done by the society is becoming more widely recognised by the great body of anglers.

"As an additional means of increasing the income of the society, your committee have adopted the use of collecting boxes, to be placed in those club rooms where there is a willingness to receive them, and although only half-a-dozen have so far responded in that direction, they have reason to hope other clubs will follow their example. They are pleased to acknowledge the receipt of contributions, in sums varying from seven shillings and sixpence to one guinea, from the following clubs: Alma, Burton, Clapham Junction, Corinthian, Great Northern Brothers, and United Brothers. Your committee have also to thank the members of the New Albion Piscatorial Society, for organising a competition on behalf of the society, and for the result.

"There has been a slight diminution in the general income of the society, as will be seen from the audited balance-sheet, amounting to £13 12s. 11d., which is accounted for from the inability of the Secretary, through a sad bereavement, in being unable during the closing month of the financial year from making his usual collection, but since then a good portion has been received. Your committee have to regret, through deaths, removals, and other causes, there has been a loss in subscriptions of £17 7s. 6d.; which has been partly met by new ones amounting to £7 15s. 6d. It is necessary to explain that in order to maintain the society through the first eight months, when subscriptions are not generally available, each year should commence with a balance of at least £100.

"Your committee have taken much interest in the question of the claims of riparians to exclude anglers from certain portions of the Thames, a subject which has of late occupied much public attention. They would, however, remind anglers that in the vast district preserved by this society, extending from Kew to Staines, the fishing is free to all, and can be enjoyed without question by every angler, subject only to the necessary regulations of the Board of Thames Conservancy, who have shown themselves anxious to co-operate at all times, so far as practicable, in furtherance of the objects of the society.

"As regards the angling of last year, there is not much to refer to of a special character, but the fishing for jack, which promised well in the earlier portion of the season, was interrupted by a long and continued frost at a time when jack fishing would have been practised. At the period referred to, a goodly number of jack from 10lb. to 15lb. each were taken, and one angler, in the day at Hampton, caught eighteen fish, the largest 7½lb. During the trout season, the members of the Friendly Anglers' Society caught a goodly number of fish in the Staines and Shepperton Districts, and one of the Shepperton fishermen piloted customers to the capture of thirty trout, weighing altogether 137lb. 3½oz.

"During the past year there has been the conviction of five defendants for illegal offences—two being professional fishermen—one was fined £2 for taking fish in an illegal manner, and the other £1 and costs for taking unsizeable fish. The other three defendants, who were anglers, for taking unsizeable fish, had to pay fifteen shillings and tenpence each. Your committee consider, from the arrangements of last year, including the poaching season, and with the system of rewards, the river has been thoroughly protected, and the old practice of river poaching about died out. Great care has been taken in the protection of the ova during the close season, and in this particular the services of their river-keepers have been effectively carried out.

"Your committee, being desirous of increasing the present depleted stock of perch in the river, and to improve the species by the introduction of new blood, have recently purchased from Mr. Thomas Ford, of the Manor Fishery at Caistor, in Lincolnshire, five hundred yearling perch, which were distributed in the most suitable places at Kingston, Thames Ditton, Hampton, Walton, Halliford, Shepperton, and Chertsey, under the personal superintendence of their chairman, Mr. Alfred Nuthall, J.P., and in addition have ordered from Mr. J. Armistead, of the Solway Fisheries, Dumfries, Scotland, twenty thousand of perch ova for the rearing stream at Sunbury, where such alterations have been made as will prevent the young fry from escaping into the river—which they must have done last year—and to stop the other fry from coming in. Your committee hope to be able next year to turn into the river another supply of yearling trout.

"Your committee consider it their duty to recognise the kind assistance of Mr. A. E. Armstrong, their honorary river-keeper at Chertsey, in having purchased at his own cost, five hundred ova of trout from Mr. Thomas Andrews, of Guildford (who at the same time sent an additional five hundred as a gift to the society), with the object of hatching the ova, and rearing the young fry in a stream near the weir, for the benefit of the river in his district, and also for having netted the Pound Pond at Chertsey, and placing in the river therefrom two hundred and fifty perch, two hundred bream, two hundred chub, and two hundred roach. They have further to acknowledge the valuable assistance he has given throughout the year in the protection and preservation of the fishery in that portion of the Thames. If your committee had such zealous workers in the other parts of the river, there would be no difficulty in most effectively carrying on the work they have got to do.

"Your committee, as a necessary conclusion to their report, again urge the anglers who are deriving all the benefit of their labours to give them increased support. One thing is certain, if they were not liberally assisted by the general public and those possessing a philanthropic feeling, the beautiful stretch of about twenty-five miles of river under their charge, well stocked with fish, would soon cease to become a recreation ground for the great mass of anglers, who, if they have not the means to contribute largely, can at least do something to show their further appreciation of the great work the society has so long carried out on their behalf."

ILLEGAL SALMON FISHING AT WHITBY.—At the Whitby Police Court, Thomas Gatenby and Thomas Dixon were charged with fishing for salmon during the hours of the weekly close time. The defendants pleaded guilty. Mr. W. Brown, secretary to the Whitby Esk Fishery Board of Conservators, stated to the magistrates that for some time there had been a suspicion that the net sea fishermen were fishing illegally, and a watch was instituted. On Sunday night, the 20th June, some nets were found by the watchers near Saltwick, and they proceeded to haul them in the boat. The defendants then made their appearance, and claimed the nets as belonging to them, which made the case worse. Against the defendants was the fact that by their licence they were only entitled to use 400yds. of netting, but the nets with which they were fishing, and which had been seized, measured 700yds. The board did not ask the magistrates to confiscate the nets, because they did not belong to defendants. Evidence in support of the above statement having been given, defendants were fined ten shillings and £1 respectively.

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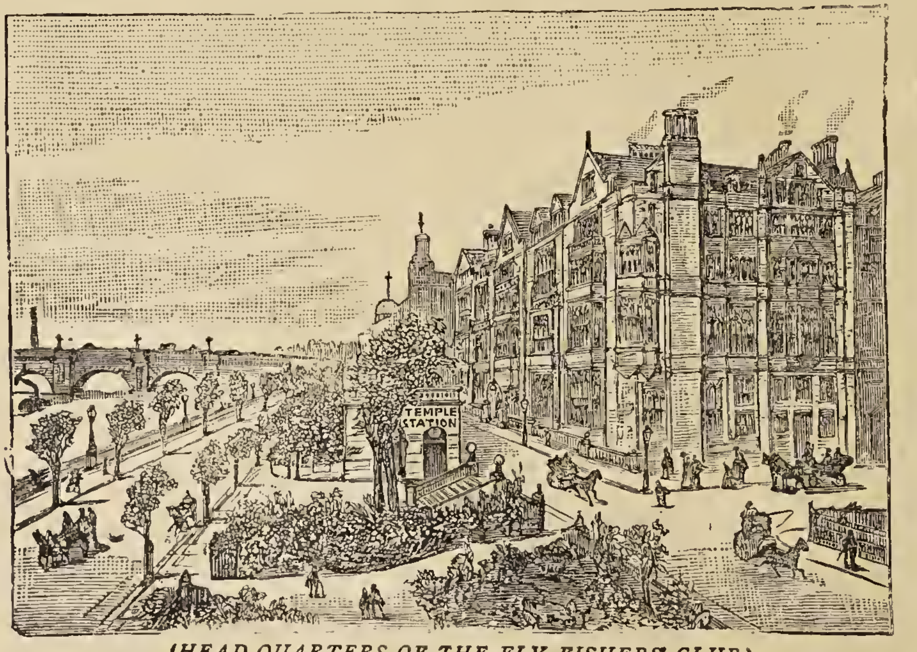

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SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 1891.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

By C. W.

On Thursday evening, July 2, a meeting of the committee of the Birmingham Angling Association was held at the headquarters, when another stage was advanced in connection with the forthcoming great excursion and contest. The meeting was well attended. Mr. T. Coles presided. An application was made by Mr. Keeling, on behalf of the Plume Society, held at the Plume of Feathers, Miles-street, to remove to the Britannia Inn, Birchall-street. No opposition was offered, and it was resolved by the committee to allow them to remove forthwith. The contest and excursion business was next proceeded with, and the secretary was authorised by the committee to give the necessary guarantee to the G.W.R. Company. The entrance fee to the contest was allowed to remain as last year—viz., sixpence, the same to be paid for on the Thursday previous to the contest. After this date and on the morning of the contest the tickets will be one shilling. It was also decided that all railway tickets should be paid for on the Thursday previous to the contest. The rules for governing the contest will be the same as last year. Messrs. Coles and Dance were appointed as referees, and fifteen shillings was voted to each for expenses. The amount to be voted from the funds of the association for prizes brought about a little discussion. A resolution was proposed by Mr. Holding and seconded by Mr. Dance that £30 be taken from the funds and expended in prizes, and an amendment was moved by Mr. Hughes and seconded by Mr. Allen, that the sum be £35, but upon the president taking the vote, the resolution was carried with three dissentients. The secretary was ordered to get a number of preliminary notices of the contest printed and circulated throughout the association. The balance-sheet for the quarter ending June 30 showed that the income was £56 2s. 5d., and the expenditure £11 12s. 2d., leaving a balance in hand of £44 10s. 3d. The auditors' report together with the balance-sheet was adopted.

A committee meeting of the Provincial Angling Association was held at the Drawbridge Hotel, Bristol, on Saturday last, and business of importance was transacted. Mr. T. Coles, of Birmingham, presided, and Mr. J. W. Cundall, of Bristol, occupied the vice-chair. The president, in opening the business of the meeting, pointed out that, according to a resolution, the present meeting should have been held at Cardiff, but owing to the business engagements of some of the members of the committee and the bad train service, it was decided to hold the meeting at Bristol, but the committee would hold their next meeting at Cardiff. The minutes of the previous committee meeting, held at Worcester, on April 18 last, were read and confirmed, with the alteration of Minute 189, which related to the referee's expenses at the Marston Challenge Cup contest. The minute read that each referee should receive 7s. 6d. as expenses; the alteration will be that each referee receive his third-class railway fare to and from the town to which he may belong, and five shillings each as expenses. Messrs. Coles and Dance gave in a report of their visit to the Dudley Association, who asked to be admitted into the association. The report was adopted, and on the motion of Mr. Cundall, seconded by Mr. Wingfield, the Dudley Association was accepted into the association. The balance-sheet for the half-year ending June 30 was read by the secretary, and was received with the greatest satisfaction by the whole of the committee. The income was £69 7s. 4d.; the expenditure £16 2s. 5d., leaving a balance to be carried forward of £53 4s. 11d. Mr. Dance, the senior auditor, spoke to the correctness of the accounts and balance-sheet, together with the auditors' report, was unanimously adopted, and a vote of thanks was given to Mr. C. White, the secretary, for the manner in which he had kept down the expenses. On the motion of Mr. Dance, which was seconded by Mr. Cundall, the expenses of the committee-men was raised from 2s. 6d. to five shillings, together with the railway fare to and from the places of meetings. The secretary's salary was also increased to £10 per annum. Mr. Miller brought forward the advisability of the association making a grant to be expended in purchasing three special prizes for the first three members taking the heaviest weights of fish in the Marston Cup Competition, and moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Cundall, "That three medals to the value of £5 be purchased, and presented to the first three successful competitors, the first to be gold, value £3; the second, silver medal (gold centre); and the third, a silver medal." It was also resolved to present the cup and medals on the ground at the conclusion of the contest. This concluded the business in connection with the contest, when Messrs. Coles and Wingfield gave in a report of the business transacted at the last meeting of the Severn Fishing Board, which met at Birmingham on April 16 last. The report went to show that the Board had in hand the important matter of bringing that portion of the river Avon, which lay between Stratford and Tewkesbury, under the control of the Severn Board. The report was received with great satisfaction, and the best thanks of the meeting was accorded to Messrs. Coles and Wingfield for their labours on behalf of the members of the Provincial Association on the Severn Fishery Board. A vacancy having occurred on the committee through the resignation of Mr. Lane, of Worcester, Mr. Charles Evans, the junior representative of the Worcester Association, was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy. A vote of thanks was given to the president for the able manner in which he had conducted the business of the evening, to which he suitably replied, and concluded by moving a vote of thanks to the worthy vice-president, which was acknowledged by that gentleman. A vote of thanks was also given to the Bristol Association for the generous and hearty manner in which they had entertained the committee. This was carried with acclamation, and this the meeting closed.

The Balsall Heath Britannia Angling Society, held at the Britannia Inn, Sherbourne-road, Balsall Heath, held their second annual contest on Saturday last at Bidford, in which about thirty members took part. The contest was of the usual two hours' duration, and the prizes, which were of a useful and ornamental character, were keenly contested for. The result of the contest was as follows: First, Mr. W. Broom; second, Mr. G. Mountford; third, Mr. J. Perkins; fourth, Mr. H. Carpenter; fifth, Mr. R. Sturch; sixth, Mr. G. Langford. The prizes, with the exception of the load of coal, which was selected by Mr. Mountford, were distributed on Monday evening last, after which the members went in for a bit of harmony, Messrs. Broom, Taylor, and J. Coles doing the lion's share. Master Swaffield presided over the pianoforte, and Mr. A. Hipkiss, in the unavoidable absence of the president, carried out the business of the evening in a satisfactory manner.

Fishing during the week has been very tame, owing to the rivers being altogether out of condition, through the heavy rains that we have had. The Trent is reported to be over the meadows in some of the low-lying districts, and the Avon is sadly off colour just at present. A few anglers have been out trying their luck, but I have heard of nothing, with the exception of a few eels, being taken; but I hope to have better news of the weather and fishing to record next week.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

More water is the cry of the fishermen of this district. Although rain has been our portion almost daily, still no great quantity has found its way into the various rivers and brooks mostly frequented by local anglers. Much disappointment is felt at the poor results of the season, so far, after patiently waiting as we have done. It is quite a common expression to hear from very old hands, "that they have not cast a line this year." Still, when the time comes, they are sure to have their share of sport.

The event of the week has been the annual trip to Lincoln. As yet there are no official returns of the numbers, but judging from a casual inquiry, a satisfactory result is the verdict. Anyone who happened to be at the London-road Station, Manchester, on July 5, and unaware of the trip, would have been amazed at the busy throng assembled there. Anglers, male and female, old and young, all fully equipped for sport, some with bags evidently intending to prolong their excursion over some days. By the time these Notes are in print doubtless all will have returned who went, but if those who remained more than one day do not give a more cheerful report than their less fortunate excursionists do who have returned, then from an angler's point of view the whole trip must be voted a disappointment. The estimate of tickets sold gets very near to one thousand.

An ordinary business meeting of the various clubs in the Manchester district is summoned for the 16th. This association, comprising some thirty clubs, with eight hundred members, is in a flourishing condition, and for the meeting in question some important items are down for discussion. It will be necessary for the future well-being of this large body of anglers that the delegates adopt some spirited policy for acquiring good fishing for the members. Manchester is a city heavily rated, and the ratepayers can with reason demand the privilege of fishing in the Corporation reservoirs.

Canal fishing so far this season has been so poor that it is gratifying to learn that experts are beginning to have good catches. Several baskets of ten or more brace are reported as being obtained last Saturday.

Trout fishing is also a little improved; several good baskets are reported from various resorts, mostly obtained in the dusk of the evening. Great diversity of opinions exist as to the best killing flies, but this is agreed to by all, that greater skill is required to take fish on our much-frequented streams than is possessed by many who are regular visitors. Mr. B. Brook, of Manchester, secured a nice lot of fish at Buxton a few days since. A beautiful specimen was obtained also on this stream recently.

Contests are still in full swing. The Shakespeare brought off theirs on the 4th, and it proved a most enjoyable affair; good prizes were taken with good fish, but this was only to be expected from a club containing so many good men, who are captained by that ideal angler Sam Brooks.

The Free Anglers, and other first-class clubs, are arranging pic-nics on fishing lines, but the final arrangements are not complete; doubtless, they will be as formerly, of a character worthy of emulation by other clubs.

Some of the Manchester officials and their friends were out on the 4th, and in the course of their walk came across five yearling trout, lying dead upon the bank. From their appearance they had been wantonly destroyed, and it is to be hoped that the perpetrator of this contemptible act will be discovered and punished.

NOTES FROM THE LAKE DISTRICT.

From the closing days of June up to the time of writing, thunder showers have fallen throughout this district almost daily. This, notwithstanding, very little improvement took place in many rivers until Tuesday. The earth had become so parched and wells and feeders so generally dried up that the earth readily absorbed all that fell, and, as a consequence, very little of the heavy downpours found its way into the watercourses. Mr. Thos. Mackereth, a Fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society, reports that the mean temperature of the past month at Windermere has been the highest he has recorded for thirty years for the month of June; the mean of the highest temperatures was 68·0 deg., and the mean of the lowest temperatures 50·2 deg. The total rainfall (twelve days) amounted to 1·356in.; at Kendal, the rainfall for the month was 1·33in. as against 4.07in. in June, 1890.

There are a fair number of visitors now in the district, and coarse fishing is being much enjoyed by many, as well as angling for trout, &c., in Rydal, Grasmere, Windermere, and other lakes and tarns. Yorkshire anglers with limited time at disposal would do well to note the new train arrangements commencing on the 1st inst. A fast train now leaves Windermere at 7.30 in the morning, so that visitors spending a few days' holiday at the end of the week may reach business in fair time on Monday morning. The train is due at Leeds at 10.20.

Lake District readers of the *Fishing Gazette* heartily enjoyed "Gilknockie's" story last week, of "A Memorable Fishing Match on the Border." It had the true ring of the "north countree" throughout it, and whether true or not, was a good story well told. Certainly Dick o' the Forest deserved the prize, for did not he in the end secure the best "catch"—a bonny bride? Another illustration of the adage that all is fair in love and—fishing.

We have all heard the story of the man and the ass, in which it is recorded how in his endeavours to please everybody, the poor fellow brought not only ridicule but loss upon himself. Some of our local angling associations have had to encounter rather sharp criticism on the wisdom of their war with the pike, which it is averred will simply be exterminated if present tactics are persisted in. The question is—do these voracious fish afford an amount of sport compensating for the havoc they play amongst trout and char? "Certainly not," would appear to be the verdict of the Coniston Lake Angling Association, judging from their annual report just submitted to the members, and which I quote below owing to its general interest just at this season. Right or wrong, this association is not likely to fall between two stools.

"I have to report," says the secretary, "that during last season very many fewer pike have been caught than during the preceding season. In the season of 1889 something like a thousand pounds of pike were caught, falling down last season to about 413lb. During the season of 1890-91 very many more trout have been taken with the nets than was the case last season, and these were all in splendid condition. Of course, the trout are returned to the lake unharmed. It may appear curious to some that char are not named from time to time in the netting reports the fact being that owing to the fishermen using 1¼in. mesh, the char escape, the net holding nothing less than ¼lb. fish. Nevertheless, Coniston Lake is literally abounding in char. These fish average about four to five to the pound, and are in the pink of condition. One of the fishermen employed by this association caught during the past season, with lines, 1,470lb. of eels, weighing from 3lb. down to a few ounces each. The fish reared last season were distributed in various places by the committee. There have been hatched in the hatchery at Holywath, under the superintendence of the president, over 30,000 trout. These are now in the rearing pond at Coniston Hall, and are thriving well, being in a lively and healthy condition. The fishermen have this season so far caught very few pike, only having obtained fifty-one, weighing about 100lb. The pike average in weight about 2lb. each, and most of these may be fairly considered to have escaped through the meshes of the nets last season. Probably the association may think it worth while to consider the advisability of having a smaller mesh another season, so that smaller pike may be destroyed. The fishermen are confident that pike are becoming scarce in the lake. One day they had numerous draughts on the best pike ground and only caught two small fish. The trout caught in the nets during the spring have been numerous, the estimated average weight being ¾lb. each, the weight of the largest trout being estimated at 3lb. The trout were in splendid condition. Altogether the association, concludes the report, "it is to be congratulated upon their efforts in destroying pike and rearing trout."

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

Barbel anglers on the Trent are growing impatient for a spell of really summer weather. The last few days have been fearfully unsettled, and until a decided change for the better occurs, it is not likely that the game fish named will be found to give fishermen any serious amount of trouble. I was at Shardlow last Saturday and saw scores of fish leaping on the shallows and scours, and it is clearly evident that they are as yet in backward condition. Hot weather alone will shift them into the ordinary channels, and then their followers should not neglect the opportunity of baiting up the swims with a goodly supply of worms. Some would-be fishermen appear to think that a shillingsworth of worms ought to last them a couple of days. In barbelling, scores—through the current—are frequently wasted, and no experienced thrower of the line would dream of fishing a well-known swim under a supply of at least a couple of thousand. At the close of last week a very fine fish weighing 6¾lb. was taken on a night line below the new Trent Bridge, and the rod has accounted for a few in the Colwick district. An occasional fish has also been picked up in the Shardlow and King's Mills reaches, and the leger contingent have been amongst them at Clifton and Wilford. Very little news is forthcoming from any of the lower lengths, and things cannot alter very much until the weather begins to assume the pure garb of summer.

A meeting, convened by circular, has been held since my last Notes at the Shoulder of Mutton Inn, Smithy Row, Nottingham, for the purpose of forming an angling society to be known by the same name as the hostelry. Mr. Henry Smith Wright, the popular member for the southern division of the borough, has consented to act as president, and there are several vice-presidents, well-known in connection with local sport. Mr. Charles Jackson, of Carrington-street, was elected chairman, and Mr. C. Heald, an expert fisherman, who is devoted to the Newark district, general secretary. The committee appointed consists of Messrs. R. Higginson (host), T. Leak, G. Derrick, G. Clarke, and C. Jackson (chairman). Various suggestions were thrown out as to the way the rules governing the working of the society should be framed, and these were submitted to a further meeting, which was held last Wednesday night. The question of the pollution of the Trent and its numerous tributaries was taken up, and on the motion of Mr. Heald it was unanimously resolved to invite the Derbyshire Anglers' Association to confer with the society at an early date. The society now consists of twenty-five members, and I hear that as soon as the ranks are augmented, it is the intention of the executive to secure a private length on the Trent for their own use. Properly worked, it is certain to become a popular angling institution in the town, as the worthy host is extremely fond of angling and is certain to encourage the love of it among his numerous patrons.

A DISTRICT society has also been formed at Mr. W. Hopkins's, the Victoria Hotel, Beeston, Rylands. Fifty privilege tickets for travelling have been issued by myself as representing the Midland and Great Northern Railway Companies, and I believe that most of them have already been taken up. The society mainly comprises gentlemen living at Chilwell and Beeston, and the duties of hon. sec. have been entrusted to Mr. Metheringham, of the former place. Mr. S. Watson, who rents the Beeston portion of the Trent, has promised his assistance to the society, and will doubtless allow the whole of the members the privilege of using his waters, although he is not likely, I understand, to tolerate any ground baiting of the swims. In addition, he is pretty certain to reserve the immediate vicinity of the weir, which flows by the garden wall near his keeper's house. Mr. Watson rarely uses the rod himself, and when he does he prefers the lower part of the weir to any other portion of the length. Years ago he used to kill scores of pike with the trolling bait in the foamy currents below the waterfall, but in recent times he has very rarely troubled them. In Host Hopkins the members have a thorough sportsman, and one who knows every inch of the Trent, for the reason that for a considerable number of years he was the indefatigable clerk of the Trent Navigation Company.

IN my last Notes I was guilty of an error in the weight of one of the salmon killed on the Trent during the present season in the King's Mills and Shardlow districts. Mr. Marcer's (Derby) fish was returned at 27lb. Last Saturday, Mr. Marcer, whilst pleased to see it recorded, told me that the fish, when weighed at Derby, pulled down the beam at 30½lb. It is certainly the heaviest killed in the river for some years past, the nearest approach being one of 27lb., caught last year at King's Mills, by G. Holmes, the local keeper.

TROUT fishing is looked upon as a "dead letter" in the Trent, and, when odd fish of note are taken, the captors are naturally very proud of their spoil. Just recently five handsome fish have fallen to the rod in the Fiskerton Reach. I have no doubt that during the rise they left their quarters in the Greet, which flows into the parent stream below Fiskerton wall. In each instance they accepted the worm and showed fighting qualities far above the average. The heaviest weighed 3lb. 6oz., the second best 2lb., and the others about 1lb. each. Others, I hear, were hooked, but were lost through bad management. In connection with the capture, it is perhaps as well to remind ignorant fishermen that no trout can be taken without the possession of a licence, which costs half-a-crown, and which lasts throughout the season. Two years ago the cost was only a shilling, but the Trent Fishery Board have since increased the price. Naturally enough they require capital, and some day they may do something that is worth having for coarse fish anglers generally.

IN reference to the monster eel that was caught with the rod in the Weston waters on June 27, I learn from J. Theaker, the Nottingham professional, that he, some years ago, killed one in the same fishery weighing 4lb. 5oz. The same day a friend (the late Mr. W. Oram, of Nottingham) hooked and landed one of 3lb. 11oz. The one taken on June 27 was 4lb. 2oz.

THE Great Northern Railway Company have consented to issue first-class tickets to Carlton-on-Trent from Nottingham at a fixed price of four shillings and fourpence. The station is on the travelling cards, and occasionally first-class tickets are asked for. Anglers will perhaps please note the price.

AT a special meeting of the committee of the Nottingham Wellington Angling Society, held on July 1, the classification of fish for the season was arranged. In the fly-fishing department, the order of prizes stands thus—chub, trout, grayling, dace; and in the bottom-fishing competitions the classes run—chub, barbel, roach, dace, bream, perch, pike, trout, and grayling. The society continues to make great headway, a number of new members having recently been admitted.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

THE next meeting of the Severn Board of Conservators, which will be held at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, on the 16th inst., promises to be a very important one, inasmuch as another stage of the all-important question of improving the salmon fishing in the Severn, more especially, however, in the upper waters, will be reached. The matter is one in which all interested in the salmon fishing of the river should co-operate for their common good, for if the lower water fishermen take up a course antagonistic to those in the upper districts, and maintain, rightly or wrongly, their power to capture the mature fish without giving any a chance of ascending to the more favourable spawning beds in and above Shropshire, they will in a very few years impoverish their fishing, and do irreparable injury to themselves, as well as those above, who now ask but a fair proportion of the fish. By working amicably together, the members of the board, representing the various interests may accomplish a vast amount of good. With a close time calculated to allow a goodly number of fish to pass to the spawning beds; the fishing stopped below the weirs; the passes improved along the whole length of the river (as it is hoped they will be after the consideration of the report of Mr. Berrington, Chief Inspector of Fisheries); natural and artificial obstructions removed; and the upper water netsmen (of whom there are, however, very few) prevented from sweeping the river of the fish at such points as the mouth of the Vyrnwy, as it is now alleged they do—a condition of things may be brought about which will doubtless bring prosperity to every interest. In the first place, it is obvious that, before the supply of salmon can be increased, there must be every facility given to allow the fish to pass to the upper waters to spawn; and, secondly, when they have been allowed to ascend thus far, a very strict limit should be put upon the takes, and the fishermen of the upper waters should not be allowed to reap a golden harvest at the expense of those who obtain their livelihood below. Thus, it will be at once seen, any attempt on the part of either interest to monopolise the fishing will have a disastrous effect, and the only way to decide the question, for the benefit of all concerned, will be by hearty co-operation and mutual concession.

AT the meeting of the board on the 16th, a special report will be received from the Executive and Pollution Committee as to the close time, a draft of which will be sent very shortly to the members. This report will probably have reference to the recent inquiries made in various districts on the river with regard to the close season and the state of the passes on the river. Special attention seems to have been paid to the weirs in the upper districts, but if this be the case, it is obvious that the policy pursued is hardly calculated to secure the end in view. If the spawning fish are to be allowed a free and uninterrupted passage, it is clear on the face of it that great attention should be first directed to the passes in the lower part of the river before the weirs of the upper waters, however badly constructed they may be, should be touched. The reports of the bailiffs in the districts where the best spawning grounds are situated tend to show that the spawning season has been an exceptionally busy one, and the result will doubtless be felt keenly in a few years to come. Comparatively few fish have ascended to and above Shropshire, disease has destroyed many, and the severe weather has no doubt played havoc with the spawn, so that unless careful measures are taken to repair the loss there will be a bad time in store for salmon-fishers on the Severn.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

NOTWITHSTANDING that heavy rain fell during the closing days of last week, the Yorkshire rivers, speaking generally, were barely altered in volume, and it was not until further rain had fallen on Monday and Tuesday last that anything like a fresh was obtained, and even then in some places it was but slight. Threatening clouds, however, are still hovering around, up to the time of my penning these Notes this (Wednesday) evening, portending further showers.

FLY-FISHING on the Ouse has been very limited during the past few days, and indeed those anglers who have tried their luck in that direction have but poorly been repaid for their trouble. Worm anglers, too, have not been so fortunate as of late. Fishing in a private stream near Pickering, the other day, Mr. Schumacher, one of the hon. secs. to the York branch of the Northern Anglers' Association, was fortunate enough to hook six brace of trout, weighing in all 20lb. The largest scaled 2lb. 2oz., while a second fish weighed 1lb. Fishing in the Ouse, on Saturday, above the village of Poppleton, the same gentleman had six eels, the largest weighing 1½lb., and the whole scaled about 4lb. He was out from four to nine, but the time occupied in taking the fish was from half-past eight to half-past nine, he prior to that time never receiving a nibble. A member of the York Angling Association while out at Nun-Monkton, the other day, had a nice pannier of chub. Trolling for pike on the same day be had the satisfaction to receive a hook, calculating the pike to weigh not less than 22lb. After playing for some little time, however, he had the misfortune to lose it. Another large pike has been noticed in the river opposite Captain Key's residence, at Fulford.

A FISHING competition, the principal prize being a silk umbrella, offered by Mr. William Bouttell, of York, took place on the river opposite the residence of Captain W. H. Key, at Fulford, on Monday evening. The match was open to the residents of Fulford, and the members of the Fulford Friendly Angling Society, and nearly a score competed in happy rivalry for the superiority. Unfortunately, however, the circumstances were most discouraging. A cold wind blew, compelling nearly all the competitors to use the worm. Towards the close of time the wind somewhat lulled and flies were resorted to by many, but neither they nor worms proved of much avail in alluring the chary fish. Upon the competitors going to weigh in, the catches were—well, suffice it to say that the winner scaled some 4¾oz., which, as might be expected, was the source of much humorous joking. The umbrella was awarded in due course to Mr. Watson, secretary of the Fulford Club, the fortunate competitor. The time fished was from six o'clock to nine, and the match was watched by a fair number of interested spectators. Had the match been held some six weeks later conditions, would, undoubtedly, been otherwise.

AT a meeting of the Yorkshire Fishery Board, held at York last week, under the presidency of the Hon. Captain Duncombe, the following resolution was unanimously agreed to: "That this board desires to record, with deep regret, the loss it has sustained by the death of the Hon. Payan Dawnay, the past chairman of the board, who, during the eleven years he was a member, took the utmost interest in its welfare."

THIRSK anglers seem to have fared somewhat better than their brethren in other parts of Yorkshire. The slight showers of rain have sufficed to supply some nice gentle freshes on the Codbeck, and in consequence local anglers have had excellent sport in this by no means to be despised North Riding trout stream. Perhaps the brambling and the maddock have been the best at allurement; but the artificial minnow has been tried with much success. Some fine dishes of grayling have been made on the sandy reaches down stream, and there is not the least doubt but that this grand autumn and winter fish is greatly on the increase in the Codbeck. There is a good supply of trout in the water up-stream, and those taken have ranged from ½lb. to 2½lb. in weight each.

ALLUDING to the stream, the *Manchester Courier* of the other day said: "Of the Yorkshire streams, the Codbeck is affording a rich harvest to those who know its peculiarities. Trout have been taken in large quantities, whilst quite a bevy of grayling has been obtained. Yorkshire anglers should note the circumstance if a holiday is intended."

IT may be worthy of mention that numerous otters have been noticed in the river during the past few days, but nothing is as yet reported of their having materially destroyed fish.

FOLLOWING on the slight fresh in the latter part of last week good sport was enjoyed by Swale anglers at Richmond. Perhaps the best fly, and the one most generally used, was Partridge and Orange. The Rev. R. E. Ricketts, chaplain to his excellency the Earl of Zetland, made a nice pannier or two, fishing a few miles above the town, and Mr. Isherwood—who, by-the-bye, is regarded as a veteran angler—hooked thirty-nine fish at one outing. Mr. C. Musgrave and a visitor had fifteen each, while Mr. William Earle, Mr. T. Williams, Mr. J. Heslop, Mr. J. Doherty, and others, did well. A heavy thunderstorm passed over the town on Monday and the rain fell heavily, slightly improving the Swale and its tributaries in the direction of angling purposes.

AT the Darlington Police Court, on Monday, three individuals answering to the names of Thomas Ness, Arthur Ness, and John Dawson, were charged with unlawfully attempting to take trout in the Tees at Croft, with a purse net, in June last. Mr. F. Dodds appeared for the Tees Fishery Board, who instituted the prosecution. Three witnesses deposed to seeing the prisoners in the bed of the river and place the net round a stone which they disturbed by means of a crowbar, frightening the fish into the net. They were seen to take a large quantity of fish, but none of the witnesses could say trout were amongst them. They, however, considered that the place where the prisoners were fishing was one of the best for trout about Croft. Mr. Jaynes, who appeared for the defence, said that the charge of taking or attempting to take trout had not been proved, and the case was dismissed. Another too ardent piscator named William Cooper, was fined one shilling for angling in the Skerne at Low Beaumont Hill, without having a licence.

NOTES FROM IRELAND.

(FROM OUR DUBLIN CORRESPONDENT.)

WITH such climatic variations as those to which this country has of late been subject, it is little wonder that the present angling season has not been over successful. Facts are stubborn things which must be met and recognised, and I am sorry to say it is a recognised fact that in many parts of Ireland sport has been rather behind the average this year. It also has been noted that the attendance of anglers, although extremely good—especially in the more popular districts—has not, generally speaking, been such as might in numbers be classed on *par* with former times. To climatic influences this fault is chiefly due. Disparagement must not, however, be gathered from these remarks, because for those whose love of angling encourages them to bear the brunt of many weathers, there are still good fields for action. Salmon fishing in many of the western parts continues fair, and from the Galway and Sligo districts reports are to hand of some very tidy fish being landed, but the latest, from Westmeath Lakes, sattes that owing to adverse circumstances few anglers have been out this past week. A scarcity of Green Drake was felt, and trout are feeding on perch fry. One good capture is, however, recorded of a trout weighing 8lb., a fair specimen of the tribe inhabiting the waters of Westmeath.

LATELY there has been a lack of rods in and around the Dublin and Kildare districts, where trouting at this time of the year has always absorbed the attention of sportsmen, but some fair captures have been effected on the Liffey at Kilcullen Bridge, a well-known spot, adjacent to either Newbridge or Harristown stations, and I hear fair baskets are also being had at the waters of the Brittas Club and Angler's Club of Ireland.

I LEARN a fair number of members of the latter club are scattered over the principal salmon banks down the country, but beyond an occasional good fish nothing remarkable has been accomplished.

SPORT in Wicklow is keeping well to the front. Notwithstanding a falling-off of rods this week at Woodenbridge, a free rise of trout continues. In Wicklow interior—the Dartz, at, Rossanagh for instance—the fish are about in numbers, but are so small as to scarcely reward the enthusiast. I am told, however, that the two lakes slumbering in the Valley of Glendalough (seven churches) are "positively teeming" with good size fish of various kinds.

AMONGST the best records this season of salmon angling the river Suir has taken a prominent place. The yield of fish has been numerous and their condition healthy. Only recently one weighing 37lb. was caught by Mr. John Hassy, at Banard, and many others of whom I have a list, running from 7lb. to 25lb., all taken with the fly. Trout fishing in the Suir this season has been excellent all through.

SEA fishing—since things are rather dull inland—is now proving an immense attraction around the Irish Coast, and during a sail round Dublin Bay, the other day, I never saw so many boats out. The clubs at Ringsend, Greystones, Bray, and Kingstown, were well represented and were rewarded by good takes of gurnet, codling, pollack, &c. Dalby Sound seems to be the most favourite spot along the Dublin Coast and an all-night sitting of sea anglers there is not at all uncommon. Sea fishing on Waterville Coast, Co. Kerry, is also reported to be excellent.

THE mill-owners and others in the north of Ireland opposed to the progress being made by those interested in the promotion and welfare of the salmon fisheries of the north, are on the alert. An important and influential meeting of the County Antrim Mill Owners Defence Association was held at Ballymena, on Saturday last, where resolutions were passed to the effect that in their opinion the protection extended to the fisheries depending upon water power was quite adequate, and any further measures granted would tend to be injurious to more important industries. The association also threatened that any further objection to the Irish Fisheries Amendment Bill by English members would be the means of their circulating broadcast, both now and at the General Election, particulars of what it is they are supporting, "and the destructive persecution that has been carried on in this country under the present Irish Fishery Laws, against those who are engaged in forwarding the industries of Ireland, and increasing the employment of its people."

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly meeting of the Renting and Preservation Committee will take place on Monday evening next, July 13, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT No. 1.—The next return visit will be to the Hoxton Brothers, the Swan, Bethnal Green-road, Shoreditch, on Tuesday next, July 14. This well-known club always receives a good share of patronage; therefore, I anticipate our usual crowded meeting.—G. MANNING.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT No. 2.—The next return visit on the above list will take place at the Convivial Angling Society, on Monday, 13th, when I hope to see the clubs in the district well represented.—F. THORLING.

Anglers' Association (SOUTHERN DISTRICT) VISITING LIST.—The next return visit on the above list will take place on Tuesday next, the 14th inst., at the Rodney A.S., Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road, where I hope to see all clubs on both lists well represented.—G. W. ARMSTRONG.

Anglers' Association.—WESTERN DISTRICT.—A visit was paid to the Phœnix on the 29th ult., twelve clubs being represented. The next visit will be paid to the Royal George, at the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham-court-road, on Wednesday next, the 15th, when I hope to see a good muster.—J. JENNINGS.

Aberdeen Amateur Rock Fishers' Association.—Last Saturday the members of this association, which numbers over two hundred members, held their second seasonal competition, when large numbers turned out at such favourite spots as Cove, Portlethen, Newton-hill, Muchalls, and other points along the coast, and in spite of the heavy rains all the afternoon, fished with praiseworthy zeal, as was shown by the large number of baskets weighed in at the club's office in the course of the evening: First, William Riddell, 32lb. 10oz.; second, Jas. Robertson, 25lb. 12oz.; third, William Campbell, 22lb. 2oz.; fourth, Geo. Anderson, 18lb. 13oz.; fifth, Andrew Angus, 10lb. 14oz. —G. M.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—We fished our match on July 5, when the prizes were taken by the following members: H. Davis, first prize, jack rod, with a magnificent show of roach; B. Abrahams, second prize, running line, with perch; Fred Roberts, third prize, a Nottingham winch, with a very pretty tench. One of our members was broke away with a bream about 4lb. on a tight line, but I hope he will succeed on the 12th inst. We are making more working members. F. Hawkins was unanimously elected a working member of this capital society, and H. E. Probert and A. A. Morgan have been proposed as working members to be elected next Monday, when I hope all members will show up as usual at club room, at 9.15 p.m. Messrs. Roberts and Thompson audited the books on the 7th inst., and I am glad to say our club is in a good financial condition.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—On the 5th inst. we had a strong muster of members—not in the club-room, but in a saloon carriage of the L.B. and S.C. Railway—*en route* for the Swan Hotel, Fittleworth, near Pulborough, where we sat down to our thirty-seventh annual dinner, which was a pronounced success in every respect owing to the untiring exertions of our genial hostess, Mrs. Hawkins, who received the well-merited thanks of all the members for the very excellent manner in which she had catered for them. Mr. Medcalf, our president, occupied the chair, faced by Mr. Hill, and assisted by Messrs. Farebrother and Hayward. We fish for six prizes on July 12 at Pulborough Central Fishery; all members to start from London Bridge Station by the 6.55 train.—W. H. POTTER, secretary.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our first match came off on the 5th inst., at Windsor, when three prizes were fished for, and the successful members were as follows: Mr. G. Rich, first, 1lb. 1¾oz. of dace; Mr. J. Bell, second, 13¼oz. of roach; Mr. D. Coope, third, 12¾oz. chub and the following had fish:—Mr. Jones, dace; Mr. Bond, roach; Mr. Knowler, roach and dace; Mr. King, dace; Mr. S. Lawrence, roach; Mr. A. Bell, gudgeon. Mr. H. Lovett had a nice show of dace from Richmond.—J. RICH, secretary.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Gt. Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On July 5 our members were out in good force, and some nice shows of fish was the result. Mr. Embleton, sen., roach; Mr. W. Hake, a nice show of roach, dace, and bream; Mr. Lattimore having a fine show of bream: Mr. W. Embleton, jun., roach and bream; Mr. Reeks, with roach and dace; and Mr. Lambarth, jun., a nice show of roach. On the 12th inst. several of our members go to Pulborough to compete in the association competition, also for a prize given by the society.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The weekly meeting was held on Wednesday last, Mr. A. Shakel in the chair. After the usual routine business was disposed of, a discussion ensued as to the outing for our monthly prizes on the 12th inst., when it was decided to visit the Central Fishery at Pulborough for four prizes—viz., one guinea (Mr. Bolland), half-a-guinea (Mr. Palmer), ten shillings (Mr. A. Davis), and five shillings (Mr. A. Jones); also to join in the competition on that date. Members are requested to show up in full force, and to put in an appearance as early as possible at the weighing in, in order to have a photo taken of the club group by Mr. Slaughter. Half-a-guinea was also voted towards the prize list of the competition. On the 5th inst. we experienced the first blank of the season. Mr. F. Mitchell was nominated as a new member, to be balloted for at our next meeting.—A. G. SMITH, sec.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, Great Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—Members who have not received their privilege and Benevolent tickets will kindly call up on Wednesday next. I have a very promising prize list, and would like to settle early date for monthly outing. I beg to inform honorary and working members that the prize list is still open, and shall be happy to book their names to any amount, large or small. Gentlemen desirous of joining the above society are informed that the terms for working members are two shillings and twopence per quarter, and one shilling and sixpence entrance fee; honorary members, five shillings, including railway privilege ticket.—J. TUCKER, hon. sec.

Beaufoy Angling Society, 143, Upper Kennington Lane.—At our usual weekly meeting it was decided to fish for three prizes not taken on June 28 in the association waters of the river Wey at Byfleet. All start on the morning of the 12th inst. at 8.30, Vauxhall Station.—G. RUSHTON, hon. sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—On the 5th inst. the members of the above society fished a roving competition for their July series of prizes, with the following results:—Mr. James Smith, 12lb. 6oz., first, winning one guinea, by Host J. Fiddes; R. Smith, 4lb. 1oz., second, ten shillings and sixpence, by W. Taylor; and Pallum, third, a tackle case and fittings, by Mr. Gold. Messrs. W. Clarke, Warman, Patman, C. Roake and A. Conn also weighed in.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—A new working member was proposed on Wednesday, and will be balloted for next week. On Thursday week, in company with Mr. Deplidge, I visited the Grange A.S., and we were cordially received, as also were three other of our members who looked in at the Causton A.S., on Monday. On the 5th inst., we had another splendid show of fish. Mr. Deplidge had been amongst the rudd again, and had an even better catch than last week; and the following gentlemen weighed in: Mr. F. Barker, rudd, 14lb.; Mr. J. Barker, carp and roach, 5lb. 5oz.; Mr. F. Roberts, bream, 4¼lb., and Mr. Hacker, bream and perch. I may remind gentlemen that our visit on the S.L.U.V.L. takes place on Tuesday week, July 21, when all who care to attend will be heartily welcomed.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—Wednesday next is limit night, and I hope that all members that have not turned up will do so. The 22nd inst. is audit night, when there is some special business to be done. Mr. Rich had a good take of fish on the 5th inst., roach, perch, jack and dace; Mr. Warren, roach and dace; Mr. Stevens, tench.—J. SMALL, sec.

Bostonian Angling Society.—During the past week the following members have had fair takes: Mr. Chapman, tench and roach; Mr. Ewin, tench; Mr. Ward, perch; Mr. Rundle, chub, perch, and dace. On the 19th inst. we go to King's Langley, by brake, which will start from club house at seven a.m. There will be six prizes to compete for, the first being £1 1s. for the heaviest fish taken, bar jack. Members who intend going will oblige by letting the secretary know not later than Wednesday, the 15th inst. We have forwarded £1 1s. toward the Hickling Broad Defence Fund.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On Wednesday evening Mr. Brown brought up a nice lot of dace and roach. On the 5th inst., Mr. Aitchison weighed in some nice chub, and Mr. Bolt and myself had a very good take of dace from the Thames. The competition arranged to take place at Edenbridge on the 12th inst., has been postponed.—H. ROACH, sec.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—Since my last report the following gentlemen have weighed in: Messrs. Howell, Wilson, and Bissell, bream; Messrs. Wilson, Bissell, and Watkins, roach; and Mr. Watkins, dace. Members are requested to attend a special meeting on Tuesday next, July 14, when the following prizes will be arranged for. Our host's prize, £1 1s., Mr. Bones, 10s. 6d., and £1 1s. from the funds. Members absent on this occasion will have to abide by whatever arrangements are made at the meeting. —T. HAWKES, sec.

Burdett Angling Society:—We had a good meeting last Wednesday and some good work was got through. Mr. J. Pethee had a good show of fish, bream, 8lb., and roach and dace, 1lb.—J. PETHEE, sec.

Caledonian Angling Society.—This society opened their season in a most auspicious manner on July 1st, Mr. A. George having on that date a very fine show of carp, weighing 23¾lb., heaviest fish, 3¼lb.; Mr. A. Knock following the above very close with 19lb. of the same species; Mr. W. Whitelock also had 9lb. 6oz. of rudd, on the same day; total 52lb.—A. GEORGE, sec.

Cambridge Jolly Anglers' Society,—There will be matches on the following dates:—Monday, July 20, at Upware (by boat); Monday, Aug. 3, at Swavesey; Thursday, Aug. 13, at Swavesey; Thursday, Aug. 20, at Waterbeach; Tuesday, Sept. 1, at Upware (by boat); Monday, Sept. 14, at Waterbeach; Thursday, Sept. 24, at Swavesey. There will be no entrance fees for the last six matches. The prizes will be for the best weights—seven and sixpence, five shillings, four shillings, three shillings, two shillings, and one shilling. On July 20, the prizes will amount to about £8, and on Sept. 1, about £10. Each member to bring his fish to the scales at the time and place appointed, or be disqualified at the general meeting, held April 6, 1891; the receipts, including balance in hand were £58, against £25 5s., leaving a balance in treasurer's hands of £32 15s. Number of members, one hundred and ninety-three. Members of this society, on producing their tickets of membership, are booked at single fare (return), by the Great Eastern Company, from Cambridge to nineteen stations all the year round, and twenty-eight other stations all the year round, except from Mar. 15 to June 15 (inclusive). What a boon it would be to anglers if all the other companies would follow their example!

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 5th inst. the following members weighed in: Mr. A. Chapman, tench and roach, 15lb. 12½oz.; Mr. C. Chapman, tench and roach, 5lb. 11½oz.; Mr. Boxall, tench, 4lb. 6¾oz.; Mr. King, roach, 2lb. 15¾oz.; Mr. Marshall, bream; Mr. White, bream and roach; Mr. Sharp, dace. I should like to see members show up a little better on Wednesday evenings.—E. T. WHITE, sec.

Campbell United Angling Society, High-road, Kilburn.—On the 5th inst. our trays were well stocked with bream, roach and tench, contributed by the following: Messrs. J. Smith, Hunt, Pickett and Brothers Lake. Our roving match between Langley and Slough will take place on the 12th, when I hope to see all the prizes taken. Members have the privilege of going down overnight if they choose; those coming down in the morning must report themselves to the first member they come to.—E. W. WOOD, hon. sec.

Causton Angling Society.—Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—The meeting on Monday last, was a good one, including three visitors from the Blackfriars A.S. Bourne End was unanimously voted as the scene of operation for the competition announced for the 12th inst. Numerous prizes were presented, and promises of many more were made. The prize committee are (no wonder) more than jubilant. The "piscatorial chit-chat" was as usual animated, and Messrs. W. Sharp (the pianist), F. Barker (Blackfriars), J. Deplidge, Tom Keeble, John Smith, &c., sang some really good songs. With regard to sport, Messrs. Harry Dunn, Tom Keeble, C. Dalton, F. North, W. Guest, H. Thurston, E. Coleman, W. Woods, and J. Deplidge have very good reasons to shake hands with themselves.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

Central Visiting List.—A special meeting will be held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, on Monday, July 27, to distribute the prizes won at the Pulborough competition. A capital smoking concert has been arranged to take place. Will secretaries kindly note this important fixture.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—The following members weighed in on the 5th inst.: Messrs. Garbrecht, roach, 10lb. 11oz.; Macdonnell, bream, from Amberley, 7lb.; Castell, roach, dace, and gudgeon, from Woking, the heaviest dace, 8oz. —CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.—The following members have weighed in fish since my last report: on the 3rd inst., Mr. Edwards, roach and dace, 16lb.; on the 5th, Mr. Wilson, roach, &c., 11lb. 2oz.; Mr. T. Jameson, chub, 1lb. 14oz.; A. Painter, bream, 2lb. 12oz. Our first match will take place at Staines, from punts; members who intend competing please give in their names as early as possible. We shall have six prizes to go for.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clarence Angling Society, Red Lion Hotel, Harrow-road, Paddington.—Nothing has been weighed in, although several members have been out. An addition has been made to the collection of stuffed fish, in the shape of a very handsome grayling. Please note all communications to be addressed to the "Hon. Sec." for the next fortnight, as the sec. will not attend.—ALF. E. EVANS, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We had a splendid share of fish weighed in on the 5th instant by the following members: Mr. F. Hamnabus, bream and tench, 40lb.; S. Reddle, 12lb. bream and tench; G. Berham, bream and tench, 11lb. ½oz.; W. Hutchings, bream and tench, 4lb.; and Mr. W. Parbury, a fine bream, 3lb. 6oz. We fish a match for twelve club prizes on the 19th, from Cowley back to Bull-Dog Bridge. Members to register their names at the Shovel. Cease fishing at seven o'clock, and register their fish at the Packet Boat by 7.30 p.m., all to come back by the 8.46 at night. The match to be pegged down; one rod only; jack barred. Members to proceed by the first or second train, or be disqualified from fishing.—A. SMITH, sec.

Convivial Angling Society, City of London, Sydney-street, City-road.—On Monday next, July 13, our return visit on the Anglers' Association No. 2 Eastern List, will take place at the above, when we shall be pleased to welcome brother anglers and friends and hope to get a bumper. On the 5th inst. there were about a dozen members out, and the following weighed in: Mr. W. Sparrow, a nice show of rudd, heaviest, 10oz.; Mr. G. Birch, bream; Mr. W. Adams, bream and roach; and Mr. R. Richard, roach.—P. JUCHAU.

Corinthian Angling Club, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, W.—At the meeting on Wednesday, July 8, Mr. T. W. Tiller was duly elected a member of this club. Mr. C. Stallibrass has had a miscellaneous bag from the Lea, of perch, dace, roach (one 1lb. 8oz.) and one trout, in the pink of condition.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 5th instant most of our members were out, and the successful gentlemen were Messrs. Wright, Hills, W. Richardson, T. Midson, Wild, Flowers, Cogswell, Killick, Parram, and W. Midson, who had a fine show of barbel, roach, bream, rudd, dace and perch. On Tuesday, the 7th, the quarterly general meeting took place, when Mr. H. Killick was elected chairman, in the place of Mr. W. Midson, resigned. The balance-sheet was read and passed. Two new members were elected.—S. MALBY, sec.

Duke of York Angling Society, Dudley.—Mr. G. Warren, a member of the Duke of York Angling Society, Dudley, with a friend, angling in private water, on Monday, July 6, killed 10lb. of roach and perch, largest roach, ¾lb.; largest perch, 13oz.; also one trout, ¾lb.

Eagle Angling Society, Chesnut-road, Tottenham.—Our members have not yet thoroughly settled down to work, owing chiefly to the alteration of the Lea close season. However, on the 5th inst. Mr. Cooper showed in some roach caught at Ware; and on Tuesday last Mr. Dwyer captured at Staines nearly 25lb. of barbel, roach, and dace, and a grand sight they were. At our committee meeting on Tuesday evening last, nine new members were put through their facings and passed.—T. F. B., hon. sec.

Earlsfield Angling Society, Half-way House, Earlsfield, S.W.—There will be an outing of the members of this society on July 19, to fish for a prize offered by Mr. Kimber, M.P., time and conditions to be fixed next Wednesday. There will also be a special general meeting next Wednesday, to get out the prize list, and to discuss important business.—R. W. BIRD.

East London Piscatorial Society, London Hospital Tavern, Whitechapel-road.—At the meeting held on July 2, it was decided to fish the first competition of the season on Thursday, July 16 from Richmond Bridge to Teddington Weir, punt or bank, for three prizes, 10s. 6d. each; no prize to be taken with a less weight than 3lb. Train leaves St. Mary's at 7.52. To weigh in at the club before ten or disqualified. A guinea has been added to our prize list from Mr. Balcombe, New London Brewery, Upper Kennington-lane, per Mr. Dyne. Messrs. Myers and Ockelford were out on the 5th inst., with C. Hone, Staines, with the following result: Myers, 7lb., dace and chub; Ockelford, 4lb., chub and dace. A few eligible members wanted; visit previously required.—F. WOODS, sec.

[Received too late for insertion last week.—ED.]

Eustonian Angling Society, King's Head, Swinton-street, King's Cross.—On the 21st ult., we fished at Amberley for Mr. Abbott's prize, which was taken by Mr. Tarner, with bream; Mr. Barrett and Mr. Abbott also weighing in bream and roach. On the 28th, we also fished for a prize given by Mr. Neall (not taken). Mr. Neall's prize will be for the heaviest roach for the month of July, any water. I should like to see our members show up on meeting night.—R. NEALL, sec.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Rob'n Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville, N.—Our show of fish on the 5th inst. was very poor, with the exception of a fine tray of roach by a new member, Mr. Birch, who has made a very good start; J. Birch, roach, 16lb. 7oz., the fish were (for the time of year) in very clean and bright condition; Messrs. J. Hewitt, W. Barnes, C. Large, and H. Scott, showed a few bream, roach, rudd, and dace. We shall have a strong muster of members at Pulborough, on the 12th inst., when I hope the Central Association will receive the support it so richly deserves.—J. A. Fitch, secretary.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesdey, with Mr. A. W. Parker in the chair, when some discussion took place about the society's water at Kelvedon, and an arrangement was made by which better supervision could be had. Mr. Close reported having caught two bream, weighing 4¼lb.; Mr. Allen, two brace of trout; and Mr. Young, one and a-half brace. The programme for the next six months was laid before the meeting, and a committee of five was appointed to carry it out. On July 21, Mr. E. H. Bramley will read a paper entitled "Babble about London." A meeting which, it is hoped, will be largely representative of London anglers, will be held at the Gresham Rooms on Tuesday, the 28th, at which the question of the right of the public to fish in the Norfolk Broads will be fully discussed.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 5th inst. several of our members were out, Mr. C. Levoir bringing the largest catch with rudd; Messrs. Wells and Callcutt, also rudd; and Mr. Russell, roach, dace and chub.—W. Fenner, sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—On the 5th, A. Hattemore had a good show of roach, weighing nearly 12lb.; J. Huntley, bream from Dagenham. The members will fish for the prizes left over from last season on the 12th, in the river Stort, roving, from Parden Lock to Harlow Bridge. The annual dinner will take place on the 12th inst., at the Rye House. The next No. 1 Eastern District visit of angling societies will take place at the club-house, the Swan, Bethnal Green-road, on Tuesday next, July 14.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—On the 5th inst., we had on our trays chub, perch, roach, dace, and gudgeon, weighed in by Messrs. Norman, F. Pain, A. Pain, and Liversage. A. Pope had some roach, but was too late to weigh in.—Snap.

Islington Angling Society, Jubilee House, Hornsey Rise, N.—The meeting on Monday evening last was presided over by the honorary treasurer, Mr. James Taylor; when the duly audited accounts of receipts and disbursements (showing a balance in hand) for the past twelve months, were laid before the members present, the result giving considerable satisfaction. A discussion on the subject of "The Lines used for Angling" was commenced, and will be continued at the next meeting. The customary vote of thanks to the chair terminated the proceedings.—C. S. B.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, the Rose, Popham-road.—Several of our members were out on the 5th inst., when Mr. Croker showed roach and dace, and Mr. Stretch had a nice show of roach, but got up too late to weigh in.—J. H. Herbert, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—As announced, the members will have their annual dinners at Mr. J. Lyndsell's, the Pied Bull, Stanstead, St. Margarets, Herts, on Wednesday, 15th inst., and the 19th inst. Those who have not yet sent in their names notifying their intention of being present will please do so at once, so that due notice may be given to our host as to the numbers that will be present on each occasion. The members will compete for four special prizes on Wednesday, the 22nd inst.; competitors may choose their own fishing waters, but not leave London before five a.m. on the day of the competition. There are also three specials to be fished for at Pangbourne, on the 26th inst. Mr. George Rogers weighed in chub on the 5th inst.—H. B.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—At a committee meeting on the 3rd inst., three angling and two honorary members were elected, making our total number of members one hundred and eight. Our host (Mr. Downe), proprietor of Queen of England Hotel, gave a prize value one guinea. Two competitions were arranged—first, a roving competition, to take place at Sonning on the 19th inst.; first prize, one guinea; second prize, ten shillings and sixpence. Second, a pegged-down competition at Tilehurst on Thursday, 23rd inst.; first prize, one guinea; second prize, ten shillings and sixpence. These four prizes are presented to the association by our president. The roving commission, which was postponed for two weeks, as it was thought the original date was too early to be a success, took place on July 5, when a good number of our members went on the path, and, we are pleased to say, returned heavily laden with fish. The following members weighed in: Messrs. Dexter and Wilmot (roach and dace), Mason and Evans (chub and roach), Carter (roach and dace), T. Salter (barbel and bream). The first prize was taken by T. Salter, with 18lb. of barbel and bream (including one bream, 3lb. 8oz.). We find it will be necessary to issue a revised prize list, a number of additional prizes having been given since first list was issued.—T. Salter, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road.—On the 5th inst., several members were out; sport very poor, only Mr. Belton and Mr. Pearce weighing in a few dace. At our last meeting Mr. Bligh was unanimously elected a working member of the above, also one honorary member. I must inform members that did not turn up on last meeting night, that Mr. More's prize of 10s. 6d. is for the 12th inst., largest bream, Pulborough Central Association waters only.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—There was a crowded gathering of members at our quarterly meeting last week. Mr. Leaman, the president, took the chair, and Mr. Titterton occupied the vice-chair. Two new members were nominated for membership, making thirty who have joined the association so far this year, showing the amount of confidence placed in the society by the anglers of Liverpool. The treasurer read and submitted his quarterly account of receipts and payments, showing a balance to the credit of the association of £18 4s., and the account was passed and adopted amid applause. Mr. Hughes withdrew the motion of which he had given notice, in connection with the election of members, out of deference to the expressed wish of those present. Sundry alterations of and additions to the rules and regulations since the last revision in July, 1889, were gone through *seriatim* and ordered to be incorporated with the book of rules and regulations. To pilot these, some twenty in number, through successfully, was a heavy task, but the president, by tact and decision, and with the able assistance of the chairman and vice-chairman, emerged from the ordeal triumphantly. It was resolved, with only four dissentients, that the right of fishing in the Ruabon water, be retained for a further period of twelve months from the 1st of October next. Prizes were presented to Messrs. Jeffreys, Bleasdale, Haughton, Baker, Roberts, Johnson, Bennett, and Gregory. The ballot at the meeting on the 16th, is for two eights for a visit to a specially good water, and those only who are present or send in their names will have a chance.—Richard Woolfall.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 5th inst. our members were at various waters, when we had some good shows of fish, the best coming from various parts of the canal. The most successful members were Messrs. Sansom, Bartlett, A. Fisher, W. Fisher, A. Clarke, J. Clarke, Milburn, T. Collins, Butler, and Gray.—W. F. Pearce.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Ball's Pond-road.—We have had some good shows of fish this week by Messrs. J. Osborne, E. Jermy, and H. Garratt. Mr. J. Osborne had several nice roach, scaling over 1lb.; and Mr. Garratt had one going 1lb. 2½oz. I hope all members will try and get up on Tuesday for important business. We still have a vacancy for several members; any gentleman wishing to join can do so at once by applying to the secretary, or of our worthy host at the bar.—Mr. Coombes, sec.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway-road, Highbury.—We had our smoker on Monday last, which was poorly attended, Mr. Stretch, juror, of the Islington Brothers occupied the chair; and a pleasant evening was spent. I take this opportunity of publicly thanking the following clubs who attended, the Lincoln and Globe, who showed up in strong force; also, the Islington Brothers, Anchor and Hope, North Western, City of London, St. John's, and to Mr. Butler, who was the only member who represented the Burton Piscatorials, the harmony was kept going by the following gentlemen—Messrs. Webster, Weaver, Dain, Bennett, Watling, Taylor, alias the Sheeney man; Wall Dean, How, Penny, and others. Mr. Butler recited in his well-known style. Mr. George Hoyie gives a 3½in. brass winch, on behalf of the club to the Central Competition, at Pulborough, on the 12th inst. On the 5th inst., the following weighed in:—Mr. T. Bell, bream; Mr. Black, chub. Mr. Parkinson was elected a honorary member at our meeting on Wednesday,—H. Stretch, hon. sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park.—On the 2nd inst. Mr. Schultz, senr., weighed in perch. It is particularly requested that members attend the Thursday meetings as we have four new members for election.—G. Schultz.

Old Ebor Angling Society, Yorks.—On Monday the members of this society (by the kind permission of Dunnington Jefferson, Esq.) fished their annual match at Cottingwith. The weather was very unfavourable, a heavy thunderstorm prevailing in the afternoon. The principal prize winners were—Messrs. H. Suter, J. Kelly, H. Dale, J. Evans, J. Humphries, W. Thornill, W. Mitchell, F. Lazenby, T. Clayton, and J. Aisbett.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—On the 5th inst., we had a nice show of fish, Mr. Bonsall winning the copper kettle presented by Mr. Crisp with some roach, Mr. Branchers had some good sport among the rudd. Messrs. Webber, Beck and Hutchinson, were elected honorary members of the society.—A. S. Duke, sec.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Old-street, N.W.—On the 6th inst. Messrs. Mares, Foster, Heelas, Elbourn, and Dove, weighed in a very nice show of tench, bream, perch, and roach. Several new members were made and two more proposed. Several prizes will be angled for on the 19th inst. Place to be named next Tuesday. All members please note.—W. Elbourn, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—Several members were out on the 5th inst., Mr. Buck weighed in a nice barbel from the Thames. I hope members will turn up in force on the 12th, at Westbourne Park Station to take part in the match at Cookham any member can make himself elegable by applying to the secretary on the morning of the match.—J. W. Harris, secretary.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—On the 5th inst. we had one of the best shows on record, upwards of 90lb. of fish being weighed in, most of them being tench, the largest turning the scale at 2lb. 9¼oz. There was also a fine show of rudd by Mr. Dairy, and barbel by Messrs. Wilson and Davis. The above society fish a pegged-down match at Langley on the 19th, members to start from Paddington by the midnight train, on Saturday, the 18th. Further particulars can be had at the club-house. Three new members have been ballotted for.—W. B.

Queen's Angling Society, the Latimer Arms, Walmer, road, Notting-hill.—We had a good show of roach and dace on the 5th inst., taken by Messrs. Pearce, Messenger, sen., Thorburn, Fathers, Pratt, Cook, and Wrench. On June 28, Mr. Fathers had a nice barbel from the Thames.—F. G. Pearce, sec.

Rising Sun Angling Society, Horse Shoe and Magpie, Great Bath-street, Clerkenwell.—An adjourned special meeting was held on Wednesday last, Mr. Bradley occupying the chair, when it was finally decided to remove this club to its original quarters, The George, Brook-street, Holborn, on Monday next the 13th inst., and that a concert to celebrate the opening be fixed for Monday, the 20th inst., due particulars of which will be duly announced. It was also resolved that in future the meeting nights be Sundays and Mondays instead of Sundays and Wednesdays as heretofore. The auditors having duly inspected the books and accounts, the secretary read the balance-sheet, which showed that after paying the heavy expenses of last quarter, a satisfactory balance is carried forward. The report was received and adopted. Members will please meet at the new quarters, The George, Brook-street, Holborn, on Monday evening next as early as possible for the election of officers and other business.—J. Skinner, sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The following members weighed in on the 5th inst.: Messrs. J. Wigley, bream, 2lb. 3¾oz.; F. T. Lamberton, bream, 14¾oz.; Davis, dace, 2lb. 10¾oz.; F. Lamberton, senr., bream and perch, 3lb. 7¾oz.; Mr. Martin and Mr. Searle were elected working members. The next visit on A. S. V. L. takes place on Tuesday, the 14th inst., when I hope to see a good room full.—F. T. Lamberton, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—Several of our members were out on the 5th inst., but only Mr. Webber and myself weighed in from the Upper Thames. Our return visit on the Anglers' Association will take place on the 15th, which I hope will be a success. Secretaries and members of other clubs will please accept this as an invitation.—F. C. Longland, hon. sec.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—On the 5th inst. we had a good show of fish, consisting of chub, roach, dace, perch, and rudd, by the following members: Messrs. A. Barclay, J. Stanley, J. Yeo, F. Barclay, Burrows, J. Holden, Denyer, M. Day, and E. Perry. Messrs. Wells and Smith also had fish, but arrived too late to weigh. One of Mr. Stanley's roach turned the scale at 1lb. 4¼oz., and is now in Mr. Hesse's hands, the taxidermist. Last week's report should read "Most number of *tickets*" instead of "Most number of *fish*."—A. Barclay, secretary.

Royal Windsor and District Piscatorial Society.—At a meeting held at the club-house, New Inn, Eton, on the 8th inst., Mr. Howlett the energetic secretary, was the recipient of an angler's travelling bag, bearing on the inside the following "Presented to Mr. J. C. Howlett, on the occasion of his marriage, July, 1891, by the members of the Royal Windsor and District Piscatorial Society."—B. R. Bambridge.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—Very few members were out on the 5th inst. Messrs. Wood, Stone, Brocken, and Forrester; had a very fair show of fish. On Wednesday a fairly good muster of members attended and two gentlemen were proposed as working members, who will be balloted for next meeting night. We have room for others who would like to join a good old substantial club. Our meeting nights are Wednesdays and Sundays at 8.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m., and longer, if any special business is to be done.—J. Wright, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 5th inst., several members were out, when the following weighed in some very nice fish: Messrs. W. North, bream, 12lb. 3oz., one fish 2lb. 14¼oz.; W. Raine, roach, one fish, 1lb. 3oz.; J. Petrie, a nice tray of roach and dace, 10lb. 9¾oz.; J. Barnes, roach and dace. On Tuesday last we had a good muster of members present, when some important business was gone into. The delegate report from the Central Association, *re* the competition on the 12th inst., was well received by the members. The election of officers for the ensuing year was also done, when the following were elected: J. Petrie, Tyler; C. Lumby, chairman; S. Cane, secretary; W. North and G. Saunders, auditors; S. Cane and J. Arrigona, delegates on the Central; J. Lovibond, jun., and H. Raine, delegates on the Clerkenwell Visiting List; committee, Messrs. H. Raine, J. Barnes, C. Holmes, W. North, and C. Lumby. All members taking part in the competition at Pulborough and fishing on the Central waters only, will be eligible to weigh in at the club-house for Mr. J. Barnes's prize. I should like to see those members who are in arrears attend on Tuesday next.—S. E. Cane, sec.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.—On the 5th July our outing took place at Amberley, and was very well patronised, sixteen members taking part in the competition. In consequence of the heavy rain and bad tide very few fish were taken; but our outing champion, Mr. Pettitt, was again first; Mr. Massey, second. Next Tuesday being our special meeting, all members interested are requested to attend.—Pelican.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—The members went to Amberley on the 5th inst., but it turned out a failure, three members only taking prizes. Mr. Barber, first, with bream; Mr. T. Jones, second, bream; Mr. Machin, third, bream. The following members also weighed in fish: Mr. McQuinn, a nice show of bream; Mr. H. Spencely, roach. I hope the members will meet with better success on the 12th inst.—R. Spencely, sec.

South London Angling Society, George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell-road.—Since last report a member sent up a fine perch from Wiltshire, weight on arrival 2lb. ½oz., when caught 2lb. 2oz. On the 5th inst. one member weighed in 5½lb. good roach. In future each undersize fish shown in the room will entail a fine of one penny on the captor.—J. J. F., sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on this list will be to the Blackfriars A. S., held at the Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, on Tuesday, July 21, when I hope they will receive a bumper, as they are always well represented at every visit on the list. The first friendly competition of the season amongst the clubs enrolled on this list, will take place at Amberley, conditions roving, between Houghton and Timberley Bridges. In addition to the usual money prizes, there will be a marble timepiece, presented by Mr. Rennoize, of the St. Thomas's Angling Society, and half a guinea by Mr. Duke, of the Houghton Bridge Inn, Amberley. Tickets for the competition have been sent to every society on the list. Secretaries not having received same, or having sold them and require more, will oblige by communicating with the hon. sec. of the list, A. Conn, 12, Trothey-road, Bermondsey.—A. Conn, hon. sec.

St. Andrew's Piscatorial Society, Turk's Head, East-street, W.C.—On the 5th Messrs. H. Gong, King, and Harris had good shows of bream and roach. A special meeting is called for July 15, to decide time and place for the annual dinner. I trust members will show up in full force.—B. Chevalier, sec.

St. John's Angling Society.—Our shows of fish have been very small from public waters, but from private waters much better. Mr. Jackson has had the best show, thirteen fish, roach and tench, weighing 36lb. 8oz. At our last meeting Mr. Chester, late chairman of the Newmarket Angling Society, was elected a working member, and another member was proposed.—T. Thorling.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—The members of the above club intend fishing on the 12th inst. at Pulborough for the Central Association of London Angling Clubs' prizes. Their last quarter's balance-sheet was duly passed by the auditors, and gave great satisfaction, they having a large balance in hand.—G. Morton, sec.

Uttoxeter Angling Association.—This association celebrated its annual meeting in a decidedly practical form on Monday week. It is about four years since Mr. G. Lovatt, the energetic secretary, established the club, and in spite of the many hints thrown out at the time as to its probable success, it has gone on slowly progressing, though perhaps not quite so much as its originator could have wished. On several previous occasions Mr. Lovatt had endeavoured to get the members together by arranging for a dinner at his house, the Lion, but had failed, probably owing to its distance from the river. At last the happy idea struck him of giving this year's annual meeting the form of a day's fishing in the river. The part of the river Dove near Sedsall was chosen, and about forty put in an appearance. The weather was considered pretty fair for angling, with the exception of a strong wind. Some good catches were taken, including a fine pike (about 5lb.), chub, dace, and other small fish. A tent was erected near the iron bridge which spans the river, and Mr. Lovatt placed before the members an excellent cold luncheon, with an abundant supply of the usual "wash-down." Dr. Fletcher, jun., occupied the chair, and Mr. Pakeman, Derby, the vice-chair, and a short toast list was gone through. Votes of thanks were passed to those gentlemen who occupied the land over which the club fished, and the re-election of officers concluded the proceedings. Fishing was afterwards resumed, and continued until the shades of evening put a stop to the day's enjoyment.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall-cross.—We had a good attendance on the 7th, Mr. Moning in the chair, faced by Mr. Smith. Mr. Whetstone was balloted for and duly elected. The following gentlemen weighed in on the 5th: Mr. Petty, dace and gudgeon; Mr. Smith, roach and dace; Mr. Ilsley, dace and gudgeon. Mr. Philips also had fish, but did not weigh them in. Members who want tickets for the Amberley match can have them by applying on any Tuesday evening.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walworth Waltonians.—At the last meeting, held at the St. Paul's Tavern, Westmoreland-road, it was decided, for the competition on the 12th, for two prizes given by Messrs. Rump and Risdon, that the members fish how and where they like, subject to club rules. Owing to our worthy secretary's absence, through the loss of his wife, the other business of the society was postponed until Wednesday next, at eight p.m.—W. L. Griffin.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 5th inst., the first competition of the season took place at Amberley. Only two members had the requisite amount of fish to take prizes—viz., W. Gordon, first, and W. H. Bryant, second. R. J. Dartnall, having roach and bream not in competition. The remaining prizes will be fished for on the 12th inst., go where you please. Mr. John Jury was proposed as a member, ballot to take place on Wednesday next.—R. J. Dartnall, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—Our first roving match took place at Pulhorougb, on the 5th inst., the following members weighing in: Mr. Casey, first; Mr. Frauces, second; Mr. Hardin, third, with bream and roach. The next return visit on the Central Association comes to the above society; notice of date will be sent round.—W.M., sec.

Western Piscatorials, Bear and Rummer Tavern, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square.—Several of our members were out on Wednesday last, the 8th inst., and notwithstanding the great thunderstorm, the following weighed in at night—namely, Mr. M. Schmidt, roach, dace, chub, and barbel, 9lb. 12oz.; Mr. G. F. Jupp, roach, dace, and barbel, 6lb. 1½oz.; Mr. J. W. Bland, roach, dace, chub, and barbel, 5lb. 12½oz. Mr. W. Baker, of 52, Anchor-street, Southwark Park-road, was unanimously elected as hon. member.—D. W. Evans, sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 5th inst., but sport was very poor, as only one member came to the scales—Mr. J. Newton, with 3lb. 7oz. of roach, one fish weighed 15½oz. Hope for better sport next week.—R. Lowther, sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—The first club match of the season will take place on the 23rd inst. and the 26th inst., in any public water. Prizes and weights as in previous matches. Members fishing on the 23rd inst. must give notice at the club house on or before the morning of the match. Usual club conditions.—J. J. Hunter, hon. sec.

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REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—General Remarks.—Although the loss of so many barbel in the tideway as reported last week is a matter of much regret, it is satisfactory to know it was not occasioned by any poisonous fluid escaping from the gas or dye works, but from another cause which is best explained by an official statement from Mr. J. G. Rough, the active head river-keeper of the Thames Conservancy, he writes to me as follows: "I beg to state that there has been large quantities of all kinds of fish killed. It is owing to the recent storms and the dry weather and spring tides, it has always the same effect on the fish. I have noticed this for years past, especially in the month of June, when the fish are weak. No doubt you will remember some years ago when there were such large quantities of flounders and other fish killed by the storm and spring tides." I have interviewed some of the fishermen on the subject, and they are of the same opinion, the barbel especially being weak and thin from spawning. One of the correspondents having stated there was no sign of injury on the fish, but they were in a very lean condition, under the circumstances is easily accounted for. The annual summer trip of the committee and friends of the T.A.P.S. will take place on Thursday, July 23rd, under the old arrangements, and the committee in order to carry it out this year on a larger scale, have engaged the very commodious steam launch of Messrs. T. Tagg and Son, the *Princess Beatrice*, at a considerable expense. The tickets for the trip and a superb dinner at the Castle Hotel, close to the Hampton Court Station, in the evening are half a guinea each, and can be obtained from Mr. W. H. Brougham, Pownall Gardens, Hounslow, who will be pleased to send all particulars. It is not essential that those who take tickets should be members of the T.A.P.S. The Henley Regatta not only takes anglers away from the Lower Thames, but several of the principal fishermen make a point of going there also, and the result is there are few reports coming in this week.—B.

Richmond.—Job Brain, sen., during the week twenty dozen of dace, and thirty barbel, and Henry Mansell 60lb. weight of roach and dace.

Twickenham.—C. Annessey, in one day, four dozen of roach and dace; C. Brown, in two days, seven dozen; Samuel Cole, in one day, five dozen, two barbel, and one bream; R. D. Jackson, in two days, eight dozen; and John Spong, in one day, three dozen and one barbel.

Teddington.—Charles Baldwin, in one day, five barbel; Joseph Baldwin, three barbel and a few roach and dace; B. Stevens, five barbel. A gentleman fishing by himself one day, got two barbel, weighing 13lb.

Kingston.—J. Wilkes, during the week, a few barbel, and a fair quantity of roach and dace; Mr. Sands, from occasional visits, five barbel.

Surbiton.—The anglers have been getting a few perch and chub.

Sunbury.—The punts of Messrs. T. and A. Stroud have been getting on, averaging six dozen of roach and dace in the day, and in one of the takes there was a trout of 2¼lb.; Messrs. E. Clarke and Son, during the week, twenty-one dozen of roach and dace.

Chertsey.—John Poulter, one day, with Mr. Hiscock, a brace of perch, weighing 2½lb., three eels and three barbel, and another day with Mr. C. Westell, six dozen roach and dace, and one bream.

Staines.—John Keene, junior, in one day with Mr. Martin, fourteen barbel and four bream, the largest barbel 5lb.; another day with Mr. Taylor, seven dozen of roach and dace, and four barbel; another day with Mr. Edwards, of the Clapham Junction Angling Society, ten dozen of roach and dace, and three barbel, and another day with Messrs. Eames and Wilson, five dozen of roach and dace and sixteen chub, the largest 2lb.; Charles Hone writes, "I have had good sport amongst the chub and dace—one day thirteen good chub, the largest 3lb., three barbel and five dozen of dace; another day seven chub and ten dozen of dace, and another day three chub and six dozen of dace. I am pretty busy just now, but the barbel are not well on.

Thames (Windsor).—Due to the heavy showers river is in capital condition, and with exception of jack, which are but little tried for as yet, fish have fed well. Several good baskets of roach, dace, chub, and barbel, have been taken. Of the latter, a member of the Friendly Anglers, London, out with James Gray, had nine on one occasion, but the best I have seen this season was a perfectly shaped fish of 4lb., caught by Mr. Marks, of Windsor, who, with Mr. Murley, had a very nice basket of twenty-three roach. Dace are taking gentles freely, one angler in three and a half hours taking in the Windsor weir stream over four dozen. Chub rise well to a good bunch of gentles or good sized flies, tipped with gentle. Gudgeon are getting together and will soon be affording sport to many ladies on the upper reaches of the Thames.

Ancholme District.—It has been a little unsettled during the week, but on the whole fine for angling. The following are the chief takes at one fishing. Messrs. J. R. and R. Spell, Sheffield, thirteen good bream, the heaviest of which was 3½lb.; Mr. E. Hawkins, 6lb. of roach, one of which weighed 1½lb. A local match of two hours duration was fished on Tuesday in which E. Hawkins came out first with 3lb. 10oz.; George White, second, with 2lb. 2oz.; and James White, third, with 1lb. 3oz. A spendid basket of trout weighing 14lb. was taken on a local private stream on Tuesday, total fish eighteen, the largest of which weighed 2lb., the second 1¾lb., and two or three others of about 1lb. each.—Thomas Ford.

Barle (Dulverton).—The rain has freshened up the river, and it is in fine order for fly or minnow. The Spiral and Devon minnows have accounted for some heavy baskets. Killing flies, Blue Uprights and Moor Palmer. A few salmon running up, and we should have some sport if passes were ended in the weirs at Tiverton and below. At present it is nearly impossible for fish to reach the higher waters unless we have an extra heavy flood.—Iron Blue.

Brighton.—Sea Fishing.—The sea has been quite too rough during the week for boat angling. A few boats ventured out yesterday and to-day (9th inst.). The water is quite calm again, so that renewed sport with bream, plaice, and conger, may be counted upon during next week.—H.

Chichester and Sussex Rivers.—Stormy has been the weather during the week; rain has fallen heavily, and in districts the water is much clouded. Strange that at Chichester Canal storm or flood does not affect the water, except in clearing it. Good sport has been had at Chichester among the roach and bream; but fish are not yet clean, and the record does not reach last week's takes. Chub have been feeding well on the Ouse, and several roach up to 1lb. each have been taken; while from the Ouse variety baskets of dace, roach, flat-fish, and carp have come to hand. The Brighton Anglers' Association held their annual outing at Laughton recently, when seventy members attended. The programme of prizes not got through will be competed for on the 12th. The newly-elected chairman (Mr. King) appears to give great satisfaction, and several new members have joined the association. Bass are in the harbours, and on the coast Brighton fish up to 10lb. have been taken.—George F. Salter.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—A good flood last week not only cleared the bottoms of the streams, which were getting rather foul, but has brought the water up to a good height in fact rather over the usual summer level, so sport for some time to come can be relied on. Although mackerel fishing continues poor there are plenty of other fish to reward both boat and pier anglers.—Stormy Petrel.

Dove and Tributaries.—Weather showery and water plentiful, fish recovered from May-fly stupor and are now on the rise and run after any food get-at-able. A young fishing visitor to the Birdgrove water took three heavy fish averaging nearly a pound each, in half-an-hour's fishing on Saturday evening last, with the caterpiller. A dish of two-and-a-half brace of good sized fish were taken from the Dove by Mr. Morbury on Wednesday with the Minnow. Mr. W. Prince took a dish of five brace the other day from the Dove Dale length. The Rev. A. G. Robinson took five brace on Wednesday last, we hear from the Birdsgrove water. There are few fishermen out on either public or private water just now.—D. W. and H. Foster, Ashbourne.

Idle (North Notts).—Water in good colour, but weedy. Farmers and others grass cutting make things even worse in this direction. About Retford Bridge and from the private waters above Carnston some capital takes of trout have been secured, but from the cause just mentioned fly fishing is almost out of the question. Dace are lively in this direction. Roach are now being taken about Bollam and along the canal the best being the gentle bream are also found along the canal, but are chiefly off feeding as yet. Rumour has it that the canal is to cleaned out towards Stockwith, which will improve the prospects of anglers. At this end of the canal roach are poor and small at present. From the river and drains about the lower district anglers are getting occasional baskets worth fetching. Nice perch up to 1lb. each, and bream up to 2lb. each, and eels, up to 4lb. each, have been banked within the last few days—L.

Lea and Stort.—Some few baskets of roach have been made, but nothing specially worthy of recording. Any quantity of bleak have been taken with the natural fly, on the blowline; eels have been fairly on and will now, if the weather remains settled, be well worth anglers' attentions in the late hours of the evening. On Monday, a barbel of about 5lb., was taken from the free waters at Cooks Ferry. There are a great many more barbel in the Lea than most anglers think, and I often wonder that they are not more persistently fished for. To make a good basket of those fish baiting with a lot of lobworms previously is necessary. A gentleman fishing in the Ferry Boat waters, on the 5th instant, landed a jack of about 5lb.; this fish he tells me was in very fair condition, and, of course, was returned as the gentleman was too much of a sportsman to be live-baiting or otherwise for fish out of season. Mr. Wilmott was on Wednesday evening trying for eels with his favourite bait—viz., mussels; he fishes until very late and does not expect to get much sport before the last train. Mr. Harrington, of The Bell, Edmonton, seems to be doing the right thing in stimulating the energies of the members of the Edmonton and Tottenham Angling Club, (whose meetings are held in his house) by giving a prize of one soverign to be fished for in the Stort between Burnt Mill and Harlow. Mr. Thurgood's ground bait (as advertised in the *Fishing Gazette*) seems likely to prove of value to roach fishermen.—Spliced Joint.

Little Ouse (Brandon Suffolk).—Taking advantage of the rather low state of the water, a lot of weed has been cut, and as roach are getting into good condition, we expect to have some good sport next week. There are some very large chub about.—H.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams are now running in good order for fishing. Rain has been had, but the water has not been altered. A few rods have been out; but fishing has been best of an evening, when the fish have rose better. Grayling fishing opened on Wednesday, July 1, and the water is supposed to be well stocked with fish. In the Arrow, on Tuesday, a nice lot of trout were taken with the fly. The Pinsley is in order for fishing, but low.—Gwynne.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—Some fair sport has this week been obtained by local anglers. At Wisbech bream are plentiful, and some well-conditioned specimens have been taken, from 2lb. to 3½lb. The champion bream here last season, scaled 5¾lb., but I have no doubt some monsters will be captured before this season has advanced far. Mr. Dobbs has, with several others, tried Wansford, where good angling can be found; and has had fair success with the bream. The recent rains have had a beneficial effect. Nothing much has been done among the perch at present.—Neneband.

Newmarket.—Rain has fallen heavily all through the Eastern Counties during the last two days, several of the rivers are full and getting coloured; weather cold and damp.—W. Howlett.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Rivers.—Since giving my last report there is a great improvement in most all our waters. We have certainly had several severe storms, and many of our rivers are full. Still fish are feeding better. I had a try in the river Lark, Mildenhall, on Friday last, and took some very good dace and roach with the Caddis bait. I also tried Brandon, on Monday, 6th, and there the dace and perch were feeding much better. The water was then very low and bright, they took gentles and red worms best. I saw this day, 7th, some very excellent bream taken near Ely. One angler had over five stone weight, and several others three and four stone each, the largest fish I saw weighed 5½lb. The roach and perch are feeding better in this water, both at the Branch and Littleport in the Yare. Bream are well on, especially at Buckenham and Cantley. Well bait all day with boiled wheat and rice, and if the night is warm you may have good sport up to four o'clock in the morning. Roach are coming on nicely. From the Waveney very encouraging reports have been sent me. A friend of mine took on Monday, 6th, some splendid perch and dace, water light and bright.—William Howlett.

Norwich and District.—The bream are in nice condition, and anglers who are in the habit of visiting these waters can rely on some good sport. Roach also run to a decent size. I was informed that four stone of bream and roach had been taken at Cantley, several of the bream scaling 3½lb. Buckenham has already seen several visitors of the angling fraternity, and on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. W. H. Oury and Mr. Algernon Sidney Wilde landed five stone of bream.—J. E. W.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—The river to-day (Thursday) is in worse condition than it has been in for weeks, and it is so discoloured from the late rains that fishing has been out of the question. Mr. S. Bromley is the only angler whom I have heard of taking trout. He captured two fish early this week, with the Minnow, weighing 1¼lb. and 1½lb.—Piscator.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—With several heavy thunder showers this river is now well flooded, and doubtless the salmon will be able to travel over Dimsdale dam. Several good catches of trout have taken place amongst others Mr. Wilkinson, of the Demesne Farm House, got twenty-seven fish, weighing 6lb.; Mr. John Lax, two, weighing 1¼lb.; the old fisherman who never tires Peter, one, which weighed above 1lb.; and Mr. Wandless and others have done fairly well. A quantity of Black Gnat are on every evening, also Yellow Sally, but most of the above were got with bait after the flood. In the Estuary the boats are averaging three salmon per boat per day.—J. H. R.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme is still running in capital order for angling, being clear and a nice level. The weather has been stormy and strong winds blowing. The fish have been rising well at the fly, and a good few anglers have been out. In the Corve some fine trout have been taken with the bee grub and the fly.—S. Ludlow.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this district the water, notwithstanding the heavy fall of rain, is running in good order for either fly or bottom fishing. The weather has been changeable and angling has not been very brisk. A few anglers have been out, and some very nice lots of trout have been landed. On Monday a nice lot of trout were caught with the Marlow and Yellow Dun. The Rea, Kyre, and Ledwyche are all in order; sport in them quiet. Worcester.

Yare (Norwich).—The fickle weather has interfered with the sport on this river, and the bream fishing, which had been good, suddenly stopped, and one would almost think the fish had left the waters, but I am pleased to say that from all parts the same opinion prevails, that we have not had such numbers of fish for several years past, and as this is the belief of some of our most skilled and prominent anglers, I hope we shall find they turn out correct with regard to the roach. No fear need be seen of there not being plenty of good sport, especially between Brundall, Buckenham Ferry, and Cantley, each of which places are the spots to be tried by those fond of roach fishing. To-night (Thursday) it's almost as cold as October, and the wind all day has been half a gale; first-rate for the regatta, but bad for anglers.—Robert Moll.

Yore, Wharfe, Swale, Nidd, &c.—At last the welcome rain has come, and a good flood being the result, the above-named rivers will have got well cleansed, which was greatly needed, the bed of them being covered with green, slimy weed. I have had the pleasure of three days fishing with Mr. Halford, one day on the Wharfe and the other two on a typical dry-fly stream. On the former Mr. H. proved conclusively that the Wharfe trout and grayling are quite open to the attractions of a floating fly, that is, presented to them as he can do it. The river was fearfully low and clear, but I contrived by hard work to kill twenty eight trout, weighing 13lb. I had to take "a back seat" however, on Monday, Mr. H. killing thirteen trout, weighing 12lb., and I only had a brace to show. Tuesday was a regular soaker, and wet-fly had a chance. I killed nine trout weighing 8lb. with Brown Owl, Small Ant, and Knotted Midge. Mr. H. had five good fish with floating fly. I must say that the three days' fishing was a great treat to me, and I learnt one or two things in the art of dry-fly fishing which will probably bear fruit in the future. Since the flood came the bank fishers have had a royal time with the worm.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire).—Thanks to the recent rainfall, the rivers are now in good fishing order, and nice takes of sewin and trout have been made during the past week. Trout sport the best towards evening, and have been taking the minnow freely in the early morning. There are a lot of sewin up, and as the water is a good colour, sport should be good for another week.—H.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—Heavy rain during the past week has put the water in good order, and those anglers who were fortunate enough to be on the lake did well. These gallant trout fully maintain their sporting reputation, for accounts still come to hand of whole casts being taken off. On Thursday, Messrs. C. W. Gedney and G. Ward brought in twelve lovely fish, 13¾lb. Friday, Mr. Gerard caught ten very nice ones, scaling 8lb., and seven again on Saturday. Mr. F. Weare was successful on Tuesday in taking thirteen plump fish, 11¼lb., and still more so yesterday when he got the prescribed limit and returned in good time with a splendid basket of fifteen, weighing 12lb. 2oz., most of which were taken between two and four o'clock in the afternoon. Mr. W. H. Watts was out for a short time and got half-a-dozen beauties. Heaviest fish: Mr. Weare, 2lb. and 1½lb.; Mr. Gedney, 1½lb.; and Mr. Gerard, 1lb. 6oz. Best flies: Black and Grouse, Zulu, Butcher, and Heckhum-Peckhum. The present is a most favourable opportunity for this lake. The trout are taking well, and very few rods are on the water.—LONG DRIFT.

Teifi (Lampeter, Cardiganshire).—The river is again in good ply, thanks to the rainfall of last week. Some nice trout have been taken chiefly in the evening, but no salmon for some little time past. Sport with trout should be good for another week at least.—H.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—Sport with trout has only been moderate during the past week, due to more or less flood-water coming down, and baskets have varied from 2½lb. to 5lb. Dr. N. Davies, however, took about sixteen brace of nice trout with the fly a few days ago; and Mr. George Hughes, of Llandilo, also a good hand with the fly, took eight and a-half brace. We had a grand flood of water down last Sunday (a close day for nets), so hope for a further run of salmon and sewin, and a decided improvement in next week's fishing.—H.

Usk (Abergavenny).—The river is rather thick but falling to-day (Wednesday, the 8th.) Mr. R. W. Bigg caught a salmon on Saturday, weighing 11lb.; Mr. W. Davis, one, 7lb.; and Mr. Pochin, one, weight unknown, and two yesterday 20lb. and 16lb. each. If the weather keeps fine the water may be expected to be in very good condition for the fly on Friday. There is a great many fresh run salmon in the river now.—JOSEPH CLARE.

Scotch Reports.

Altnacealgach Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—The various lochs have been yielding capital baskets since last reported. On Tuesday week Mr. Mann, Shrewsbury, on Loch Urigill, seventy trout, 17lb.; Mr. Eskrigge and Mr. Hall, Liverpool, on Loch Cama, fifty, 15¾lb; Mr. R. B. Eskrigge and Mr. Lupton, Liverpool, fifty, 13lb.; Mr. F. C. Clay, Mr. Mead, and Mr. Headlam, London, on Loch Veyatie, thirty-six, 11lb.; Professor Hurrowes, London, on Loch Mheallain, sixty-six, 17lb.; and Mr. Butter, Perth, on Loch Boarlan (a short time only), twenty-eight, 8lb. On Wednesday, Mr. Mann, on Loch Cama, thirty-nine, 10lb.; Mr. Lupton and Mr. R. B. Eskrigge, on Loch Veyatie, sixty, 19lb.; Mr. Eskrigge and Mr. Hall, on Loch Boarlan, sixty-four, 16½lb.; Mr. Clay and Mr. Headlam, on Loch Urigill, fifty-six, 16lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Barrett and Mr. Moulton Barrett, Perth, on same loch, fifty-one, 15lb.; and Mr. Butter, Perth, on Loch Cama, thirty-two, 11½lb. On Thursday, Mr. Mann, on Loch Veyatie, thirty-six, 13lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Barrett, on Loch Cama, forty-five, 12½lb.; Mr. Clay and Mr. Headlam, on Loch Mheallain, thirty, 8lb.; Mr. Dicken, London, on Loch Boarlan (a short time only), twenty-four, 7½lb.; Mr. Lupton and Mr. Hall, on Loch Urigill, forty-six, 16lb.; and Mr. R. B. Eskrigge, on same loch, thirty, 10lb. On Friday, Mr. Mann, on Loch Cama, four dozen, 16lb.; Mr. Hall and Mr. R. B. Eskrigge, on same loch, four and one-third dozen, 15½lb.; Mrs. and Messrs. Barrett, on Loch Veyatie, four and a-half dozen, 22½lb.; Mr. Lupton and Mr. Eskrigge, on Loch Boarlan, three and a-half dozen, 12lb.; Mr. Dicken, on Loch Urigill, twenty-six, 7lb.; and Messrs. Clay and Headlam on same loch, forty-seven, 12½lb. On Saturday, Mr. Mann, on Loch Veyatie, twenty-two, 8lb.; Mrs. and Messrs. Barrett, on Loch Urigill, seventy, 23½lb.; Mr. Dicken, on Loch Cama, forty-seven, 12½lb.; and Messrs Clay and Headlam, on Loch Boarlan, twenty-five, 7½lb. On Monday, this week, Mr. Mann, on Loch Cama, twenty-seven, 9lb.; Mr. Clay, on Loch Veyatie, twenty-seven, 8½lb.; Mr. Dicken, on Loch Veyatie, thirty-one, 8½lb.; Messrs. Headlam and Winston, on Loch Cama, thirty, 9½lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Barrett, on Loch Boarlan, forty-three, 13½lb.; and Mr. Moulton Barrett, on Loch Urigill, sixty, 15½lb. Total for the day, 213, 64½lb.; and for the week ending, 1,150, 438¼lb.—McB.

Auchintaple Loch (Forfarshire).—Sport continues fairly good. On Friday last week Mr. Fleming and Mr. Robertson, from Alyth, landed four trout, weighing 7lb. On Saturday, Mr. McDonald, Glenisla, had three trout, 5lb. On Monday, Mr. McDonald, from Aloa, fished six trout, 6lb., and on the same day Captain Montague McDonald, from St. Martin's, Perth, had four trout, scaling 5lb. On Tuesday Mr. Dow and friend, from Kirriemuir, landed ten trout, 10lb.—DAVID G. GREWER.

Ayrshire Lochs and Streams.—Capital sport is now being had on the Ayrshire Lochs, more especially on lochs Doon, and Finlas. Any bright flies are killing well, if there is a breeze on the lochs. I hear of some English angers, and a number of Glasgow anglers killing five and six dozen yellow trout per day. Dallmellington Village is the best centre; and there the angler has the choice of two hotels. Boats and boatmen can be had; but any part of Loch Doon can be fished from the sides of the loch. The lochs are free. In Garnock water, Mr. Robert Crawford, Kilbirnie, had a capital basket the other day of three dozen yellow trout, and on the following day he killed three and a-half dozen. Mr. James Crawford, of the High School, Glasgow, killed two and a-half dozen in Glengarnock river, and on Tuesday he made a nice catch at Routen. Waters in fair order.—HEATHERBELL.

Border Esk.—The recent rain have brought about the long-looked for rise in the Esk and the outlook for sport has considerably improved. There is now a good show of sea trout, and a few new run salmon are seen rising in the pools of the lower water. A good rattling flood is, however, much wanted to clear out the bed of the river. Before this event, which usually takes place about the date of the Langholm Common Riding, near the end of July, angling will not be at its best.—G.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—The weather has been so adverse that no sport worth speaking of has been got since last reported. Mr. W. Allis Smith, of Glencalvie, landed a few fish on the upper waters. The only other successes of the week were a salmon and a grilse on the Balnagown Arms Hotel water and a 5lb. grilse which Mr. John Mackenzie, Invercharron, caught on Craigs water on Wednesday. A nice fish weighing 10lb. was caught by Capt. Holder, London, on Tuesday.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—Thunderstorms have been of daily occurrence all over the north, with frequent rains, which have increased the volume of the rivers to a certain extent. The slight rise in the Dee on Sunday brought away a fine run of grilse and salmon, and when once the water clears of its brown colour good sport will be had. On the Park water, Mr. Hugh McDonald landed a fine grilse of 5lb. last week, while a few were got on the Banchory waters. On the Inchmarlo water, Mr. Duncan Davidson landed four fish, scaling from 4lb. to 9lb., and a sea trout of 2lb.; while Mr. W. E. Nicol had a fresh-run salmon of 7lb. on Monday last, in addition to a sea trout of 2lb., on the Ballogie water. On the Upper Dess water, John Harper, keeper, landed a nice grilse of nearly 4lb. On the Glentana reaches sport has revived greatly during the past week. On the Invercauld water, at Ballater, Mr. McGregor and guests landed over twenty fish during the week, one got by Mr. D. Morgan scaling 19lb. on Wednesday last. There are plenty of fish in the pools, but they will not look at anything. The show of fish on the coast is reported to be quite unprecedented at this season of the year.

Don.—With last week's slight flood, a few grilse and small salmon were enabled to run the gauntlet during the Sunday close-time, and these will enhance the sport on the lower reaches. The mouth of the river is getting dirty, but this season it has been a treat compared with what it was during the past decade at this time of the year. An interesting dispute was last week settled in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, regarding the deepening of the river carried out some time ago by Mr. James, Leith Persley Quarries, and Messrs. J. and J. Crombie, cloth manufacturers, whereby, at the instance of the Messrs. Pirie and on the report of Mr. Blyth, C.E., an order has been made which will practically restore the bed of the river to its former level.—DON.

Esk (Langholm, Dumfriesshire).—Since last report we have had showery weather, which has kept the river in good order for angling. On Monday, Mr. Morrison had a good basket of sea-trout before breakfast, six averaging 2lb. each. On the same day, Mr. Hogg caught two weighing 5lb., Mr. Reid four, and several other anglers had smaller takes. On Tuesday, Mr. Maxwell, had one, 2lb. weight; and Mr. Hogg, two: weighing 2½lb. and 3lb. On Thursday, Mr. Hogg had one, and several others had good baskets of yellow trout. On Friday, Mr. Hogg caught four sea-trout, and other takes before breakfast were:—Messrs. Armstrong, one sea trout, 4½lb.; C. Glendinning, one 2lb.; J. Morrison, one 1½lb. The river is now in capital order.—WM. DOUGLAS, Eskdale Hotel.

Helmsdale (Helmsdale).—Sport here during the past week has been all but *nil*. The river was abnormally low, and few anglers cared to spend their time on what they might very reasonably consider a hopeless task. Still one or two fish have been got daily, either late at night or in the early morning; but now while I write the prospects are much brighter, rain having fallen heavily during the night, and has continued to, well on in the day, so it is expected there will be a rise in the river immediately, and if so this will clear the river of the *debris* of the sheep-washing, which has been going on for some days past, and which—owing to the poisonous nature of the materials used—must be very hurtful, not exactly killing fish, but sickening them, and putting them into a condition that they won't even look at fly or bait. The netsmen continue to obtain excellent hauls, having daily from five to seven boxes of salmon and grilse, and also a good many sea trout. The weight of grilse this season is somewhat under tho average of former years, but the quality is excellent. The herring being just about to begin will interfere considerably with the net fishing, as the boats passing in and out at all hours of the tido drives the fish from the shore.—S. C.

Inchnadamph Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—The sport on Wednesday last was as follows: Colonel and Mrs. Flower, London, on Loch Awe, two and a-half dozen trout, 10lb.; Col. Gillespie, London, on Loch Assynt, one trout, 1½lb.; the same loch was fished by Mr. Diggory, Nairn (a few hours only), ten trout, 1lb.; by Mr. and Mrs. Lombi, Norwich, forty-nine trout, 14lb.; and Mr. Cookson, York, forty trout, 12lb., and a grilse of 4½lb. On Thursday, Loch Assynt was fished by Captain and Mrs. Greenwood, Yorkshire, eight trout, averaging ½lb. each; by Mr. Diggory, fourteen, 6lb.; and by Mr. Cookson, fifty, 16lb.; Colonel and Mrs. Gillespie, on Wee lochs, had ten trout, 4½lb.; and Mr. and Mrs. Lombi, on Loch Awe, thirty-two, 14lb. On Friday, Mr. Diggory, Nairn, fished Loch Awe for a few hours, and got two dozen trout, 8lb.; and Colonel Gillespie, on Davie's Loch, two trout, 3lb. The following were on Loch Assynt—viz., Captain and Mrs. Greenwood, fifty-one trout, 20lb.; Colonel Flower, twenty-nine, 8lb., and a grilse of 5lb.; Mr. Cookson, forty-one, 16lb.; and Mr. and Mrs. Lombi, who caught two dozen trout, 8lb., ono sea trout of 2½lb., a *Salmo ferox* of 3½lb., and a grilse weighing 6lb.; Colonel Gillespie was out on Loch Assynt on Saturday, and got three dozen trout, 13lb.—McB.

Kilmelford.—Capt. and Mrs. Falls, R.N., and Miss Leggatt (London), Mr. and Mrs. Kirby (Allesey), Mr. and Mrs. Carrick (Glasgow), Col. Harvie Dollar, Mr. Jevons and Miss Jevons (Cheshire), Mr. and Mrs. Chance (Carlisle), Messrs. Rennie (Dundee), Smith (Leven), S. T. Stott, Edwin Stott, and Harold Stott, Mr. and Mrs. Horsfield (Leeds), residing at Cuilfail Hotel, are having splendid sport on hotel waters. During last week the total catch of trout was ono thousand three hundred and sixty-one, and four hundred various sea fish. It is easy to predict, after the torrents of rain which fell during last week, that July will turn out the month of the present season. Last year it beat June hollow, and there is every reason to expect that it will do the same this year.—JOHN M. FRAZER.

Loch Buidhe (Bonarbridge).—On Thursdry last, Captain Holder, London, and Mr. J. MacPherson, Bridgo Hotel, landed twelve trout, weighing 6lb. in all.—McB.

Loch Cracail.—On Thursday last, Mr. Walter Scott Brock, Achinduick House, Invershin, and Mr. Laidly, London, landed twenty-one fine trout, the heaviest of which weighed 1¼lb. Several other good baskets have been made.—McB.

Loch Leven (Kinross).—Sport here is now at its worst, and several boats have returned to the pier during the week without getting a single rise. The stormy weather and clear and abnormally low water, however, accounts for this, although anglers of an evening have had some pretty fair sport. A few days ago a gentleman from Glasgow, who went out a short time in the evening, captured fourteen trout, 13lb. Some good mixed creels have been got of trout, pike, and perch. The latter appear more numerous than last season, and the late warm and bright weather has brought them to the shallows in large shoals. Last Saturday a boat out a few hours landed about forty very large ones near the Beech Hedge, while several other boats havo been equally successful. A local party who were out informs me that their largest perch scaled 3lb.—R. B. LAING.

Loch Lochy (Invergloy Hotel).—Excellent fishing was had last week on Loch Lochy, by Mr. J. Oden, Capt. A. Stevenson, and Mr. T. Twynam, besides baskets of trout, the first named gentleman caught on Wednesday a sea trout, weighing 3¼lb. On Thursday, one of 1½lb., and on Friday, one of 2¼lb. The fishing is generally good in the looh at present.—J. R. EGGE.

Loch Rannoch (Kinloch Rannoch).—The following is tho angling report and list of takes by gentlemen from the Dimalastair Hotel: On the 3rd inst., Dr. Kirke and the Rev. Mr. Lindsay, obtained a heavy basket weighing fully 11½lb.; and Mr. Noble and Mr. Turner had a nice basket of 11¾lb.; Mr. Nash on same day, secured a take of 11½lb.; and Mr. Graham, one of 11¼lb.; Mr. Singer had a nice basket of 7½lb. On the following day, Mr. Noble and Mr. Turner had a beautiful basket of 14½lb.; and Mr. Singer, one of 11¾lb.; Mr. Graham had a take of 10½lb.; and Dr. Kirke and the Rev. Mr. Lindsay, a basket of fully 10lb.: Mr. Nash also had a nice take of 8½lb.; on the 6th inst., Mr. Nash had a take of fully 7½lb.; and Mr. Noble and Mr. Turner killed seventeen fish, all heavy trout; Mr. Graham on same date killed eight trout; and Mr. Hodgson had fifteen; Dr. Kirk and the Rev. Mr. Lindsay had a basket of fully 13½lb.—GEORGE GOW.

Loch Tay (Kenmore, N.B.).—On the Hotel water on the 2nd inst., Mr. Parker got nineteen trout, 5½lb.; Mr. Anderson, sixteen trout, 4¼lb.; Mr. Allgood, nine trout, 4lb.; on the 3rd Mr. Allgood, nine trout, 3½lb.; Mr. Anderson, nine trout, 4lb.; Mr. Gardiner, eight trout, 2lb.; on the 4th Mr. Anderson, eighteen trout 5lb.; Mr. Gardiner, twenty trout, 6lb.; Miss Allgood, twenty trout, 7lb.; Doctor Rowland, ten trout, 3lb.; Mr. Straker, forty trout, 9½lb.; on the 6th Miss Allgood, fifteen trout, 4lb.; Mr. F. Graham, 4lb.; Mr. Gardiner, eight trout, 3lb.; Mr. Allgood, ten trout, 3lb.; Mr. Parker, twelve trout, 3lb.—W. KNIGHT.

Orchy (Inveroran Hotel).—The Hon. Rowland Leigh, London, fishing from Inveroran Hotel, on 3rd inst., had one salmon, weighing 10lb.; same day, Mr. Vernon Magniac, London, had one salmon, 14lb.; same day, Doctor Leigh, London, one trout, 2lb. On the 4th, the Hon. Rowland Leigh, one salmon, weighing 10lb.; same day, Mr. McKercher, Glasgow, had one salmon, weighing 20lb. On the 7th, the Hon. Rowland Leigh and Mr. Vernon Magniac had five dozen and eight trout averaging three and four to the pound; same day, Mr. Ness, Glasgow, had one salmon, 10lb. Rivers and lochs in full swing after rain. Plenty of fish.—DUNCAN A. FORBES.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—During the past two weeks some splendid baskets have been made of trout which are of excellent quality and of good average weight. The following record will give an idea of the sport obtained. On Monday week Mr. A. Paradox and Master Paradox fished Loch Shin and got forty trout, weighing in all 14lb., and a *Salmo ferox* of 3½lb. Rev. Canon Faber, Doncaster, tried Fiag beat and landed twenty-six trout, 9lb. On Tuesday, Messrs. Paradox on Loch Merkland, sixty-four trout, 18lb.; and Rev. Canon Faber, on Loch Griam, forty-seven trout, 12lb. On Wednesday, Messrs. Paradox on Loch Merkland, forty trout, 17lb.; Rev. Canon Faber, on Loch Shin, sixteen trout, 7lb.; and Captain Burton, Gloucester (a few hours only), nine trout, 4½lb. On Thursday, which was dead calm, Messrs. Paradox on Loch Merkland, fifty-two trout, 15lb.; Captain Burton, on Loch Shin, nineteen trout, averaging ½lb. each; and Mr. Criechton, Edinburgh, for an hour and a-half, on Loch Shin, six trout, 2½lb. On Friday, Mr. Barrett, on Loch Griam, forty trout, 13¾lb.; Messrs. Paradox, on Fiag beat, forty-four trout, 15lb.; Captain Burton and Rev. Mr. Porter, on Loch Shin, thirty-five trout, 15lb.; and Mr. Criechton, on Loch Merkland, thirty-seven trout, 15lb. On Saturday, Mr. Criechton, on Loch Shin, thirty-two trout, 11½lb.; and Captain Burton and Rev. Mr. Porter, on Loch Griam, forty trout, 16lb.; total for the week, five hundred and forty-eight fish, with a total weight of about 200lb. On Monday this week, Captain Burton and Rev. Mr. Porter, on Loch Merkland, eighty trout, 26lb.; Captain Murchison, on Loch Shin, twenty-four trout, 14½lb.; and Mr. Criechton, on Loch Griam, twenty-six trout, 13lb.—McB.

Shin (Inveran Hotel Waters, Sutherland, N.B.).—Mr. Buxton and party, Sutherland Arms Hotel, fished tho lower beats on Tuesday, and landed a salmon of 14lb. on Meadow Pool, a sixteen-pounder on Grief Pool, and a grilse weighing 5½lb. on Big Fall Pool. The total basket by Mr. Buxton's party during the month of June was thirty-three salmon, aggregating 420lb., and twenty-two grilse, 116½lb., or fifty-five fish, 536½lb. Since then Lord Braybrook and party have had as follows: On Thursday one grilse of 5½lb. on Big Fall Pool. On Friday one of 4½lb. on Poll Caolag; and on Saturday a grilse weighing 4½lb. on Poll Caolag, and one of 6½lb. on Big Fall Pool.—McB.

South of Scotland.—The rivers in this district have been much improved since last week's report owing to the number of showers that have fallen. Over all the angling may be said to have also improved. In the Annan quite a turn for the better has been experienced among sea trout. While this has been so with worm fishers, fly-fishing, on the other hand, is not quite the thing to be desired. Angling in Newbie Mill Dam on Friday with worm and drawn gut, Mr. Henry Boyd, Annan, killed seven sea trout, one of which weighed over 3½lb., and his whole catch weighed 11½lb. On the following morning he was out again at the same place, and succeeded in bagging five sea trout, one 3½lb., and the others 1½lb. each. On Tuesday the same gentleman killed three sea trout and two herling. Mr. James Scott, Lodge Cottage, had one of 3lb. and two others of 1½lb. each. Mr. McGiverin, postmaster, had a brace of sea trout weighing 3lb. Mr. Munroe caught 6lb. of herling and one sea trout. Mr. John Laurie had a very nice sea trout of 2lb. 10oz. and three berling. Mr. George Carrick, Annan, killed a grand sea trout in Northfield stream weighing over 3½lb. Mr. Wallas, gunmaker, Wigton, had one sea trout and a number of berling, and Mr. Iveson, Wigton, and others had a few yellow trout. Mr. James Thornton landed one sea trout; Mr. James Dixon one and three herling (with fly). In Mount Annan private water, Mr. Dirom, of Mount Annan, has been killing on an average one sea trout per day, and his fisherman about the same. The Rev. Mr. Kennedy had a capital basket of sea trout and yellow trout in this water on Monday. The Border Esk is giving good sport both in Langholm and Canonbie waters, and the sea trout are of a good average. In the course of a week or ten days berling are expected to be very plentiful in this river, and, as they afford the best of sport, the reports next week will likely be promising. In St. Mary's Loch quite a host of anglers have been out, and in every instance the catches have quite upheld the reputation of the loch. In the neighbouring rivers good baskets of yellow trout have been taken with worm and fly. Mr. White, of the Rodno Hotel, gives the greatest attention to anglers, and is always ready to give them the best of his advice on the prospects of sport and suitable flies. The Milk and Wamphry waters are now giving fair sport. It may be remarked that the South of Scotland rivers would be much improved with a good flood. Galloway streams are doing fairly well, and on the Fleet several good sea trout have been killed, one gentleman having six sea trout in two outings.—HEATHERBELL.

Tongue Hotel.—July 1, Mr. Bolton, on Loch Craggie, 8lb. trout; Dr. Phillips, on the kyle, four sea trout, 10lb.; Mr. Bourne, on Loch Halon, 16lb. trout. July 2, Mr. Bolton, on the kyle, nine sea trout, 14lb.; Dr. Phillips, on Loch Slamm, thirteen trout, 6½lb. June 3, Mr. Bourne, on the kyle, twenty-nine sea trout, 40lb.; Dr. Phillips, on Loch Slamm, one grilse, 2lb., also 14lb. trout. June 4, Mr. Bolton, on Loch Slamm, one grilse, 4½lb.; Mr. Bourne, on Loch Craggie, 10lb. trout.—A. CAMPBELL.

Ythan (Tidal, Newburgh, Aberdeen).—During the past fortnight, and especially during the late freshetts sea sea trout have been running very freely, and many good baskets have been made, by among others: Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Davidson, Wellwood, Aberdeen; Messrs. G. and A. Rennie, London; Mr. and Mrs. Piercy Smith, Sussex; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Smith, Kent; Mr. and Mrs. Leslie, Aberdeen. From now till the end of September, fish will be in the pink of condition, and capital sport may confidently be anticipated. October even, is often considered the best month of the season in favourable weather. There is only limited hotel accommodation, and as that is usually taxed to the utmost of its capacity, the hint to book beforehand may be of some value to intending visitors, and may prevent much disappointment and heartburning.—G. U.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—Angling remains about the average, as the river is too high and dark coloured to admit of very successful fly fishing. Last Thursday, on the Tullyliggan preserves (Mr. W. H. Kinley's), Mr. C. G. B. Kennedy had a bag of nine brown trout, all over 1lb. each, and in prime condition. Salmon are now running up well, and a few good ones have been landed by professionals, and I regret to say by poachers. On the Coagh reaches, Mr. C. B. Irwin, on Friday, had nine brown trout; Saturday, fourteen; and Monday, twelve trout; and on Tuesday he landed a brace of salmon, 9lb. and 11lb. respectively, on a very light trout tackle. Perch fishing is simply child's play at the bar mouth, they are taking so well. I paid a visit to this part of the river a few evenings ago, and I counted sixty engaged, and each rod landed from thirty to fifty brace of fish, from ¾lb. to 1¼lb. When the river fines down a little sport will be much better, however, in the incoming week a good many of our best anglers will be too busy observing the glories of the Boyne, and drums, orange sashes, and politics will for the time being usurp the place of the rod in loyal East Tyrone.—EAST TYRONE.

Erne and Lough Melvin.—Although the weather was anything but favourable for angling, capital sport was had on the Erne. Particulars: Mr. P. Cooper, in the week, killed four salmon and grilse, 18lb., 15lb., 9lb., and 7lb.; Mr. R. M. Thornley, three salmon. and grilse, 17lb., 9lb., and 7lb.; Mr. J. M. Summerville, eight salmon and grilse, 24lb., 16lb., 15lb., 13lb., 9lb., 7lb., 7lb., 6lb.,; Mr. C. M. Summerville, eight salmon and grilse, 22lb., 19lb., 18lb., 17lb., 13lb., 10lb., 8½lb., and 7½lb.; Mr. J. Hone, six salmon and salmon grilse, 17lb., 16lb., 13lb., 10lb., 7lb., 6lb.; Mr. Jameson, four salmon and grilse, 17lb., 9lb., 8lb., and 6lb.; Captain Barry, on Wednesday, one salmon, 16½lb.; Col. Wallace, in the week, five salmon and grilse, 17lb. 9lb., 8lb., 7lb., and 6lb. Sport continues good, and weather slightly improved. Trout fishing on Melvin is now first-class, and capital baskets are being taken.—M. ROGAN AND SONS.

Shannon and Lough Derg (Killaloe).—My prediction as to sport has been verified. Very nice fishing this week, but really good bags are bound to be made during July. June 22, Major Traherne, one grilse, 5lb.; 23rd, two grilse, 4½lb. each; Capt. Hardisty, one, 8½lb.; 24th, one, 5lb.; Major Traherne, one, 6lb.; 25th, Mr. Martin, one salmon, 12lb.; Major Traherne, two grilse, 7lb. and 6lb.: F. Johnson, two grilse, 8lb. each; 26th, Col. Willans, two salmon, 16lb. and 11lb.; Mr. Martin, one grilse, 4lb.; 27th, Major Traherne, one grilse, 7lb.; Col. Willans, one, 5lb.; Mr. Martin, one, 8lb.; W. Ellis, one, 6lb.; 29th, Major Traherne, one salmon, 13½lb., and two grilse, 7½lb. and 7lb.; Col. Willans, two grilse, 7lb. and 4lb.; Mr. Martin, one grilse, 8½lb.; Frank Johnson and W. Malone, one salmon, 27½lb.; 30th, Mr. Martin, four grilse, 7½lb., 7¼lb., 7lb., and 6¼lb.; Col. Willans, two grilse, 10lb. and 5lb.; July 1, Major Traherne, one grilse, 9lb. Supply of fish in the river something unheard of at Killaloe. River in good fishing order; heavy rain falling.—S. J. HURLEY.

[Received too late for last week.—ED.]

Strule and Mourne (Newton Stewart, Co. Tyrone.)—The welcome change came in the weather last week, and we had a very nice flood; and Dr. Watling, an English gentleman staying at Moore's Hotel, drew first blood on Friday with a nice small grilse in the pink of condition. On July 5, some of the local men went out and made a death, one of them, William Entirean, killing three and losing several. Monday, the rain started again, and the river has remained in a flood since, but the fish have rushed up in great numbers, and with fine weather we are sure of good sport till the end of the season, which lasts here till the 10th of October.—JOHN J. MOORE.

On account of great pressure upon our space, several river reports are unavoidably omitted.—ED.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF LONDON ANGLING CLUBS.

THE monthly delegate meeting of this Association, held at its headquarters, the Bedford Head, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, W.C., on Monday last, was very largely attended. Mr. C. A. Medcalf, president, occupied the chair; Mr. J. Kelly, vice-president. After the usual routine business, the enrolment of the Royal George, Shepherd's Bush, Izaak Walton, Hatcham Brothers, and North London Angling Societies, was fully confirmed.

The Blackfriars Angling Society, meeting at the Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, wishing to join the association, its enrolment was moved by Mr. Crumplen, and unanimously carried. The Gosport Angling Society, holding its meetings at Camden House, Markhouse-road, Walthamstow, was also added to the list; its representatives showing that its rules were well in accord with those of the Central Association, as regards weighable fish. This new society starts with thirty-five members, and there is every probability of rapid increase. A letter was read from the Gresham Angling Society in regard to pollution of rivers, and the secretary was instructed to say, in reply, that whenever any workable scheme was put forward to get rid of the evils complained of, the Central Association (which has always been foremost in helping forward any movement of importance to anglers), would give it their hearty support.

The Pulborough Competition, fixed for the 12th inst., came under notice, and various useful suggestions were made. It is believed this will prove one of the greatest competitions ever held by the anglers of London, and it was mentioned that a meeting, over which Mr. S. C. Harding will preside, is to be held in the Corn Exchange, Pulborough, to-day (Saturday, 11th inst.), when Mr. Crumplen will give an account of "Pulborough and its surroundings" for the benefit of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. Mr. Harding has also undertaken to give a recitation: and Mr. Slaughter, the favourite vocalist and photographer of the Great Northern Brothers, and several well-known friends will assist in the musical department. Mr. Nutt, of the Swan Hotel, has the matter in hand, and it is felt he will successfully carry it through. The prize list grows daily, and there are now about forty prizes in hand. Among these are a silver watch from Mr. Farebrother, a beautiful framed fish painting, by Signor Susini, given by Mr. Crumplen, and a gold scarf pin by Mr. Lack, who so well caters for the association at the Bedford Head; the Alma, Great Northern Brothers, Anchor and Hope, and other clubs, have also given prizes. Many others have been offered, of which the secretary will supply a list. The distribution ceremony is to be held on Monday, July 27th, at the headquarters of the association; Mr. C. A. Medcalf in the chair. The rules governing the competition have been carefully considered. No competitor is to carry more than one rod, and all fish must be of not less than the association standard. There will be a large staff of stewards in attendance. All tickets must be stamped at the Swan Hotel, on the morning of the competition, and the fish weighed in, to admit of after display, not later than 4.30 p.m. sharp. The committee feel that they can rely upon the sense of duty which has hitherto been the pride of members of the association, and trust they will take care on this occasion particularly to maintain its reputation, so that no complaint may arise from the large numbers likely to be brought together.

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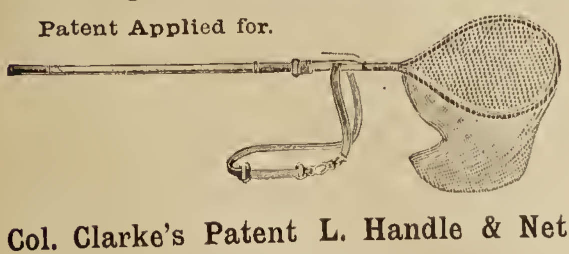

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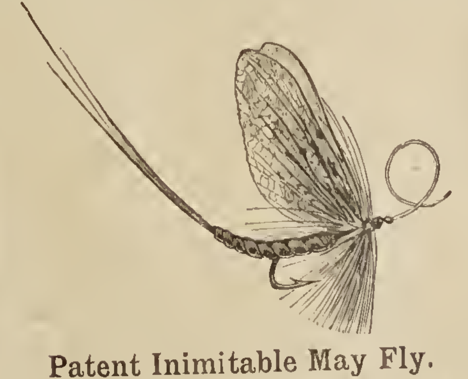

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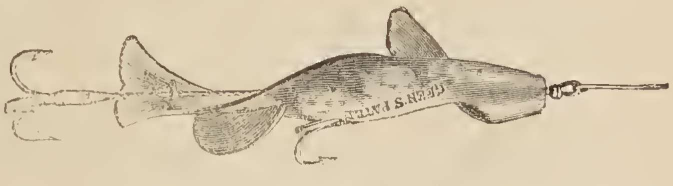

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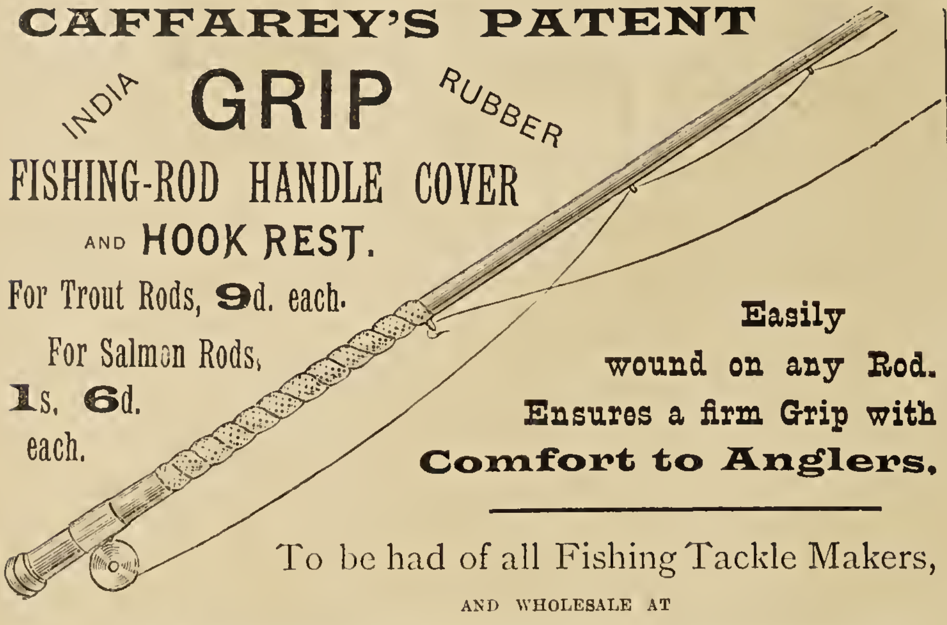

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Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

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— The —
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SATURDAY, JULY 18TH, 1891.

GRILSE, SEA TROUT, AND BROWN TROUT.

By RENAE.

ADVICE TO HOLIDAYING ANGLERS.

(*Continued from page 8.*)

As I refrain from claiming to be a "past master," I trust that my readers will understand at the outset that it is not to the knowing experienced deft hands that I address these remarks. It is solely for the inexperienced or little experienced that they are meant. Grilse fishing I shall place first, on account of grilse, in my opinion, being the highest game, taking precedence both of sea trout and fresh-water trout. On a fine rapid dashing rocky boulder-strewn stream it is delightful; indeed, no matter where got it must, if good, be acknowledged the perfection of lively, as undoubtedly ofttimes it is of exciting sport.

As regards the equipment for it, I shall speak first of the rod. The length that I personally like best is 15ft., or little more. This length—if a fleet rod with plenty of bone in it—will be found by most anglers to work admirably on the bulk of waters. It should be evenly balanced throughout, neither whippy nor stiff, particularly the latter at the point. A whippy rod, with but little pith in it, takes over long to land a strong heavy fish; while through the want of pliancy which a stiff point occasions, the hold of the hook consequent on the tenderness of the mouth of the fish, will often be found to give way. My own favourite grilse rod is a 15ft. 3in. one. It is of medium build, and springs evenly all along, from butt to point, which causes the distribution of the strain to be uniform as possible over its entire length.

To tackle strong large hard-fighting grilse with a slim "fusionless" rod on occasions when they are taking freely is what no one should do, and what no one with much sense will do, be it possible to conveniently avoid it. But it is done. I have frequently seen it done. He would, however, be a very stupid angler who would repeat it—that is to say, should the alternative of a suitable rod be within handy reach. Experience is the best teacher; and the novice who once has lost much time playing a fish with a feeble rod will not, if a wise man, allow himself very often afterwards to be placed in the same annoying, exasperating position. Perhaps eventually he loses his fish through, perforce, having to play it senselessly long. Anyhow, he loses a deal of valuable time playing it; with a proper rod he might kill three or four in the same space of time. To illustrate this let me mention a case of not "lang syne" date. Grilse were fresh-run, plentiful, and taking freely. The fishery was a fine length of broadish rocky water, on which two anglers were engaged. Each had a 15ft. rod, but how different were the two rods. As luck would have it, the angler with the silly flimsy rod got hold of a fish first. His companion in following down the long pool behind him soon had on one also. Both fish were now being played at one time, not a hundred yards apart. But while the first hooked one took half-an-hour to land, the other was out in eight minutes. The angler who had the right sort of rod having secured his fish, started afresh, and almost immediately hooked another, which he also landed, and, moreover, had time afterwards to hook still another, before his companion—who had been the first to get fixed—had succeeded in landing his one. I personally am aware that chagrined, disappointed, disgusted, *one* of the two learned a lesson which he did not fail to profit by afterwards. Example is before precept. Experience teaches—and I know that a bitter mortifying experience, such as I have quoted, will do more to make the tyro or young hand realise the necessity for proper equipment than all the lecturing which I could give him for his edification and advantage.

To give and take smartly are the two primary essentials of a model grilse rod. These are combined in the rod of the happy medium build which I have described. As indicated, too great a length of time is taken with a weak, whippy rod to land a fish, and in consequence superadded to this there is the by no means remote probability of the fish being lost. On the other hand, a very stiff rod will often be found to cause the hold of the hook to give. When the strain becomes great, consequent on the fish making a lightning-like rush, or unexpectedly flinging himself out of the water, the disadvantage of an unyielding rod is, alas, too frequently seen in the loss of the fish. Grilse, when fresh-run, are the most tender-mouthed of the *Salmonidæ*, and it stands therefore to reason that if they are held rigidly, the hold which the hook—usually but very small—has of them is liable to be broken. As a rule they do not, for their size, fight so long as salmon, but the fight they give while it lasts is faster; characterised by short rushes like lightning flashes, and frequently a succession of wicked, wriggling leaps following hard upon one another. It is then most commonly that disaster occurs and the angler is caused to rue his using a too stiff rod.

Sometimes it will be found necessary to have a 16ft. or even a 17ft. rod for grilse fishing. To be able to keep the fly over the fish—hang it above them so to speak—is many a time a decided advantage. But it is not on many rivers that the tourist angler will come across that this cannot be done nearly everywhere well enough with a fifteen-footer. Still a few large rivers there are like Spey, Dee, and Lochy where, especially after this time of the year when the fish run large, it is important that the rod should be of the length and strength requisite to—first, put the fly over the fish; second, keep them clear of obstructions after they are hooked; and third, bar accident, bring about their capture within a reasonable time.

Having said thus much about what I consider a model rod, I must now turn to another subject, but before doing so I should like to be allowed just one other word. The don and up-to-date angler will, if he does not call me a duffer, at least consider me a behind-the-time, old-fashioned "fusher" when I make known that my decided preference is for a rod of greenheart. Built of this wood, my model rod of whatever length most suitable, I consider by far the best for fishing for all sorts and sizes of the *Salmonidæ*, from the largest grilse down to the smallest fresh-water trout. Having made this statement, I shall not have anything further to say about the rod for any of the kinds of fishing to be hereafter considered, than simply to mention its length.

Wishing always to recommend what I myself have found answer best—what experience has taught me is best—I would say, with regard to the reel, have it of a good size, capable of containing plenty of line. It should run freely, but not so much so as to over run. It is very desirable to have it of considerable circumference. My own grilse reels, which I had specially made, have this, and so are deep and narrow. With them I never fear a fish breaking the hold, if good, or snapping the cast-line when he makes a sudden rush. Owing to the great circumference of its coil the line spins off without dragging the least, and again, when a fish rushes towards the angler, as often happens, it can be reeled in at a rate which in nine cases out of ten will keep the strain on him from being even for a moment lost—a most important consideration—since often the least slackening of the line will bring about the loss of the coveted prize.

The reel should in all cases balance the rod to a nicety, and though one such as I have recommended may seem too large for the rod, it does not necessarily follow that it should prove too heavy. It should have a revolving plate and be, to not exceed the proper weight, "composite"—of a nature to the angler's taste. To have it well filled is desirable, as thus the circumference which insures quick running out and rapid reeling in is secured, and much line also comes in handy on broad waters or where ready following close up on the fish is precluded. But I would seriously warn the angler not to so cram the reel as that the line touches the pillars. If this is not attended to he may come to grief through the line sticking, and this more than likely just at the very moment when victory appears certain. It is an everyday occurrence to see a fish, which but a moment before seemed dead done out, making, on catching sight of the angler or touching the bank, a final desperate rush out into the stream, and this would be a moment fraught with disaster to the angler whose line, probably not very evenly wound in the hurry and excitement of the struggle, had got jammed to the pillars. Matters like this, though they seem trifling, are yet of great moment. Every precaution which the angler may know or think will conduce to his success should be taken.

The reel line now comes in for brief consideration. The kind of line which I like best for grilse fishing, is that with a taper of some five or six yards—tapering gradually to not too fine an end. Why at the end or point of the taper it should not be too fine is because I attach a plaited tapered gut cast, and I abominate seeing the gut at the thick end of the taper (where it joins the reel line) any thicker to appearance than the silk to which it is united. Besides this—which is a matter of good taste—the casting cannot be so neatly done with a thick gut end attached to a thin silk end. To realise this fully the thing should be tried where best it can be seen, and that is on the dead level unruffled water of a pond or lake (for example). Then will the advantage of having the taper gradual all along from its commencement in the silk to its finish in the gut be strikingly apparent. For very neat fine fishing, so much so as not to be licked, I hold it a *sine quâ non* that the taper should run gradually and gently down the whole—from its very commencement in the silk five or six yards up, through the plaited and along the single gut, right to the hook.

As to the nature of the reel line itself I am very particular. Few lines have I seen that satisfy me entirely. Most of them have too little weight for their bulk; many are far too hard for working nicely in the water; and many crack through too much dressing or *too bad* dressing. As it is often very necessary to fish fine, the reel line, then, which I would most strongly recommend, should commend itself in these respects: Be not very thick; have a slight taper for several yards; be solid plated and very heavy for its bulk; be pliable to a great degree. These qualities will insure (1) neat and light casting; (2) light fly skimming where necessary; (3) the wind being easily cut or cast against; (4) switching accomplished where required; (5) and the almost instant running out of the line—to stretch straight down stream—by the water where streamy which is a most important matter in view of the true swimming and play of the fly. A stiff glazed overdressed line bulges and bellies in the water causing the fly to "set" in all manner of positions bad for scaring the fish, whereas a pliable line runs out at once to the full stretch with the current and thus makes the fly swim exactly true and appear to the fish as tempting as can be while performing the whole of its sweep or circuit. Of course to secure a continuous even taper none of the three or four strands of single gut (attached to such a plaited cast as I have described which complete the cast-line) can be very thick. It is, however, essential that they should be strong, and clean perfectly round gut which seems little thicker than that ordinarily used in loch fishing for brown trout will possess the requisite strength, and, if treated fairly, will stand up for days bar accidents—those unforeseen and unaccountable accidents which do sometimes happen. Without question light casts are of great advantage to the angler where the water is clear or both quiet flowing and clear.

Coming to the character and colour of the water brings me to the subject of hooks. Large hooks are of little use in the world for grilse fishing in summer anywhere, be the height and colour of the water what it may. From the middle of June to the middle of September I should not personally care to try long for grilse with a hook of larger size than No. 3 Limerick—Messrs. William Bartlett & Son's scale. I say so because this is the largest size that ever I have known to be absolutely required. Nos. 5, 6, and 7, will, I should think, to judge from my own experience, be found the best sizes in general. It is true that on some streams which have no great depth of water when the volume is normal, a very small hook will prove the best of all on bright days during a spell of very dry weather. I have seen Nos. 8 and 9 kill remarkably well on not a few rivers—even large rivers—when conditions were such as indicated, and it would be well, therefore, for the angler to have in addition to the best general sizes a few hooks of the very smallest sizes named. When the water has dwindled down to an almost unfishable state, the forenoon may generally be regarded as the prime fishing time of the day, and then it is that the small flies take toll of the fish most effectually. Evening fishing will then also be worth trying well, and for it the average size of flies will come in very handy.

I am made, from what I know of the various kinds of hooks, to have a decided preference for the Limerick bend. From No. 3 down to No. 6 I use the single hook, but for the sizes from the latter to No. 9 inclusive, I have no very particular preference, as the single in my experience has generally been found to answer as well as the double hook. Many anglers are positive that of the fish that rise and are hooked far more are killed on the latter than on the former. This, doubtless, is their experience, but I cannot say it is mine. When an angler has a strong bent in favour of the one, he naturally will use it most, and so, as stands to reason, get most fish with it. It is held by those who favour the dôuble hook that it balances better in the water, and therefore swims accurately true. But the single hook I contend has the advantage over it for fine light fishing, as it creates less "furr" in calm water, wherein fish often lie in the absence of nice holding streams near at hand. I need not, however, enlarge further on this subject, as the tyro or the little practised will learn and be able to judge for himself the merits of the two kinds of hooks when he has developed into an angler of some experience.

Worm-fishing for grilse may be engaged in with greatest success, with a considerably stouter rod, and a good deal less fine running tackle. Good, large, lively, lob worms on a good large round bend hook, which is my favourite, will entice both sea trout and grilse very readily when the water is rising, and for some time after it begins to fall. But when afterwards, as in the case of most moor and hill-run Highland streams, the siping from the peat makes its colour very black, the time for worming has pretty well gone past.

(To be continued.)

BARBEL, AND BARBEL FISHING.

By Alfred Jardine.

I have always had a special sympathy with anglers—yet, I am sorry to confess that sometimes feelings akin to envy have sprung up within me, when younger disciples of Izaak Walton, with time and opportunity at command, have gone to Thames or Trent, Lee or Kennet, to catch that sport-giving fish—the barbel; for when the "sere and yellow leaf" of life's autumn approaches, then veteran anglers must content themselves largely with the pleasures of memory, and the recollections of previous piscatorial victories.

The barbel season has already commenced; fish of large size and good condition have been caught; and records reach us almost daily of heavy captures—one of the most recent, of 75lb. weight, coming from Boroughbridge, on the Yore; but as the bait used are *said* to have been *dead gudgeons*, we should like this corroborated by the angler, the *hook tackle* used stated, and his method of placing the gudgeon *on* the tackle. During April and May it is not unusual to take barbel in swift streams on *spinning* baits, but such a capture in July with dead gudgeons, is certainly singular.

With the recent heavy rains, which will swell and cleanse the streams, there is every prospect of much better sport than was experienced last autumn, when, it will be remembered, there were but few occasions that barbel could be said to be "on" at all, and angling for those fish was almost a failure. Rivers were then unusually scant in volume, the water was stale, and fish consequently ill-disposed to feed; ground-bait was administered to little or no purpose in the choicest of swims, and during the favourite barbelling months of July, August, and September these fish were decidedly "off" their appetites, and respectable catches were few and far between; "red-letter days" were conspicuous by their scarcity, and not many anglers could speak of captures worth recording. One of the largest probably (last autumn on the Thames) was made on Sept. 1 and 2, at Sonning, by myself and a friend. Fishing with leger and Nottingham tackle, we caught twenty-eight barbel, weighing in the aggregate close on 100lb., the two largest being 9½lb. and 8lb. each, with others ranging from 7lb. down to 4½lb. The water was low and very bright; we found the fish in the deepest runs, mostly between the weeds.

The date recurs forcibly to my memory because it was the commencement of the "Feast of Saint Partridge," and the proprietor of that part of the river, who gave me permission to fish, and who, although ninety years of age, had been shooting most of those two days, killing a good bag of birds. This hale "old English gentleman" was so little wearied that he came to the riverside, saw me catch a good-sized fish, and wished me continued sport.

The barbel is essentially a plucky fish, and when hooked fights bravely for life and liberty. The powerful tail and large dorsal fin (which he erects and keeps tense by means of its strong front ray) acts much after the manner of a barge's mainsail, and gives the fish great power in the heavy currents he frequents; added to which, this bony ray is serrated upwards, like the sharp teeth of a fine saw, and in the opinion of many anglers is used as a means to sever the gut when the fish makes his javelin-like darts down into the depths of the stream.

Walton says rightly: "The barbel is so strong that he will often break both rod and line if he proves to be a big one." To hook and play a five or six-pounder in the swift waters of a weir pool is an experience to be remembered; his impetuous rushes and persistent downward "boring" affording sport of such high quality, that *Barbus vulgaris* is entitled to rank among the very gamest of fresh-water fish, for his "pluck and tenacity of life prolong the contest far beyond the measure of any other fish of equal weight, the Thames trout himself not excepted."*

It will, of course, be conceived that angling for barbel demands the very best of tackle. The rod for legering should be of lance-wood, or greenheart, moderately stiff, about 9ft. long, and with upright rings. My own favourite one is in two joints only, was made by Ogden Smith some fourteen years ago, since when it has been the death of hundreds of fish (including a 15lb. pike), and is to-day perfect and strong as when first constructed. The rod for "Nottingham fishing" should be from 11ft. to 12ft. in length, and though springy, not too much so, but with a certain degree of stiffness. I would recommend one built by D. Slater and Co., of Newark-on-Trent, who have recently brought out some capital rods, with pine butts, cane second and third joints, and lance-wood tops. With these, and Slater's combination reels, an angler is properly equipped for either "legering" or "spinning," or fishing in the Nottingham style. When legering in the heavy waters of a weir, with possibly a rugged stony bottom, it is best to use salmon-gut traces, which may be stained pale blue or olive—the last 2ft. or 3ft. between the bullet and the hook should be stained trout-gut of moderate fineness, but carefully selected for strength; and there are no better baits than small lob-worms, nicely scoured in moss for some days to render them bright in colour and tough. Anglers differ, however, as to the most attractive way of baiting the hook with worm. My own experience is, it is best to use a short-shank No. 5 round bend hook, and to put its point "tenderly" through a very small bit of the worm, about the middle of its length, concealing the point of the hook. This method injures the bait but little, and allows it to crawl and work about the bottom in so very tempting a manner that fish can seldom resist taking it. The old-fashioned method of threading a worm through its head and all its length on a long-shanked hook, leaving a bit of the tail hanging over beyond the barb, does very well when barbel are hungry and feeding keenly; but such past-masters as J. P. W.—J. W. Gant, and many others I could name, will "have none of it"—they bait their hooks in the way I have described.

It must be getting on for twenty years ago that Edward Sheppard, of Mapledurham Loch, showed me this "dodge," when I was fishing in the annual barbel competition of the Piscatorial Society. The Thames was in heavy flood, but he had judiciously selected, and sparingly baited, a quiet eddy, where were plenty of fish, resting from the stress of stream. The result was five barbel, weighing 25lb., which won me the prize, and, in addition, twenty-five grand roach, weighing 23lb. The whole of the fish were caught with lob-worms on light ledger tackle, and with the rod (built by Ogden Smith) previously mentioned.

"Legering" has been so often described in the pages of the *Fishing Gazette* that it seems somewhat superfluous to do so again; but in case any young angler is not quite *au fait*, the way to proceed is to gather the line (which should be waterproofed and fine, though strong) into the left hand by a series of small coils, which lie loosely in the palm, thus drawing the ledger-bullet up to near the top ring of the rod; then, with a gentle swing, *not a jerk*, cast the bait into the swim or eddy at the desired place, holding a tight line, the rod at an angle to the line, and a foot or two above the surface of the water. Some anglers prefer to throw "off the reel"—a Nottingham one, of course—and to keep the line tight by placing a finger on the edge of the reel. Either method answers well. The bite of a fish will be instantly felt; when, if slight and gentle (for sometimes the barbel bite like roach), the rod-top should be depressed a little, so as to slack the line; and on the second bite, which most probably will be bolder, the hook should be driven home by instantly tightening the line with a firm turn of the wrist, rather than a violent snatch. When the barb is thus imbedded in the leathery mouth of the fish, there is little chance of a "break-away" unless the tackle parts. It is always prudent to try hooks first before using them, for if too much tempered they are brittle, and likely to break at the bend or barb; while, if soft—*i.e.*, insufficiently tempered—they straighten under the strain, and the fish escapes.

Sometimes, however, barbel will merely "nozzle" or turn over the bait, as if in a spirit of inquiry or, maybe, unfavourable criticism; or possibly a crafty old stager attempts to suck off the head or tail of the worm, avoiding the hook, thus sending a thrill of expectation up the line. Gentle twitchings or "taps" frequently proceed from a shoal of dace and roach which have invaded the swim, allured there by the ground-bait; but at length the unmistakable sensation of a well-defined bite makes the angler's heart beat faster, and then comes the excitement of a tussle with, maybe, a six or seven-pounder—a pleasure "better felt than described," for the fish does not soon "give in," like a chub or bream, but fights so long as any strength remains; and when he appears about to "throw up the sponge," no sooner does he catch sight of the landing-net than he seems to take a new lease of life and advantage, perhaps, of some want of skill or carelessness on the angler's part, then snaps the tackle, and gets clear away.

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* Rev. J. J. Manley, Fish and Fishing.

It is a fact beyond dispute, and well known to all barbel anglers, that many "breaks away" will utterly ruin a barbel hole or swim. These fish (like perch) seem to have the faculty of communicating to one another that the "lobs" they are feeding on are not salubrious (for stings are in their tails), that affairs from a commissariat point of view are not at all "serene," and they suddenly cease to feed. I have known one of the best barbel holes of the Thames spoiled for most of the season in consequence of an unskilful angler leaving half-a-dozen broken legers hanging to the jaws of the barbel there.

"Nottingham fishing," or "travelling," is a pretty method—more artistic than legering; and under certain conditions of clean, gravelly, level swims, with moderately clear water, is, in some rivers, even more killing. It is, however, somewhat trying, as this style necessitates much standing, especially if fishing from a river bank; but when legering the angler is at rest, quietly sitting on a chair, or the well of his punt.

Having fitted up the Nottingham rod and tackle, selected a float adapted to the strength of the stream, and the weight of shot needed; next plumb the depth of the swim, adjust the float accordingly, but so as to let the bait drag two or three inches on the bottom. I should explain that when the swim is some distance from the bank, and cannot be plumbed, the depth may be guessed as near as possible, and the float placed higher or lower, until it "cocks" properly; if it lies flat on the watert, he float is too far away from the shots, and must be lowered a few inches. A few trials and a little patience will soon determine the depth of the swim, which being ascertained, sufficient line should be drawn off the reel and neatly coiled on the grass or floor of punt, if clear of obstructions; or, better still, in the hand, as previously described. Many anglers prefer to cast from the reel—a very good method when "traveller" fishing. The bait should be swung out gently into the top of the swim, without splash or noise, and the float held a little back, so that the bait "trips" along the bottom in advance of the shots, thus coming to the fish in an enticing and natural way. On this, much of the success depends when fishing in the Nottingham style for barbel and various other fish.

To ensure good sport it is generally necessary to ground-bait the hole or swim previous to fishing by throwing in some handfuls of chopped-up lob-worms, in order to draw the fish together and keep them there; but they should be left at least twelve hours, by which time the fish will have consumed the "baiting," and be eager for more food. The hook-baits should be the reddest and brightest of the worms, well scoured in moss; those without the fleshy knots, known as "maidens," are the best to use. Sometimes scalded "greaves," the refuse of tallow-chandlers' factories, proves a killing bait, the whitest pieces being selected for the hook, and the less sightly mixed with clay into balls and used for ground-bait. What is termed "cross-baiting" is worse than useless—that is, fishing with worms on a baiting of greaves, or *vice versâ*.

The barbel gets his distinctive name from the beards, or *barbules (barbæ)*, on his nose and upper lips; these, no doubt, enable him to find food as he "roots about" like a pig among the stones and gravel at the bottom of the streams and the deep pools. Barbel spawn in May, as a rule; rapidly regain condition, and make for the weirs, in the heavy waters of which they are often caught by anglers spinning for trout. Some years since, when fishing the Kennet one fine April morning, I caught a 12lb. barbel on a large "phantom bait," and after a quarter of an hour's splendid sport I grassed the fish. A right reverend angling companion was with me; also Mills, then of Caversham. The fish being captured within the fence months was returned to the river. On another occasion, at Molesey weir, fishing with William Millbourne, I caught a brace, "spinning," of 9lb. and 6lb. This also happening in April, they were replaced in the water. And my friend, J. P. W., had two such experiences, I am informed, early this season. In April, barbel will at times take almost any moving bait.

But, it is said, "Exceptions prove the rule." In July, 1879, a gentleman and his wife, fishing the weir-pool of Streatley-on-Thames, with Ned Andrews for their attendant, the lady caught, on spoon-bait, a barbel just exceeding 9lb. I had the pleasure once of landing one for Mr. T. W. Gant, of 11½lb., from the "Gate Swim" at Sonning. It was killed after half-an-hour's superb sport on light Nottingham tackle.

But, alas! the glories of Sonning, from a fisherman's point of view, have departed. The fishing is not what it was; and that charming hostelry, the Old French Horn, embowered in roses and honeysuckles—erst an angler's paradise—so admirably managed by the then proprietor, William Hull, and his excellent wife, is demolished, and a pretentious inn erected in its place.

The White Hart, on the Berkshire side of the river, is clean and comfortable; good viands and cooking can be obtained there. The only other place is a public-house called the Bull, in a bye-lane, removed from the river.

When "legering" for barbel, other fish—such as perch, chub, bream, &c.—are frequently taken; and occasionally a large trout succumbs to the allurements of a lob-worm, thus meeting with an ignominious end. Several splendid Thames *fario* have been caught by anglers when "barbelling." Strange captures sometimes occur. It is recorded that Bendigo, the noted pugilist, when barbel fishing from Trent Bridge, Nottingham, hooked an old woman, who, ten days previously, committed suicide by jumping into the river; and as he caught her on fine tackle in a heavy stream, for half-an-hour he had immense sport before he landed her.

Recently I had a letter from a friend in America who is fond of fishing, telling me how, in the autumn of last year, he went "legering" in one of the rivers of New York State. Among other queer fish, he hooked and, after some trouble, landed a 24lb. *Troiynx ferox*—which means in plain fisherman's parlance a "snapping turtle." As his bull-dog was dead, he took it home, and chained it by one of its legs in the front garden, to snap and bark, and keep vagrants away; having accomplished this, the turtle was killed, and made into soup, to feed and fatten my friend's children.

(*To be continued.*)

Notes and Queries

MR. JOHN COOPER, of 28, Radnor-street, St. Luke's, called on us, on Tuesday last, with one of the loveliest trout we ever saw, both for shape and colouring. A 16lb. fish from Lough Neagh, Mr. C. had set it up excellently for a gentleman at the West End, who is making a collection of specimen trout. We hope he will get the 30lb. Lake Geneva trout which he is going for this autumn.

A WELL-KNOWN salmon angler is offering some salmon rods for sale in our columns this week.

WE regret to hear of the death of Mr. Wilson, who for some time rented the salmon fishery of Garry and Loch Oich. Mr. Wilson did a great deal for this fishery by buying off nets, which it is to be hoped his successor will continue, as the fishery is one of the best in Scotland for very large fish, and second to none north of the Dee. We understand several applications have already been made to the factor of the Glengarry estate for this excellent piece of fishing.

DEATH OF A NOTED ANGLER.—Mr. William M'Murdo, Ecclefechan, the well-known angler, died on Sunday morning last week, at his residence, after a brief illness. Only a fortnight before he was out fishing in the middle waters, and as he returned home late he caught a chill. Mr. M'Murdo had attained the age of seventy years, and there were few veteran anglers anywhere in the South of Scotland who could compare with him. A deacon in the Free Church of Ecclefechan, he was a most useful member of the congregation, and there his kindly advice in church management will be much missed by both minister and congregation.

FATAL WAGER.—Mr. John Hedley, an hotel-keeper at Yarm, near Stockton-on-Tees, and well known as lessee of the Tees salmon fisheries, made a bet on Tuesday night with a social party in his house that he could swim across the Tees and back with his clothes on. The party adjourned to the river bank, and Mr. Hedley plunged into the stream, but speedily sank and was drowned. His body was recovered on Wednesday.

A MONSTER SALMON.—On Monday morning a beautifully-shaped salmon, weighing 62lb., was caught in the nets at the Limie Hough, Hole Station, immediately below Perth. It was in splendid condition, and is the heaviest fish yielded by the Tay for six or seven years back.

CLOSE TIME ON THE TAY.—Messrs. MacKenzie and Dickson, solicitors, clerks for the Tay Fishery Board, have received intimation—in reply to a communication from the board—from the Secretary for Scotland, to the effect that he is not prepared to alter the annual close time for net fishing in the Tay district, as fixed by his order of the 15th May, 1888.

A NEW FISH STORY FROM NEBRASKA.—A new fish story comes from Nebraska. It comes in the garb of truth; and how beautiful a thing is truth—and how rare! A certain man has a farm on the Missouri River bottom, near Elk Valley, in the State named. A week ago the river began to rise, and he saw that his land would all be submerged. To be prepared, he transferred his family and also his stock and movable property to higher ground. There was on his farm exactly two miles of barbed wire fencing. It was five-wire fence, and there were thirty-two barbs to the rod, or a grand total of 102,400 barbs. It will hardly be believed, but with a patience worthy of a great cause the farmer and his hired man baited everyone of these barbs with a small bit of meat. They finished, and escaped to the bluffs just as the water came up. For twenty-six hours the water remained five feet above the top of the fence. Then the river receded, and the master and his servant went down to see how great had been the catch. We are told that he found a fish hanging from every barb except three, or 102,397 in all. There were pickerel, bass, pike, suckers, and many other varieties. They averaged 10lb. each in weight, giving him the grand total of 1,023,980lb. of fresh fish. The hired man was discharged because he had not properly baited the three barbs which failed to catch any fish.

GROPING IN THE TAFF VAWR RIVER.—"I believe I am right in stating that there is a board of conservators connected with the river Taff. How is it, then, that the keepers are never seen in the neighbourhood of Cefn Coed and Cwmtaff, where at every period of drought there may be seen dozens of boys and men daily groping? It is no exaggeration to state that during the past few weeks more fish were taken from the river Taff by these means than the many rods which are used will take in three years. This is not the only cowardly and unsportsmanlike means of taking fish. There are also many nets in constant use by night. Now, if it were not for the few feeders passing through Cyfarthfa Works, and one or two other parts more closely watched higher up the river, the fine trout for which the Taff is noted would be all but extinct. It would be interesting to notice the class which indulge in such questionable pastime. Observers cannot fail to see that the majority are nothing but loafers, who give but a day or two a week to the earning of an honest wage at the collieries and iron works. I trust the board of conservators will see to this matter."—"*Angler,*" *in the* "*Western Mail.*"

"UP WITH THE YELLOW."

BY EDGAR S. SHRUBSOLE.

A DAMP, dull, dismal morning; a deplorable drizzling rain; a detestable, depressing, "dem'd awful" outlook—east, north, west, and south; and, to cap all, a railway journey without a friend, for my intended companion did not "turn up" at the railway station. Rather a bad beginning for a day's trout fishing, eh?

Yet, as the train rushed through the quiet country, soothed by a pipe of the weed some faddists would tell us is rank poison, I was eagerly anticipating the steady rise in pools, streams, and glassy glides I know so well, of pound-and-a-half trout, my trusty rod was already bowing to the efforts of the well-conditioned fish to escape, and involuntarily I looked towards my landing-net to make sure I had it with me. For be it known, oh! gentle reader, that I am no believer in throwing up the sponge until a fight has been thoroughly fought—one never knows how near victory is, especially when trout-fishing. Why, some of my best days have been when wind, weather, and everything *but water*, have been dead against sport, judged from a "when the wind is in the south," &c., point of view.

Yet Mark Tapley would have had good cause to be proud of being "jolly" had he been placed like me. When at the station next to the one at which I was to alight, a local gentleman, exhibiting unmistakable signs of agricultural pursuits being his means of gaining a livelihood, told me there had been a tremendous downpour of rain during the night up the valley, "au' fur zertain, zur, t't rivur 'll be flooded afore dinner." However, when I got by the river side the water was coming down about right; and so, notwithstanding the rain still persisted in drizzling, and things generally looked anything but promising, I put up my rod and prepared for the fray.

While thus engaged I noticed a rise a few yards away, and securely mounting a light Blue Quill, I soon had it over the fish, and the fish in my net. It was only a half-pounder, barely that in fact; so it went back; for on the water I was fishing you are not supposed to take less than ½lb. fish, and as there are plenty over a pound I generally give limit fish the benefit of the doubt. Not a bad beginning; and a little farther on another, and yet another under-sized fish was returned. Then I came to a favourite stretch of mine, where, on the right bank, the river is very shallow, gradually deepening towards the left bank, which is fringed with bushes, under which a strong deep stream flows and heavy fish are wont to lie. It is easily fished (comparatively) when the wind is favourable, but in an awkward wind it would make the editor of a religious magazine "quote" from a profane author.

When I reached the stream the wind was not bad and not good. As I stood watching for a rise the rain ceased to drizzle, and the atmosphere quite suddenly became much warmer. Not a fish was moving, not a fly on the water. Very carefully I peered forward into the green depths of the stream, and presently I saw a good fish steadily swim out into a feeding position. He certainly wanted a fly, and I tried him with the Blue Quill; but my gentleman simply ignored it as it floated by him with its little wings cocked up—a perfect picture.

He was worth a little attention, so I tried two or three different patterns over him, all to no purpose. Then I changed to the Yellow Dun (my favourite fly), and the first cast I had him. He took it like a child takes a barley-sugar stick—right in his mouth; and with a shake of his head went away, like the good fish he was, surprised at his want of caution, undoubtedly, and disgusted with himself for having been so easily deceived. He showed good sport, but had to give in in the end; and as I laid him in the bottom of my creel I could but admire his shape, size, and condition; I am afraid that I also had thoughts of what a toothsome breakfast he would make.

A few yards farther on in the same stream the dainty yellow was again deliberately sucked in, and, as I tightened on the fish, the bold plunge and heavy strain upon the line told me I had another trout, which, if successfully brought to the net, would not have to be returned through being under-sized. This proved to be the case; and the two fish made a very handsome brace.

After this I fished more than half-a-mile of the water without adding another to my creel. Many pools, streams, holes, and shallows I had to pass, that under ordinary circumstances I should have been bound to get a fish from. The river was rising, and would soon commence to colour, and then I knew—good-bye to the fishing for the day! It had commenced drizzling again, and altogether it *was* rough, I can tell you.

I had changed my fly several times and had got a small Greenwell's Glory on when I arrived at a famous pool just below a bridge crossing the river I was fishing. Very carefully I whipped that pool all over. Result, *nil.* Without doubt the fish were right in under the bridge; so, wading quietly and carefully out into the middle of the pool, I sent the Greenwell on a journey of inspection under the bridge. It was by no means an easy cast, but the fly settled upon the water very satisfactorily, and then I saw a fine fish undecidedly move towards it, and then sink back into the green depths. He didn't care for Glory in that guise. Without a moment's hesitation I put a Yellow Dun again, and then followed a busy twenty minutes or so. As I made my first cast with the Yellow, a puff of wind took it right under the bridge a treat, and it settled upon the water in such a manner that I knew if a fish there wanted a fly he'd be bound to take the one I presented to him. I would here remark that only about 3ft. 6in. was the distance from the surface of the water to the under part of the bridge.

Well, that Yellow didn't have to sail far. A steady, business-like rise, immediately responded to on my part, and away went the gallant fish bang under the bridge, clean out of sight. Here was a pretty pickle. I knew above the bridge the river was weedy, and for all I knew the fish had run into the weed. I did what I always do under such circumstances—kept a steady strain upon the fish. Presently he eased down through the bridge, and came out into the pool, and then I knew I had my gentleman—for I took deuced fine care he didn't take another walk up stream. He shook his head in an angry manner as I led him towards the net, and turned over on his side as I slipped it under him—as plucky a two-pounder as it has been my lot to kill.

I was afraid the antics of my last fish had disturbed the others, but could not leave such a likely spot without another cast or two, so once more the Yellow was sent on a journey under the bridge. The wind that had favoured me before was kind enough to hitch my fly in a little crevice in the bridge this time; however, just a gentle tug released it, and it fell clean into the open mouth of a trout! For a second I could hardly realise that the fish had taken my fly; but an involuntary action of my wrist tightened on him, and away he came, clean down the pool, right by me, tumbling over the shallow before, and finally resting in a deep hold about 15yds. below me. I cautiously waded down towards him, and having got on the right side (literally) of him, proceeded to let him know that a 10ft. rod decently handled was more than he could put up with for long. We argued this point for several minutes, but in the end I proved right, and completed my second brace to the delightful music of the creaking of the lid of my creel.

Two or three ineffectual casts under the bridge again, and I moved farther on, for I knew every quarter-of-an-hour brought me nearer the time when the state of the water would compel me to stop fishing. The next stretch of water I operated upon is very difficult to fish: for about two hundred yards the banks of the river are heavily wooded, the trees from either side, for the greater part, meeting. The river is also very weedy here, and the angler has to have the temper of an angel and the patience of Job to fish it. I waded into the water, and slowly proceeded up stream. Presently I noticed a very decent trout, and prepared to place the Yellow over him. I was carefully working out sufficient line to reach him, and having got enough, switched it forward, and turned to judge the trees, so I did not catch up in making my cast, when I felt a tug. Luckily my line was clear, and the wing sang out merrily as a good fish made a rush up stream, and then came clean out of the water—"more than a pound of him," I told myself. He had evidently meant taking that fly, for to the best of my belief it must have been under water. As he fell back into the river he made a plunge, and then a pull and a jerk told me he was in a weed. There was nothing left to be done but to keep on a steady strain, and trust to the fish clearing himself. This he eventually did; and as I gently led him to my net, carefully lifted him from his native element, and transferred him to my creel, I found I was quite right in my conjecture—he was over a pound.

This bit of fun disturbed the fish I really intended trying for; but a grand rise in front of me accelerated the action of my heart, and I turned my attention to the fish that had risen. Thank goodness! he was in a pool clear of weeds, and if I could only manipulate my fly properly that fish was mine for a certainty. By creeping under the boughs, and working my line close to the surface of the water, I succeeded in snicking the Yellow just about a yard above the rising fish. He didn't wait for it to reach him, but went for it like a needle to a magnet, and it was some minutes before he joined his brethren in my creel, and so completed my third brace.

As I waded out of the stream, and started along the bank for another spot I knew well would hold a good fish, my friend showed up, clad in a long waterproof which reached to his heels, and a "sou'-wester" that would have well graced a coal-heaver. He reckoned it was no use fishing such a day, and seemed surprised when I told him I intended keeping on as long as the water was at all decent. He asserted I must be a born idiot to fish in such weather; but when I showed him the half-dozen trout I had, his eyes and mouth opened, and his congratulations were hearty and sincere. There is no doubt I deserved the fish; it wasn't a case of chuck-and-chance-it, I can assure you.

Together we walked to a spot where the only chance of getting a fly on the water was to work it very carefully between an alder and a thorn bush, which were only about five feet apart. Two good friends, eh? Peering between them, I perceived a lusty trout quietly poising himself in the pool below. It was a long shot, and a difficult one, that would reach him; but by carefully working out my line in the meadow, and then gradually approaching the aperture between the alder and the thorn-bush, I managed to send the Yellow in the desired direction. It alighted quite two yards above the fish, and as the stream here ran very slow and deep, it seemed an age before it reached him. When it did, it sailed clean over his nose; and I was just going to pick my line off the water in disgust, when he turned lazily round, gave a wag of his broad tail, and deliberately sucked in my fly. Gentle reader, you probably know what it is to hit a fish like that, with a lot of slack line on the water, an alder on one side of you, a thorn-bush the other, and trees in every direction. That fish must have "eat" that fly, for such a muff of a strike is not often seen as the one with which I hooked him. However, the plunge told me I had him on, and quickly lowering my rod (I dared not keep it up for fear of a tangle among the bushes), I played him much after the manner one has to play a chub under like circumstances—that is, anyhow I could. Well, he bored about for some time in the pool; but at last my friend had the net under him, and whipped him out upon the bank. When I went to the net to take the hook out, I found I was saved the trouble, for the hold gave way as the fish was laid on the bank. Quite near enough that! My seventh fish was a good pound weight.

And now the drizzle turned to a smart shower; and drenched to the skin almost (for I hate a macintosh), I reluctantly came to the conclusion I had better turn it up for the day. The water was getting slightly coloured, I knew I had only about another half-an-hour's fishing, and hardly thought it worth while continuing against such odds. And so we turned to retrace our steps. When we came to the bridge where I had caught the brace in the earlier part of the morning, I could not resist the temptation of making a trial cast down stream. I took a long shot, lost sight of my fly in the driving rain, but knew it was somewhere under or near to the bridge. Presently—tug! and turning to my friend, I quietly remarked, "He's on!" Oh! the capers that fish had! Down came the rain—a perfect deluge! But what cared we? I knew I had a good fish on, and meant creeling it if possible. Presently the 10ft. of built-cane told its tale, and we had a sight of the fish—a regular beauty. Soon after the net was brought into use, and another two-pounder was added to our creel.

The water was now coming down almost unfishable; but breaking off the very fine end of my cast, I mounted a Yellow Dun of the same pattern, but a size larger, and hurried down to the stream where I killed the first fish of the day. Getting in below, and fishing it up, I hooked a trout of about 7oz., which I returned. The rain suddenly ceased, the water was rapidly colouring, and I made my last cast of the day. I believe the spirit of Izaak Walton watches over persevering anglers, for a grand fish rolled right over my fly, and striking, I had him! He showed such a fight as is seldom seen, and no wonder. When landed (as of course he was ultimately) he proved to be foul-hooked—the Yellow was firmly imbedded in the root of one of his pectoral fins.

With this fish I ended my day (or rather half-day). We got back to a snug little cottage on the estate; I fetched my waders off, had my coat, &c., dried, we made a hearty meal off country-cured ham and new-laid eggs, and soon after the train was whirling us up back to town.

I don't often weigh my fish, but this four and a-half brace looked so pretty I thought I would. The nine fish weighed exactly 13¼lb.

Now for the lesson this day's fishing (which is a faithful record) should teach those who read this article: Never say die; and when everything seems against a successful day's fishing, "Up with the Yellow!" It will not disappoint you. I've killed fish with it all over England, and all through the season. I have good reason to think highly of it, not only because of the sport I have had with it, but because it was brought to my notice first by one of the best dry-fly fishermen of the day. He used it during the whole of the first day's fishing we ever had together, now several years ago, and killed ten and a-half brace of trout, varying from 1lb. to 1¾lb. upon the same waters that the few hours' fishing I have just described took place on. It was a very enjoyable day, wasn't it, Mr. Marston?

But there are Yellows and Yellows. Some dressed are no more like the real thing than Piccadilly is like a porridge pot. Here is the dressing I refer to: Body, primrose-yellow worsted; two or three strands of pale buff cochin cock for tail; hackle from the same feather; wings, palest starling. Hook for general use, 00. Have a few dressed upon 0 and 1 hooks for exceptional circumstances.

Before long I will give you an account of that first day's fishing with the Yellow—and Mr. Marston. It is worth relating.

OUR readers, before leaving for their holidays, should entrust their canine pets as Boarders to Spratt's Patent Dog Sanatorium. The Sanatorium is on a healthy site near Mitcham. The kennels are large and spacious. The dogs are well groomed and exercised for several hours daily, and above all are not caged or chained. Mr. Sewell, the Canine Specialist and Vet., supervises all. Write Spratt's Patent Limited, Bermondsey, London, for all particulars.

WHILE fishing at Halkirk last week I observed something swimming across the pool towards me. It turned out to be a stoat with a young one in its mouth. Although it saw me, and I even tried to hit it with the line, it kept straight on, and after landing, soon disappeared with its burden in a rough building by the river bank.—A. H.

TO TAKE AWAY THE MUDDY FLAVOUR OF COARSE FISH.—A correspondent sends us the following: "Cram some ordinary table salt into the mouth and down the throat of your carp, tench, roach, pike, &c. Hang up the fish by the gills, and then pour a little water into the mouth so as to partially dissolve the salt and carry a supply of brine down to the inwards, and so let the fish hang over night, or, at any rate, for some hours before cooking."

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—A Cure for Abscesses, Piles, Fistula, and Sores of every description.—The very satisfactory results arising from the use of this invaluable Ointment, when the patients have been suffering from any of the above disorders, have induced the Medical Profession to introduce it into the hospitals and their private practice, and in many instances where the sufferer was considered incurable, Holloway's Ointment, in conjunction with his Pills, healed the most desperate cases. They are also unequalled for the cure of scrofula, scurvy, and all diseases of the skin, and the cures they effect are not temporary or imperfect, for by their purifying powers they bring about a marvellous and most beneficial change in the whole system, and enable it, with renovated powers, to resist the approach of all future attacks of the same disease.

Waltoniana

IT is often the unexpected which happens in trout fishing. On the best of days, when wind and water and season are all in our favour, we return with empty creels, while on some blazing hot summer's day, with dead low water, we sometimes find the fish rising well, and only requiring a little judicious stalking. Verily trout are kittle cattle. I have seen—and this in a chalk stream, too—trout refuse the most artistic of duns put before them with about as much care and skill as we poor humans are capable of, and then rise to a great bunch of feathers as large as a bumble bee (twelve guillemot's breast feathers as a wing, if you please!) cast in front of them boldly, and with a good hearty splash. Then, on another occasion, when the trout were smutting and seemed unapproachable, a fairly good fish, for the stream, was taken on a huge Black Palmer, such as one would put up for a Thames chub.

WITH considerable trepidation I venture to suggest that many dry-fly fishers—perhaps the majority—are a little too much wedded to duns. The homes of the dry-fly fisher are on the banks of the Test or the Itchen, where great hatches of duns are frequently taking place. Many of our best fly-fishermen hailing from those streams and finding there that duns are the flies which most commonly catch trout, not unnaturally recommend them for other waters, and so it comes about that their humble pupils and followers crowd their books and boxes with tiny duns, sometimes to the exclusion of the very flies which are most useful on other streams. I have not a word to say against duns in their proper place—that is to say, on the streams on which they abound; but of this I feel assured, that it is, generally speaking, bad policy to dun trout which are not accustomed to being dunned by nature. On some parts of the Kennet, for instance, one may fish all day without seeing a dun; but numbers of large flies will be seen, and local anglers know well that the fish there prefer a large fly to a small one.

THE foregoing remarks apply more to the aforesaid pupils and followers than to the old hands, who have shrewd ideas on the subject of flies, wherever they may be fishing. Pupils and followers are very apt to fish by rule of thumb, and when they read that a celebrated fly-fisher considers that a Red Quill Gnat is one of the most killing flies, apply that doctrine to whatever river they may be fishing, without thinking for a moment that the said celebrated angler was writing about the stream he mostly frequented. But these misleading general statements are made all through the various branches of angling. One man writes that the very best bait for roach is the gentle, another that one of the best sea trout flies is dressed in such a manner, another that there is no bait for pike to equal a gudgeon; the truth being that in some rivers gentles only attract the small roach, that the sea trout fly is only good on Devonshire streams, and that in many waters there are far better baits for pike than gudgeon. The fact is, most beginners love rather to lay up a store of rules for their guidance than to take the trouble of thinking out for themselves their best course of proceeding under varying circumstances. I was salmon fishing with a beginner during some weeks, and had many instances of the utter absence of reasoning powers exhibited in some men who fish. One day, it being bright and sunny, I advised a small fly, and my friend apparently stored up in his mind as a rule to be observed in future that whenever the day was sunny a small fly must be used. Why, because the day was sunny, a small fly was necessary he did not trouble to consider. A few days later the river was in spate, but the sky had cleared and the sun shone brightly. Nothing was said about flies. I went up the river and finding the water thick and heavy put up the largest fly in my book. At the end of the day we met. I had two fish, while my friend had none. He seemed rather nettled at his want of success, and on seeing the fly I was using, roundly abused me for telling him to use a small fly on sunny days, while I used a large fly myself. He had been using a very small fly all day, utterly oblivious of the fact that it could hardly by the fish be seen in the thick rough water which was coming down the river.

No, there are very few rules in angling, and nearly all of them are subject to many exceptions. Beginners should therefore try to understand the whys and wherefores of things rather than to cram their heads with a lot of receipts for catching fish. I am not sure that the whole art and mystery of fishing does not consist in putting a bait or fly before the fish which he likes, and keeping from him the fact that a human being is anywhere near. In many cases coarse tackle does less harm than letting the fish see you. When we see the local angler—some poor cobbler, maybe—who catches with the most wretched appliances more fish than we can with masterpieces of the tackle-maker's art, the reason usually is, that while the cobbler knows the water and the best method of fishing it without letting the fish see him, we, who are strangers, as likely as not show ourselves to the fish, and our fine tackle is of no avail. These remarks do not apply to roach in our best roach streams. In summer float fishing for roach, both fine tackle and keeping out of sight are very important. Chub, on the other hand, may be caught on salmon gut, provided they neither see the angler nor are aware of his presence. Some men who fish for trout with large flies and coarse gut owe what success they have to studiously keeping out of sight. In some instances they catch more fish than fairly skilful anglers using finer tackle, but who are not so particular about not showing themselves. A great deal depends, of course, on the standard of education attained by the fish. Cast a fly into one of Mr. Andrew's ponds, where the trout are rarely or never fished for, and there will be a general rush for it, show yourself ever so much. There the trout have not passed even the first standard. Change your position to a club water on the Test, and you will find the sight of your rod-point sufficient to send every trout within twenty yards scurrying off. Sometimes, however, one of these sixth standard fish will take no apparent notice, but go on feeding, but he will be careful to distinguish between the natural insects and the thing you put before him. Had he not seen you he might have risen to your feathers.

THE three men in the employment of Col. Eyre, of Welford, who were summoned for cutting weeds in the Lambourn without removing them from the river, were tried before the Newbury County Bench on Thursday. The case resulted in a nominal fine being inflicted. Counsel retained by Colonel Eyre asked the bench to state a case. The application was granted. TEMPLAR.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. A. P.: It is not worth while to notice the attack you refer to.

JONAS: Not so bad.

NUNQUAM DORMIO: Do not quite catch your meaning; put it plain.

Correspondence

THE GATE SWIM, AMBERLEY.

SIR,—A "London Angler," in his remarks *re* the Gate Swim, Amberley, seems to think that the wives and children must be pent up in London unless they go by the excursion, which was first instituted for the exclusive benefit of anglers.

With regard to the flowers, it is quite possible that one or more persons amongst such a large number of excursionists would pay for them, and it is equally possible that the majority would not.

Again, anglers require to be perfectly quiet to insure success in their sport, and consequently those who take wives and children with them, do not get the requisite quietness and therefore very little fish; and very often those who seek quietness by leaving their wives and children to amuse themselves at home or elsewhere, as they like, are annoyed by the children taken down by others. Also, when wives and children are taken out on fishing excursions, a little suffices them of looking on, and consequently they look round for something more amusing to them, and may resort to picking flowers or fruit without the permission of the owners.—Yours, &c., A LONDON ANGLER.

TROUT FISHING IN IRELAND WANTED.

Sir,—Will some of your readers state, from personal experience, where I could get a few days' good trout fishing in a lake in Ireland—the nearer to Dublin the better? Information *re* accommodation, charges, for boat, licence, &c., would greatly oblige.

I wish to go in next two months, and to a lake where sport is certain, and fish of good size.—Yours, &c., H. N.

THE LATE MAJOR HILL.

Sir,—The interesting account and the bearded likeness of Major, the Hon. Geoffrey Clegg Hill, were misleading to many countrymen. He was the younger son of Sir Rowland Hill, of Hardwick, Salop, afterwards succeeding his uncle, the great Lord Hill, the Peninsular warrior. The late Lord Hill's brother Clement was the man known as Major Hill in Shropshire; another brother being John, or "His Reverence."

Lord Hill's elder son Rowland took the North Shropshire Foxhounds off Mr. Charles Morris in the 60's, handing over the Otter Hounds to the younger son, the Hon. Geoffrey, as he was commonly called, and was then in the Royal Horse Guards or 2nd Life Guards. The Hon. Rowland Clegg Hill bought many hounds and horses at Lord Stamford's celebrated sale at the Quorn Kennels, taking the first whip, Jem McBride, as huntsman, and there was some "pushing along" that season, I can tell you; real Leicestershire style. Fortunately it happened to be a good scenting one.

Writing of good "good scent" reminds me of a little joke on it. The otter hounds were to meet at seven a.m. on a stream of Sir Thomas Meyrick's, of Apley Castle. I saw a water-hen run along the bank, and two hounds speak to the line, so I said to Sir Thomas, "Blessed if these hounds won't hunt anything; they are on the line of a water-hen." He replied, "Yes, and if the scent had been a little otter (hotter) we might have had some fun."—Yours, &c., J. M. Fletcher.

Cheshire.

MAIDSTONE ANGLING SOCIETY.

Sir,—The committee of the above society desire me to write and ask if you could do us a kindness by taking notice of the appeal made by us to the London anglers who fish in the Medway for donations towards the preservation fund, which is in a very low state.

I am sorry to say we do not get the support from the local fishermen we ought to do. We have written the Central Association, Woolwich Brothers, Deptford Brothers, and Peckham Brothers. Have enclosed a copy of letter sent to each club. If you can do this for us we shall be very thankful.—Yours faithfully,

Albert H. Emary, hon. sec.

Anchor and Hope Inn, Bower-lane, Maidstone.

P.S.—Have received a donation of 10s. 6d. from the Deptford Brothers; Central Association referred to next meeting; no answer from Woolwich.

[copy.]

Maidstone Angling Society,
Anchor and Hope Inn,
Bower-lane, Maidstone, July, 1891.

Dear Sir,—At a meeting of members of the above society, it was unanimously decided to apply to your society for assistance in the work of prosecuting and preserving the angling rights in the Medway.

I may say the society recently obtained two convictions for netting the river, besides giving rewards for the capture and destruction of otters, which have been a great source of trouble, as well as an expense on our funds, which, owing to a want of local interest, are not in a very flourishing condition.

Hoping you will lay this before your members for their kind consideration at an early date, —I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

Albert H. Emary, hon. sec.

[When Mr. Shrubsole wrote the articles on "The Medway as an Angling River," which appeared in our columns a few years back, he drew attention to this association. We have asked him to attend one of their meetings, and report upon this matter in our columns. We believe the M. A. S. is worthy of support, and it is a great pity that more local interest is not taken in the matter. —Ed.]

SEA FISHING AT BOURNEMOUTH.

Sir,—I should feel much obliged if some of your readers can give me any information regarding the sea fishing at Bournemouth in August? —Yours truly, F. R.

RE CAMM FUND.—APPEAL TO CLUB ANGLERS AND FRIENDS.

Dear Sir,—I have received 5s. from a West of England club, making the second donation this club has remitted, and by their desire I am asked to acknowledge it in the *F. G.* I hope other societies will forward on their grants to this sad and distressing case.—I am, yours truly,

B. Abrahams,

25, Silver-street, Notting Hill Gate, W.

Cheques and Postal Orders can be crossed "Alliance Bank and Co."

SHORT WADERS OR FISHING BOOTS.

Dear Sir,—I have the privilege of fishing on two adjoining lengths of a trout stream. On one, wading is not allowed, and is not necessary; on the other, some of the best water must be passed over by one who does not wade. But as many of the meadows on either length abound in ditches and "drawns," some sort of waterproof boot, reaching up to the knee, would be extremely useful. Can any of your readers offer advice as to the form of boot which they have found most useful in similar circumstances? Also, I should be glad of hints with regard to knee-pads. Like many other chalk-stream anglers, I find it necessary to do most of my summer fishing on my knees, but I have never yet satisfied myself with anything I have tried. What is wanted is something light, portable, and capable of easy adjustment; but it must be waterproof, and sufficiently strong to stand the wear and tear in places where the bank is often a mixture of pebbles and hard chalk.—Yours faithfully, H. S. Hall.

FISHING FROM DEAL PIER.

Sir,—I am staying at the well-known anglers' hotel, the Antwerp (Mr. Ottaway), and being opposite the pier it is of course handy for the rod fishers. There are at present eighteen men-of-war in the Downs, whose steam pinnaces are to and fro all day long, which upsets the usual good fishing, driving the larger fish to the deeps. Still, for all that, many codlings, poutings, dabs and dog-fish have been caught.

One gentleman, who like me has suffered from influenza, has so far recovered as to commence fishing at two a.m., and coming in to breakfast with a good show of pollack, caught with a piece of parchment cut into the shape of a fish, and a triangle fixed thereto. These fish are usually caught at dusk, moonlight, and very early in the morning, before the boats disturb the water.

I wrote to you last year about Major and Mrs. Major Napier fishing after dark—sometimes till eleven p.m.—with large salmon flies, and with great success. I have brought a salmon with me, and will try the same dodge next week.

The pier has been extended this year, so there is now a promenade all round the concert-room, and being furnished with seats, they are well occupied by visitors. On Thursday evening last electric-light signalling was going on between the flag-ship (*The Benbow*) and other men-of-war, which had a pretty effect when turned on the town, as it made Deal appear as if in sunshine.

Anglers and others requiring a change should come to Deal, and become as ruddy and rosy as the men and women of all degrees are here. Anglers should bring a pickle bottle full of scalded mussels, leaving the shells at home; or if used raw, which is better, bring some fine hemp fibre, which assists in keeping the bait on the hook. Lug-worms can be bought at the pier-head, and sometimes cockles in the town. Cockles are most suitable for ladies to handle, as they do not soil the fingers as worms do. Cockles are used fresh from the shells.—I am yours, &c, T. R. Sachs.

*** **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

By C. W.

Nearly the whole of the clubs affiliated with the Birmingham Association are busy with making their arrangements for their annual contests, and are trying to get them over previous to the Marston Challenge Cup Competition on Bank Holiday next, or before the great association struggle on the 14th of September next; and great credit is due to the clubs for arranging their contests so as not to interfere with the two contests just mentioned. By the clubs adopting this plan, it will be the means of making both contests a big success. The August Bank Holiday has always been a very popular day with the Birmingham anglers to hold their annual contests, and in previous years I have known as many as a dozen taking place, but owing to the important event at Tewkesbury, I have not heard as yet of any society that will hold their contest on that date. In order to be fully prepared to meet both events, some few of the clubs have brought their contests off since my last Notes. The Camden Society, held at the Camden Tavern, Camden-street, brought their contest to a successful issue on Saturday last, at Droitwich. Sixty-seven members took part. The weight of fish taken was very low, only about twenty-seven taking fish during the first two hours. It was decided to follow on with another contest for the remainder of the prizes. The result of the first weighing-in was as follows, and the following six gentlemen will receive the six best prizes: First, Mr. Dayns; second, Mr. W. Saunders; third, Mr. Partridge; fourth, Mr. G. Orme; fifth, Mr. J. W. Crisp; sixth, Mr. H. Samders. The first prize consists of a splendid eight-day clock and barometer combined, and is given by the worthy host of the house, Mr. Walker. There are also six other clocks and time-pieces, a work-table, writing-desks, three china tea-services, two handsome table lamps, cruet frames, four sets of vases, albums, silver-mounted pipes, fishing tackle, and jewellery. The prizes will be distributed at the annual dinner, which will be held in about three weeks time, and upon which occasion I am informed that a handsome presentation will be made to the president, Mr. J. Marsden, for past services, which extend over four years.

The Bellbarn Society, held at the Queen's Arms Inn, Bellbarn-road, held their annual contest on Monday last, at Pershore in splendid weather. The contest was not so well patronised as the executive could wish, considering the number and quality of the prizes given to be contested for. The prizes numbered twenty-seven, and were of a very useful character. The result was: First, Mr. F. James; second, Mr. C. Haywood; third, Mr. C. Goodwin; fourth, Mr. Bowler; fifth, Mr. G. Lester, &c.

The Sparkbrook Society, held at the Rose Tavern, Henley-street, Sparkbrook, held their contest on Monday last, at Pershore. Twenty-two competitors took part in the contest, which was of three hours' duration, at the end of which time the weighing-in took place, when the old veteran, Mr. J. Pratt, was declared the winner of the first prize by something like 12oz. to spare; Mr. M. Crosby was second; Mr. J. Morris, third; Mr. W. Lawrence, fourth; Mr. W. Davies, fifth; Mr. J. Southam, sixth, &c. The prizes, which are of a valuable kind, being composed of a marble timepiece, china tea service, fishing tackle, and a special prize of a pound-tin of tobacco, given by the firm of Wills, of Bristol, were distributed on Friday evening last. Mr. L. Wilkinson acted as referee; and everything passed off in a very satisfactory manner. I am requested to state by Mr. Rowberry, the secretary, that the host of the club-house intends giving prizes to the value of £5 for another contest, to be fished later in the season.

Mr. W. H. Miller, the secretary of the Birmingham Anglers' Benevolent Society, kindly requests all secretaries of clubs to forward to him at 81, Ladypool-road, Sparkbrook, on or before Wednesday, July 22, all membership cards which have not been issued to June 30 last, together with any subscriptions for cards issued which have not already been forwarded, so as to enable him to get out a balance-sheet for the first financial year ending June 30 last. The subscription of 1s. 1d. per member for the current year is now due, and it is important that all members should pay the same before the end of July, so as to keep in benefit. New membership cards will be forwarded upon receipt of names and subscriptions.

I am pleased to inform those gentlemen who patronise the Warwickshire Avon that the roach which have hitherto been so shy, are beginning to bite a little more freely, and are reported to be getting into good condition.

The Shannon "Otter" Case.—In the Dublin Exchequer High Court, last week, Mr. Justice Andrews and Mr. Justice Murphy had before them the case stated by the magistrates at Nenagh, co. Tipperary, Petty Sessions. The defendant, Mr. Anthony Parker, D.L., Castle Lough, was, as our readers will remember, summoned for having, on April 13, used an "otter" for the purpose of taking fish in Lough Derg, the complainants being the Shannon Board of Conservators. At the hearing it was admitted, on the part of the board, that the engine or implement known as an "otter" had been used in Lough Derg for a considerable number of years, but on inquiry they found, as alleged, that this method of fishing was illegal, and they caused notices to be posted informing the public that it could not be permitted in future. Mr. Parker, acting on legal advice, invited the board to have the question finally set at rest by having a prosecution instituted against him, and having a case stated for the superior courts. A licence had been issued to him for "cross-fishing," and he used the "otter" for the purpose of stretching the line, thus avoiding the use of a second boat—the "otter" being a piece of wood of about 18in. in length—and it was submitted that this method of fishing was contrary to the provisions of the 10th section of the 13th and 14th Vic. cap. 88. The magistrates dismissed the summons, without prejudice, on the ground of ambiguity, and stated a case. The court held that the "otter" used by the defendant was the inanimate contrivance pointed at by the Act of Parliament, and that the method of fishing by the defendant was a contravention of the Act of Parliament. They therefore reversed the decision of the magistrates, and held that there should be a conviction.—S. J. Hurley.

NOTES FROM THE LAKE DISTRICT.

THE question of pollution continues to occupy the public mind, and, in so far as Lake Windermere is concerned, is being tackled in a proper spirit. Dr. Craven, medical officer of health for the Westmoreland portion of the Lake District, has addressed a letter to the Bowness Local Board, urging the desirability of joint action on the part of the Board and the Kendal Sanitary Authority in taking steps to check the pollution of the lake by the Windermere steam yachts and the house-boat; and at the last meeting of the Board the chairman (Mr. D. Clondsdale) said he thought the medical officer had done right in drawing attention to the matter; but as the house-boat was now outside that Board's district he did not see that they could interfere, especially while there were a number of large houses whose cesspools overflowed into the lake and no notice was taken of them. The ashes from the public and other steamers—now numbering about twenty—was quite a different thing, and were calculated to do a hundredfold more harm; and if the Fishery Conservators could have this remedied it would be a good thing for the fish and the lake generally. Another member considered the Board would be lacking in their duty not to enforce the Public Health Acts Amendment Act after having adopted it. If ashes were injurious to fish life their deposit ought to be prevented; it was a question of stopping anything which was of detriment to the inhabitants of the lake, and if the lake could be filled with fish by having the ashes removed it would be the best possible thing for Bowness. It was eventually decided that notices be issued stating that the Public Health Act had been adopted in its entirety, and that prosecutions would follow any infringement of the same. Action is also likely to be taken in regard to the rivers Eden, Kent, and Derwent.

THE weather continues dry, and as a consequence river beds are showing where there should be a good flow of water. Night fishing, however, gives fairly good results; and perch, rudd, pike, &c., may be taken almost at any time on the tarns and lakes. For those who care for the sport, trolling for pike can also be indulged in on the Kendal and Preston Canal. From the former town southwards for many miles this canal is as pure, or purer, than some rivers, and is well-stocked. One adept is said to have captured between thirty and forty pike by this means in a week. Leave must be obtained—which means a shilling ticket for the season—from the London and North-Western Railway Company, the owners of the canal.

POACHING continues despite the "examples" occasionally made in the police courts of offenders. A remarkable case of hard swearing occurred in one case heard by a Cumberland bench of magistrates last week. A tinplate worker rejoicing in the classic name of "W. Shakespear" was charged with taking fish by means of a click-hook, and two policemen swore to seeing the fellow capture a fish by this means at three o'clock a.m. They gave chase but were unable to arrest the man, though they knew him well, and heard him addressed by name by a companion. They also saw him throw away his click-hook, of which they obtained possession. In opposition to this evidence a number of fellow workmen, as well as the night watchman at the works, swore positively that the man was not, nor could have been, absent from his work between half-past five p.m. and six a.m. The defendant was in the end fined £2; and four other men of a similar kidney were at the same time convicted and fined £1 10s. each for like offences.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

REPORTS from Northwioh are of a uniform character, and as a whole more encouraging; the fish are in good condition, and feeding freely, the average basket of this season is better than of the last few seasons. Anglers anywhere within reasonable distance of this rendezvous would do well to pay it a visit.

SOME Lancashire anglers have been to Lake Vyrnwy, and had a good time with the trout, now so plentiful in this lake. Why sport with trout weighing from 1lb. upwards should be described as amusement requires a lot of time to understand!

TRIALS have recently been made with a new combination of hooks for pike fishing. It is very simple in its arrangement, and while reducing to a minimum the hooking necessary to secure the bait, it is very deadly towards the pike. So far the results are satisfactory, and more will be heard of this new tackle shortly.

A PROMINENT Salford angler is promoting a handicap on an extensive scale. He proposes throwing the competition open to the public generally.

THE New Islington Club held a competition a few days since, but every prize offered failed to find a winner, as not a single fish was taken. They attribute their non-success to the fact that the Poynton Canal has been so extensively netted by the boatmen that practically there are no fish.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

BARBEL anglers are not doing so well on the Trent as could be desired, and in fluctuating waters the fish show no real disposition to feed. The river of late has constantly been up and down, and until the swims reach the customary height of summer, I question very much whether sport will improve. Of course it is possible to kill a few fish with the leger line, but no great quantity seems to result from the favourite and popular method of swimming the worm. At Shardlow the length teems with fish, and settled weather alone is likely to cause a flutter amongst them. Last season the takes were unimportant, and there is no doubt that on the majority of the subscription waters the numbers bagged were considerably below those of the previous year. Prospects, therefore, should be brighter so far as quantity is concerned. Bream fishing has recently engaged ample attention, and the rise last week would set the fish freely on the feed. More especially was this the case at Weston, for I hear that nearly every subscriber with any pretensions to skill failed to return home without a substantial basket. Weston is a famous haunt of the big bellows fellows, and already many very fine specimens have succumbed. Anglers, however, need not go to the trouble of swimming the worm; they should, to enjoy sport, fall back on the tight-floating system. Sawley, since my last Notes, has yielded well. and I hear that matters are looking up at Colwick and Holme Pierrepont. At Wilford, on Tuesday, one of the subscribers experienced a novel adventure. Whilst legering for eels a barbel seized both bait and hook and dragged the rod, which had been fixed on the bank, into mid-stream. Here it made sundry gyrations and ultimately stood nearly upright in the water. The fish broke away with upwards of thirty yards of line, and a friend coming up recovered the derelict rod by means of throwing his corking leads across it. The same thing has often happened, and all I can say is that if an angler is too lazy to hold his rod when on the "war path" he deserves the loss of an occasional good fish. News is very quiet from the lower districts of the Trent, and the salmon fishermen have thrown up the sponge until the declining days of September.

THE Barton fishery is just now producing great quantities of very fine eels, and as the water is within easy reach of Nottingham anglers, it should meet with greater support than has been the case in the past. Tickets are issued at a cheap rate by the lessee of the ferry, who lives on the spot, and who does his best to preserve the fish. Bream of good size are frequently caught in the Osier bed above the ferry, and the backwater, known as "The Parlour," teems with them. This, however, cannot very well be properly fished without the aid of a boat moored from the bank. Last Saturday one of the subscribers, Mr. H. Stafford, of Nottingham, enjoyed very good sport amongst the roach, and a large number of splendid eels fell to the rods of the legering division. But on Saturday the water has many disadvantages: pleasure boats innumerable are rowed up the river from Beeston, and when the weather is really fine the waves their fair occupants create render angling a work of extreme difficulty. Pleasure to the fisherman is out of the question until late in the evening, and if he desires a quiet day I would strongly recommend him to defer his visit until a Tuesday or Wednesday. Barbel swims may be found at the "Stumps," and above the fence near the ferry, and in times past they yielded no end of splendid fish. Recently, however, the frequenters of the length seem to prefer roach and bream fishing, and as to roach, many fish of ½lb. each were killed in the Osier bed already mentioned during the winter months. Mr. Roadley, the ferry proprietor and lessee, will be pleased to show strangers the whole length of the fishery and point out the various spots to which the locals give preference. Half-day tickets are issued, and there is no restriction as to baiting.

THE Beeston Fishery, which commences below, is not let off by ticket. It is leased by Mr. S. Watson, a gentleman residing in the village of Beeston, but he is most liberal in granting permission to any respectable man. Mr. Watson rarely fishes himself, preferring the rugged haunts of Scotland and the attraction of its mighty salmon. His reach at Beeston is noted for its big roach and bream, and occasionally fair takes of perch are made. There are not many dace, excepting in the stream caused by the overflow of the weir, in the centre of which the salmon leap stands out prominently. Salmon will often stay for a rest above the weir, and the wonder to me is that Mr. Watson never gives them a trial during the spring season. Surely if they are to be caught at Shardlow and King's Mills, to say nothing of Willington, they may be hooked and played here. A short time ago a basket of 9¾lb. was taken in the fishery below the weir, but there is reason to believe it fell to a baited night line intended for eels.

ADJOINING the Beeston fishery come the Clifton and Wilford, and I am sorry to say that neither is sufficiently well cared for. Season tickets are issued, price half-a-guinea each, and the use of a punt is denied the holders. The denial is ridiculous, for the reason that irresponsible people row up from Nottingham and seem to do as they like, caring little or nothing for either "squire" or keepers. They contend that the water is a part of their right as burgesses of the borough, and their contention is, perhaps, based on substantial grounds. But their object is not so much legitimate angling as the vicious process known as "skull dragging." Last season one barbel hole alone was "dragged" to death, not only on ordinary days but on the Sabbath, and the language used by the boating scoundrels was really unfit for decent ears to listen to. If a more strict supervision were exercised I have no doubt that a greater number of season tickets would be purchased, especially by gentlemen devoted to fly-fishing, for the water contains many really delightful shallows for holding both dace and chub.

IN club circles progress is being reported. Already many excellent specimen fish have been recorded on the books, and most of the members are now looking forward to a red-letter day amongst Master "Billy" barbel.

ON the tributaries substantial bags of trout have been got, but the whereabouts of the takes are, fishermanlike, kept a profound secret. I may say, however, that one bag, obtained from a private lake in North Notts, contained no fewer than fifteen brace, including several fish running up to 2lb. apiece.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

THE members of the Shrewsbury Town Council, at the meeting on Monday, turned attention to the question of river pollution. For years the whole sewerage of Shrewsbury has been allowed to run into the Severn at various points within the limits of the borough, and a more fruitful cause of disease than this wholesale pollution of the silvery Severn can scarcely be conceived. In the summer months, when the water is so low that the river at many points is fordable, the smell from the festering matter is most offensive. Anglers will welcome the day when the Town Council rouses from its lethargy, and formulates some comprehensive scheme for dealing with the sewerage.

THE body of Tench, the old Shrewsbury fisherman who last week committed suicide by drowning himself in the Severn, was recovered at the end of the week in a strange and shocking manner. Deceased's son, who works at a boat-builder's establishment on the river banks, noticed something floating down the river, and on pulling out to it, made the gruesome discovery that it was the body of his father, which had thus floated to a distance of half-a-mile from the spot where he committed suicide. A coroner's jury returned a verdict of "Suicide while temporarily insane."

A CORRESPONDENT in last week's *Fishing Gazette* referred to a curious law case which had arisen, consequent upon certain weed-cutting operations, which had been carried on to the discomfort of people below stream. The Shrewsbury Corporation have been employing their men for the past few weeks in this interesting occupation, much to the destruction of the proverbial good temper of anglers, who, however much they may be inclined to thank the authorities for clearing the fords, scarcely like the idea of fly-fishing for a few weeks over a floating mass of weeds. It would be very desirable if these weeds could be netted from the river, removed and put to some good use, if any good use can be found for them.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

THE all-engrossing subject in angling circles and out of them this week has been that of the West Riding rivers pollution. The condition of both the Aire and Calder has been recognised all round, but the question has devolved itself into one of discrepency as to the formation of the proposed administrative body. The two points at issue, on which the West Riding County Council on the one side, and Leeds and Bradford Corporation on the other, are unable to agree, are:—(1) As to whether the Conservancy Board should be a joint board for the Aire and Calder; and (2) the basis of representation. The West Riding County Council held a meeting on the 8th instant, when a lengthened report of the Sanitary Committee was presented by Alderman Kendall. After an exhaustive dissertation on the subject—the report of which has already appeared in the *F. G.*—the report says: "The practical questions, therefore, are:—(1) Whether both the Aire and Calder, or only the Aire, should be placed under the joint board? (2) What should be the basis of representation if a Conservancy Board (whether for both or one of the rivers) is formed? As to the first, the following considerations should be borne in mind:—The Calder is a tributary of the Aire, and as such is in exactly the same position as the Bradford Beck or any other feeder (except in degree), and should be treated as a part of the main river. For practical purposes the proposal of Leeds and Bradford deals only with that part of the Aire above the confluence of the Calder, although it must be admitted that the condition of the river below that point stands in as great need of purification as that above, and as the two parts (above and below) are in one and the same flow, it is difficult to understand what can be the reasons for dividing them, forming as they do but one indivisible thing, needing one and the same treatment. After the formal complaints made to the council of the pollution of the Ouse by the filthy waters of the Aire, nothing should be done in the way of dividing the Aire that would be likely to prevent the whole river being dealt with by one and the same administration, thereby ensuring one standard of purity. As to the second question, the usual definite bases for representation are *(a)* population; *(b)* rateable value, or *(c)* a combination of both. At present the County Council are supreme over all their county in this matter. Leeds and Bradford ask that the County Council should deprive itself of that supremacy, and accept a minority position. After most careful consideration, your committee, while feeling strongly that the co-operation of Leeds and Bradford with the County Council in one and the same board is highly desirable, are at the same time of opinion that the advantages of a combination, as proposed by the corporations, would be too dearly bought. Your committee, therefore, have decided to decline the proposals of the two corporations, and beg to recommend—'That with regard to the rivers in the West Riding, the County Council do enforce the provisions of the Rivers Pollution (Prevention) Act, 1876, alone, without the appointment of a joint committee under Section 14 (3) of the Local Government Act, 1888, and that the Riding solicitors do give intimation to this effect to the Corporations of Leeds and Bradford." A letter was received from Sir George Morrison, Town Clerk of Leeds, and Mr. W. T. McGowan, Town Clerk of Bradford, stating that they learnt with regret that the Sanitary Committee had determined to advise the Council to reject the proposals they had offered, that a joint committee of the West Riding and the Leeds and Bradford Councils should be established under the provisions of the Local Government Act for the purification of the Aire, and that instead thereof the council should take the business entirely into their own hands. After stating several arguments the letter concluded by protesting against the course taken, and trusted that the council would decline to give effect to the recommendation, and leave the matter in the hands of the Local Government Board to deal with the Aire by a joint committee. Otherwise they feared that much public ill-feeling would be generated and practically no good effected. Alderman Kendall moved the adoption of the report as presented to the Council. Alderman Kaye proposed, as an amendment, "That, as the question is not ripe, it be referred back to the Sanitary Committee." This was seconded by Mr. J. Dent-Dent, who said the purification of these two rivers was so important that it was not desirable that they should pass any resolutions which would pledge the council to take independent action. Alderman R. E. Clarke said the people of Doncaster felt it very hard that the neighbouring locality should continue to pour into their river, their abominable sewage. He spoke of the necessity of the pollution of the rivers in question, which had become a crying evil, being dealt with; and said that no more important matter could engage their attention. After some further discussion, the amendment was withdrawn, and the original motion unanimously adopted. The Corporations of Leeds and Bradford have indignantly resented the decision of the Council, not only with their representation of the proposed Conservancy Board being ignored, but at what they describe or the flippant manner in which such a serious question had been treated by that body. I hear they have appealed to the Local Government Board, and arrangements have been made for a deputation from the joint authorities to wait upon the President of the House of Commons.

The half-yearly meeting of the York branch of the Northern Anglers' Association was held at their headquarters, the White Swan Hotel, Goodramgate, on Friday. In the unavoidable absence of Captain W. H. Key, J.P., the president, the chair was occupied by Mr. Joseph Ankers (hon. treasurer). Amongst those present were Messrs. J. S. Schumacher and E. A. Robinson (hon. secretaries), E. Staines, J. Humphreys, Hebditch, Kelly, Broadley, &c. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, after which Mr. Schumacher brought forward the question of increased railway facilities. He read a letter from Mr. Burns, of Manchester (secretary of the sub-committee appointed at the recent meeting of the Northern Anglers' Association meeting at York) asking for the names of the York clubs, and opinions of the members. In answer to this, he had sent him full particulars of the privileges York anglers enjoyed from the railway, and a list of the clubs, as far as he knew—fourteen in number. He therefore submitted the two schemes, the text of which have already appeared in the *Fishing Gazette* of July 4, and several members were of opinion that the cheque system would be the best. They were also inclined to think that the York centre of the Northern Anglers' Association might take the matter upon themselves without bringing it before the notice of the many clubs in the city. The chairman thought a kind of card should be issued, stamped "The Northern Anglers' Association," and these being distributed to the members might be shown at the booking-office. They would, he thought, serve a better purpose than cheques, and if there was any complaint of abuse, the number of the card could be taken by the railway company. If the card was stamped up to date, there could be no misuse of it; and even if there was, the delinquent could be easily traced, and the matter reported to the council. Mr. Robinson entirely concurred in the suggestion, and said that cards should be issued to the secretaries of the districts by the council every year. Mr. Schumacher then proposed—"That tickets be issued by the Northern Centres to districts, printed "Northern Anglers' Association," with the name of the district and the name of the angler written on each ticket by the secretary; the same to be issued every year." Mr. Staines said there were certain gentlemen who had joined the clubs on purpose to get the railway facilities. If they could get them for a shilling a year by being individual members of the N.A.A. district branch they would retire from the clubs and join the association. Numerous other opinions were expressed, some going as far as to say there were bogus clubs formed on purpose to get the facilities. Mr. Hebditch then seconded the resolution. The Chairman thought it would be better than either of the two previous schemes, because, in the first place, the clubs would have to lay down a large amount of money in the purchase of railway tickets; and, in the second place, it would be an annoyance to the secretary and members, inasmuch as when the member wanted a ticket he would have to apply to the secretary. If that gentleman happened to be away from home, the member would lose his day's fishing. Mr. E. Staines suggested that they should add to the proposition a rider respecting the rights of anglers taking a station-to-station ticket. As matters stood at present the angler could not drop down at any intermediate station without delivering up his ticket. Mr. Schumacher said he had mentioned the matter to Mr. Burns, who said the best thing they could do would be to form a deputation of the centre, and wait upon the responsible persons at the respective railway stations. Eventually the following was added to the previous resolutions:—"That privileges be further extended to anglers—viz., to travel from station to station over all the railway system, and that the Central Association make the application." The resolution, as amended, was agreed to unanimously, and the secretaries were instructed to forward it to the Central Council as the suggestions of the York centre. A letter from Mr. William H. Foster, salmon fisherman, in respect to alleged practices at Linton-on-Ouse, was allowed to "lie on the table," and the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding.

The yearly fishing match amongst the Woollenopolis anglers is being looked forward to, and more than ordinary interest is being evinced in the arrangements. The watch committee connected with the Leeds Amalgamated Society of Anglers, met on the 8th inst., under the presidency of Mr. Wilkinson. The following resolutions were adopted:—"That the drawing for the match take place at the bridge, near Kirkstead Station, but no pegs be fixed within 150 yards of the bridge, the ground to be staked equally above and below; that entries of the match be made through the secretaries of each club; entries close at nine p.m., on Thursday, 17th of Sept., entrance fee one shilling; that two stakers-out be sent; that Messrs. Grassham and Stead be the stakers-out, and allowed to fish in the match, and ten shillings each for expenses; the match to last four hours. That subscription sheets be sent out, and that each club be asked to send in a subscription in money, not in kind." There was a discussion about the prizes, but the time being short, Mr. Hodges gave notice that he would bring up the matter at the next meeting. The secretary of the society wishes to intimate to anglers that he has received information from Boroughbridge that serious complaints have been made there, on account of damage done by anglers, through leaving gates open and breaking fences. If this cause of complaint continues the fishing there is likely to be stopped. It is hoped, therefore, that anglers in the district will not only be careful themselves, but also do all in their power to prevent others doing mischief. The Anchor of Hope Society, fish their annual match, on 15th Aug., at Wressle, while the Holbeck Association, held theirs at Menthorpe Ferry, on Monday.

In the Ouse, both fly-men and bottom fishers are having a royal time, good all-round catches being the rule. The natural fly is the favourite lure, though the Black Gnat has proved very successful. The trout streams, including Riccal and the Nidd, have afforded excellent sport. According to the average account, the fish seem to fight shy of the gaudy-coloured fly, and although in some cases the Pheasant and Orange Partridge have proved a deadly lure, the best casts are with the Snipe Bloas, Dark Snip, March Brown, Iron Blue Dun, and Iron Owls. The Derwent is in excellent trim, and many local anglers have been attracted to its banks. The stringent measures recently taken by certain riparian owners in the matter of granting permits to fish have, I hear, been somewhat relaxed.

The Swale and its tributaries have afforded capital sport to Richmond anglers, while numerous visitors have had a good time of it. Mr. Charles Spencer and his son made a pannier of thirty-three and a-half brace of trout, with the running worm, while on the previous evening another gentleman caught twenty-two brace with the fly; Mr. Charles Musgrave captured twenty brace, and good fishing was experienced by Mr. King, Mr. John Ashton, Mr. James Doherty, and others. Financial questions ever awaken a lively interest amongst anglers as well as among the common run of people; and the piscators around Richmond are up in arms about the extraction by the Yorkshire Fishery Board of their fees. A correspondent signing himself "Gunnerset Brig" writes complaining that the Conservators require the procuration of a licence, whereas they never supply the water with trout. "Why do the Yorkshire Fishery Board," he asks, "draw somewhere between £5 and £6 per annum from people who only fish west of Richmond Force, where there is nothing but trout, and no thanks to the board for them." The question may be a vexed one to the luckless anglers immediately concerned, but I think, after all, the Conservators are in the right.

Sea fishing on the Yorkshire Coast is much on the improve, and the number of visitors who indulge in it, is daily on the increase. Whiting, I hear from Scarborough, have not been so plentiful for years, whilst gurnards and sand-dabs are abundant.

An Angler finds an Old Cannon Ball.—"A few days ago, while an angler was pursuing his pastime on the river Teviot, and under the shadow of Roxburgh Castle, his attention was attracted by the roundness of a stone which had afforded him footing in making a difficult cast. The stone was more than half embedded in the bank, and the visible portion almost entirely under water. On being dug out of the embankment the stone was found to be entirely round, and it bore marks showing that it had been chipped into shape. The ball, which is of sandstone, measures 42in. in circumference, and its weight is 95lb. All the circumstances strengthen the supposition that it had been used as a missile for warlike purposes. The missile is of exactly the same dimensions as some of the stone balls which are deposited at the side of Mons Meg at Edinburgh Castle. It is well-known that Mons Meg was used at the siege of Norham in 1496, and it is quite possible it may have been at Roxburgh also. Those interested in archæology may have an opportunity of inspecting the ball at *Kelso Mail* office, where it at present lies. In a notice of some cannon balls found in the parish of Swinton (contributed to the transactions of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club in 1879 by the late Mr. Milne Home of Milne Graden), it is stated that these, six in number, were found in the river Leet in 1865, when the channel of the stream was being lowered in the neighbourhood of Swinton Mill. Another ball of the same kind was found in the Tweed close to Norham Castle, having, it is supposed, been fired from Mons Meg from Ladykirk village, where are still remains of military ramparts. The writer considered it evident that the Swinton balls belonged to Mons Meg, and conjectured that when the gun was being brought back to Edinburgh from Norham the retreat may have been so hurried that the balls were left behind, or that the vehicle on which they were being carried got swamped in marshy ground near the river's bank."—*Scottish Leader*.

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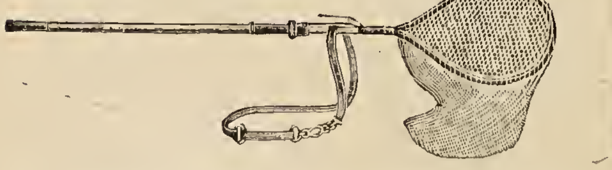

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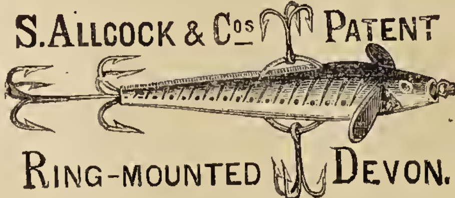

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SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1891.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly delegate meeting will take place on Monday evening next, July 20, at 8.30. Club anglers holding the Association's privilege tickets are invited to a free competition on July 26 in the association water, from Slough to Langley. Mr. E. Cook, of the Brickmakers' Arms, Stoke-road, Slough Station (G.W.R.), has arranged the following to be fished for fairly with two rods: 1st prize, a magnificent pair of field-glasses in case, and shoulder strap; 2nd, a beautiful church clock, with a water scone painted thereon; 3rd, gent's beautiful silk and nickel-plated umbrella; 4th, a handsome album, with pictures and different scenes for photographs; 5th, an American clock and stand; 6th, handsome malacca stick, hall marked, silver top; 7th, acacia walking-stick, hall marked, silver top; 8th, half-a-dozen handsome knives and forks; 9th, a carving-knife and fork; 10th, Russian leather cigar-case; 11th, Russian leather wallet and book combined; 12th, a very handsome case of chased teaspoons in blue plush case; 13th, meerschaum cigar-holder and case; 14th, gold-plated patent drinking-cup, forming compass and watch; 15th, Russian leather cigarette-case; 16th, half-a-dozen teaspoons; 17th, ditto. The names and number of privilege cards must be entered on the morning of competition and tackle examined. Further particulars next week. B. Abrahams, judge and referee. There also will be appointed six stewards, whose names will appear next week.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Association (SOUTHERN DISTRICT) VISITING LIST.—A return visit on the above list took place on Tuesday last at the Rodney A. S., Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road. when a most enjoyable evening was spent. On the roll being called, the following twelve clubs answered—Anglers Pride, Amicable Excelsior, Battersea Friendly, Bermondsey Brothers, Blackfriars, Clapham Junction, Causton, North Lambeth, Peckham Brothers, Rodney, South London, Original North Lambeth. The next visit will take place at the Original North Lambeth A.S., Wellington, South-street, Hercules Buildings, Westminster Bridge-road, the date I will give next week.—G. W. ARMSTRONG,

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of £1 0s. 2d. from Mr. T. Crumplen, collected at the entertainment at Pulborough on Saturday, July 11. The next meeting of the committee will take place on Friday evening, July 24, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—Mr. A. A. Morgan and H. E. Probert have been unanimously elected as working members of the above society. Any member of any angling society holding the Anglers' Association privilege ticket can compete in the competition at Slough, on the 26th inst. in the association water, two rods allowed, and all to register their names at the Brickmakers' Arms, Stoke-road, near the water.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—On the 12th inst., several of our members fished in the competition at the Central Association's water at Pulborough, when five of them were successful in taking prizes—viz.: J. Scott, J. Windsor, G. Marriott, J. Fairbairn, and W. Hasted. The following members also weighed in: T. Smith (barbel), T. Fairbairn, H. Seymour, and J. Pailes.—J. PAILES, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—Unfortunately, our prizes were not won on the 12th instant, Mr. Hardy being the only member weighing in, he having perch. There are four prizes to be fished for on July 19, at Pulborough Association water. Conditions as before.—W. H. POTTER, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Several members were out on the 12th instant, and the following weighed in fish: Mr. Jones, bream; Mr. Bell, roach and dace; Mr. G. Rich, roach and dace; Mr. Cooper, roach and bream; Mr. King, dace; Mr. Knowler, dace; Mr. H. Levett, roach and dace. Our next outing will take place on July 26, at Woking, when three prizes will be fished for.—J. RICHES, secretary.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Gt. Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—Several of our members were out on the 12th instant, and the following members weighed in: Mr. Reeks, with a good show of roach and rudd; Mr. G. Merry, having a very nice show of rudd; Mr. C. Irwin, bream; Messrs. Embleton, sen., Hazell, and W. Hake also weighed in.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday night, with a good attendance of members. At the competition at Pulborough, which was held on the 12th inst., in connection with the Central Association, Mr. T. Simpkins, one of our members, was fortunate enough to take second prize with 7lb. 5½oz. bream. Mr. Scott had a splendid show of bream, 20lb. 9oz., from Yarmouth, on the 12th inst. Members are informed that two prizes remain over to be fished for. The South London competition will take place on the 19th, at Amberley.—A. G. SMITH.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The third match of the season will be fished on the 19th, rowing for four valuable prizes. All fish to weigh bar jack; bank or punt. Competitors can start on Saturday night. Members are requested to attend on Tuesday next, to arrange August Bank Holiday prizes; as several new prizes have been added.—G. MUMFORD, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—The following gentlemen weighed in on the 12th inst., Mr. Farmer, bream and roach; Mr. F. Barker, tench and gudgeon; Mr. J. Barker, carp {roach and dace; and Mr. Hacker, bream. dace and perch. Our visit on the S.L.U.V.L., takes place next Tuesday, July 21.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—Members that have not come forward are requested to do so on Wednesday next, as there is a special general meeting, to settle special business. On the 12th inst.. Mr. Rich had a good take of dace; Mr. Payne, dace. Mr. Munday was duly elected as a honorary member.—J. SMALL, sec.

Bomore Angling Society.—This society has removed from the Queen's Arms to the Britannia, Clarendon-road, Notting-hill. We had some good sport on the 12th inst., and brought in some fine roach and dace.—F. STEVENS, secretary.

Bostonian Angling Society.—The following members have had fish: Mr. Ward, bream and roach, heaviest bream, 3½lb.; Mr. Rundle, bream; Mr. Chapman, rudd, tench, jack, and roach, heaviest tench, 3lb. 6oz. Day's outing on the 19th. The brake will start from club-house at seven a.m. precisely. A photo will be taken of members before starting. All should be present that can possibly attend.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On the 12th inst. Mr. Sanders saved us a blank with a show of roach, chub, and dace; and this evening (Wednesday) Mr. Avis weighed in some roach, and chub, barbel.—H. ROACH, sec.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—Since last report Messrs. Wilson and Watkins have weighed in bream and roach. At our special meeting last Tuesday we arranged to fish for the following prizes on July 26, pegged-down, at Dagenham Gulf; fare there and back one shilling. First prize, £1 1s. given by Mr. Young; second prize, 10s. 6d., given by Mr. H. Bones; third prize, 10s. 6d., given by Mr. Grainge; two prizes of five shillings each from the funds, to be fourth and fifth respectively. It is proposed to go by brake from club-house at midnight on Saturday, 25th; to commence fishing by mutual agreement on arrival; to cease fishing at 7 p.m.; one rod only; all fish to weigh. Any member absent last Tuesday, wishing to accompany us, can do so by letting me know as soon as possible, so that brake accommodation may be procured. Mr. Wilson and J. Mearring will mark out the swims.—T. HAWKES, sec.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—A few of our members were out on the 12th inst., but the takes were not very large. The following members weighed in fish: J. Pether, 3lb. 10oz.; D. Flint, 3lb. 7¾oz.: J. Gurney, 2¼oz. All members should go out now as the waters are in good order. We have room for a few good members and have some good prizes to be fished for.—J. PETHER, sec.

Burton Piscatorials, the Globe, Derby-street, King's Cross.—A few of our members were out on the 5th inst., Messrs. Jones and Roberts having a small show of roach and dace. On the 12th inst. the following weighed in: Messrs. Brierly, Butler, Roberts, and Jones; amongst the latter gentleman's show was a roach of 1lb. 2¼oz.—C. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Cambridge Friendly Angling Society, Masons' Arms, Titchborne-street, Edgware-road, W.—The outing at Yalding will be continued on the 19th inst. only one prize having been taken last week, and that re-given by the winner (Mr. Allen); same conditions.—W. SUTTON. sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 12th inst. the following members weighed in: Mr. C. Chapman. tench; Mr. A. Chapman, tench; Mr. Marshall, bream and roach; Mr. W. White, bream; Mr. Fitter, roach; Mr. Sharp, dace. Several other members were out, but were not successful. —E. T. WHITE, sec.

Campbell United Angling Society, High-road, Kilburn.—Sixteen of our members journeyed to Langley for prizes on the 12th, but sport was so indifferent that only one prize was won—by Mr. Wood, with roach and perch. It will be fished out at Langley under the same conditions. —E. W. WOOD, hon. sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—On Monday last, another gentleman was enrolled as a member, and the prize list increased. It was resolved that this society be affiliated to the Central Association, and also that its name should be retained on the South London United Visiting List. The announcement that Mr. Deplidge would, on Monday, the 27th instant, read a paper—"An Account of the River Wey"—was received with acclamation. A lengthy discussion on the "Unfairness of the well-to-do members of angling societies in general to their less fortunate brethren, by the engagement of professional fishermen,' emanated from Mr. J. S. Pulsford. A vote of thanks to Mr. Tom Keeble (host and treasurer), and Mr. J. Deplidge (the chairman), for their exertions in securing for the Causton Angling Society, on the 12th instant, a successful outing at Bourne End, was unanimously carried. There were not many fish caught, but the success otherwise was undoubtedly a *chef-d'œuvre.*—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—Only two members weighed in on the 12th. Mr. Macdonnell weighed 5lb. 14oz. of bream from Amberley; and Mr. Castell, bream, from Dagenham Lake. Our visit on the C. and D. list will be on the 21st inst. Brother anglers or friends who will favour us with a call will find everything cool but the welcome.—CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society. the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.—On the 12th inst. the following members weighed in: Messrs. Robinson, 12lb. 8oz. barbel, and 20lb. 1oz. roach and dace, in all 32lb. 9oz.; Painter, 3lb. 13oz. bream; A. Bowater, 5lb. 9½oz. roach; Collis, 3lb. 3oz. roach; Chapman, roach, and Turner, roach. On the 26th inst. we fish a punt match at Staines, pegged-down, one rod only; all start together from Clapham Junction Station by the first train on the morning of that day.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clerkenwell and District United.—The next visit on the above will be to City of London A. S., on the 21st. Any clubs on the list requiring a further supply of tickets for the match at Yalding can get them by applying to the sec.—F. CASTELL, hon. sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—Several members were out on the 12th inst., but did not weigh in. I must remind members that we fish a club match on July 19 at West Drayton, between Bull Dog Bridge and Cowley Lock. Names to be registered at the Shovel; cease fishing at seven p.m.; register fish at packet boat by 7.30, and return by the 8.48 train home; members to proceed by the 8.13 or 8.38 only; pegged-down match; one rod only; jack barred.—A. SMITH, sec.

Corinthian Angling Club, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, W.—At our meeting on July 15, a new member was proposed. Mr. R. B. Brown had a very handsome show of roach, 19lb, from the Wey, on Monday, three going just over 1lb. each. These were all taken before 8 a.m. Another testimonial for the "early gentle worm."

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 12th instant most of our members were out, but the only gentlemen that were successful were Messrs. Wild, Spong, W. Midson, Malby, T. Midson, Killick, and Cogswell, who had a fine show of roach, bream, perch, and rudd. Members please attend on Tuesday next, by nine o'clock, as some important business was postponed in consequence of the small attendance on Tuesday last.—S. MALBY, sec.

Earlsfield Angling Society, Half-way House, Earlsfield, S.W.—The next outing will take place at Wimbledon Lake on the 19th, to commence fishing at five o'clock, to stop at eight in the evening.—R. W. BIRD, hon. sec.

Eastern Piscatorial Society, Spread Eagle, Gill-street, Limehouse, E.—Our shows of fish this season have not been very large at present. Mr. Jones has shown bream three times, Mr. Bartlett bream and perch. We have two new working members proposed, and there is an opening for a few more to join.—W. BARTLETT, hon. sec.

Enterprise Angling Society, City Arms, High Cross, Tottenham.—This society commenced its fourth season with a club dinner, at the Feathers Hotel, Wades' Mill, Hertfordshire, on the 12th inst. The report of the committee for the past season showed the full realisation of their anticipations for the success of the society, both financially and numerically. The funds already in hand, and a long list of gifts of prizes from members and friends offer a tempting inducement to the more than seventy members to "ply the angle" during the coming season. The prize list will be ready shortly. Four prizes were fished for, the first falling to Mr. Renshaw, sen., for a fine roach; Mr. Phesay (the vice-president) and Mr. Wado divided for the second and third, and Mr. Millard secured the fourth. Owing to the courtesy of the stationmaster of Tottenham, reserved coaches were added to the 7.50 a.m. down, and 8.58 p.m. up trains, thus adding to the comfort of the members during the journey. Two cases of fish, one of four large bream, and one of three fine perch, will shortly adorn the walls of the club-room.—W. H. TUCK, hon. sec.

East London Piscatorial Society, London Hospital Tavern, Whitechapel-road.—Messrs. Myers, Worrall, Ewer, Morgan, and myself were out, July 9, Wimbledon Park. We were all successful with roach and small bream. I tried the new lake at Hale End on July 12, but without a touch.—FRANK WOODS, sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On the 12th inst. we had a nice show of fish by the following:—Messrs. Biggs, bream, roach (heaviest 1lb. 4½oz.), and dace; F. Vanhegan, roach, dace, and bream; G. Watling, roach and bream; and S. Hill, roach and dace. Mr. Biggs won the first; and G. Watling, the seventeenth prize in the Central Competition. We have room, for a few more working members.—J. W. BIGGS, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We were saved a blank on the 5th by Mr. Baildham and Mr. Clarke with a few tench and perch. On the 12th we had a fair show of fish—15lb. of perch. roach and dace—taken by Messrs. W. Lawrence, Slade, Ellis, and Jackson. —A. PAYNE, sec.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town. Since my last report the following members have weighed fish. Mr. A. Wheeler, 2lb. 11oz., roach; Mr. J. Grande, roach, 3lb.; Mr. F. Bates, roach and dace, 3lb.; Mr. W. Carr also had fish. Other members were out but had no fish.—G. F. WEAVER, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, when the chair was occupied by Mr. C. J. Bentley. The chairman presented the society with a book "The Pilotage of the British Channel," for which he was thanked. Considerable discussion took place on the question of the right of the public to fish in the Norfolk Broads, and some arrangements were made for the meeting of London anglers, to be held at the Gresham Rooms on Tuesday, the 28th inst. at 8 p.m. It is expected that many anglers of note will be present, as well as several prominent public men, who take an interest in protecting the public rights. On Tuesday, the 21st inst., Mr. E. H. Bramley will read a paper entitled "Babble about London," when members of other angling clubs are invited.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—We had a good show of chub on the 12th inst., taken by Mr. J. Gardiner, and since my last report the president has had the pleasure of handing over the club's handsome silver cup for the best specimen fish taken during the season to Mr. Rutherford, roach, 1lb. 12½oz.—J. T. G., sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 12th inst. many of our members were out, the following having successful catches: Messrs. Walford and Ford, roach; Rider, perch; Messrs. Geeves, Wells, Levoir, and Callcutt, rudd.—W. FENNER, sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—The members fished for five prizes at Burnt Mill on the 12th instant, all being won, Mr. Cooper taking first honours. We had our return visit on No. 1 Eastern District on Tuesday evening last, the chair being taken by T. Gretton, secretary Stoke Newington, faced by E. Brockett, Original Alexandra. We had a crowded meeting and excellent singing. I beg to thank those friends who so kindly paid us the compliment, more particularly our neighbours from the Good Intent, who attended in full force. Our annual dinner will take place at Rye House, on July 26.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street. W.—A few of our members went to Pulboro' on the 12th inst. but did not get much sport. The following weighed-in from other places: Messrs. Norman, perch; and Wilson, gudgeon.—SNAP.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, the Rose, Popham-road.—At our meeting, on the 9th inst., it was arranged to move to the Middleton Arms, Canonbury-road. Notices will be sent when change takes place. Some of our members went to Pulborough on the 12th. In the match, W. Stretch was one of the successful competitors, coming in third with 6lb. 13oz. of bream and roach; one roach, 1lb. 9¼oz. Mr. Willsher had some roach and dace, but got up too late to weigh in.—J. H. HERBERT, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The week-day portion of the members dined at the Pied Bull, Stanstead, St. Margarets, on Wednesday, 15th inst.; the attendance was good and the dinner much enjoyed by all present. Mr. C. Hayward occupied the chair; Mr. J. Featherstone the vice-chair. After the cloth was removed the chairman, in a few well-chosen words, expressed the thanks of all present to the host Mr. J. Lyndsell for the nice manner he had entertained the gathering to which Mr. Lyndsell replied stating that he hoped to have the pleasure over again. There are four special prizes to be competed for on the 22nd inst., and four on the 26th inst.; for particulars see last week's issue of the *Fishing Gazette*, or they can be had at the club-house.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—We had a fine show of fish on the 12th inst., consisting of roach and bream. Mr. H. Challen best roach, 1lb. 1¼oz.; tench, by Mr. Beales, best one 2lb. 2oz.; roach and tench, by Mr. Ide, best roach, 1lb. 4oz.; tench, by Mr. Onree, H. Wright, and Dunham, and roach by Mr. E. Challen. On the 19th inst. we fish a pegged-down match for four prizes in the Shovel Pound, Drayton, one rod only, jack barred; first train from Westbourne Park or any subsequent train; members all to return together straight to the club-house, and weigh-in or be disqualified. A new member was proposed at our last meeting and will be balloted for on Tuesday next.—A. Ide, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—Members mustered in strong force at the committee meeting on Friday, the 10th inst. A new member was balloted for and elected. Mr. Turner deserted the ranks of honorary members and joined those of angling members. Thanks to our numerous friends, two additional prizes of £1 1s. each were added to our long list. I beg to remind members that the President's prizes will be fished for on the 19th instant, and Thursday, the 23rd instant, open to honorary and angling members. It is arranged to have a supper at headquarters on Friday, the 24th instant, at eight o'clock (sharp) when members are specially invited to be present. Some very good fish have been weighed in during the week by Messrs. Evans, Carter, Mason, Newcombe, and Master, from the Thames and Colne. Arrangements are in progress for a party of our members to visit Slapton for a few days, when it is hoped that previous records will be beaten. Reports just to hand from secretary, who is fishing near Cambridge, prove that he is having real good sport.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road.—On the 12th inst., eleven members of the above society fished in the Pulboro' Competition, Messrs. More and Watling both weighing fish; Messrs. Belton and Pearce having fish from other waters. Mr. Agshead, our new host, was unanimously made treasurer for the society, and also proposed as a working member; he will be balloted for in the usual way at our next meeting.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—We held no meeting last week, the members being away on an excursion. A great number of fish were taken (roach and perch), but they ran phenomenally small, and the lake fished in ought, undoubtedly, to be netted, and these innumerable small fry transferred to some other water, as the overcrowding is decidedly against their attaining any size. Menbers, please attend the meeting next week, 23rd, as details, &c., will then be arranged for the Bank Holiday outing to the Vyrnwy. —R. Woolfall.

Marylebone Angling Society. Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 12th inst. our members were at various waters, when we had some good shows of bream, tench, roach, and dace by Messrs. Weller, Pearce, Penfold, Milburn, Clark, Collins, Sansom, and Bartlett.—W. F. Pearce.

Midland Angling Society, Prince of Wales, King's-road, Camden Town.—We have had several good shows of fish this week the following members weighing in—viz., J. Tunnycliffe, tench; T. Hull, roach and perch; W. Mogg, rudd and dace; J. Cooper, rudd; J. Rees, perch and roach.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Ball's Pond-road.—At our weekly meeting on Tuesday, another addition was made to the prize list. Mr. G. Fortescue had a nice take of roach, over 12lb., heaviest fish 1lb. 5oz. During the week, Messrs. H. K. Applin, C. Oliver, E. Jermy, and Garratt also met with good sport.—J. Coomber, sec.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—On Thursday evening a party of our members journeyed by brake to Old Charlton Village, when we paid a visit to the Bugle Horn, a snug little hostelry lately taken by Mr. W. Bassett, a much-esteemed member of this club. There we partook of an excellent cold collation, under the presidency of Mr. W. T. Grimmett, and after the host's health had been enthusiastically pledged we returned home to the club-house and held our customary weekly meeting. Messrs. S. Stanley and T. Gill were elected as fishing members, Messrs. Canton and Warman as hon. members. Mr. Freeborn was proposed as an honorary member. Mr. La Feuillade, as delegate to the annual meeting of the T.A.P.S., gave an account of the proceedings, and was accorded a vote of thanks for his services on the occasion. A vote of condolence was passed to Mr. C. Hibble, an hon. member, who has just suffered a terrible bereavement in the loss of his wife. Mr. Newbury weighed in roach and dace. Windsor has been selected for the outing of Thursday next; two in a punt; to draw for partners. All to go by 7.35 a.m. or later train.—A. E. Baldwin, sec.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—The competition on Thursday at Windsor was very successful. The two prizes £1 1s. and 10s. 6d., was won by Mr. Mudd, with 11lb. 15¼oz. of barbel and dace, and Mr. Bassett, with 11lb. 1¼oz., barbel and dace (including specimen barbel of 6lb. 1¾oz.) The following members also weighed in roach, dace, chub, and barbel: Mr. Read, 4lb. 1¼oz.; Mr. Arthur Matthews, 3lb. 13¾oz.; Mr. Shonfeld, 3lb. 5oz.; Mr. Marks, 2lb. 12¾oz.; and Mr. Turnham, 1lb. 4½oz. Mr. W. Grimmett, who presided, congratulated the members on the excellent show of fish, especially as regarded the barbel. Mr. Grace was proposed as a fishing member.—A. E. Baldwin, sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 106 and 108, Westminster Bridge-road, S.E.—Only two of our members were out on the 12th inst., but unfortunately had nothing to show, this being the first blank since the opening of the season, several good takes having previously been recorded. Members are reminded of the revised rules, and especially the one referring to sizes of fish, any member taking fish less than the increased standard being liable to a fine. Quarterly meeting on the 19th inst.—E. S. R.

North-Western Angling Club. Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W.—On the 9th inst., Messrs. Schultz, sen., perch; Schultz, jun., roach. On the 12th inst. Messrs. J. Plumpton, perch; Raganot, roach; and Pritchard, roach and dace from Pulborough, winning a prize in the Pulborough Competition. New rules and prize lists now ready. Our annual outing takes place in August, date and place not yet decided.—G. Schultz.

Original Clerkenwell Piscatorial Society, the Three Kings, Clerkenwell Close.—The summer outing and competition is arranged to take place on the 19th instant, at Yalding, for five valuable prizes, one rod only allowed, Thames measurement as club rule. All fish must be brought to scale by 10.45 for the competition. The fine pike caught by our member, Mr. Erwood, turning the scale 24lb., may be seen in the club-room; also two by Mr. Obbard, 17lb. 4oz., 14lb. 1oz., splendidly preserved by that well-known firm, Cooper, of Radnor-street, St. Luke's, which makes a grand addition to our collection.—T. Obbard, sec.

Original North Lambeth Angling Society, the Wellington, South-street, Hercules Buildings, Lambeth, S.E.—The next visit on the A.A.L., will be to this club, on Tuesday, July 28. Any club not receiving our invitation will please accept this as such.—J. Mann, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—The next series of prizes will be fished for on July 26, open match. Members to leave town on the morning only of the match. This club is open for a few good fishing members.—A. G. Duke, sec.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Pancras-road, N.W.—On the 12th instant, Messrs. C. Dove, Raymond, Mares, Elbourn, Homan, Reed, Foster, and Brown weighed in a nice show of tench, roach, bream, and perch. On the 19th instant, three prizes will be angled for in the Uxbridge Canal.—W. Elbourn, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—About twenty members of the above society took part in the match at Cookham on the 12th inst., but only one prize was taken, which fell to Mr. Corney. I hope members will attend at Westbourne Park, on the 19th inst., when I hope the three remaining prizes will be taken. Two new members have just been made.—J. W. Harris, sec,

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—On the 12th inst. the following members weighed-in: Mr. Scott, bream, 10lb. 7¾oz., tench, 1lb. 11½oz., largest bream, 2lb. 15¾oz.; Messrs. Knight, F. Read, R. Brock, Neal, and Anworthy. Members taking part in the match at Langley on the 19th inst., must all start by the midnight train on Saturday.—W. B.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—We had exceptionally good shows of fish on our trays on the 12th inst., being the best this season at present from Messrs. Webber, roach, Upper Thames; Chart, ditto roach; Trotter, ditto; Longland, roach and barbel, ditto; Holder, roach, Reigate; Harris and Harris, jun., roach and gudgeon, Richmond; Bacon, roach and dace, Pulborough fishing in the competition of the Central Association. I am glad to state that one of our members has rejoined us being proposed last week and will be balloted for on Wednesday. I wish to remind members that we have a very good list of prizes to be competed for this season and should like to see them take a little more interest in the working of the society and not leave it to a few. I might mention a few of our prizes from our list: Mr. Webber, 5s., ditto 5s.; Parsons, 5s.; Harris, 10s. 6d.; Gibbons, 5s.; Holder, 5s.; Trotter, 5s.; Holder, 7s. 6d.; Healey, 5s.; Liversage (Independent Brothers), 7s. 6d.; Bacon, 5s.; Hewitt, 10s. 6d.; Jerquet, 5s.; Chart, Longland, Robinson, Cavers, and several more too numerous to mention. Our return visit took place on the 15th inst., being well supported by talent and members of other clubs, full particulars next week. I hope members will show up next Wednesday as we shall arrange for another outing.—F. C. Longland, hon. sec.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—On the 12th inst. we had another good show of fish by the following members: Messrs. A. Barclay, roach and perch; Denyer, rudd; J. Stanley, roach and perch; F. Barclay, roach and dace; Barrow, rudd; J. Holden, roach and perch; E. Perry, roach; Cox, roach; J. Yeo, roach; Henson, roach; Parsley, roach; total, 50lb. 4oz. One of Mr. A. Barclay's roach turned the scale at 1lb. 9¾oz., and is now in the hands of our local preserver. —A. Barclay, sec.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—On the 12th inst. Mr. Comley had a very nice show of roach and Mr. Sharpless a nice show of roach, dace and perch. On Monday next the 20th inst. a smoking concert will be held in the club-room, when the members of other societies are cordially invited to be present. Members and friends who intend going to the next outing to Amberley which is fixed for the third Sunday in August, are requested to send their names in to the secretary to facilitate the necessary arrangements. — J. Skinner, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—A very poor show of members competed in the tournament at Pulboro' on the 12th, only three, two of which took a prize, viz., H. R. R. Wright and J. Wright. Other members went to different waters, but only Messrs. Wood and Stone weighed in fish. On Wednesday the two gentlemen proposed last meeting night were balloted for, and duly elected members. Two other gentlemen were proposed as working members, and one as a hon. member, who will as usual be balloted for next meeting night. Several members will compete in the tournament at Amberley on the 19th, when I hope to see some of them successful.—J. Wright, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 12th inst., several members fished at Pulborough in the Central Waters, but only one member had fish, Mr. Arrigonie, with bream, winning a prize, and also winning Mr. J. Barnes's 10s. 6d. Only two members weighed in from other waters, Messrs. W. North, bream, J. Petrie, roach—a nice tray, 10lb. 8oz. I must again request the attendance of those members who are in arrears.—S. E. Cane, sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The clubs enrolled on the above list will fish their first friendly competition of the season at Amberley on the 19th inst.; conditions, roving between Houghton and Timberley Bridges; time of commencing and concluding fishing to be given on the ground. Train leaves London Bridge at 6.55 a.m. The next visit on this list will be to the Blackfriars Angling Society, held at the Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, on Tuesday, the 21st inst. As this society is always represented at every visit on the list, I trust the other societies will return the compliment, and give them a bumper.—A. Conn, hon. sec,

St. Andrew's Piscatorial Society, Turk's Head, East-street, W.C.—On the 12th inst. Mr. A. Long had roach, bream, and dace; Mr. King, roach and bream; Mr. H. Long, roach; Mr. Chevalier, roach and bream. Our annual dinner will take place on Aug. 30.—B. Chevalier, sec.

Stoke Newington Angling Society, the Dun Horse, Kingsland-road, E.—The eleventh annual dinner will take place at the club-house, on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., Mr. Joseph Hayes taking the chair. Members and friends are requested to be in their places at nine o'clock punctually. On the 12th inst. H. Towndrow, S. Orrow, H. Nayler, and T. Gretton, had a few bream and roach, but up to the present, sport with our members has been decidedly slow, —T. Gretton.

Sundial Angling Society, Hammersmith.—Our members fished a match at Slough on the 12th inst., but only two prizes were taken. Members will oblige by attending early on Tuesday next, as the competition prizes are to be distributed, another outing to be arranged, and other important business to be transacted.—H. H. R.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above were out on the 12th inst., Mr. J. Turner weighing in some bream. Several other members were out, but returned with blanks.—H. Tyler, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall-cross.—We had a good attendance on the 14th, and some very important business was got through. If those members who were absent last Tuesday would kindly show up they will hear something to their advantage. I wish to remind the same that our next match takes place on August 2. Place and conditions to follow. Several members were out on the 12th, and the following weighed in: Mr. Smith, barbel and roach; Mr. Clegg, roach and dace; Mr. Ilsley, roach, dace and bream.—H. C., hon. secretary.

Walham Green and Fulham Angling Society, Stansford Arms, Fulham.—Mr. C. Weyer was duly enrolled a member. Since my last several of our members have been out, with the following results: Mr. T. Allder, a fine show of roach and dace, 9lb. 6oz., the largest roach weighing 1lb. 1oz.; Messrs. Warner and Templeman, a fine show of roach and dace each. Of the five members who attended the Pulborough competition, only one, Mr. Achong, had fish, who, however, did not weigh in, the other four having a blank.—E. Sutchall, sec.

Walworth Waltonians.—On the 12th inst. Mr. Risdon weighed in a splendid show of dace from the Thames, all according to the new measurement, winning Mr. J. Pump's prize of £1 1s. Mr. Hardy was fortunate enough to get a roach in prime condition, 1lb. 12oz., making a start with the first specimen fish of the season. There was a good meeting on Wednesday last, when Mr. Albert James was elected unanimously a fishing member of this society; also Mr. J. Gill honorary member. The next competition will take place on Wednesday, July 29.—C. Hibble, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 12th inst., Mr. W. Gordon weighed in rudd, Mr. R. G. Dartnall, roach and bream; Mr. R. W. Land, rudd; and Mr. Barnes, dace. On Wednesday last Mr. John Jury was duly elected a member.—R. J. Dartnall, sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Only a few of our members were out on the 12th instant, and the following weighed in fish: —Mr. J. Newton, 2lb. 5½oz. of roach; Mr. R. Lowther, 2lb. 9oz. of roach and dace. I hope our members will not forget the monthly meeting on Wednesday next, July 22.—R. Lowther, sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—Members are reminded that the first club matches of the season will take place on the 23rd and the 26th inst. for three prizes, any public water, with usual club conditions. We have four new members to elect at our next meeting.—J. J. Hunter, hon. sec.

Woolwich Brothers Angling Society, Green Man, High-street, Plumstead.—On the 7th inst., whilst fishing in the Chelmer, near Chelmsford, honorary member R. Gaywood captured a perch weighing 2½lb., which is now in the hands of the taxidermist. The 11th inst. being "bean feast day," several of our members booked out to various waters and returned with a very good take of fish: W. Davis, chub and barbel, 10lb., heaviest chub, 3lb. 1oz.; G. Grimwood, bream, heaviest, 1lb. 13oz.; W. Hart, bream, 5lb. 14½oz.: W. Brinton, roach, 5lb. 2oz.; W. Stevenson, roach and perch, 5lb. 1oz.; F. Cresswell, chub; E. Morley, roach and perch; J. R. Howcroft, roach; A. Simmonds, roach and bream, G. Hadler, roach. The tea and coffee service kindly presented by Mr. Levitt, senr., for the heaviest catch of fish during the opening month was brought to a conclusion on the 15th inst., W. Davis being returned the winner, J. Hicks, second; and F. Cresswell, third. We shall be pleased to see members of other angling clubs at our meetings held every Wednesday evening.—J. R. Howcroft, sec.

Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, Earl Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday, 15th inst., Mr. Shears in the chair. Another new member was proposed for election at the next meeting. The secretary reported that a meeting *re* the attempted closing of the Norfolk Broads was held here on Monday, the 13th, Mr. A. W. Parker (our president) in the chair, the result of which has been fully reported in the daily papers. Mr. Cartland, fishing at Cheshunt on the 11th inst., caught several very fine dace and chub with the fly.—H. Richardson, hon. sec,

AFTER A DAY'S FISHING,
Call on TIBBATTS,
AT "THE CITIZEN," 70, HOUNDSDITCH
(OPPOSITE BISHOPSGATE CHURCH),
Two minutes walk from Liverpool-street and Broad-street Stations.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

At the meeting of the Piscatorial Society on Wednesday evening last the following resolution was unanimously passed: "That the warm thanks of the Piscatorial Society are tendered to the Thames Conservancy for the action they are taking with reference to the nuisance caused in the tributaries of the Thames by persons cutting weeds, and allowing same to float away, so as to become a nuisance, and trust the efforts to abate such nuisance will be crowned with success." W. T. Galloway, hon. sec.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea.	Add	55 min. for Kew.
	40 ,, ,, Putney.		75 ,, ,, Richmond.
	45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.		80 ,, ,, Twickenham.
	50 ,, ,, Barnes.		85 ,, ,, Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	July	18	10.58	11.29
Sunday,	,,	19	11.59	—
Monday,	,,	20	0.29	0.55
Tuesday,	,,	21	1.19	1.45
Wednesday,	,,	22	2. 8	2.32
Thursday,	,,	23	2.55	3.18
Friday,	,,	24	3.42	4. 6

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—I have been away from the Thames spending a few days in Bloaterland, and although I have my regular headquarters at Great Yarmouth, it was amusing, on leaving the South Town Station on my arrival, to see the number of persons of all ages and sexes touting for lodgers. One man addressing me said, "I have a beautiful house with a splendid garden—just the place that would suit you," but the bait did not act. I was better pleased, as I went by the early trains on practical visits, to notice the number of anglers on their way to Fritton Decoy, Oulton Broad, and other places with every appearance of being Thames anglers; indeed, one was heard to exclaim, "That looks like our Thames secretary," but I did not recognise the remark. I should like to point out some notable alterations that have been made since last year, as it may tempt some of the anglers to go again. The Britannia Pier has been widened in the upper portion above the glass shelters to about double the width, the underneath part on each side being adapted for the use of anglers, where there is room enough for a peg-down match by marks on the railings. The old jetty, which was being lengthened last year, is now complete, with some commodious shelters at the entrance. There is no charge for entrance, and on it there is a beautiful sea breeze, but, according to the notice, angling thereon is strictly prohibited. Between the jetty and within a short distance from the Wellington Pier there is a charming terrace garden with a stone promenade and seats by the sands. At the Aquarium, the ingenuity and tact of Mr. Nightingale has caused to be removed the useless banks on the side facing the sea, and the space thus created has been utilised as a refreshment saloon, where tea can be obtained on temperance principles at a popular price. I need only add two items on angling in the Broads. Mr. John Mason, of the Oulton Broad Fishery, in one day got over 60lb. weight of bream; the three largest weighed 20lb. At Fritton Decoy several fine perch have been taken from 2lb. to 3½lb. each. The trains of the Great Eastern are doing the journey to Yarmouth in little over three hours, and are punctual. I left Yarmouth on Tuesday at two o'clock, and reached Liverpool Street exactly at five.—B.

RICHMOND.—The boats here have been well employed, and the anglers getting some fair takes of roach, dace, and barbel.

TWICKENHAM.—Pert Hammerton, ten dozen of roach and dace, and four barbel, the largest 7½lb.; C. Brown, fifteen dozen and three barbel; Samuel Cole, in two days, six dozen and three barbel; R. Moffatt, in the same time, five dozen and three barbel, the largest 3½lb.; John Frost, in one and a-half days, thirteen dozen and one barbel; J. Annesey, in one day, five dozen; J. Dunn, in one day, nine and a-half dozen and one barbel; and G. Coxen, in one day, five dozen and four bream.

TEDDINGTON.—Joseph Baldwin, in one day, eight dozen of roach and dace, and one brace of jack. A gentleman, fishing by himself, thirteen chub, weighing 25lb.; and another gentleman a barbel of 9½lb.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, during the week, seventeen barbel, and sixteen dozen of roach and dace; N. Bolton, in three days, fourteen dozen of roach and dace, and a brace of jack; J. Wilkes, eight dozen and two bream, weighing 6lb.; B. Pope, in one day, five dozen, one barbel, and one bream.

SUNBURY.—Messrs. T. and A. Stroud, during the week, thirty dozen of roach and dace, four chub, and one brace of jack; and Messrs. E. Clarke and Son, forty dozen.

WEYBRIDGE.—Herbert Curr, in two days with Mr. Woolley, twenty dozen of roach and dace; another day with Mr. Ellis, seven barbel, three bream (the largest 4½lb.), five chub (the largest 5lb.), and one brace of perch; and another day with Mr. Leaf, some roach and dace and one brace of jack. All the fish were put back again.

CHERTSEY.—J. Poulter, during the week, twelve barbel (the largest 5lb.) and fifteen dozen of roach and dace; and L. Hackett, ten and a-half dozen fine perch and six bream.

STAINES.—John Keene, jun., one day with Mr. Waterer, of Bagshot, seventeen chub, the largest 2lb., and all put back again; another day with Mr. Dyer, of Tottenham, twelve dozen of roach and dace and six chub; another day with Mr. Bland and friend, 23lb. of roach and barbel; another day with Mr. Newbury, three barbel, and eight dozen of roach and dace; another day with Mr. Foggie, ten dozen and four barbel; another day, 20lb. of roach and dace and barbel; and another day with Mr. Robinson of the Clapham Junction A.S., 35lb.

Upper Thames.—The upper portions of the river have again settled down to comparative peace, and quiet after the hub-bub of Henley regatta. The water is in excellent summer condition, and good sport should be had with the barbel in mill-tails and weir pools. Chub are rising well to the fly if sought an hour or so after sun-rise, and a few hours before sun-set. Roach are difficult to obtain of any size, and should be sought for in clear channels between the weeds. I am pleased to note that perch seem coming to the fore once again, many excellent samples in good condition having been had during the past week at Marlow, Temple, Hambledon and Maple Durham. It goes without saying that gudgeon are feeding, twenty to thirty dozens for two rods, being the record for punts daily in the Cookham, Cliveden and Bray waters. Weather very sultry and indicative of thunder. Rain would much improve the angling tone of the water, but even as it is, it is in fair order, and fish on the feed.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Staines).—From the angler's point of view, the place affords many facilities. First of all the reach of river between Bell Weir, Egham, and Penton Hook contains an excellent stock of fish, including many fine trout, there are several good fishermen to go out with; and last but not least, there is a good service of trains to and from London. There are plenty of good pitches for bank anglers, and later on, say about the end of August, or the beginning of September, we shall have them down in large numbers after the jack and chub. The fish are getting into better condition now, as is also the river, for the rain has freshened it up considerably. Barbel promised to give sport when the season opened, but they have not been feeding well, except on one or two occasions, when I hear that J. Keene, jun., made some good baskets. Dace, on the contrary, have commenced to bite freely, and the gentle and anglers are experiencing good sport. Chub, too, are looking up, and several nice fish have been landed. There are few better places for "chubbing" than this neighbourhood, and last winter heavy baskets were recorded. One or two of the fish went over 4lb. On the 4th inst., Charles Hone, and a patron tried for chub and did well, taking six and a-half brace, all good fish, one weighing 3lb. He also caught three barbel whilst chubing. The basket further included five dozen of dace. The following day, Hone was out with his punt again, the result being that he returned home, with three chub and six dozen of dace. Fishing again with a gentleman, on Monday, he got seven chub and ten dozen of dace. I am glad to hear that Hone has been busy, for he is an excellent fisherman, and works hard to give his clients satisfaction. Many happy days have I spent with him, and I hope before long to again make the acquaintance of the "parlour" of his punt. Both bank and punt anglers should do well here after the rain, and as the barbel may probably be on the rampage, look out for squalls.—GOOSE-QUILL.

Thames (Windsor).—Anglers this July have been favoured with exceptionally good water consequent on the heavy showers of last week. Chub have risen well, and appear to be very plentiful, though can hear of none exceeding 3lb. in weight, Mr. Shepard, jun., of Eton, having amongst others a brace of this weight. Mr. Hale, jun., of Eton College, has also had good sport with them, using artificial flies. Barbel and roach have fed well, but the former will never again, I think, be recorded in hundredweights as of yore, though, to my mind, *braces* sound much more sportsmanlike. Mr. F. Roberts, of Park-street, Windsor, had a sharp run of sport on the 13th inst., taking from eight p.m. till dusk thirty roach, six dace, and a chub. The handsomest roach caught recently was one of 1lb. 3oz. by Mr. Bird, of Eton. Very few jack have been taken in this district, one of 7lb. from Boveney Weir being the best during the week. Water in good condition, and barbel should come well if properly baited.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—Some fair catches have been made by visitors during the past week. On warm days the fish have taken best early and late, but on cold, breezy days they have fed all day. Two Sheffield anglers took one day 18½lb. of roach between them. The caddis bait and gentles do most execution now. Mr. Ripley on another day had five good bream up to about 3lb. each. Three anglers had sixty-five roach on another day in one and a-half hours' fishing. Messrs. Neal and White had some good bream running up to 3lb. Reports from the Bain and other trout streams state that there is a good head of fish, but, owing to the numerous anglers, they are shy and bad to catch.—THOMAS FORD.

Barle (Dulverton).—The river is lower and clear. A few fish are killed after dusk with small Red Spinner or Coachman. The Quill Minnow gives fair results during the day. Hot and close, likely some thunder.—IRON BLUE.

Derwent (Ambergate).—There has been an improvement in sport here during the last week, and anglers have been out on both Derwent and Amber in fair quantities. Several trout upwards of 2lb. each have been taken with the fly in the deep places, mostly with the Yellow Sally and Downlooker. Tom Lock had, amongst a nice basket of trout, a chub of 4lb. from the Amber, taken with an artificial minnow on the 4th inst. The Derwent is running in grand condition for fishing, and there is a good hatch of fly each evening.—The foregoing was unavoidably omitted last week.—The Derwent has fined down to the ordinary summer level, and fly fishing is improving in the streams. At Whatstandwell, on Tuesday afternoon, Mr. A. Clark had two brace trout with the spinning minnow, and I took two and a-half brace trout and grayling with the Yellow Dun. Few fishermen have been out during the week, many being busy with haymaking. Prospects for stream fishing are good for next week, but there will be little doing in the deeps until there is another fresh. The small Grey Dun Yellow Dun, and Iron Blue are the best flies to use.—AMBER DUN.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—The rivers are at present in excellent order, the majority of anglers that have been out have done very well indeed. Mr. Colquhon, vice-president, weighed in at the association's headquarters, Talbot Hotel, a basket of five dozen trout, six of which collectively turned the scale at 2lb.; Mr. T. H. Fleming had another capital basket full, three of his fish weighing respectively, 12oz., 11oz., and 10oz. Mr. T. Weston and several other members also did very well. Sea fishing during the past week has been very poor, neither amateurs nor professionals can do much. I expect brighter prospects about Friday, when the spring tides begin to make, as there are undoubted signs of mackerel in the offing.—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—Very little fishing has been done this last week in the neighbourhood. The weather has been too genial for either fish or fishermen to be much on the move in the heat of the day. We hear of a dish of five brace being taken on Wednesday from the Norbury water, but of no other take worthy of special mention. The water courses have not run low as yet; last week there was quite a colour on, so that it will be some little time, if no more rain falls, before the water is too low for a fair chance of sport. The fish are rising well at Sundown. Several rods were out on the Okeover water yesterday. We have not as yet heard the result.—D. & W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourne.

Eden (Carlisle).—Salmon and grilse continue running well, and the Solway fishermen are having a good time. It is rumoured that they are not too particular about the weekly close time when they know the whereabouts of the bailiffs, and, from what I know of them, I can quite believe it of some. Fish are not taking the Eden as freely as they should, owing a good deal, in my opinion, to the filthy state of the river, owing to the sewage pollution. This matter has been taken up by the Eden Board, who will, if necessary, urge the County Council to put in force the extensive powers they have.—SILVER GREY.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—The river is very low, and a good flood is much wanted. Trout are very scarce and shy, and no takes worth mentioning have been made during the week. A fair number of salmon and salmon trout have got into the upper reaches of the river, but there will be no real sport until after a good freshet. The net fishermen are doing well, this promises to be one of the best seasons for them on record. The Board of Conservators have granted the fishermen extra privileges this season, and it is a pity that in some instances these have been abused. A recent conviction before the local magistrates may, however, act as a warning against further depredations.—JNO. J. JACKSON.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—Sport is improving on the fen waters. Roach are taking bait more freely and are in better condition. Perch are also lively and are affording work for the worm fishers. Some fine specimens up to 1lb. each, fell to the rod of Mr. Johnson, of Billingborough, on a local water; and Mr. Nelson, of the same place, had several good ones. In the same locality, two very fine tench were taken last week. Bream are being captured in better fashion, but they are still shy. Eels are giving the most sport, and with worm it is comparatively easy to take 6lb. or 8lb. in an evening of eels, up to ¾lb. or 1lb. each. Astackby Fen is a good locality.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—Since the settlement of the weather the prospects of angling on this stream have improved, the water being nicely coloured and not too low. The weeds are still complained of, but mowing being pretty well over, there is an improvement in this respect in some districts. Roach have been taking bait better, and in the lower districts some nice bream have been taken. Perch in some of the drains are obtainable, and dace in many places are lively, and afford sport for those who may incline to fly-fishing. There is not much doing among trout, unless it be on the private waters. Odd ones get caught as low as Retford Bridge.—L.

Itchen (Winchester).—Sport has been fairly good during the past week. Fish rise from nine till twelve a.m.; evening rise from eight till nine. Best killing fly, Read Quill. Wind, N.E.—GINGER QUILL.

Lea and Stort.—I have had a long walk by the banks of the old waters to-day, as it is always a good time to get an idea of the stock of fish. Everywhere I saw innumerable quantities of all sizes and most kinds. I was pleased to notice perch especially showing well during the hotter part of the day, and amongst them some very nice fish. When they begin to show themselves near the surface it is a sure sign that they have got well over the spawning. A great many anglers have been out almost everywhere, but especially in the lower lengths. Roach have not been by any means so well on the feed as I expected, although some decent catches have been made. In the upper waters, near Ware, several fish of over a pound have been caught, principally, I understand, by legering with paste and gentles. I have been testing Thurgood's ground bait, and it is certainly most attractive in bringing together fish, but I think it would be an improvement to mix it with arrow-root biscuit or bread paste, as it is of such light texture that it does not sink quickly enough, in my opinion, when used alone. I don't know what it is composed of, but it has a most aromatic pleasant smell, resembling curry powder, quite enough to put one on the feed. There is nothing special to record in the way of big takes or big fish, but sport has been had at all stations.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—The lovely weather which we have enjoyed lately has caused a large influx of anglers to the river-side, and the waters being in splendid condition for summer fishing, fair sport has resulted. The best baits used have been white paste, gentles, and straw worms, and with these lures, fishing for roach has been very successful. At the waters close to Leicester, Messrs. J. Parsons, G. Stevenson, W. Dewick, C. Lings, W. Smith, T. Green, and Pinnock, have been conspicuous with excellent lots of the last-mentioned specie. Mr. Green's basket contained probably the best specimen of fish, weighing 1lb. 3oz., and it is evident that this kind of fish are rapidly getting into good condition. Eel fishing has afforded plenty of amusement during the evenings. Close to Aylestone perch have been taken freely. The few anglers who were out pike fishing only succeeded in getting a brace or two of small fish, which is not to be wondered at, as the weather is so hot. A great many small roach have been taken from the Abbey Park waters. Roach and bream fishing has proved unusually good down the Wreake valley, and the Narborough subscribers have no reason to growl at the results obtained so far.

Loddon (Earley).—Beautiful summer weather, and the fish well on the feed. Mr. Lewis, a brace of nice jack, 5½lb. and 6lb. respectively, and in very fair condition; also some good roach. Mr. Woodman, some perch, scaling from ¼lb. up to 1lb. Several other anglers who have been here this week have had fair sport. J. R. GOULD.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both streams are now in good fishing order either for bottom or top.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Rivers are in nice order, not quite so low as usual at this season. Weather has been grand for the haymakers, but dead against anglers. The evening rise usually looked for at this time, does but seldom occur, the wind backing to the north about sunset. A swarm of flies are on now. The best should be July and Yellow Dun, Orange Palmer, Black ditto, for day; with Spinners, Owls, Sky Blue and Caddis for evening. The minnow used early morning and late evening should account for some of the "old 'uns." With next month we begin fishing for grayling.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—The water is in splendid colour for angling, but the roach and bream are not yet well on the feed. Some few have been taken, but not in good condition. Paste and gentle is the favoured bait. Under present conditions they ought soon to come on the feed. I saw an expert with the fly trying the chub, but they would not rise. Some few perch have been taken with the minnow at the locks. The angler should try the maiden lob if he wishes to get amongst the large bream which abound in all the deeps in the Medway. I expect to see some good catches of roach within the next ten days under present conditions of weather and water. When the roach are well on, boiled wheat is bound to take the best catches. WM. SHRUBSOLE.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—The annual general meeting of the Nene Outfall Commissioners has just been held at Thorny, Mr. T. R. S. Lyster presiding. The chairman was re-elected, and the committee appointed. The Commissioners have not been idle, but nevertheless have a nice little balance in hand of about £366. Some excellent angling has been enjoyed on the Thorny branch of the Nene, where the bream are in good condition, and often run to a large size. In Wansford neighbourhood a friend of mine has been very fortunate with the roach, obtaining a basket of over three dozen, some of which were very useful fish. He baited with wheat. Mr. House and Mr. Mould were busy near by, and among other fish the former landed a decent rudd of 2lb., a good weight for rudd in this river; and the latter was responsible for a well-formed chub of 1lb. 5oz. Water would be improved with a little rain.—NENEBANK.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Rivers.—Angling altogether has improved since last week. It is not now, as most all good fishermen know, first class. All our rivers and broads are teeming with insect life, and most of it in a larva state, and whilst this superabundance of natural food exist, roach very wisely refuse a gentle or red worm, however tempting it may be. I saw a lot of chub taken near Mildenhall, on the river Lark, on Saturday last; the lot of thirteen weighed close on 17lb. From Brandon, on Monday, 14th, I saw a lot of good dace, several of them ¾lb. each; roach are feeding better there than anywhere else. In this district, one lot of seven I looked at were fine good fish; another lot of thirteen were very good and clear. Anglers cannot do better than try at Brandon; every accommodation at Mr. Ralph s, Brandon, close to the river and station. I had a try myself at Southey on Monday night for bream, and took a good lot. The bream continue to feed well all along the Ouse, at and below Ely, the roach are not yet on; perch are feeding well at the branch and Littleport. From the Yare excellent takes of bream and perch continue to be made especially at Cantley, Buckenham, and Reedham. From my favourite perch river, the Waveney, at Beccles, some splendid trays of roach and perch were taken on Saturday. Weather at the time of writing warm and cloudy, rather like rain.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Ouse (Brandon, Norfolk).—I hear a great many new members have joined the several fishing clubs in this district. Just now pike are numerous; perch and dace excellent; railway service good for a long day's fishing. Time of writing, wind north-west and cloudy.—JOHN O. GEORGE.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—The late rains have greatly improved the condition of the water, and brought fish on the feed. Some good takes of roach have been had, and some good bream have been taken with brandlings, including one fine fish 4lb. 10oz., and there is good prospects of some good sport. A fine rudd was taken during the week by a local angler, 2lb. 4oz., and a roach nearly 2lb.—H. ROUT.

Ouse, &c. (York).—For nearly a week the river Ouse has been running a thick colour from the effects of last week's rains, and anglers have not had much sport. To-day (Wednesday) it has nearly assumed its normal condition, and better prospects are in view. Already several fair baskets of chub, roach and bream are reported to-day in the drain swims near the city. The river Derwent was in good condition on the 11th, and several York Club members journeyed to Stamford Bridge, Kirkham, and Malton, where some nice panniers of roach and chub were taken. I hear of fair sport from the Foss amongst the perch, a boy taking a fine specimen, which weighed over 2lb. The trout streams in the neighbourhood of Pickering, Kirby Moorside, and Driffield, are being fairly patronised, but the heavy rains have caused the fly to be out of favour just now, and up-stream worming has shown good results in a rather coloured water. Several anglers from London are now visiting the Rye Valley, but I hear of no extraordinary kills. These streams should afford capital sport now that the much desired rains have come. Several of the York Club members are indignant at the steps now being taken to close several of the best lengths on the Derwent by landowners, owing, I understand, to malpractices of some Sunday fishermen, and I am glad to learn that deputations from several clubs will wait upon the owners. Seeing that all club rules here prohibit certain abuses mentioned as the cause of this step being taken by owners of land, I think the best course would be for the latter to summon some one, and so let the public and fishermen generally see who are the real delinquents. It seems a pity innocent people should have to suffer. Recently, whilst pike fishing at Kirkham Dam, Mrs. St. Quintin's gamekeeper hooked and landed a fine bull trout, weighing over 5lb., which is to be set up and placed in Kirkham Hall.—RONALD.

Plymouth.—SEA FISHING.—We are still catching just as much fish as we like—bass, pollock, mackerel, and whiting. The mackerel are being taken in great numbers with the Silver Spinner and artificial bait, and seven or eight dozen is considered a small catch. The pollock are taken just at the back of the breakwater, between the Lighthouse and the Knap Buoy, some seven or eight-pounders very frequently being taken. Another spot for pollock is about two gunshots off the end of the Promenade Pier, round the East Winter and other buoys. In Cattewater, or Sutton Harbour, as it is called, large quantities of flat fish and eels have been caught, the former with No. 6 gut hooks baited with mudworm, and fishing at the bottom, the latter (which are the silver eels or fresh-water species) are caught either with hook or with a sling-net, such as we use for whitebait, smelt, &c., which consists of an iron ring, from 3ft. to 6ft. diameter, having a net bag fastened round it and cross strings dividing the circle into four; in the centre, where the strings cross, is fastened a bunch of worms, and the eels are attracted, and, whilst attacking the worms, the net is lifted, and the eels, of course, drop in the bag.—WILLIAM HEARDER.

Rother (Fittleworth, Sussex).—The water is in good fishing order, and anglers are now enjoying roach fishing. There is a fair supply of bream, and some good jack, but it is rather early to fish for the latter.—H.

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—Both streams in tip-top condition for angling, and the weather all that could be desired; and sport in this neighbourhood has been very good, among the coarse fish in particular, some baskets taken weighing over 20lb. Some fair baskets of trout have been weighed in, Mr. Cooper's, of the Izaak Walton Club, being about the best, with three brace of very nice ones taken with the gentle; while Mr. Littlebury, junr., has taken some good ones, trolling with Warner's special minnow; he also caught a nice perch, 2lb. in weight, with same bait. Chub are rising well at the Black, Red, and White Tag, Palmer, and large buz fly, they are also taking the vamprey and gentle freely. The Blue and Yellow Dun, Red Ant, Whirling Blue, and Orl Flies, have done good execution on the Teme during the week. Salmon fishing here has been good during the week, and the net men have done well, but none have been taken with the rod.—WINOFIELD.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—Dutton has made some grand takes, capturing with the maggot, near Coton Hill, on two days, seventy-five and fifty respectively, principally roach. Trout fishing has not been good. Mr. Ellis, early in the week, took a few heavy chub, trolling two small pike and a perch, but could not succeed in landing a trout. The water is now too low and clear for the minnow, and evening anglers will do best.—PISCATOR.

Stour (Grove Ferry).—The trout fishers have had some good sport lately. Fish averaging from 2lb. up to 3lb. 13oz. have been taken by Messrs. Robinson and Nask, and Capt. Plumbe. Bream up to near 4lb. have also been caught, and some excellent catches of roach. Mr. Davis took eight fish, weighing, 9¼lb., in a very short time, his friend landing forty fish, which averaged over ½lb. each. Messrs. Dannow and Burks have also had some good catches.—H. KINO.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—In the Estuary, the salmon fishing is improving. I saw some fish caught there this afternoon (Wednesday), and obtained one in the pink of condition, the fishermen are much disturbed in their minds just now about the new rules for travelling, about to be enforced by the Fishery Board.—J. H. R.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this district continues to run in good order for angling, but is getting low. The weather has been fine and warm, and a good many anglers have been out on the water. The fish have been well on the feed. The best killing flies are the Yellow Dun, Owl-fly, Pale Evening Dun, Red Spinner, and Silver Horn. Bottom fishing has been brisk, the best baits being the maggot and Bee Grub. Wasp Grub is scarce as yet. Minnow fishing has been very successful.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).—The water in this part is still clear and running low. The weather has been very fine and warm, and the fish have been moving well at the fly. Bottom fishing of an evening has been very successful, and some fine trout have been landed.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).—With the settling down of the weather has come increased sport to the angler, and bream, roach, and dace have taken worms and gentles in a satisfactory manner. Bream are coming on in the dead waters of the Muskham Fishery, and some pretty specimen roach have been taken in Mr. David Slater's top water towards Fiskerton. Wednesday evening brought to a close the winter club of the Newark Piscatorials, the premier prizes being secured as follows: Mr. Bagnley, roach, 1lb. 5¼oz.; Mr. F. C. Lees, dace, 8¼oz.; Mr. A. Wilson, chub, 2lb. 6oz.; Mr. C. Brownlow, bream, 4lb. 13oz.; Mr. T. Summan, perch, 13¾oz.; and Mr. T, Cope, bleak, 1½oz. Trent in grand order for all-round angling, and worms and gentles the popular baits.—TRENTSIDER.

Whitby.—AMATEUR SEA FISHING.—The roads at Whitby are teeming with white fish, indeed it is many years ago since there has been such a plentiful supply as there is now. The best way to obtain good sport is to hire a boat and anchor, or drive about half a mile from shore. The lines are usually fitted with three hooks, one above the other, the whole being weighted with a 2oz. lead, the latter being at the extremity of the line and held about a yard from the bottom of the sea. The principal kinds of fish caught, are whiting, billets, gournards, and dabs. No mackerel have yet made their appearance on this part of the coast. The favourite baits now being used are, fresh herring cut into small pieces, mussels, and sand eels.—J. J. JACKSON.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire).—Both rivers are still running in capital condition for angling, and fair sport has been had, principally in the evenings as the fish do not rise freely in the day time. Many anglers have been out on the Wye, and better baskets have been shown here than of late. I saw a nice basket of fish taken here (at Bakewell) on Thursday evening last, four brace; and a gentleman on Friday evening last had seven-and-a-half brace. Fishing on the Derwent has been exceptionally good this week, and some heavy fish have been killed. Prospects for the next few days are good and the best flies now are Apple Green Duns, Sand-fly, Stone Midge, and Little Chap.—DOTTEREL.

Yare (Norwich).—The bream are seen in greater numbers than for years past, as they pass in shoals up and down the various reaches between Coldham Hall, Brundall, Buckenham Ferry, and Cantley, at each station, not forgetting Flower's, at Brundall, good takes have from time to time been made. At Acle on the Bure a match between sixteen competitors resulted in first prize being taken with nearly 9lb.; so, of course, they did not get amongst the bream, which are so numerous and large at Acle.—ROBERT MOLL.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire).—These rivers are in splendid condition, both as to quantity of water and colour, and trout rise well to the fly, especially towards the evening, A local angler caught seven and a-half brace, and a nice sewin the other evening (after five o'clock). Sewin are now abundant in the upper waters.—H.

Lake Coron (Bodorgan, Anglesey).—The fish rise freely to the fly between eight and nine in the evening, and a few local anglers have had good baskets. They take the Sedge and the Cinnamon with a suddenness that is really delightful. Lake full, and no visitors for some time.—W. H.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—During the past week we have had several days' very good sport, and on Saturday passed the third thousand (since opening, March 26), the total on that day being thirty thousand and sixteen trout, 2,810¼lb. Messrs. F. Weare and W. H. Watts have been the most successful: the former in three and a-half days caught fifty-two fish, 41¾lb., and the latter in four and a-half days got fifty-three, weighing 49lb. 2oz. On Monday, in very trying weather, Dr. Edwards caught six lovely fish, 6lb. 3oz., two heaviest 1lb. 8oz. and 1lb. 7oz. The above clearly shows that this water fishes well late in the season, as Messrs. Weare and Watts have made five consecutive "limits"; it also endorses the opinion formed during the trial season of last year that this lake would afford good sport in July and August. Best flies—Black and Grouse, Butcher, Lee's Favourite, and a gold-bodied fly with pheasant wings and red topping. Season closes September 15.—LONG DRIFT.

Maelog Lake (Py Croes, Anglesey).—It was too rough to fish in a boat the other day when I paid a visit to this lake. I noticed in the visitors' hook that Mr. Woodall in a few days killed forty-one trout, weighing 25¾lb. A report has reached me that a gentleman killed a 3lb. trout the other evening. A good many visitors about, and angling general.—W. H.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—Some excellent sport has been had during the past ten days with sewin and trout, of which the following will give a good idea:—On July 6 and 7, we had flood water down the river. On the 8th, Mr. T. Butcher, of Annon, caught about 5lb. in weight of trout by worming. July 10, Dr. Naunton Davies took four sewin on the Cothi (tributary), weights, 3½lb., 2lb., 1¾lb., and 1lb., and on the same day 12lb. in weight of trout, heaviest 1lb., and all with the fly; he also hooked a salmon of about 15lb., but lost it after a hard fight, owing to the fish getting round some wire fencing that had been placed in the river. He also hooked a fine sewin of 4lb. or 5lb., and in drawing it to land it ejected the fly stuck in the tail of a half-digested trout of about ¼lb. in weight. Mr. Davies soon afterwards had two sewin on at the same time, but lost them on the same day. Messrs. Lloyd took nine sewin, and over 30lb. in weight of trout on the Cothi by minnow and worm fishing; Mr. David Edwards, 5lb. of trout, with the worm; and Dr. Lloyd, a nice basket on the Towy, with fly. July 11, Dr. N. Davies, a small basket on the Towy, with fly; Mr. William Phillips, an 8lb. basket, largest trout 2lb., on the Cothi ;and Mr. Edwin Hopkins killed a 3lb. trout with dead minnow on the Towy. The water is still in good fishing order.—H.

Usk (at Usk).—The river has been in excellent order for salmon angling during the past fortnight, and a large number of salmon have been captured. W. Smyth Pigott had four on Monday, Mr. W. Stone three on Wednesday, and Mr. T. Rees five on the same day. Many one's and two's have been taken most days. The weather is rather bright the two past days, which checks sport considerably.—T.

Scotch Reports.

Altnacealgach Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—The following have been the baskets since last report. Mr. Mann on Loch Veyatie, thirty-two trout, 13lb.; Messrs. Clay, Headlam, and Winstone, London, on Loch Urigill, twenty trout, 7lb.; Mr. Dicken, on Loch Boarlan, one dozen, 4lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Barrett, on Loch Cama, one-and a-half dozen, 7lb.; and Mr. Moulton Barrett, on Ledbeg stream, 9½lb. trout. On Wednesday Mr. Mann, Shrewsbury, on Loch Cama, three dozen trout, 13lb.; Miss Clay, and Winstone, same loch, forty-four, 16lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Barrett, on Loch Mheallain, eighty trout, 21lb; Mr. Moulton Barrett, on Loch Boarlan, three-and-a-half dozen, 13lb.; and Mr. Dicken, London, on Loch Urigill, four dozen, 11½lb. On Thursday, Mr. Mann, on Loch Cama two-and-a-half dozen, 10lb.; Messrs. Clay and Winstone on Loch Veyatie, two-and-a-half dozen, 8¼lb; Mr. and Mrs. Barrett, on Loch Urigill, close on six dozen, 22½lb.; and Mr. Moulton Barrett, on same loch, seventy trout, 19lb. On Saturday, Mr. Mann, on Loch Veyatie, two dozen trout, 7lb.; Messrs. Clay and Winstone, on Loch Cama, three-and-a-half dozen, 11lb.; Mr. Barrett, on same loch, two dozen, 9lb.; Mr. Barrett on Loch Boarlan, twenty trout, 7lb.; Mr. Moulton Barrett on Loch Cama, twenty-three, 8lb.; and General Rankin, London, on Loch Boarlan (two hours only) seventeen trout, 4½lb. On Monday, this week, Mr. Connacher, Limearty, on Loch Boarlan (a short time only) twenty-three trout, 6½lb.; Mr. Beith, Glasgow, and Mr. Millar, Musselburgh, on Loch Urigill, five dozen, 16lb.; Mr. Mann, Shrewsbury, on Loch Cama, seventeen trout, 12lb., and two *Salmo ferox* of 4½lb. and 2½lb.; General Rankin, London, on Loch Cama, thirty-four trout, 11lb.; and Messrs. Clay and Winstone, London, on Loch Veyatie, two-and-a-half dozen, 12lb.—McB.

Carryhoillie.—Since July has come in we have had a little rain and some very fair sport. On the 3rd Mr. Tattersall had nine salmon which averaged 15¾lb. each. On the the 4th, five, largest, 22lb. On the 6th, he killed a beauty, of 29lb. Grilse still very scarce here, yet of good size. On the rest of the river I believe they are doing fairly well.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—The river is now in good fishing order after the heavy rains of last week. So far as can be ascertained, the sport during the past week has been as follows: On the Craigs water, Captain Holder, London, caught a salmon of 12lb. on Monday, a ten-pounder on Wednesday, and on Saturday two salmon, weighing 9¼lb. and 9¾lb. On Thursday, Mr. W. Poole, Tain, fished the Balnagown Hotel water, and got a grilse of 5lb.; Mr. Macmillan, Somerset House, London, on same water, a 7lb. grilse; and Mr. Mackenzie, a salmon of 10lb. On the upper waters, Mr. W. Allis Smith, of Glencalvie, landed two grilse, 5lb. and 6lb., and two sea trout of 1½lb. each. On Friday, Mr. George Campbell, on Mr. MacLeod's rod, fished hotel water and landed a grilse of 7lb.; and Mr. W. Allis Smith, of Glencalvie, a salmon of 12lb., and a 6lb. grilse on the upper waters. On Saturday, Mr. George Campbell, on Mr. MacLeod's rod, caught a grilse of 6lb.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—Sport has been on the whole fairly rife during the past week. The Dee rose to a fair round water on Sunday and Monday, and a large number of fish came away, which has enhanced the prospects very much. On the upper reaches the same phenomenal run of luck hitherto enjoyed during the spring and early summer, is not now being had, but for all that the sport is still above the average. On the Invercauld Arms water, Lieutenant Allen landed sixteen fish during the past ten days, scaling from 7lb. to 16lb.; M'Lester, before leaving, had one of 7lb.; Mr. McGregor, two, of 9lb. and 20lb. respectively; while Captain Cook landed one of 9lb., and Mr. Yarrow, one of 25lb., and a grilse of 4lb. On the Balmoral waters several fish have been got daily, as also on the Glentana waters, where a fairly good grilse season is being experienced. On the Aboyne waters, Mr. Milne landed a salmon of 7lb., and two sea trout, of 2lb. each, on the Huntly Arms reach. On the Ballogie section, Mr. William E. Nicol had a salmon of 7lb. and a grilse of 3lb., while Mr. Lamond landed a fine fish of 8¼lb., on the Kincardine Lodge water. On the Shin water, Mr. Chalmers had a fish of 7lb. On the Feugh, Messrs. Connor and Carnie are having some fairly good sport, while a few grilse are also being landed on the Banchory and lower reaches. A good few anglers were abroad in the glen streams on the occasion of the Aberdeen annual holiday on Monday last, and some good baskets of trout were made, especially in the upper waters where rain feel heavily.—DEESIDER.

Deveron (Banffshire).—Although the river Deveron was in fair fishing order since the beginning of the present week, scarcely a salmon or trout has been landed by the rod. On most of the pools fish appear to be numerous, but the water continues to run rather dark for the fly. On the lower section the net fishermen continue to get a fair amount of salmon and grilse. The coast stations also yielded well during the week. The heaviest shots of fish were taken from the nets near to Banff and the east side of the mouth of the river. We understand that the salmon fishing—which has been the most productive for several years past in this district—is mostly confined from the station at Black Pots eastward to the fishings on the Gardenstown coast, a distance of about twelve miles, and that little is doing at the stations east or west of that station. The total consignments to the London market on Saturday last from the Deveron district were twenty-six boxes; on Monday nineteen boxes; and on the Wednesday of this week eleven boxes. On the Gardenstown coast the net fishermen had an average of three boxes daily.—H. W.

Don.—The Don was well fished on Monday last, being the occasion of the beginning of the Aberdeen holidays, when every inch of water was fully taken up. Some good baskets of trout were made, but we do not hear of remarkably heavy fish.—DON.

Drumbeg Hotel (Assynt, N.B.).—The loch fishing has improved greatly of late, and meantime round hereabout sea fishing is splendid. Last week hotel visitors were out on the lochs, with results as follow: Monday, Miss A. Schwind and Miss Schwind fished Loch Drumbeg, got thirty-five, weighing 8¾lb.; Messrs. Heathcote and F. Schwind, on Loch Poole, got eighty trout, weighing 15lb. Tuesday, Miss Schwind and Mr. Heathcote, on Drumbeg, got forty, 11lb.; Miss A. Schwind and Mr. G. Schwind, on Loch Poole, got fifty-five, 11lb. Wednesday, Miss Schwind and Mr. G. Schwind, on Loch-na-Loinne, got fifty-two, 14½lb. Friday, Miss A. Schwind and Mr. F. Schwind, on Loch-na-Loinne, fifty-one, 14lb.; Miss Schwind and Mr. Heathcote, on Loch Poole, got eighty, 16lb.; Mr. G. Schwind, on Drumbeg, got thirteen trout, 4½lb. Saturday, Miss A. Schwind and Mr. G. Schwind, on Drumbeg, got thirty-one trout, 9½lb.; Miss Schwind and Mr. Heathcote, on Loch-na Loinne, fifty-four trout, 16lb.—ALEX. MACKENZIE.

Esk (Langholm, Dumfriesshire).—The Esk still remains in fair order for angling, and there is now a good show of sea trout. A few new-run salmon are seen rising in the pools of the lower water, but, generally speaking, angling will not be at its best until a good flood cleans the bed of the river. The following are some recent takes in Langholm water: Mr. J. Charlton, five sea trout; Mr. Thos. Irving, four and two; Mr. Jas. Elliot and Mr. M. Laidlaw, three each: Mr. F. Storey, three and two; Mr. T. Martin, two; Mr. R. Reid, four and one; Mr. J. Harkness, three; Mr. T. M'Lellan, one; and Mr. J. Laidlaw, one of 4lb.; Messrs. Wm. Thorburn, G. Armstrong, and J. Barnfather had also sea trout in the same water. In Canonbie water, Mr. Craig, Cross Keys Hotel, had a salmon of 12lb. and three sea trout in the Willow and Cauldron Pools; Mr. Jas. Park, Marchbank, and W. Scott, Holmfoot, also having sea trout in the same pools. Mr. Wm. Davidson, Byreburnfoot, had five sea trout in the Byreburnfoot waters; while Messrs. W. Riddle, R. Doughty, F. Little, A. Jardine, and R. Irving had also sea trout in these waters. In the Liddle. Mr. J. Graham, Crookholm, had seven sea trout; Mr. A. Irving, Rowanburn, six; Messrs. D. Murray and R. Calvert, Rowanburn, and Graham, Harlawmill, had also sea trout in the Liddle. In Langholm water on Monday, Mr. Alex. M'Millan had seven sea trout; Mr. Wm. Laidlaw had two; Mr. G. Armstrong had one weighing 4¾lb. behind the Distillery; and Messrs. C. Glendinning and J. Morrison had one each. On the same day, Mr. W. Scott, Holmfoot, had a salmon of 13lb. from the double water.—WILLIAM DOUGLAS, Eskdale Hotel.

Glenfintaig (Fort William, N.B.)—Mr. W. Rogers, of Chester, an experienced fly-fisherman has been having capital sport here on Loch Lochy the past week, having returned each evening with from twenty to thirty trout.—THOMAS H. DIXON.

Kilmelford.—Capt. and Mrs. Falls, R.N., Miss Leggatt, Colonel Harvie, Mr. and Miss Horsfield, Messrs. Elliott, Cuthbertson, McNeil, Platt, and Thomson, presently residing at the Cuilfail Hotel, made a total catch of one thousand two hundred and fifty-four trout and five hundred and four various sea fish during last week on the hotel waters.—JOHN M. FAGEN.

Kyle of Sutherland (Bonarbridge, N.B.)—A few anglers have been sea trout fishing with the rod, but as no details are forthcoming except the following, the presumption is that heavy baskets are not the rule. On Wednesday, Dr. Polson, Edinburgh, landed twelve sea trout, weighing 9½lb. in all. On Thursday, he caught one of 2¼lb. and seven others, which aggregated 4¼lb. The same angler landed ten sea trout, 5½lb., on Friday, and five, 2¾lb., on Saturday. During the past week the various netting stations in this neighbourhood have been very productive in both salmon and grilse. As compared with the previous week the hauls on Messrs. Powrie and Pitcaithley's Skibo fishings showed great improvement, but on Mr. Smith's, Cragganduhh and Invercharron fishings, as well as on Mr. Anderson's Scalp, Rivermouth, and South Bonar fishings, a slight decrease was experienced. [The foregoing was unavoidably omitted last week.—ED.] Captain Holder, London; Dr. Polsen, Edinburgh: Mr. MacMillan, London; and others have been out sea trout angling but sport has been poor. The hauls of salmon and grilse on the various netting stations have also fallen off considerably during the past week. As compared with the previous week the takes on Mr. Anderson's Scalp, South Bonar, and Rivermouth fishings showed a decrease; and so did Messrs. Powrie and Pitcaithleys Skibo fishings at the head [of the Dornock Firth; in fact the only nettings on which any improvement was experienced were Mr. Smith's Cragganduhh and Invercharron fishings. From all those nettings combined it is estimated that upwards of 3½ tons of salmon and grilse had been consigned to southern markets in the course of the week.—McB.

Lairg, N.B.—On Monday, 29th ult., Major-General Stafford and Mr. Dickens fished Loch An-Ullavie, and killed two dozen nice trout. On Tuesday, on Loch Beannoch, Mr. Dickens got eight, 5lb.; his basket included a Loch Levenite of 5½oz., one of the two thousand yearlings from Howietoun added to Beannoch's stock in May. On Loch Shin, Major-General Stafford got four, 3lb.; and late in the evening Messrs. Macinness and Mackay killed nearly forty fine trout. On Wednesday, fishing Loch Shin, Major-General Stafford got fourteen, 5lb.; Mr. Barnett, eight, 3lb.; Mr. Grant, seventeen; Messrs. Dunbar and Matheson, forty, and Serjeant Ray excellent sport. Thursday—the sacramental fast day at Lairg—was an angling holiday, Mr. J. Meakem, however, went to Beannoch, and *minus* a gillie, was successful in taking ten fine trout, weighing 10lb. On Friday, on Loch Shin, Major-General Stafford and Mr. J. Meakem had thirty, 9½lb.; Dr. Macleod a fresh-run salmon of 8lb.; Mr. Young, sixteen, 6lb.; Mr. Clay, seventeen, 9lb.; and Mr. Grant, ten. On Loch Beannoch Major Berkeley, one trout of 2lb. On Saturday, on Loch Shin, Sir F. Pollock, made a basket of twenty-five, 10lb.; Mr. Meakem, on Beannoch, eight, 6lb.; and General Stafford, ten. Two local anglers fished Glas Loch early Saturday morning and killed nearly forty lovely trout. The earlier part of last week was very wet, the total rainfall for the week being 1·7 inch. On Monday, on Loch Beannoch, Sir F. Pollock killed fourteen trout, 10lb.; on Loch Shin, Mr. Meakem got eighteen, 8lb., and Mr. Young, ten, 6lb. On Tuesday, which was dull and wet, General Stafford got fifteen, 5½lb., on Loch Shin, and Mr. Meakem, five, 6lb., on Loch Beannoch. On Wednesday, on Loch Shin, Mr. S. Laing killed fifteen trout, 4lb.; on Thursday, Major General Stafford on Loch Beannoch, four, 5lb.; Mr. Meakem, in Loch Nam-fuor-leachd, twenty, 10lb., and on Loch Shin, Sir F. Pollock, twelve, 4lb.; Mr. Young, ten, 3lb., and another local angler twelve. On Friday, a gale blew from the north-west, the Beannoch party were blown off, and Loch Shin could only be fished late in the afternoon. On the latter loch Major General Stafford had thirteen, 5½lb.; Mr. Meakem, nineteen, 9½lb.; Mr. Young, ten; a local angler, fourteen, heaviest 2½lb., and Messrs. Copeland and Cumming, twelve, 4¾lb. On Saturday, on Loch Shin, Messrs. Copeland and Cumming killed twenty, 10lb., Mr. Gowers, nine, 3½lb. Mr. Meakem in the evening, eleven, 6½lb., and A.B.C., six, largest three-quarters of a pound. Weather lovely, lochs in excellent ply.—J. Y.

Laxford and Loch Stock.—After a fortnight of very dry weather, with the water run extremely low, the necessary rain which brought the river into fishable condition, and afforded the fish an opportunity of ascending, came on Wednesday and Thursday. The Earl of Leicester, now staying at Stack Lodge, caught on Thursday and Friday three fish, weighing 7lb., 14lb., and 17lb. Only on the days mentioned have any head of sea trout ascended this year yet. Loch Stack, accordingly has done nothing. It yielded its first sea trout of the year on Thursday. Last year it was giving splendid sport by the same date in July. —J. R.

Loch Lochy (Invergloy Hotel).—Fair fishing has been had on Loch Lochy since last publication. Messrs. A. E. and C. Baker made on Friday, Saturday, and Monday baskets of 4½lb., 7½lb., and 4½lb., respectively, and one sea trout 1½lb.—J. R. EGGER.

Loch Migdale (Bonarbridge, N.B.).—On Monday last week Mr. MacPherson, Bridge Hotel, Bonarbridge, was out in the evening, and got nine trout, aggregating 3½lb. On Wednesday the same angler had six, averaging about ½lb. each; and on Thursday, seven—3lb. in all. Dr. Polsen, Edinburgh, was out on Friday and made a nice basket. On Saturday Mr. MacPherson landed nineteen beautiful trout, several of which scaled ¾lb., while the whole averaged upwards of ½lb. each. Other parties have also been more or less successful.—McB.

Lochmore.—Canon Faber fished Loch Stack, from Monday till Friday of last week, and did not get any sea trout, grilse or salmon, except two sea trout kelts. On Thursday or Friday, he lost three fresh run salmon. Professor Drummond and Mr. Wilson fished on Saturday, got no sea trout or salmon. Mr. Wilson got one grilse, 7lb.

Lochy-Spean (Lord Abinger's).—During June owing to the drought none of the rods got quite an average of two fish per day, but since July came in sport has improved. With the drops of rain the river has been in better ply, and some not at all bad scores have been made. For instance on the 3rd inst., Mr. Tattersall had nine salmon which averaged 15¾lb. On the 6th, he had a beauty of 29lb. In these waters grilse still very scarce but of a good size. I was glad to see your article in last *Gazette*—"Educate and Agitate." The net fishermen would not allow a single fish into the rivers if they could help it, and then what would be the result?—CAPTAIN WAUGH.

Mull.—SEA TROUT FISHING.—Sport with sea trout has now got a commencement, and some particulars of sport had of late on the Hotel waters are: July 6, Mr. MacKerchar, Alloa, four sea trout and three brown trout in two hours on Loch Asapol; 7th, Mr. J. S. Steele, and Mr. E. E. Briggs, twenty sea trout, heaviest, 5lb.; and forty-three brown trout, heaviest, 1lb., on Loch Asapol, in which there is now a good stock of fresh-run fish.—JOHN CAMPBELL, Bunessan Hotel.

Naver (Strathnaver, N.B.).—On Saturday week Mr. Tom Scott, Rhifail, caught two fine fish on beat No. 4. On Thursday last, Sir J. Edwards-Moss, Borgia House, landed several fish on the Borgia, and on Friday he had four on the Naver. Mr. Darwin, Skelpick Lodge, fished the Naver on Friday and caught six, and on Saturday, four. The net fishers on the Borgia had heavy hauls of salmon and grilse until the spate came.—McB.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—On Tuesday last week, which was very wet all through, Capt. Murchison, London, fished Loch Merkland, and got forty trout, aggregating 10lb.; Captain Barton and Rev. Mr. Porter, on Mid Shin beat, got twenty-eight, 10lb.; Mr. T. Sample, Morpeth, on Upper Shin beat (a few hours only), one dozen, 5lb.; and Mr. Crichton, Edinburgh, on Loch Griam, two dozen, 9¾lb. On Wednesday, Capt. Murchison, on Loch Merkland, seventy trout, 14lb.; Mr. Sample, on Loch Griam, two dozen, 8½lb.; Mr. Crichton, on Loch Shin, three and a-half dozen, 13lb.; and Capt Burton, with Rev. Mr. Porter, on Fiag beat, two and a-half dozen, 14lb. On Thursday the last-named fished Loch Shin and got two and three-quarters dozen, 14½lb; Mr. and Mrs. Sample, on same loch, two and a-quarter dozen 10½lb.; Mr. Hill and Mr. Murray, on Fiag beat, thirty-four trout, 14lb.; and Capt. Murchison, on Loch Merkland, seventy trout, 20lb. On Friday boats were blown off lochs; those successful being Captain Murchison, who fished Loch Griam and got seventy trout, 19½lb.; and Mr Crichton on Fiag beat, three and a-quarter dozen, 10½lb. On Saturday Capt. Burton, on Loch Griam, a nice basket, 10½lb.; Capt. Murchison, on Gormloch, forty-six trout, 16lb. Mr. Crichton, on Fiag beat, twenty-nine trout, 13lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Sample, on same beat, twenty-five trout, 11lb.; and Messrs. Murray and Hills, on Loch Merkland, forty trout, 14lb.; Rev. Mr. Porter, on river Merkland, hooked one salmon, but lost it, and rose two others. Master George Ross, an eleven-year-old angler, landed a salmon of 7½lb. On Monday, this week, Mr. Crichton, on Loch Shin, had nineteen trout, 8lb.; Rev. Mr. Porter, on same loch, two and a-half dozen, 10½lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Sample, on Loch Merkland, thirty three trout, 10lb.; Messrs. Hills and Murray, Fiag beat, thirty-eight trout 16lb.; and Capt. Murchison, same beat, fifty-eight trout, 21lb. Total for the week ending, eight hundred and seventy-nine trout, 302¾lb. and one salmon, 7½lb.—McB.

Oykel.—On settling down after the heavy floods of last week, the water was in fine order, and capital sport was obtained. Mr. Fowler, Langwell Lodge, went out for a while shortly after his arrival on Thursday evening, and caught a grilse, 5½lb., on Rock Pool, and two, weighing 6lb. and 7½lb., on Langwell Pool. Mr. John Ross, Wolverhampton, was out the same evening, and caught a six-pounder on Long Pool. On the upper waters, Mr. Hugh Macleod, Benmore Lodge, landed a fine salmon of 18lb. On Friday, Mr. Fowler caught five grilse on the Langwell waters, weighing 7lb., 4½lb., 6½lb., 5½lb., and 5lb., besides a salmon of 16lb. Mr. Ross had one grilse, 4½lb., on Brae Pool, and one of 5lb. on Junction Pool. On the upper waters, Mr. Hugh MacLeod, on Mr. Smith Ryland's rod, caught one of 4½lb. On Saturday, Mr, Ross, Wolverhampton, grassed a 16lb. salmon on Long Pool; Mr. Ross, Leicester, fishing from Oykel Hotel, lost a beauty of 17lb. on Langwell Pool; and Mr. Hugh MacLeod, on Mr. Smith Ryland's rod, a clean-run salmon of 9lb.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.)—On Monday Loch Garbh-bhad-beag was fished by Mr. Maitland, Dover, who got a grilse of 4lb. On Tuesday, Mr. MacDonald, Inshegra on river Achgriskill, caught two grilse, which averaged 5lb. each; and on Wednesday, Mr. Mackintosh, Achgriskill, had one of 5½lb. On Thursday, Rev. B. Cave and Dr. Ervine, Preston, fished Loch Inchard and landed three sea trout, 4lb., and eighty lythe. On Friday. Mr. Young, London, landed a 6lb. salmon on Loch Garbh-bhad-beag. On Saturday, Mr. Maitland, Dover, on same loch, had a 4lb. sea trout, and a salmon of 9½lb.; Mr. MacKay, Oldshore, on Loch Sandwood, one sea trout 3lb., and a salmon of 7½lb. Dr. Ervine, Preston, on Loch Tigh-Sheilg, made a basket of five dozen trout, 21lb.; and Messrs. Ross and Munro, Tain, on Loch Mathair-Gharbhuilt, two and a-half dozen, 9lb.—McB.

Shin.—The upper reaches of the Shin were fished from Lairg Hotel, by Major Berkeley, on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, of last week, the details of his sport being as follows: Two salmon, of 14lb. and 7lb; three salmon, of 13lb., 10½lb., and 10½lb, and a grilse of 6lb.; four salmon, of 17lb., 13lb., 10lb., and 7lb.; and three salmon, of 16lb. 7lb., and 6lb. River well stocked, and in excellent ply. Lovely weather.—J. Y.

South of Scotland.—Many fine fish have been caught in the Esk. One of the largest sea trout caught in the district streams this season was taken by Mr. M. Laidlaw in Soine's Pool, the trout weighed 5½lb.; Mr. George Maxwell and Mr. Alexander McMillan killed four sea trout each; Mr. W. Their, Commercial Hotel, Langholm, killed one of 2lb.; Mr. A. Glendinning had two in the town water; Mr. Thomas Irving, three sea trout; and several other anglers have had sea trout within the last few days of this week. Mr. John Rae, Mumbie, had several sea trout, some of which scaled 3lb.; Mr. John Harkness killed one of 3½lb.; Mr. John Elliot landed three sea trout at an outing, and Mr, James Elliot had a sea trout and 11lb. of yellow trout. In the neighbouring river, the Annan, heavy baskets have been made in the Mill Dam, at Newbie Mill, with worm and drawn gut. Mr. John Lawrie, Town Hall, Annan, killed about twenty herling the day before yesterday; Mr. Wallas, gunmaker, Wigton, killed thirty herling on Wednesday morning, and thirty-three on Thursday morning; Mr. James Scott had twenty-four herling: Mr. John Iveson, Wigton, had nearly twenty herling; Mr. James Thomson, Annan, killed twenty-three; Mr. Peter Loudon, Oldham, had twelve herling; other anglers, including Mr. Munro, Mr. McGiverm had over a dozen herling each. All these fish were taken with the brandling worm in the mill dam. In the Mount Annan water, Mr. P. A. Pasley-Dirom, of Mount Annan, has been perhaps the most successful angler on the Annan of late. Mr. Dirom sticks to the fly and he has been killing sea trout every day during the past fortnight up to 2½lb. each. His fisherman, Mr. Andrew Bell, landed the finest sea trout caught with the rod this season in the Annan. On Tuesday he landed a beauty of 3lb. 12oz., with fly in the Mount Annan water; Mr. J. Beattie, Brydekirk, killed one of 2½lb. Mr. Tom Thomson, Mr. W. Kerr, Mr. E. Taylor, Mount Annan Lodge, and many others, have been killing sea trout since Monday. In Hoddon Castle water, Mr. W. Wright, Ednam Annan, killed two sea trout on Saturday, of 1¼lb. and 1¾lb. respectively; the same angler lost a fine grilse on a trout fly and drawn gut, besides getting broken four times with large sea trout; Mr. Wardrope, Ecclefechan, landed a sea trout of 2lb. and one of 1½lb., with fly; Mr. Reid, gamekeeper, Hoddon Castle, killed three sea trout on Monday, averaging 1½lb. each; Mr. Sandy Henderson, Ecclefechan, had one of 1½lb. In the lower waters yesterday (Wednesday), Mr. John Pool, Birmingham, landed a basket of thirty herling in the evening, after having fished the most part of the day for nothing; Mr. Thomas Gibson, Bridge Place, Annan, had a few with fly; Mr. W. Wright, Ednam, killed fifteen herling with Spider-fly and Olive Dun, on Tuesday, in the Brewery water. Some nice trout are being caught in the Fleet and also in Dalbeattie Loch, and I hear of some nice yellow trout being had in some of the tributaries of the Dumfriesshire rivers.—HEATHERBELL.

Spey.—Miss Mackie, of Glasgow, Macclesfield House, Craigellachie, fishing on the Easter Elchies section last week, landed a grilse of 5lb. Mr. Mackie, fishing on the same section, landed two sea trout, each weighing 3lb. One of the largest takes with the net on the upper waters for some years was landed on Saturday last, and was obtained from Pol Martaig, on the Duke of Richmond's Kindarnie waters, below Aviemore, leased by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. In the haul no fewer than fifty-two fish were landed. They averaged a little over 10lb. each, or an aggregate weight of about 4cwt. 3qr., which at present market price would realise £26. The fish landed seemed to be but a small number of those in the pool. A great many escaped from the net in consequence of the difficult nature of the landing-place. Large numbers of salmon were afterwards seen rising owing to the disturbance in the water.—H. L.

Tay (Perth).—The recent rains have brought the rivers into capital ply. At no time this season have the prospects of sport looked brighter. On the Cogill water, Mr. Mitchell, Cuparangus, had two small fish last week. Mr. Muirhead had a basket of trout, weighing 12lb., on Saturday. Mr. M. Nicol, nine trout; Mr, Smith, twelve trout. On the Tummel, Mr. Cook, Perth, had a basket of trout, weighing 15lb., on Monday.—ALDER.

Thurso and Lochmore (Caithness).—A good spate last week brought up a large run of grilse and a good many salmon. The prospects for the autumn anglers are very bright. None of them have arrived yet, but some are expected this week. The river is falling, and is now in excellent order.—A. H.

Tongue Hotel.—Anglers from Tongue Hotel are still having good fishing. The following is a record of their sport: July 6, Dr. Phillips, on Loch Craggie, ten trout, 4lb.; Mr. Bourne, on Loch Craggie, fifteen, 6½lb.; Mr. Bolton, on Loch Derry, four, 2lb.; Mr. Rigden, on the kyle, twelve sea trout, 22lb., two heaviest fish 6½lb. and 2½lb. July 8, Mr. Bourne, on Loch Slamm, one salmon, 7½lb., also 14lb. trout. July 9, Mr. Bolton, on Loch Slamm, twelve trout, 7½lb.; Mr. Bourne, on Loch Loyal, thirty-two, 11½lb. July 10, Dr.

Phillips, on Loch Craggie, 11lb. trout; Mr. Bourne, on Loch Craggie, 5lb. trout. July 11, Dr. Phillips, on the kyle, ten sea trout, 14lb., heaviest fish 4lb.—A. CAMPBELL.

Tweed.—On the Leader, on Monday, Mr. Munro, Eskbank, Dalkeith, had 11lb. On the Peebles water, Mr. T. Brockie, with minnow, had a trout of 3lb. 2oz.; and Mr. R. Gall had a couple of fine trout, one of 1¾lb., and one 2lb. weight, both caught on the Edleston water. In the Innerleithen district, Mr. A. M'Nab had 11lb. of trout, fishing during the night and morning: Mr. F. Welsh, 6¼lb.; Mr. T. Ritchie, 5lb.; and Mr. Walter Aitken, 4¾lb. On the Teviot, Mr. Alexander Affleck, tailor, had 13lb., six of which weighed 1lb. each and over, the bait used being worm aud maggot. The Tweed net salmon fishings aro also very poor at present, although a good many grilse are being got. One salmon of 37lb. was got on the Goswick fishing. The yield on the netting stations in the river are doing very little, but those on the sea coast are doing a little better. The weather to-day (Wednesday) is fine and mild, with a steady glass, fairly high, and the wind from the south-east.—MAXWHEEL.

Whitadder (Ellemford).—There has been several showers during the past few days, and on the 3rd a thunderstorm in the afternoon. The trout were taking freely before that, yet notwithstanding the small size of the river excellent baskets have been got. On the 8th Mr. R. P. Wilson, of Edinburgh, fishing with worm between Greenhop and Cranshaw had 12lb. Same day Mr. Miller, W. S., Edinburgh, fishing the St. Agnes waters had 8lb. On Wednesday forenoon, Mr. R. P. Wilson, had 5lb. in two hours all got between the blacksmith's and the bridge close to the cottage. The same day Mr. Miller had 4lb. Friday Mr. Wilson had 13lb.; Mr. Miller, 5½lb. On the 4th, very little was done. Monday, Mr. Jardine, of Manchester, had 11lb., all killed with fly, principally Greenwell's Glory, Olive Dun, and Red Spinner; he fished the Dye part of the day. Mr. Percy Chark, of Wigan, had 7½lb., also got with fly, the Black Hackle; he got fourteen trout at night below the bridge, every one over a ¼lb. On the 7th Mr. P. Clark, Wigan, 4½lb.; Mr. Jardine, 7½lb. On the 8th, thunder, wind very changeable, Mr. Jardine, 5lb,; Mr. Clark, 4lb. On the 9th, Mr. Fritz Volck, seventeen good trout all killed with fly; Mr. Clark, 6lb.; Mr. Jardine, 7lb. all with fly. On the 10th, Mr. Jardine, twenty-seven good trout all killed in the dye water, many over ½lb., Dr. Charles Martin a good basket with worm; Mr. Clark had 6½lb. all with fly, principally Little Black Gnat and Greenwell's Glory. The river is greatly in need of a good flood. —R. J. FENTON.

Ythan (Tidal, Newburgh, Aberdeenshire).—The prospects of a good season on the tidal waters is being fully realised, and splendid baskets were made last week by, among others from the Udny Arms Hotel, Mr. Colin Hunter, Tillery; Mr. Snowie, Mr. and Mrs. Briggs, St. Andrews, &c. Fish are quite plentiful and of a large size, and the season gives every prospect of being a success.—G. N.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—Angling during this week has been decidedly dull from many causes, the chief of which wero the bright, scorching weather, low water, and last but not least, the recent 12th July anniversary. Before Monday a few brace of trout were killed, but the 13th, being the day chosen by the Orangemen to celebrate the victory of the Boyne, the majority of our anglers were too much engaged in political speech-making, marshalling their lodges, &c., to attend to the gentle art. However, should the weather prove propitious, sport will be renewed with greater zest next week. In lieu of better game, I record a basket of twenty-four perch caught a few evenings ago by Mr. R. Greer, in Roan Lake. The bag weighed 38lb. Coarse fishing all over the East Tyrone lakes is good, and many splendid bags are chronicled.—EAST TYRONE.

Erne and Lough Melvin.—Sport with the salmon on the Erne during the past week was very uncertain. The following are the particulars: Mr. C. M. Somerville killed eight salmon and grilse, ranging in weight from 7lb. to 13lb.; Mr. J. M. Somerville had eight, from 6lb. to 16½lb.; Mr. J. Hone had six, from 7½lb. to 22lb.; Mr. Jarvis, six, weighing from 7lb. to 14lb.; Capt. Barry on Wednesday had one salmon, 11lb.; Col. Wallace had eight salmon and grilse, from 8lb. to 15lb.; Mr. Jameson had four, from 6½lb. to 17lb.; Mr. S. Cooper had five, from 7lb. to 16½lb. Most of the fish were taken on Monday, Thursday and Saturday. Capital trout fishing is being had on the river at night, and amongst the fish taken last week was one of 6¼lb., one of 5½lb., and several up to 4lb. Trout fishing on Melvin has improved a good deal during the past few days, and fair sport is now being had.—M. ROGAN & SONS.

Lough Currane, Waterville (County Kerry).—Sport has been pretty good. Captain Reynolds, Mr. H. R. O'Kearney, Mr. Gee, Rev. T. R. Barker, Mr. W. A. S. Riversdale, and a few others have had some fair baskets of white and brown trout. Mr. O'Kearney got a peal of 5lb. on the Cummeragh, and on another day a salmon 8lb., and six white trout, averaging 2lb. Mr. E. Dennehy has had an average during the week of eight white trout and six brown. On one day he had seven white trout 14lb., and a brown trout of 9¼lb. The latter was the finest specimen of a brown trout that I have seen caught here. It was in the pink of condition, and taken every way was a grand fish. I heard he gave grand play. Brown trout are rising freely at present, and white trout are getting more numerous daily. If weather gets more favourable a good season is assured.—THOS. J. DENNEHY.

[Unavoidably omitted last week.—ED.]

Lough Currane (Waterville, Co. Kerry).—Sport on the whole has been of a good description. To give full details would occupy all the space usually devoted in your columns to Irish reports. I will therefore give only an outline, and anglers can see from this what sport is like. July 7, best baskets, Mr. Hunt and friend, one salmon, 9lb.: a peal, 6lb.; six white trout, averaging 1½lb.; and a dozen brown trout, about 6lb. John Sullivan, two salmon, 8lb. and 10lb.; six white trout, 10lb.; and nine brown trout, 5lb. E. Dennehy, eleven white trout, 13lb.; and nine brown trout, 5½lb. July 8, best baskets, Mr. W. A. S. Riversdale, Mr. Hunt, and friend, nine white trout each, and half-a-dozen brown trout. John Sullivan, two peal, 6lb. and 6½lb.: and fonr white trout. Five other boats had about a dozen trout, half white. July 9, best basket (nine white trout and six brown) obtained by Captain Fowler. Other baskets varied from three to seven white trout, and from five to nine browu trout. July 10, the Rev. T. R. Barker,, Mr. Hunt, Captain Fowler, Colonel Rogers, Captain Reynolds, Mr. Adams, had baskets of eight or nine white trout, and about half-a-dozen sizeable brown trout. July 11. Colonel Rogers had seven white trout, 14lb.; including ono 5½lb., and one 4lb.; James Leary (Rev. T. R. Barker's fisherman) had a peal 6lb., and a dozen white trout, all weighing over 1lb.; Mr. Hunt, Captain Reynolds and Captain Fowler had also good baskets. Since then the best basket was seventeen white and six brown trout by Mr. Bannatyne, and another gentleman. Weather glorious, and anglers crowding in.—THOS. J. DENNEHY.

Shannon and Lough Derg (Killaloe).—Since my last report the following English gentlemen have arrived here for the fishing on Mr. W. Young's preserves, lately rented by that grand old English sportsman, Mr. S. Laing: Dr. Gorst, Liverpool, and his son-in-law, Mr. J. D. Banks, Prescot, Lancashire; and his friend Dr. J. Royston, Rodney-street, Liverpool. These gentlemen fished here this time last year in company with Dr. W. Williams and other Liverpool friends, when their captures of salmon and grilse surpassed anything recorded ou the river for many years before. July 1, Major Traherne, five grilse, 10½lb., 9lb., 8lb., 7lb., 6lb.; Col. Williams, one, 7lb.; 2nd, Major Traherne, six grilse, 9lb., 7lb., 7lb., 6lb., 5lb., 5lb.; 3rd, Dr. R. Gorst, Liverpool, immediately after his arrival, one grilse, 7lb.; and Dr. J. Royston, ditto., two grilse, 6lb., 5½lb.; Major Traherne, one, 5lb.; 4th, Mr. J. D. Banks, Prescot, Lancashire, one salmon, 12lb.; Dr. Royston, one grilse, 7½lb.; W. Ellis, one grilse, 5lb.; 6th, Mr. R. G. Twiss, one grilse, 9lb.; Col. Willans, one, 9lb., and lost a huge fish over 30lb. Major Traherne, two, 8lb., 6lb.; 7th, Dr. Royston, one grilse before lunch, 7½lb., and met lots of others, but could not get them to take in consequence of the storm; Col. Willans, one grilse, 8lb.; Mr. Banks, one grilse, 7¾lb.; Dr. Gorst, Dr. Royston, and Mr. Banks have been enjoying splendid evening trout fishing since their arrival. Each evening they made fine baskets, amongst which there were several trout weighing 1½lb., 1¼lb., 1lb., and ¾lb.; ono evening they killed forty-three delicious trout. Their baskets recall the old times at Killaloo, when past generations of English anglers used to kill in a couple of hours 10lb. or 12lb. of lovely trout. Water continues to keep in nice order for the grilse fishing. Sun heat last few days almost unbearable. In the open 101degs.; salmon and trout rather shy in consequence. Trout, especially in the evening, don't seem to mind the great heat a bit, as some really dainty baskets are being made night after night by Dr. R. Gorst (of Liverpool); Mr. W. Gorst; Mr. Banks; and Dr. Williams. Their united bags, when they return each night from the river, are something to be proud of, whether as regards the number of fish taken, or the surpassing symmetry of the latter. In fine, our Killaloe trout are at present perfection itself. Amongst several braco which Dr. Gorst took with the fly last evening, on the preserves, six were great beauties indeed, not one of them under 1¼lb. July 7, Major Traherne, ono grilse, 8lb.; Dr. J. Royston, Liverpool, one grilse, 9lb.; Col. Willans, one salmon, 10lb., one grilse, 8lb.; Mr. J. D. Banks, one grilse, 7lb.; Dr. Gorst, one, 7lb.; H. Johnson, two, 7lb. and 4lb.; 11th, Mr. W. Gorst, one very fine grilse, 10lb.; Mr. J. D. Banks, two, 7lb. and 6lb.; Major Traherne, one, 6lb.; 12th, Mr. W. Gorst, one, 5lb.; 13th, Major Traherne, one, 6lb.; 14th, Mr. W. Gorst, two, 6¾lb., and 6½lb., and some trout. Each rod mentioned above has met and lost scores of other salmon and grilse this week In fact, the bother is to know which fish to throw over, they are rising in such numbers in all parts of the river. Better news still, the grilse are still running up from the sea. Should we get a good spate in August, sport should be excellent. The trout fishing alone is worth coming all the way from England for. Some very nice sea trout have been taken here already. The brown trout are as thick as the gravel in the river.—S. J. HURLEY.

LONDON ANGLERS AT PULBOROUGH.

THE fishing match organized by the Central Association of London Anglers, on behalf of their Fish Preservation Fund, was held on July 12, on the river Arun, at Pulborough, Sussex. The competitors, numbering two hundred, journeyed to the water by the quarter to seven a.m. special Pulborough and Amberley train, which also conveyed about five hundred other anglers, members of the various London clubs—a large number of whom went on to Amberley and fished the river there. The "special" arrives at Pulborough, after a pleasant run through a charming country, shortly before nine o'clock, and the stamping of the competition tickets was immediately commenced at the Swan Hotel. As each competitor received his ticket, he proceeded to the Swan Bridge where, about half-past nine, Mr. C. A. Medcalfe (President of the Central Association), gave the signal to "90." There was an amusing stampede immediately for the favourite "swims" and "shops," and in a very short time the two hundred rods were at work. The day was a beautiful one, better suited a great deal for the general public who had taken advantage of the excursion than the disciplos of Izaak Walton. The match, it should be mentioned, took place in the Central Fishery, a fine stretch of water, situated between the Swan Bridge and Gratton Bridge—a distance of seven miles. From a piscatorial point of view the river was too low, and contained too much weed, and there was also the glare of the sun on the water during the best part of the day. Still, taking everything into consideration, the competition was a great success, and reflects much credit on Mr. W. J. Wade, the energetic and courteous secretary of the Central Association.

In the course of the day Mr. T. Crumplen, Mr. S. C. Harding, Mr. J. Kelly, Mr. Medcalfe, Mr. W. Parkin, Mr. F. Culley, Mr. C. Watling, Mr. J. A. Fitch, and Mr. Wade paid a visit to the anglers, and upon the termination of the proceedings, Mr. J. Slaughter, the well-known angling photographer, took a number of excellent groups.

In order to weigh in, the competitors—who were permitted to use one rod only—had to be at the Corn Exchange adjoining the Swan at half-past four p.m., and several anglers with fish had an exciting rush for it. In fact, one or two of them arrived just as the doors were being closed. Mr. J. A. Fitch fulfilled the duties of clerk-o'-the-scales, and as each competitor's catch was weighed it was placed on a dish. In all, fifty-five anglers weighed in, and much interest was manifested in the show of fish, comprising bream, roach, perch, dace, and gudgeon. A nice perch of half-a-pound was exhibited by one angler. Mr. W. Stretch (of the Islington Brothers) was warmly congratulated on having captured a pretty specimen roach of about 1½lb. Some nice bream was landed; they were in lovely condition—their beautiful golden sides showing up to perfection. Fifty-five dishes of fish was, as may be imagined, a very pretty spectacle. Gudgeon was much in evidence and one angler took a prize with a catch numbering one dozen.

One incident of the competition should not be allowed to go unchronicled. It appears that when Mr. Palmer, member of the Angler and Hopo Club, Old Kent-road, left his swim, in order to weigh in, his son, a lad of about fourteen, went into it, and in a very short time caught a brace of fine golden bream, going—so it was said—over 3lb. each! Master Palmer, though so young, is not altogether a novice; he generally accompanying his father on his piscatorial excursions, and in this way he has obtained considerable experience with the rod and line. Had Mr. Palmer havo had the good fortune to have landed the bream instead of his son they would havo won him one of tho first four prizes.

Appended is a list of some of the principal prize-winners: 1, J. W. Beggs, Funny Folks, 9lb. 13oz.; 2, T. Simpkins, Anchor and Hope, 7lb. 9oz.; 3, W. Stretch, Islington Brothers, 6lb. 13oz.; 4, Farmer, Blackfriars, 4lb. 15½oz.; 5, Scott, Alma, 2lb. 7¼oz.; 6, W. Parkin, Great Northern, 1lb. 12oz.; 7, H. Watling, Great Northern, 1lb. 6oz.; 8, C. Burnett, Reform, 1lb. 5¼oz.; 9, Shorey, Crown Perseverance, 1lb. 3¼oz.; 10, Pettit, Silver Trout, 1lb. ¼oz.; 11, Poole, Blackfriars, 1lb.; 12, H. Wright, Second Surrey, 15½oz.; 13, Creacy, Great Northern Brothers, 13¾oz.; 14, Windsor, Alma, 12¾oz.; 15, Marriott, Alma, 12oz.; 16, Fairburn, Alma, 11¾oz.; 17, G. Mumford, Battersea Friendly, 11½oz.; 18, G. Watling, Funny Folks, 11oz.

Eighteen other prizes were also awarded, the takes ranging from ½lb. to ¼lb. For the last prize, Messrs. George (G.P.O. Angling Society), H. Stretch (North London), and H. Tame (Brothers Well Met) tied. Altogether thirty-six prizes were won. The prizes, estimated at the value of £30, included sums of money, a silver watch, a water-colour drawing, fishing boxes, fly-rods, sportsmen's knives, landing-net, a hook book, winch, a gold pin, a folding chair, &c.

In connection with the competition, a number of London anglers went down to Pulborough on Saturday, and in the evening a grand smoking concert was held in the Corn Exchange, over which Mr. Harding presided. During an interval, Mr. Crumplen, of the Piscatorial Society, made a few remarks about Pulborough as an angling resort. The audience included many of the villagers, also some Brighton anglers, and a very pleasant evening was spent. Mr. W. Miles ably accompanied, and the artistes included Mr. J. Slaughter, Mr. Frank Cowley, Mr. Claud Garrantes, &c. The concert was got up by Mr. E. L. Nutt, of the Swan, who has won golden opinions from the anglers, to whose requirements he has ever given his personal and obliging attention.

LONDON ANGLERS AND THE NORFOLK BROADS.

UNDER the auspices of Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, a meeting of anglers was held on Monday night at the headquarters of that club, the Earl of Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney, for the purpose of hearing an address from Mr. Woodrow, C.C., with respect to the attempts now being made to close the Norfolk Broads to tho public. There was not a large attendance, although invitations had been issued to all the clubs in North and North-East London.

Mr. W. Parker (of the Gresham Angling Society) took the chair.

Mr. Woodrow, C.C., who is the hon. sec. of the Norfolk Broads Protection Society, then addressed those present, and said there could be no doubt that every angler had at heart the question of keeping sacred to the public every bit of water in which swam a fish, and he could tell them that the north-east corner of Norfolk possessed a very large quantity of such waters. He might say that it was a part of England in which there were more waters and more fish than any other part of our island. The general question of keeping up the open spaces of this country was of such great importance to the health of the people, that, as they were aware, the Corporation of London had several times gone to the rescue, evidences of which were to bo found in Coulsden Common, Burnham Beeches, and Epping Forest, and although he (Mr. Woodrow) could not pledge himself that the Corporation would do anything in this matter, yet he had reason to believe that some of the City companies were going to come forward, and he had reason to suppose that support would also be eventually rendered by the Corporation. Mr. Woodrow then proceeded to deal with the legal aspect of the question at some length, and pointed out that the claim in the present instance was based on the Allotment Acts, passed in 1801. The people of Hickling took it into their heads to get the members of Parliament to introduce a Bill into Parliament, whereby the waste lands could be allotted to the people in the neighbourhood who would undertake to cultivate them. That meant that the waste lands which belonged to the people were by that Bill to be distributed amongst the landowners and taken away from the people for ever. The people who were instrumental in getting the Bill passed got themselves appointed commissioners, and they very naturally gave the land to themselves, and their successors held it at the present time. But they would not grumble at that; the law of the land said it was theirs. But as the Act of Parliament of 1801 had a saving clause in it to the effect that such tidal waters as Potter Heigham Sounds and Hickling Broad should be maintained as the property of the king and the people, he contended that the public had been disgracefully robbed of their rights. He held that the award was bad at law, and they wero going to substantiate what they said in a court of law. He believed that the prosent action of the riparian owners had been to some extent brought about by the reprehensible conduct of the cockney visitors to the broads, and he appealed to the anglers to offor as little annoyance as possible to those gentlemen. In conclusion, Mr. Woodrow said ho was pleased to say that subscriptions to the amount of between £300 and £400 had been subscribed towards the defence fund, and he hoped the London anglers would do their best to support the Norfolk Broads Protection Society. (Applause.)

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. G. E. Simms: "That this meeting of London anglers hears with regret the attempts which are being made by certain riparian owners to close the Norfolk Broads to the public, and seeing that, if these attempts are successful, they will lead to further encroachments, which will end in these tracts of water becoming private property, hereby pledges itself to cordially support the Norfolk Broads Protection Society."

Mr. Richardson, hon. sec. of Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

On the proposition of Mr. Woodrow, a vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

PULBOROUGH AND AMBERLEY FISHING EXCURSIONS.—Judging from the number of tickets applied for this week, at Mr. Eldridge's (late Clouts), the Rose and Crown, Goswell-road, there is likely to be a heavy train of anglers, and their friends to Pulborough and Amberley, Sussex, on the 19th inst., from London Bridge.

THE NORFOLK BROADS QUESTION.

Influential Meeting at Norwich.

An influential and thoroughly representative meeting was held at the Royal Hotel, Norwich, on Saturday evening to discuss "The best steps to be taken to defend the public right to sail and fish on the Norfolk Broads, which from time immemorial have been recognised as free to the Crown and its loyal subjects." There was a large attendance, Mr. J. Glasse (London) being voted to the chair, and among those present were—Messrs. H. C. Richards (London), W. Rye, O. Smith, Gurney (secretary of the Associated London Angling Societies), Geo. Cooble (Lea Conservancy), R. Harvey, B. C. Silcock, C. J. Greene, T. Stevenson, R. Moll, F. J. and J. H. Laecy, Spencer Rix, W. Ryley, C. Fasola, J. Allen, &c. Regret was expressed at the absence of Mr. A. J. Baher (London), who was prevented from attending by a bad attack of neuralgia, but who forwarded a donation of ten guineas to the Defence Fund. The chairman said their association was not one that desired to confiscate any man's rights, and where they found rights existing they agreed that they should be protected. As to the alleged private right which had been set up, they were not satisfied that it had existed. Many of the happiest days of his life for the past thirty years had been spent in angling and boating on the Norfolk Broads, and he held that these enjoyments which he inherited that day, which were the birthright of every Englishman, they should take care to see were very strictly preserved for future generations.

Mr. H. C. Richards, who had come down from London, notwithstanding a broken arm, moved:—"That in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable to use every reasonable means to defend the threatened rights of the public to sail, shoot, and fish on the tidal and navigable waters known as the Norfolk Broads." He hoped the landowners concerned would remember that if they had their rights the public had rights as well. In these days it was of the utmost importance that so-called rights, and especially property rights, should not be strained too far. Practically every man had a vote, and what Parliament had done in the past it could unmake in the future. There was nothing more necessary to preserve to the public than open spaces, whether of land or water. The present tendency to crowd into great cities, and the increasing depopulation of our rural districts, if our population was to be preserved in life and health they must have open spaces near their cities especially for purposes of recreation. Consequently our rivers and navigable waters should be free to all. This question had been fought out in London, and the Thames was becoming more and more the playground of the Metropolis. There were attempts on the part of the riparian owners to deprive the public of the rights to which they were unquestionably entitled on the tidal waters of the Thames. Thanks to a Bill which had been passed this Parliament, by the aid of Sir Charles Dilke and Colonel Makins there had been no question between the public and the riparian owners during the past three or four years. He hoped those interested in the question, whether as fishermen, sportsmen, or yachtsmen would induce the corporations and public authorities in Norfolk to assist, if necessary, in promoting a Bill to establish the rights of the public on the Broads, and to define the rights of the owners. If there was an energetic local movement, he had no doubt that the public of London who had done so much to protect the rights of the people in regard to Epping Forest and other monopolies would help the people of Norfolk in preserving the Norfolk Broads for the use of Englishmen and mankind. He was told that until 1882 no one had ever attempted to challenge the public right to fish, shoot and yacht upon these waters. Then, he believed, some unfortunate gentleman from Birmingham, who came down on a political errand, was brought before the magistrates, who very wisely for themselves discovered that they had no jurisdiction. It was somewhat behind the spirit of the last decade of the nineteecth century that gentlemen who had acquired the land round these Broads should put chains across the water to prevent persons coming along in a boat, and that the latter should be prosecuted because they enjoyed God's fresh breezes and the air of heaven. These riparian owners claimed that not only were they entitled to the land which they had bought or inherited, but that they had a right to prevent anyone going on the water in front of their land. It might just as well be suggested that Mr. Colman, the member for the city, because he had a beautiful place at Corton, where he took care of disabled statesmen, had a right over that part of the sea in front of his gardens. There was an old Latin maxim that one should only use his property so as not to damage somebody else's. It might be said that somebody else in the form of the public had no actual property to use, but the public had a right to exist, and even to enjoy itself. Those gentlemen who were endeavouring to deprive the public of the rights they had hitherto enjoyed were the blindest of the blind, and the most foolish of those running their heads against brick walls. He was informed that this winter the owner of Hickling Broad brought an action against a poor fisherman named Vincent to prevent him fishing, shooting, or navigating. Poor people were often attacked because it was thought no one was behind them, and if a conviction was obtained that was a precedent which would prevent rich people stepping in afterwards. The Norfolk Broads had long been the holiday grounds for the wearied workers of the great city, and the Norfolk Broads Protection Society were most anxious that nothing should be done to deprive Englishmen and Londoners of their rights. Among those who were supporting the society were old members of the Oxford and Cambridge boating clubs, prominent members of London athletic societies, stock-brokers, &c. He condemned the spirit of malignant wealth in those who, having made money, bought a place in the country, forgot by whose brains and sinews they had made it, and wished to prevent anyone coming near them. What enjoyment there could be in solitary confiement he never could ascertain.

Mr. George Cooble, of the Lea Conservancy Board, seconded the resolution.

Mr. Councillor Harvey was glad the question had been taken up so heartily. The Yarmouth Piscatorial Society had taken the matter up warmly, and were likely to hand over a good sum of money.

Mr. B. Silcock said that the Liberal candidate for the Division (Mr. R. Price), who took great interest in this matter, had subscribed ten guineas to the fund, and had stated that if necessary he was willing to double it. (Cheers.) Mr. Silcock was asked how many men he had prosecuted for shooting on his marshes, and replied that he had never prosecuted anyone. (Hear, hear.) The resolution was then put, and unanimously adopted.

Mr. R. Moll next moved, That all interested in the rights of the public on the Norfolk Broads are by this meeting invited to co-operate with the Norfolk Broads Protection Society in obtaining help and evidence on the subject." He regarded those who wanted to take away rights which the public had enjoyed from time immemorial as land "holders," not as land "holders," "owners," for they did not make the land: and he contended that because a man held a piece of land against an arm of the sea or alongside a broad part of a river, he had not a claim to the soil beneath the water, which he understood was vested in the Crown.

Dr. Allen seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

Thanks were accorded the chairman and the speakers, on the proposition of Mr. J. T. Woodrow, of London.

The Chairman, in reply, said that it must be understood they were in earnest about this matter. They had put their backs against the wall, and they meant to carry it through. There was no half-heartedness in this business. Donations and subscriptions to the amount of £300 had been obtained. But that was nothing to what ought to be and would be done; for £3,000, or even £30,000 if necessary, would be raised to fight this question before they would allow their inherited rights to be torn up like a piece of paper.

Islip Angling Society.—Anglers will be interested to hear that an extensive length of stream, offering the greatest attraction, both as regards the cultivation of fish and as to scenery, has been taken in hand by this society, with a view to developing its utmost resources. We allude to the Cherwell in its course from Islip to Cutslow Farm, together with all the water belonging to Islip Mill, an extent of about seven miles. The society is managed by a committee of nine members, of whom the Rev. T. W. Fowler (Islip) is president. William Beckloy, who has long rented the water, is now engaged as the society's fisherman. To him will be entrusted the letting of a punt to ticket-holders, the sale of baits, tackle, &c., to the same, and the care of the water generally. This fishing will be most strictly preserved, the society undertaking at its own expense the immediate prosecution of any persons infringing its rights. The society allows the use of the rod and line only, except as regards the taking of eels, for which the fisherman is instructed to use wheels, and sell the fish for the benefit of the association. It is also an important object of the society to preserve intact the very beautiful scenery through which the stream runs, and of which it is so important a feature. For this reason it earnestly appeals to all ticket-holders to make it their business to preserve the lilies, water-fowl, and kingfishers, which in this sequestered region still hold their own against the ravages of holiday-makers and others. It also urges upon anglers who may take advantage of its protection to avoid all hostile collision with farmers whose land borders the stream, and it proposes to present to these latter season transferable tickets, in return for which act of courtesy it hopes that they will not interfere with or annoy those who are bent on pursuing the "gentle craft." Neither the fisherman nor the water bailiff will be allowed to sell tickets, but week and day tickets are to be obtained at the headquarters of the Oxford Angling Society, at Marston Ferry, at the Post Office, Summertown, and at the society's headquarters, the Red Lion, Islip. Transferable and ordinary season tickets can only be obtained of the treasurer, Mr. W. H. Chapman, Islip.

NEW PATENTS.

The following is a weekly list of New Piscatorial Patents, specially compiled for the *F. G.* by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Patent Agents and Engineers, 76, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., authorised Attorneys for the procuration of English and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks:—

11,055.—J. T. Studley, of 72, Ebury-street, London, for "The 'Perfect' salmon fly Hook."

11,270.—J. E. Harris, of 3, Graham-road, Dalston, London, for "Improvements in apparatus for fishing."

Angling in South Canterbury, New Zealand.—Our Temuka correspondent writes: "The past season has been in some respects a phenomenal one. The rivers during the early part of the year were remarkably low, although full of feed. Good fishing days were few and far between, but upon some of these few occasions splendid records were made. The superiority of the Rangitata as a fishing river has been thoroughly demonstrated, and it is now the most popular stream in South Canterbury for those anglers who go in for heavy takes. The river from source to mouth is full of fish. In its upper waters fish take freely almost any bait, the river itself not being very productive of natural feed. As a result the fish are not in tip-top condition, and have with some exceptions a long lank appearance. Near the mouth they do not take artificial baits quite so readily as higher up, but any fish caught are bound to be in good condition. The fish apparently follow their feed when the tide is flowing, and this has proved to be the best period for fishing. The most taking baits have been the Devon and Whitebait Phantom. Natural baits have not been much used. The mouth of the river has altered somewhat since the late gales, but the fishing has not been greatly interfered with. There is a fairly convenient camping-ground, and the use of a boat can now be obtained if required. The following are authentic records made during the season in several streams, and I venture to say they have never been beaten: September 26, 1890, one rod, two hours' fishing, six fish, weighing 42lb.; four hours' fishing, one rod, thirteen fish, 78lb. October 9, one hour and three-quarters, one rod, eleven fish, 87½lb.; November 8 (Opihi), one rod, twelve fish, 34lb.; November 10 (Opihi), one rod, eleven fish, 46lb. November 14 (Opihi), five fish, 30½lb. On the 15th, 16th, and 17th, three rods, seven hours' fishing thirty fish, 269½lb. On the 26th, one rod, four hours, nine fish, 78½lb. December 8, three rods, six hours, sixteen fish, 178½lb. January 19th, 1891, one rod, five fish, 52lb.; 28th, one rod, nine fish, 54½lb. February 10, one rod, five fish, 37lb.; 19th, one rod, nine fish, 51lb.; 26th, seven fish, 52lb. March 7, one rod, six hours, fourteen fish, 96½lb.; 10th, six fish, 55½lb. The largest fish of the above weighed 19lb. Mr. W. Mendelson, in the Temuka and Opihi, has taken principally with the fly four hundred and thirteen fish, scaling 341¼lb., and has thrown back as under regulation size about one hundred and fifty. In the previous season his record was four hundred and thirty-six fish, weighing 514lb. 15oz. The larger takes recorded above were made by parties conducted by Mr. N. C. Nicholas, of Temuka, who may be looked upon as the anglers' complete guide.—*New Zealand Paper.*

A Large Solway Sea Trout.—There has just been captured in the stake nets of the Solway, "The Loch Fishery," Annan, a splendid specimen of the sea trout which weighed fully 12lb. This is one of the largest sea trout caught in the Solway nets for some years past.—Heatherbell.

Carlisle Otter-hounds.—These hounds met at Clift Bridge on Tuesday last, at seven a.m., to hunt the river Lyne. A numerous company assembled at that early hour, and punctual to the appointed time, Tom Parker, the jolly little huntsman, turned up, accompanied by ten couples of hounds and four terriers, all in splendid fettle. Among numerous keen hunters may be mentioned Mr. J. Ridley and party, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr. Stordy, Longtown; Messrs. J. and R. Nixon, Brampton; Messrs. J. Little, William Amos, Harry Tellar, Joe Hine, and J. Pender, Carlisle. Hunting up the river, Milltown, Muckle-Lynn, Breconhill Tower and Fairy Table were all left behind, and never a whimper. Passing Shank Castle and the Rack Bridge, and on to Beattie's Pool, a rare burst of music proceeded from the pack. The hunt now began in earnest up the Black Lyne, towards Stagburn beck, where the otter was marked by Tester among the rocks, and bolted by the terrier, Val. Leaving the water, the game steered for the Trough Woods, when some capital fun ensued for over half-an-hour, the hounds being in full cry all the time. Finally, the game was run into by Stormer and the terrier, Pinch, and assisted by the rest of the pack a brilliant kill was effected—a bitch otter, 15lb. So far, this is the best season Mr. Caneck's hounds have had for many years. Next week I hope to give some additional particulars anent this famous pack.—G.

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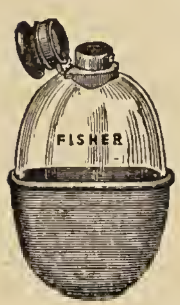

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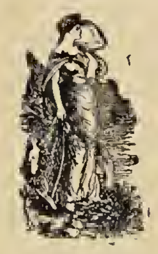

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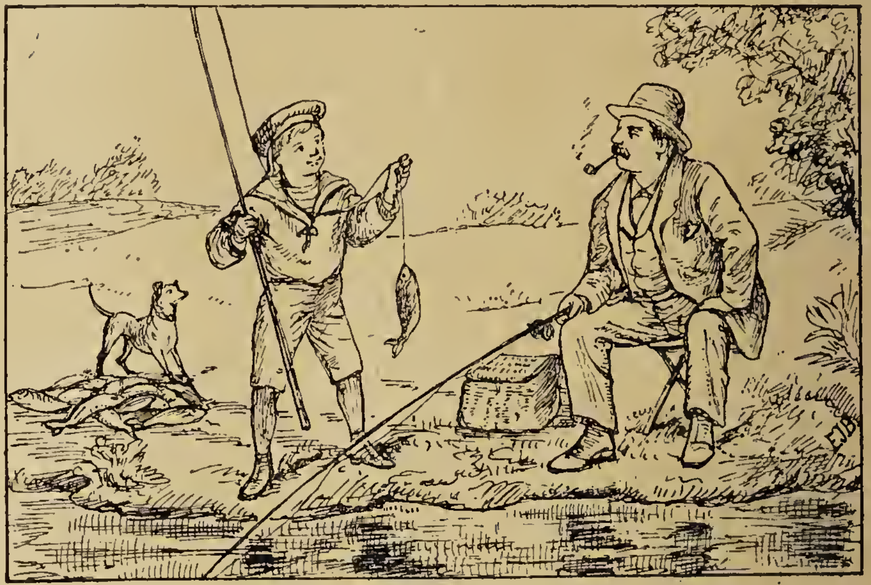

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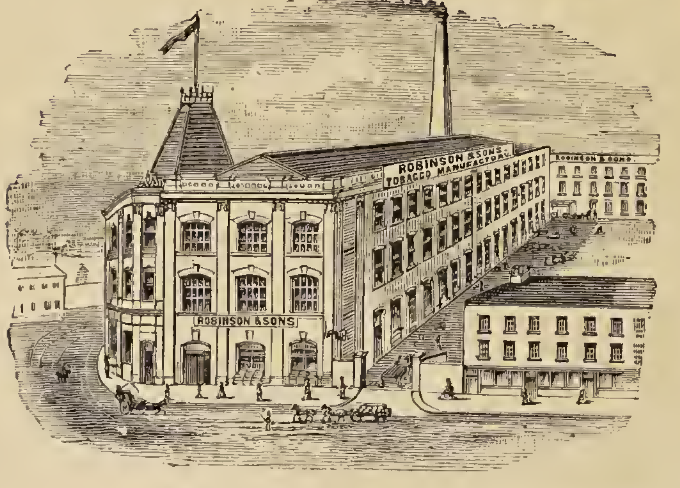

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THE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The GAZETTE can be had by sending Postal Order or Stamps to Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Co., Limited, the Proprietors, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London, to whom all money payments should be made.

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Telegraphic Address—"RIVSAM, London."
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— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, JULY 25TH, 1891.

FEUGH AND DEE.

By W. MURDOCH.

DURING the succession of wet seasons which occurred nine to twelve years ago, worm-rolling in the Bridge of Feugh pool was the great feature of the summer angling in the Banchory district. Fish were in "galore," and the slaughter by the wormers was great. Especially on Mondays and Tuesdays, when the water was in right fettle, did the fishing get hard pushed. The grand time for it was from the turn of the day onward for three weeks, or speaking more precisely, from the 20th or 22nd of June to the 10th or 12th of July. Then the flush of the year's summer fish was on—the great shoals of grilse and adult sea trout were close to land along the coast near by the mouth of the Dee, and with water in fine flow, which was usual in those years, their seasonal migration was not delayed beyond the natural time. Such being the case, the strength of the "runs" was great, and from not having been kept longer in the salt-water than they inclined, the fish, one and all, were silvery, sound, and vigorous. These were summers—proper summers for rod fishing, and no mistake; but they have passed by, and there seems little hope of experiencing their like for a long time to come. The seasons, it is said, have altered: this may or may not be so, but certainly the copious rains which were never wanting during the latter half of June in the years mentioned have not once been experienced within the present septennial period. Accordingly but little has been done since the days of which I have to speak—those days when the undelayed grilse and sea trout rejoiced in the abundance of the new-freshened water of the well-scoured stream, and were, as only such fish are, the freest of free takers.

A lovelier scene than where the worming is, or used to be carried on, it would be hard to find. The view down stream from the old bridge is magnificent, and the whole combination of rock, water, and wood, coupled with sound of the falls and the almost constant leaping of fish when on the run might well present to most, and to none more readily than the angler, lover of Nature, a picture perfect in effect and fascination. But why this attempt to soar? methinks I hear my readers ask. You are flying away from the subject. We don't want to hear about the scenery; it may be good enough; it is the fishing and how it is done that we wish to know about. Very well, then, so be it, I reply.

The fish leave the sea most readily under the most ascent-conducing conditions, which are a clean flood and a black day, with the wind pretty strong from the south-west. But while this is so, it may be as well to state that they travel fastest up the Dee, to the mouth of the Feugh, when the water is not in flood—simply a good round angling size—and the wind not south-west, but due west—almost right down the river as it mainly runs. A fairly heavy water, however, generally takes up most fish. Grilse, though probably faster, are not such strong swimmers as salmon, and though it is known that they do not so readily attempt to run—leave the sea—with the top of a heavy flood, yet it stands to reason that the proportion of them that escapes on such occasions—gets past the nets and away up to the angling reaches—is greater by a good way than when the water is smaller. But the time of all for a grand run—conditions, of course, being perfect—is during the weekly close-time, as then no sea nets are worked (?) to prevent the river being got to, nor river nets industriously plied to arrest farther up-stream progress. This, then, is why, when the water suits the Bridge of Feugh pool, worming is prosecuted with far and away the greatest success on Mondays and Tuesdays. All the weekly close-time-run fish get free up, and, if the "run" is very strong, the pool by three or four o'clock on Sunday morning is crammed with those which first left the sea on Saturday night after the netting stopped. Further, should it continue during the whole of the weekly close-time—up to six o'clock on Monday—relays of undiminished strength will continue to arrive until early on Tuesday morning. But to cause a run of great strength to be continuously prolonged during the whole of the weekly close-time, wind, weather, and water alike must all the while be exactly right.

The worming is carried on from the bank, or rather the rocks on either side of the pool. The fishing right goes with two places, Tilquhillie and Riverstone, and the sporting tenant of each has his own side. The water is very deep; and the worming place or pool proper is not over ten yards long, by less on an average than seven yards in breadth. In most places the rocks shelve or slope to the water, and have little footholds, whereon if the angler wishes to get close down he can stand. Though the water named is undoubtedly the choice portion, yet higher up, for a dozen yards or so, fish are often caught. This is by fishing at the foot of the falls and underneath the bridge. From the falls down to the end of the worming place is one continued pool, only divided by the bridge overhead. The falls, or fall—for there is really only one—can easily be got past by most of the fish when the water is a fair height, but when it is high or low to an unusual degree, their attempts to ascend, repeated again and again, almost invariably end in failure. Now it may be stated that a water too heavy for the fish managing to get over the falls is the best fishing water. With such a water it will be understood that the fish accumulate. It brings them away from the sea, and keeps them running up along with those before in the intermediate reaches, till they can get no farther. In the Bridge of Feugh pool, then, they must stay until the heavy, or moderately heavy, push of water has gone past, until, indeed, the best coloured, freshest water—in which only they take readily—has given place to that black inky water, the draining of the peat, the last swillings from the black hags, in which scarcely a one will take. With this last-mentioned state of water—which usually brings the best height for letting them clear the falls—they leave the pool to pursue their journey up stream.

At the time I speak of, old Dod Craven, his boy Andrew, Wright, and Minnonie were the great worm rollers. They pushed the fishing hard, and their preliminaries to its commencement were: Counting on a spate they had beforehand, on soft dewy evenings after dusk collected great boxfuls of large lob, or dew worms. This done, they were ready with something tempting when the fish came. Possibly on Saturday a heavy fall of rain raised both Feugh and Dee. This they knew would bring the fish away from the sea, and up the Dee, and on to the Feugh. "Now," said they, "if only it will rain again heavily on Sunday, we shall have grand sport on Monday." Sunday morning I shall assume was fair—a bright fresh morning. All the fishers were early on the bridge to look for the Saturday night's fish—those which left the sea after the nets were off for the week. Six o'clock only it is yet, but already there the fish are, it is certain, in any number. Lots are to be seen trying the falls, but without success, for the water is too high; some to spring in the worming place, and the wormers' teeth water; and others again on the run to leap in the gullet, as the congested outlet of the pool is called. It is a grand sight. More grand, however, giving unbounded satisfaction, is the sight of the evening. A thundering flood comes down; locally it but dropped, but away up the glens, and on the mountains—in Glendye, Glen Aven, and the Forest of Birse, and on Kerloch, Peterhill, Clochnaben, and the other "Bens" there must have been a frightful downpour. Now it is all right for the morrow, and accordingly very early in the evening the several wormers leave the Bridge for their several homes, each with a resolution, uncommunicated to any other, not to be caught napping, but to be first on the water—and that, too, before the day shall "daw," which means in June on the back of the "wee short hour ayont the twal."

All day long on Sunday the bridge is crowded with sight-seers. They come and go—perfect droves; advisedly I say droves, for is not Sunday the Bridge of Feugh fair-day? "All sorts and conditions of men," boys and urchins—gay dames and gayer damsels, may be seen wending their way to the bridge, "the muster place," where, airing off, engaged in conversation, or gazing over the parapet to see the fish leaping to get over the falls, now with the much water a grand sight, and causing the spray fly far up, and the roar to be almost deafening, the time is spent most enjoyably; and where not until far into the summer's night does the mixed throng become reduced to a few—the few who linger on to enjoy the cool and calm of night.

Having now pictured—made clear I hope—all the concomitant circumstances, and also assumed as existent all the conditions inseparable from the very best of sport, I have at last brought my readers forward to the time when the fishers face each other to commence the worm-rolling, which in my next I shall, without preliminary, be in a position to describe. The day I mean to speak about is a "Monday of glorious sport," if sport it can be called. My own opinion I do not give, but leave anglers to judge for themselves according to their taste. As to the description, I may state that although outside the practical part, it will mainly be fancy the results will be actual—known to have been obtained. On that occasion the conditions were such as have been assumed—in every way the choicest. There had been two floods in quick succession; the water was perfect, and fish were plentiful almost beyond precedent. Both floods occurred during the weekly close-time—the best time of all as the nets were "off" in sea and river. The first swept away all filth, and the second—most ascent-encouraging and best of all for fishing—came on before its predecessor had run out enough to enable any of the fish to pass the falls.

(*To be continued.*)

BARBEL AND BREAM FISHING.

By Alfred Jardine.

(Continued from page 37.)

I have heard many noted anglers, who for years fished both of the Metropolitan rivers, assert that the Lea held bigger barbel, and, in proportion to its volume of water, a larger quantity than the Thames. This possibly was the case thirty or forty years ago, for then (to my own knowledge) these fish were plentiful, as near London as the White Hart fishery, Lea Bridge Marshes; and even lower down the river, at Limehouse; where they were caught, not by fair angling, but netted, and "speared" in great numbers in May, when congregated together for spawning.

In the days of the late Mr. Beresford's grandfather, who owned the fishery, some remarkable specimens of fish were captured, and were to be seen preserved in the parlour of the old White Hart Inn—among them, a large salmon, a 14lb. barbel, and a monster carp, besides some remarkably fine trout, and several large bream.

Now, thanks to the Tottenham sewage, every fish below the debouchment of that fetid affluent, has been poisoned; and not even gudgeon or "tommy-tittlers" survive, to provide sport for embryo anglers.

Barbel of large size inhabit the rapid streams of the Lea weir-pools, especially King's Weir and Carthagena Weir; but as a rule they are not much fished for by anglers who frequent that river, and are more plentiful in the old stream than in the navigation water, which is too sluggish for those fish to make their abode in. Their congeners—bream—which grow to great dimensions and weights, are generally found in the deeps, but at certain times of the year in the eddies of the weirs.

It was at Carthagena Weir that the late Mr. Charles Bradlaugh, when fishing the Lea, caught three bream, weighing together 21lb., and a larger one of 8lb. These fine specimens were exhibited at the great International Fisheries, 1883, together with two trout of 11½lb. each, and a carp weighing 14¾lb., all captured in that portion of the Lea, at Broxbourne.

On the same river, at Ponder's End, very large bream are occasionally taken. Mr. J. Sandle, of Edmonton, secured two of nearly 7lb. each; while, during an hour's fishing one evening in August, 1889, the writer of this article caught, at the same place, six bream, weighing together 27½lb. A quarter mile, or thereabouts, lower down stream near Mardyke, Mr. J. W. Gant had a catch of 56lb. weight of barbel.

I could multiply instances of large takes almost indefinitely, but think those given are sufficient to prove that the Lea is a fine fishable river, of which much information respecting the choicest parts to fish can be obtained from a book written by Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, entitled "Angling Resorts near London."

Nearly half a century ago I knew an angler named Hitchcock, whose delight was to fish at Putney. He moored his punt out of the way of the tow-path traffic, near the centre of the old wooden bridge (which has been removed), and caught barbel up to 12lb., with an occasional fourteen-pounder. In those remote days, before the epoch of steam-tugs, launches, and flotillas of pleasure boats which now harass the river, fish of the weights mentioned were not uncommon captures; and barbel as big—grey with age—have been sometimes seen in recent years, disporting about the wooden piles of the old bridge, before that venerable structure was demolished.

But it is of little use to *write about* barbel, barbel-tackle and how to use it. My desire is to be practical: therefore, I will enumerate some of the best barbel pitches on the Thames, many of which I have fished successfully, and as we approach the bream waters shall mention favourite swims where those fish may be caught.

Barbel are plentiful at Pangbourne, and Mr. William Hull, of the Elephant Hotel, will put anglers at their ease as to the best swims and holes to fish. Much of the river at Mapledurham is excellent, also at Caversham, and the water thence to the mouth of the Kennet, which also holds large fish. I have a record of a 14lb. barbel caught in that river by Mr. H. M. Lewis, of Newbury. There are several good "pitches" at Sonning; one especially—seldom tried—viz., the heavy stream just before reaching the horse-bridge, at Shiplake Deeps.

The waters of the Mill-tail, at Shiplake, also Marsh Lock, the Harleyford side of Hurley Weir, Temple Pool, and Marlow Weir, are all capital places. At Cookham is much fine water, Lord Boston's especially; but permission must be obtained for that part of the Thames. Passing below the beautiful woods of Cleveden, Boulter's Weir is reached, where, and at Bray, Monkey Island, and Queen's Ait, are plenty of barbel, and large ones, too; these three miles of river are very fishable.

After passing Windsor—three and a-half miles down stream, and a little beyond Albert Bridge—is a weir, at the commencement of a large bend in the river, known as the Fleet, which is a part of the old Thames, not used for traffic; a straight canal, or cut, having many years ago been constructed to improve the navigation. This portion of the old river is a mile and a-half long, and so undisturbed, that some of the best fishing, within easy distance of London, can be enjoyed, by "shooting" the weir—*i.e.*, floating a punt *endways* over the fall, which is inconsiderable; yet I should advise that a clever attendant be engaged—such professionals as Lumsden, or Gray, of Windsor, are first-class trustworthy men.

At Bell Weir, thence along Staines Reach, and at the bend of the river, by Half-way House (where once was a weir); in the deep streams and holes at Peuton Hook, barbel are plentiful, fine catches being of frequent occurrence, 50lb. and 60lb. weight to one rod not being unusual; the most assiduous and painstaking "professionals" to engage for this part of the river are either John Keen, jun., or Charles Hone, both of Staines.

Bream.

Here bream begin to be met with, these fish having worked-up from the waters lower down stream. It is within a few years, comparatively, that they were but seldom caught higher up the river than Chertsey, where—also at Weybridge—bream and barbel are abundant, and, like those of Walton-on-Thames, "very fine and large."

At Holliday's Hole, Weybridge, one early August morning, between daybreak and seven o'clock, I caught 95lb. weight of bream and barbel, several going 4lb. and 5lb. each, the *four* largest barbel turning the scale at 24lb. I had to be back in London by nine o'clock, but returned to the same "swim" late that afternoon, and added 35lb. weight to my day's catch. From what I am told by friends residing at Weybridge, both barbel and bream are plentiful in the river thereabouts, especially up the backwaters, which are not much disturbed by steam-launches and pleasure boats.

There are two varieties of bream indigenous to England—the golden or carp bream (*Abramis brama*), mostly found in the Thames, Lea, Wey, and Mole; also in the Trent, Ouse, and other Midland rivers; and the white bream, sometimes called the bream flat (*Abramis blicca*), plentiful in the Medway, Arun, Sussex Ouse, &c.; also in the Norfolk Broads, and many lakes and ponds. Of the two varieties, golden bream grow to the largest size, are by far the handsomest fish; and a Walton bream in September, nicely roasted or broiled, is nearly as good eating as a grey mullet. Dame Juliana Berners, in the "Boke of St. Albans," says "the breme is a noble fysshe and a deynteous." Chaucer commends it thus—as fare fit for a friend:—

> "Full many a partrich had he on mewe,
> And many a *breme*, and many luce in stewe."

While Izaak Walton says: "He that hath bream in his pond hath always a welcome for his guest."

As fish affording sport, bream may be fairly well spoken of. They make determined plunges when first hooked, their deep sides enabling them to offer great resistance in the water. They cannot be considered plucky fighting fish, like barbel, yet, when a young angler hooks a four-pounder on fine tackle, his nerve and skill will be well tested before he lands the fish.

There are various methods of angling for bream, and either legering, or fishing with Nottingham tackle, as previously described for barbel, answers well, according to the depth and condition of the water fished. Ordinary roach tackle (strong though fine) also serves for bream, but, as they have smaller mouths than many other fish, the hook should not be very large: a No. 5 short shank round bend is a good size for worms; and No. 7 for gentles, paste, or wasp-grub. The latter is an excellent bait. At times bream will take scalded greaves, the whitest bits being used for the hook, and the coarser and darkest mixed with clay into balls for ground bait, and cast into the water, rather above the commencement of the swim, or eddy. In the mill tails of flour mills (I have in my "mind's eye" one or two splendid pools on the Lea), where there are bream "galore," meal worms are also good baits. The worm is much like a fat centipede, and is the larvæ of a beetle that infests flour sacks, when they remain together in heaps. Mr. R. B. Marston recommends a "sandwich" made of two wasp-grubs and a meal-worm between them, with the hook placed simply through the middle of it—*i.e.*, laterally, not longitudinally; thus, "compounded," it proves so alluring, that few bream, at any rate, can resist it, and it is an equally good bait for winter "chubbing," of which "art"—for it is an enticing art to those anglers who can stand the cold of a winter's day—I shall have something to say anon.

I had almost forgotten that small lamperns, or large ones cut into short lengths of an inch or a little more, are deadly baits for barbel. Some very large "catches" have been made at Teddington on Thames, with lamperns.

The Trent is a barbel river *par excellence*, where fine specimens are caught; and in Yorkshire, the Wharfe, Yore, Ouse, and Derwent, all contain these fish.

Below the weir at Arthington Bridge, on the Wharfe, I have seen immense shoals of barbel, among them very large ones. As next month and September are the very best for sport, I advise my Leeds angling friends to purchase a barbel-rod and the necessary tackle. They can see mine by applying to Max Walbran. Scour a few thousand lob-worms in moss, and then go off to Arthington, Harewood, Witherby, Tadcaster, or Boroughbridge "a-barbelling."

(To be continued.)

A QUIET NOOK AMONG THE SCOTTISH HILLS.

By Gilnockie.

As the fishing season is now fairly launched, and anglers are busy sorting out their implements of warfare, it may not be amiss if I reintroduce to the readers of the *F. G.* a certain quiet fishing retreat, cosily nestled among the most romantic of the Scottish hills, and charmingly surrounded by wood and water—one of those peaceful spots designed by Nature for the especial benefit of those who are averse to the stir and excitement of places of popular and fashionable resort, and where the worried and wearied toiler may renew his elasticity (both of mind and body) by rambling by the bubbling brook, the gliding river, or in contemplating the magnificent mountain scenery which has been so bountifully dealt out in the charming corner of the earth to which I wish to draw attention.

I refer to the unpretending little town of Langholm, in Dumfriesshire, situated at the junction of three streams—the Esk, Ewes, and Wanchope—and surrounded by three hills, Whita, Warbla, and Timpen. It is one of the snuggest little spots to be found in the British Isles—one of those old-fashioned villages, which, in this age of railways, have become a rarity. True, the town boasts of a railway station; but it is a terminus, and consequently the town attracts fewer visitors than it would otherwise do if it possessed a through line. Even its very isolation constitutes one of its charming features to the visitor. It is seventy-three miles from Edinburgh and twenty-one from Carlisle, and easily comeatable either by road or rail. Anyone in search of perfect repose will find it here, especially amid the beautiful walks in the vicinity of the town, which are of the most inviting description.

There are only about four thousand inhabitants, most of them douce, canny, sonsie bodies; and the houses are clean, and many of them well-built. The hotels are mostly of a homely character, both temperance and otherwise; and the proprietors all strive to make visitors feel at home. The air is remarkably invigorating; and that it is conducive to longevity is proved by the parish

Cla
the [illegible]

pleasure.

I wou to Call

and see Mrs

gister, which records several centenarians. One d lady, whom I knew well, died last week at e age of ninety, leaving a surviving brother hose age is ninety-four. I knew an old woman ho died not far from Langholm, about forty years go, at the age of one hundred and two. This as "Sodger Jean." She served many years in e army, and her sex was only discovered during severe illness. Previous to that she had done er duty like a hero, and had actually slept in e same bed with a comrade without being found ut.

But this is a digression.

The season ticket for the Esk and Liddle and heir tributaries from their sources to the Solway, xcept the waters specially reserved, is £4 4s.; ne week, £1; one day, 5s. Upper waters ticket: eason, £1 10s.; per day, 2s. 6d. Some other portions, 10s. for season, and 1s. per day. May and une are the best months for yellow trout; June nd July for sea (salmon) trout; end of July and ugust for whiting; September and October for almon. Many of the tributaries turn out good baskets of yellow trout: the best are the Ewes nd Tarras, close to Langholm; Hermitage, Meggett and Stenneswater, a little farther distant. Should angling not be one of the tourist's hobbies, he may be a geologist; if so, the Scorpion Shales of Eskdale, or the lime-stone strata of Liddle, will reward his labour. Or the rod's companion may be a botanical glass, not a hammer; if such be the case, he is in the midst of a wealth of woods and wild flowers. Such a profusion of genera and species for the study of vegetation through all its stages—from the lichens, the liverworth, the equisetums, the mosses, the ferns, to the hoary oak—is rarely met with. Those, too, blessed with a fair supply of wind and tenacity of limb might scale the heights of Whita Hill, which overlook the town, 1,204 feet above the level of the sea, where a splendid view of the surrounding country is obtainable. The Cumberland and Northumberland mountains from this point of vantage seem close at hand. Criffel, the Nithodale Hills, Burnswark, Whitrop, the Nine-stane Rigg, Comb, and Roanfell are all visible. The Solway, a long silver streak, gleams in the distance; while close beneath lies this romantic little town, smothered in a wilderness of vegetation. Leaving Whita top, a tramp across the moor conjures up recollections of a Perthshire glen. Such is Langholm and its vicinity.

But there are places on the Border scarcely less beautiful; and scores of mountain streams, that babble pleasantly, or leap over linns, and make miniature cascades; and hundreds of dowie dens, where the last new novel or the fragrant weed may be enjoyed in peace. To the antiquarian, and the collector of folk and ballad lore, the district is particularly rich. Eskdale Muir can show its well-preserved Druidical circle and commemoration cairns to murdered Covenanters. The neighbourhood is studded with the remains of ancient strongholds. One of the most famous is Gilnockie Tower, standing on a high promontory overlooking the Esk, about four miles from Langholm, and two miles from the old coaching hotel, the Cross Keys, Canonbie. Gilnockie Tower is one of the most interesting relics of the freebooting days to be found on the Border, and is still well preserved; but the castle proper has been completely swept away, and only faint indications of the site remain. Part of the stones were long ago used in building the bridge which spans the Esk, a little below the venerable keep, and are frequently pointed out to visitors with great relish by the local antiquarians.

Fifteen minutes' walk takes the visitor past Byre Burn—another enchanting spot. The wooded banks of the river rise quite sixty feet above the rocky channel, and the view down the water is indescribably grand as far as the Cross Keys. This old hotel is another interesting landmark. Here Professor Wilson stayed when he annually "swept" the Esk, and often waded, as he used to assert, up to the "oxters."

A little farther down this valley brings the pleasure-seeker to the Moat Linn—a famous old Roman station, overlooking both the Liddle and Esk, nigh the point where the two waters meet. At the extremity of Canonbie Lea, immortalised in Scott's "Young Lochinvar," the top of the linn affords one of the finest views on the Border. To the west lies the Solway Frith, overshadowed by Criffel Hill in Galloway; to the south, the splendid range of the Cumbrian Mountains; the Cheviot Hills in the east; and the whole area of the Scottish Southern Highlands in the north.

> "There's not a spot in Britain's Isle where human feet
> have been,
> There's not a land in foreign climes the eye of man has
> seen,
> There's not a patch on God's green earth like that
> whereon I stand,
> Or half so beautiful as this enchanted fairyland."

From this point it is always well to procced about two miles up the Liddle to Penton Linns, and explore the huge rocks and boulders that stand in the middle of the river like Egyptian pyramids, and the charming walks in the woods, which are the delight of all who have visited them. Returning again to Langholm, which is six miles distant, the tourist should take a day up Eskdale, through the enchanting Gallowside, bright with a carpet of many colours, not forgetting to drink from Peden's Well, where the famous Covenanter once quenched his thirst; on to Westerkirk, the birthplace of Telford the engineer; through the grounds of the Johnstones of Annandale to Burnfoot, the ancient mansion of the "Four Knights of Eskdale," whose father was only a plain country farmer, who buisted and helped to shear his own sheep.

Up the Ewes is another beautiful walk as far as Meikledale, once the residence of that "Beattie o' Meikledale" who supplied Sir Walter Scott with the plot for the "Lay of the Last Minstrel." Then we may go farther afield to the gaunt old Border stronghold of Hermitage Castle. The drive from Langholm thither—about ten miles—is a most interesting one across the wide-stretching moorlands, over whose bleak expanse the giant keep gazes like a mail-clad sentinel.

> "Far from the madding crowd,"

'mid solitude and silence, broken only by the occasional lonely cry of the whaup or the bic-bic-birr of the muircock, there is nought to be seen but hills and heather.

Another day could be well spent in Thomas Carlyle's country, which should include a visit to Haddam Castle and Repentance Tower, famous in Border song and story; to the old Roman camp at Burnsward; thence to Castle Milk, the seat of Sir Robert Jardine, M.P., whose kennel of greyhounds is perhaps the finest in all Scotland; and returning by Sprinkell (the residence of Sir John Heron Maxwell) and Kirkconnell (made famous by the well-known song of "Fair Helen of Kirkconnell Lea." The best and most interesting drives from Langholm are—Carlisle, twenty-one miles; Hawick, twenty-three; Lockerby, twenty; Annan, twenty; Gretna Green, fifteen; Roman Camp at Moat, nine; Penton Linns, six; besides shorter distances in galore.

Those content with plain homely fare can live very cheaply over the Border in the valley of the Esk, either in private apartments or otherwise; and intending visitors are recommended to breakfast always on porridge and milk after having first bathed in the Esk. Such is my practice during my annual visits to the district, and I invariably return to the big village thoroughly braced up for the winter's campaign of hard work.

STRANGE CAPTURE OF A LARGE TROUT ON THE WHITADDER.—Mr. Gillies, Edington Mill, and a friend (Mr. Jones, from London) were fishing from a boat in the dam road at Edington Mill, when a large fish was observed feeding in the shallow water just under Pear Bank stream. Mr. Jones carefully rowed up behind the fish, and Mr. Gillies threw the line, which caught a swallow a few feet off the end of the rod. The swallow and the worm struck the water at the same time, and the fish was seen to move round. On pulling up the line, the fish was found struggling in the water, and the swallow in the air. The latter soon frced itself, and it was fortunate it did, as the fish claimed all attention by at once making for the deep water. The tackle used being very fine, great care had to be used, and the fish had a good deal of its own way, but after a fine run of a quarter of an hour he was safely landed into the boat, and proved to be a yellow trout in splendid condition, which, on being weighed, turned the scale at just over 3lb.—*Newcastle Chronicle.*

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—EAST LONDON RUBBER Co, 8, Shoreditch, E.

Notes and Queries

THE plumbers are at work laying the pipes to convey the water, by gravitation, from the fountain head to the new salmon hatchery at Brawl Castle, on the river Thurso, which is expected to be finished about the first week in August, when the other necessary preparations will be proceeded with. It is decided to lay all the eggs on a layer of quartz gravel, about an inch thick, in the hatching boxes.

SNIPE UP THE THAMES.—Whilst fishing in the Windsor waters on Thursday, a London angler saw a flock of eleven summer snipe in the vicinity of Boveney Weir. The birds made several attempts to alight between there and Surly Hall, but owing to the presence of numerous boating parties, including many Eton boys, they were too frightened to do so. The birds formed a pretty picture skimming over the river.—GOOSEUQILL

THE NORFOLK BROADS.—Following up the meeting lately held at Norwich on this subject, a meeting of London anglers will be held under the auspices of the Gresham Angling Society, at their rooms, Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street, on Tuesday, the 28th instant, at eight p.m., to explain and uphold the legal rights of the public to sail and fish in the above Broads, as they have done from time immemorial. The chair will be taken by G. C. T. Bartley, Esq., M.P. for North Islington, who will be supported by Messrs. Walter Rye, George Corble (Clerk to the Lea Conservancy), G. Chambers, T. J. Woodrow, C.C., and many influential anglers and representatives of angling clubs.

RODS AND TACKLE.—(By the late Francis Francis, from his "Angler's Register," 1860.)—"On Rods.—These the angler should suit to his strength and stature, but he will seldom go far wrong in paying a good price, and allowing a good practical maker, who knows his business, to choose one for him, if he mistrusts his own judgment. On Tackle.—Never buy cheap tackle of any kind—it is a delusion, a mockery, and a snare, and will be sure to fail you in your utmost need. A cheap line has a flaw in it for certain; cheap gut frays out, and will not last; and cheap hooks are the devil, with all his imps at his back. We always buy the very dearest hooks we can get in the market, and they never fail us, while the difference is about half-a-crown a year, and many a salmon and trout of good dimensions bagged, that a cheap hook would probably have parted company with. Learn to make your own flies and tackle, and to mend your own rods—not that you may always do so—which would become o'erburdensome—but that you may be able to upon any emergency, and may, moreover, know what is good workmanship and what is not. How awkward it is to lose your only killing fly in a big fish, in some mountain loch or solitary stream, miles and miles from home, and how often the angler wishes he had some fly-making materials with him. A very useful little article is a flyfishers' *vade mecum.* This is a book about the size of a small fly-book, containing every requisite for fly-making, so that the angler may never be at a loss for making a fly, even by the river side; but to aid this, a small screw pocket table vice will need to be carried; also a small flat circular board, on which to screw it. Now if there be a circular hole in the board, by sticking the spear of the butt-end of the fly-rod in the ground upright, and slipping the board over the joint until it jams, the angler has an ever-ready table on which to fasten his vice. There are many who can dress a fly sufficiently neat and killing without a vice, but there are more who cannot, and a good day's sport is often lost for the want of some particular fly, which ten minutes' application at the river side would supply. Now having your vice and table fixed, select hook and gut, and tie on, and now the *vade mecum*, with it stores, comes into play; in the first few pages are small pockets, each containing a diminutive portion of dubbing, of every shade of brown, grey yellow, reddish, greens, and neutral tints; the next few pages contain hackles of all sizes, strips of paper being gummed over the quill ends and ranged in the shades required for trout flies: then comes a page of the wing or tail feathers of various small birds, of different shades, for wings; these are the main requisites. There are sundry small pockets to the book, containing cards, with small portions of floss and other silks and wools of various colours, with a scrap of tinsel, &c., &c.; by this means a small but sufficient collection of materials, and of the most useful kind, can be carried with ease; and no angler who can tie a fly should ever go without the requisites for doing so. As a true brother of the angler, conduct yourself civilly and liberally to all; be not greedy, nor over-reaching; and avoid exaggeration. Never fish in any one's water without permission; a polite note, or request, will, nine times out of ten, get that permission. Added to permission, in Ireland, for salmon fishing, a licence is necessary; this costs ten shillings upon every district but two, and these are Ballyshannon and Ballina, and here the charge is a pound. Above all, study nature, and practise patience."

A MEMORABLE FISHING MATCH ON THE BORDER.

SEVERAL of my friends are complaining that Rab Morrison's narrative came to a very abrupt conclusion. I am aware of that: Rab grat like a bairn; in fact, blubbered like a big Bubbly Jock. I hate scenes; and did not wish to expose Rab; but the worst of it was this: he burst into song at the finish—a weakly sentimental ditty—the kind of stuff that harrows the soul of ye long-suffering Editor of ye *Fishing Gazette*. I once had the *F. G.* office club applied to my cantle anent some verses I sent in, and I don't want such a floorer again. However, as the *poetry* (save the mark!) is Rab's and not mine, I'll chance it.

RAB MORRISON'S SONG.

The saut tear's rinnin' doon my cheek
Wi greetin' sair are baith my een,
For O they've stown my love awa',
They've stown awa' my Border Queen.
The winter wind sweeps doon the vale
In angry gusts baith snell and keen.
Nor wind nor snaw can hurt me now
I've lost my charming Border Queen.
The heather waves on yonder hill,
On yonder banks the grass grows green,
I car'na for those once loved scenes;
I've lost my lovely Border Queen.
What care I now for wordly gear,
What care I now for foe or freen.
Out o'er the heath I cheerless roam
In search o' my sweet Border Queen.
At midnight hour, in lonely glens
My weary feet have oft-times been,
And in the gloaming mirk I stray
But cannot find my Border Queen.
On Eskdale's braes or Wanchope's Knowes,
No fairer flower was ever seen.
But now they've stown my lass awa'
My own bewitchin' Border Queen.
She was the pride o' a' the glen,
Her tartan plaidic braw and clean
Was aye wrapt roun' the lovely form
O' my young strappin' Border Queen.
Now she is married and awa'
May she be happy morn and e'en,
And bonnie bairns rin toddlin' roun'
The fireside o' the Border Queen.

GILNOCKIE.

A NEW DISGORGER.

SOME time ago, a gentleman called on us to get our opinion of a new form of disgorger he had invented. We now hear from his agent, Mr. F. M. Walbran, New Station-street, Leeds, that he has patented it, and that it is now on sale.

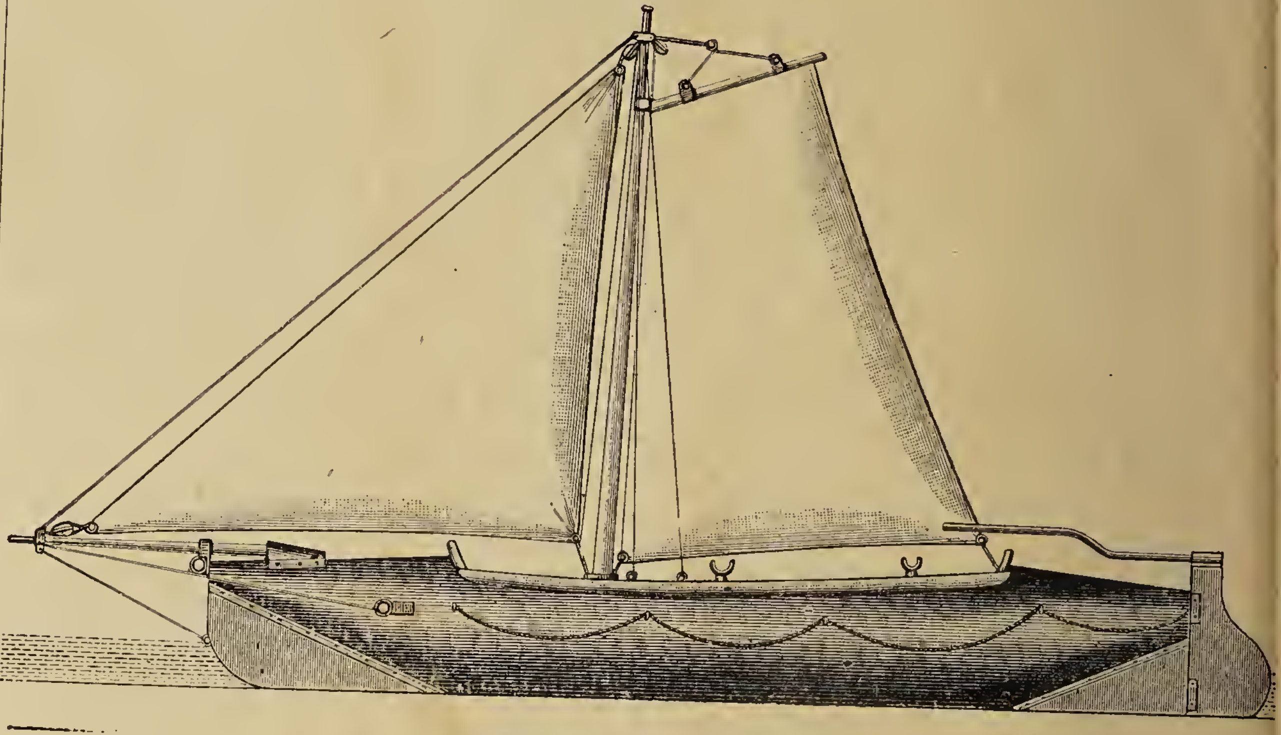
Mr. Walbran writes: "I enclose you a disgorger, which the inventor, Mr. Walker, has had mounted in real silver for your acceptance I call it the best I have ever seen. Please note, the ordinary ones are sold at 6d. each. They are made of riven lance-wood and cannot be broken by fair means." The idea is a very ingenious one, and in many respects this is one of the best disgorgers we have seen, and will be especially appreciated by all who use single hooks on gut or hair, as it certainly prevents injury to the gut as well as enabling one to release a hook from a fish's throat.

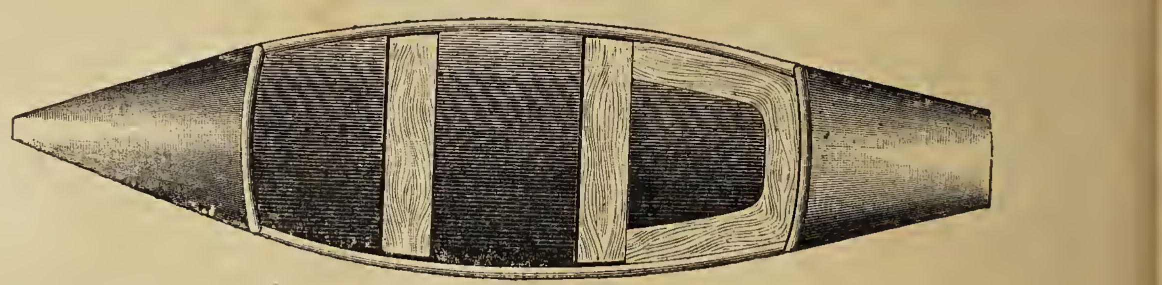
Holloway's Pills.—Good Spirits.—Every one has frequently experienced sudden personal changes from gaiety to gloom. The wind and weather oftentimes receive the blame when a faulty digestion is alone the cause of the depression. Holloway's Pills can be honestly recommended for regulating a disordered stomach and improving digestion. They entirely remove the sense of fulness and oppression after eating. They clear the furred tongue, and act as a wholesome stimulant to the liver, and as a gentle aperient to the bowels. They healthfully rouse both body and mind. Holloway's Pills are the best known antidotes for want of appetite, nausea, flatulency, heartburn, langour, depression, and that apathy so characteristic of chronic derangement of the digestion.

UNSINKABLE AND SELF-RIGHTING STEEL BOATS.

WE give illustrations of the Patent Steel Boat, which is about to be introduced by the inventor and builder, Mr. William Wells, 50, Commercial-street, Leith. These boats are constructed of steel, on an entirely novel design, and claim to possess the invaluable qualities of being *absolutely unsinkable* and *instantaneously self-righting*. Thefore and aft sections of the boat are constructed in the form of hollow cones, slightly flattened and laid horizontally. These sections are thoroughly air and water-tight, and their special form imparts immense strength and rigidity to the whole structure. A friend, who has carefully examined them, says:—

"These boats are pre-eminently suitable for fishing, shooting, rowing, and sailing on sea, lake, or river, and are the only boats of small size which are absolutely safe, and free from the danger of foundering, even in the stormiest sea. They maintain their buoyancy when manned and filled to the gunwale with water, and even when turned bottom-up, and forced bodily under water and released, instantly come to the surface and right themselves. Besides being a unique boat for sportsmen for angling and shooting, and a safe boat for pleasure sailing and rowing, a boat having these qualities is calculated to be *a valuable addition to the life-saving* equipment of vessels of all classes, combining as it does all the qualities of a life-buoy with the advantages of a boat.





On an emergency the Patent Steel Boat could be thrown overboard bodily, without the formality and delay attending the use of boat-lowering gear, as no matter how the boat landed in the water, it would float on an even keel, and could not possibly swamp. It is expected that these boats will be largely adopted as valuable auxiliaries to yachts, being lighter and more easily lowered and worked than ordinary punts or dinghys, and possessing much greater safety than the latter.

From their great strength, remarkable lightness, durability, stability on small draught, and the fact that they can be made to *disjoint into sections for transportation*, and from their non-liability to warp and leak in hot climates, these boats are very specially adapted for river and lake navigation abroad.

These boats have been practically tried in the Firth of Forth in all weathers, and have been demonstrated to possess all the qualities that are claimed for them. They are surprisingly swift under oar or sail, and owing to the peculiar formation of the keel, answer the rudder with unusual readiness.

An idea of the unsinkable qualities of these boats may be formed from a perusal of the following possibilities of accident:—

(1) If *one* of the water-tight sections was pierced below the water-line, the only result would be that the draught of the boat would be slight increased, moreover the supporting capacity of the section would not be destroyed, as the water would seal and naturally compress the air within the chamber, which would still continue to afford support.

(2) If *both* the water-tight sections were pierced below the water-line, the boat would only draw a little more water, and, as explained in the preceding paragraph, the supporting capacity of the sections would not be extinguished, but simply diminished.

(3) If *one* of the water-tight sections and the *midship section* were pierced below the water-line, the boat would still float, and be supported by the remaining section, which besides would be capable of supporting a dead-weight equal to the seat capacity of the boat.

(4) If the *two* end sections of the *midship section* were pierced below the water-line, the boat would still float and be supported by the air sealed within the two end sections.

It will thus be seen that only in the almost inconceivable event of the whole three sections being simultaneously pierced both above and below the water-line, would the boat lose its buoyancy.

The Patent Steel Boats can be produced at a cost that will compare favourably with the price of good class wooden boats.

They will stand usage which would rapidly destroy a wood boat, but they are at the same time remarkably light, a boat 12ft. long and 3ft. broad, complete with mast, oars, sail, &c., approximating only 3cwt."

TO OUR ADVERTISERS.—We shall shortly send out *free* to hotels, clubs, and angling quarters throughout the Kingdom, a large number of cloth reading cases. We will let our readers know when they are ready. Meantime we would draw the attention of our friends to the fact that we have decided to allow a few selected advertisements to appear inside.

Waltoniana

THE great increase of salt-water anglers of late years is more remarkable than astonishing. The astonishing thing is that the sea, as a place for obtaining excellent sport, was so long neglected. At the present day, in seaside towns where the sea fishing is at all good, a number of amateur sea fishermen are to be found who devote themselves entirely to angling in salt water; and in addition to these there are, of course, thousands of anglers who are glad of the change from the river or lake to the really excellent sport to be obtained on certain parts of the coast. Only the other day I had a letter from the owner of a moor in Scotland, asking how he should set about catching some of the sea trout and pollack which abounded in the bay close to his place; and there are many more like him, who would be only too glad to sea fish with rod and line, if they only knew how to set about it. The difficulty is that there are very few professional sea fishermen who can act as gillies and show their employers how to fish. It is only the most experienced anglers who can do without professional assistance. Many men, indeed, who are accounted good fishermen are sadly at a loss without their professional assistant. This is possibly because they do not study the habits and ways of fish, but are content with their skill in working the rod and line. To my mind, to be a a really good angler involves the possession of both skill in using tackle and knowledge of the habits of fish.

THE professional sea fishermen are not only for the most part ignorant of the advantages of using fine tackle in the sea, but often discourage its use. The exceptions I have found to this peculiarity have been on the north-east coast, where sea angling is carried on to a great extent. At Deal and Lowestoft, too, the fishermen are being educated up to the sport of sea fishing, as distinguished from catching fish for the market. If at every sea-side place there could be found men who were able and willing to show visitors the best means of obtaining sport with bass, pollack, and other of the more sporting sea fish, providing rods and lines if need be, as is done on the Thames, and if these men could be hired at moderate rates I have no doubt that sea fishing or sea angling would soon become as popular as angling in fresh water.

MANY men suppose that it is necessary to be a good sailor before one can become a sea fisherman, but as a matter of fact there are places round the coast where really good fishing can be obtained at the right seasons, without going on the sea at all. Concerning Deal, where the fishing is often better than from boats, much has been written in the *Fishing Gazette* by that veteran angler, Mr. Sachs. Another place I may instance is Lowestoft Harbour, where large flat fish are often taken on the rod, and really give excellent sport. Then there is Filey, where, in the months of August and September, most exciting fly-fishing for coal fish, going from 1lb. to 3lb. or more, may be had from a reef of rocks when the wind suits. I once took with the fly, thirty-two fish, weighing over ½cwt., and this in less than two hours' fishing. That take was, however, exceptional. This sport, by the way, is not confined to Filey, but is obtained at several places on the north-east coast. In many harbours, too, the fisherman who is not a good sailor may fish from a boat for bass, flat fish, smelts, &c., without any danger of his interior economy being disturbed. Scarborough is another great sea angling centre, where there are a large number of local salt-water anglers, in addition to the crowds of visitors who fish with rod and line in the bay.

FISHING tackle makers do not sufficiently consider the wants of the salt-water angler. It is, for instance, a most difficult thing to get a large wooden reel for sea fishing, one that will hold 100yds. of stout pike line. Sea rods for use with heavy weights have generally to be made specially, and no one, so far as I am aware, has manufactured tinned hooks of good shape with eyes. I have seen rough, clumsy attempts at eyed hooks for sea fishing, but nothing that was satisfactory. For bait fishing, it is particularly necessary to have a neat eye to the hook. Then I should like to see landing-nets made specially for sea fishing, and rods with special winch-fittings and ferrules. England is a populous place, and there are many tackle makers, some of whom may have already carried out certain of these suggestions, but tackle for sea angling has undoubtedly been neglected by the great majority of rod and tackle manufacturers. For hand-lining, on the other hand, most excellent tackle is made by the two Plymouth houses and others. It is the salt-water angler whose wants have been overlooked. Talking of hand-lining reminds me that an experienced sea fisherman, the Rev. Mr. Tracy, of Totnes, has invented an excellent lead, which consists of several pieces, one or more of which can be removed or replaced in a second. It is often very desirable to have leads to suit the varying strength of the tide. At ten o'clock we may find it necessary to use four or five pounds of lead to keep the baits near the bottom, while a couple of hours later, at slack tide, one pound may be ample. To change the whole lead and to carry a number of leads of different sizes is a nuisance. Mr. Tracy's lead is therefore a distinct advance on the arrangement we have been in the habit of using. It is simple in construction and not likely to get out of order. I understand that Mr. Tracy has no interest in its sale whatever.

TEMPLAR.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ANCHOR AND HOPE: As you decide that we should arbitrate on the question which for its weight is the best specimen out of these fish—viz., a pike of 7lb. 5oz., a carp of 4lb. 10½oz., a roach of 1lb. 3oz., a dace of 8oz., a gudgeon of 2oz., we give the palm to the carp.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. PRITT.

FISHING REPORTS, &c.

SIR,—I am pleased to see that a little discussion has followed the writing of my paper on the above subject, and, so far, my views have not been questioned save by one correspondent, "Long Drift," whose letter gave me a little amusement.

Here we have a model reporter, who, by his own showing, has been sending reports "from a promising lake, which I maintain *are* correct." He then goes on to say that "the system Mr. Tod referred to" (*i.e.*, recommended) "of having a weighing-machine in the hall of the hotel" was carried out there, and so accurately that "some anglers think we are unduly jealous of the last ounce." "Such a diabolical trick as weighing the creel with the fish has on no occasion been attempted"; and, lastly, he says: "This policy, which I am determined to maintain, will, I am sure, eventually bring its reward."

Bravo, "Long Drift"! But as no one was looking (like Diogenes with his lantern) for an honest man, I don't see why *you* should reply for the *dis*honest, who naturally are silent.

If all reporters acted as "Long Drift" does, and all hotels adopted the system he speaks of, I am quite sure that the angling world would recognise the sterling worth of such reporters and their reports.

It is a singular thing to *me* that when I took up my pen it was with the idea of defending the credit of reporters as a body; and I think if "Long Drift" will read my letter over again he will find that this was so. I only condemned those who issued misleading reports. But my chief blow was directed against the "gentleman angler," who gets his boatman or gillie to fish with him into *his* basket, who *allows* his basket to be weighed with his fish, and who generally misleads people in order to brag about his skill; and who *thus* permits stories which he knows to be untrue to get into the sporting papers through the medium of the unsuspecting and distant reporter. I had no idea of hitting at any individual, though I perhaps had the wish to defend one whose report I thought had been *very unfairly* commented upon.

I think that the example set forth in "Long Drift's" letter should be followed by excellent results, and I am glad to have dragged into the light of day such a *worthy* record of conscientious care in the weighing and reporting of "takes."

Long life to such reporters as "Long Drift."—I am, &c.,

E. M. TOD.

THE FLEET AT DEAL, AND FISHING FROM THE PIER.

SIR,—Will you allow me to correct an error in my letter of last week? I wrote—or intended to write—that I would try for pollack with a salmon fly, and had brought a salmon *rod* with me for that purpose. The word rod is unfortunately left out, a mistake which must have been obvious to your readers.

The fleet having left for the north, the fishing with rods and hand lines from the pier has been productive of mostly small fish, one gentleman, in two hours, landing forty-one. Among my lot was a spotted dog-fish, 30in. in length, which when opened contained two immature eggs—I send them on to you—in which you can see the infants. The shells are well supplied with tendrils, which Nature has furnished them with, to twine round the sea weeds. The empty shells are frequently found after a storm at Margate and other places on a sandy beach, and are called "devil's purses." In the late Frank Buckland's last book, the "History of British Fishes," is a full description and illustrations of these eggs, and dog-fishes in general.

The day previous to the departure of the fleet, a fresh breeze made the water rough, and caused much trouble to the numerous steam pinnaces who were engaged in provisioning the fleet. For want of a crane, two quarters of beef slipped off the men's shoulders between the pier and the pinnaces, one of which was recovered and re-sold to the butcher by the ship's steward at half the price paid for it; the other was fished up two days after the fleet had left, the captors sharing ten shillings each from the sale of it to the poorer classes, it being none the worse for being salted. A sack of potatoes also went over, causing the loss of many angler's hooks. The electric display was from nine to 10.30. One of the operators told me that they could flash the light into any room of a house on the beach and see what the inhabitants were doing, so distinct the faces appear.

The pier head has been extended; the concert-room well attended, seats one penny each; otherwise it is open all day, and useful when it rains.

Deal is getting full of quiet people, who do not care about the excursionist's towns, such as Brighton and Margate.—Yours truly,

T. R. SACHS.

RE CAMM FUND.—APPEAL TO CLUB ANGLERS AND FRIENDS.

DEAR SIR,—I beg leave to acknowledge the sum of 21s. from the Westbourne Park Piscatorial Society; 7s. 6d. from the Wenlock Angling Society; 3s. from six anglers of the Peckham Brothers Angling Society; making the total amount £17 10s. 3d.; expenses for postage, &c., 5s. 6d.; balance, £17 4s. 9d. In acknowledging the same, I must thank all those clubs who have responded as yet to this deserving case. I hope all clubs will remit their amounts as promised.

Mrs. Camm, the widow, sends me this letter:—

"MR. ABRAHAMS.—Dear Sir,—I think it nothing but right I should write and let you know I have left the infirmary, and am at present staying at the Cobden Club with Mrs. Mills, and should like very much to see and thank you for your kindness, when it is convenient.—Yours respectfully, MRS. CAMM.—Cobden Club, Kensal-road."

Cheques and Postal Orders can be crossed "Alliance Bank and Co."—I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

B. ABRAHAMS.

25, Silver-street, Notting Hill Gate, London, W.

SEA FISHING QUERY.

SIR,—Can any of your readers inform me what sea fishing can be had at Tenby—say from 15th of August? Also whether apartments, boats, &c., are reasonable.—Yours faithfully,

5A, Garrick-street. GEORGE B. AYLMORE.

[Tenby is about the best place in the whole country for sea fishing.—ED.]

LONDON CLUBS AND THEIR VISITS.

Dear Sir,—It is with much regret that I see reported week after week the indifferent manner in which the London club anglers support their friendly visits. It must be very discouraging to the various visiting officers to see the way in which their endeavours are appreciated. If secretaries of clubs were only to take the trouble to notify their pending visits by post in a proper manner, I think the results in a great many instances would be very different. And then again, in the weekly reports, the different inducements which are sent out by the club officials to entice their members to attend in a more becoming way ought to meet with better approval. I feel certain that if club members were to take more interest in their clubs by attending as often as they possibly could on meeting nights, and assist their secretary by their advice and support, they would soon discover that he would readily and willingly undertake and execute duties, which, under the present circumstances, with few exceptions, are to him an irksome, arduous, and thankless task. If something by way of reform in these matters were introduced, I am of opinion that return visits and everything appertaining to angling interests in general would vastly improve.—Yours faithfully, J. C. R.

FISHING WANTED ON TEST OR ITCHEN.

Dear Sir,—Will some of your readers kindly inform a brother fisherman where good plain quarters can be had for a day or two on the Test and Itchen, and what are the conditions best adapted for the purpose? I have never yet fished either river.—I am, &c., R. P.

[We fancy that day tickets for Mr. Chamberlain's water on the Itchen can be had at the Railway Hotel, Bishopstoke.—Ed.]

ANGLING FOR BARBEL.

Sir,—When angling for barbel with the worm in the manner described by Mr. Jardine in your last issue, would your correspondent kindly inform me if he does not think that barbel, when biting, as he very truly says, "like roach" (and I think I might include dace) would not succeed in stripping the worm clean off the hook without the slightest possibility of being caught. I ask the question, because in using even a maiden lob, the hanging ends would be of considerable length, whilst those from a lob would be terrific, because worms have a knack of elongating themselves to the utmost when in the water; and when barbel are biting in this peculiar manner and the angler frequently strikes without hooking his fish, may I ask would not a *medium*-sized ragged bait be preferable?—I am, &c., Streatham.

TROUT FISHING IN LOUGH MASK.

Sir,—In your last issue I have seen that "H. N." wishes to know from the readers of your paper where he would get good trout fishing on an Irish lake. I would invite him to Lough Mask, when he could have free fishing and boat and two men at six shillings per day. Mr. William Dove caught eleven trout on Saturday, the 18th inst., weighing 42lb. This was the best take for the past fortnight.—Yours, &c.,

Mount Gable Hotel, Scyman Summerly.
Clonbur, Co. Galway.

LARGE TAY SALMON.

Sir,—"Notes and Queries," in *Fishing Gazette* of 18th inst. describes the 62lb. fish recently caught in the nets below Perth as the heaviest yielded by the Tay for six or seven years back.

I gather from *Land and Water* of June 27 last, that as recently as the previous Wednesday, Messrs. Gilson and Sons, of 121, New Bond-street, had on show a Tay salmon, weight 63½lb., length 4ft. 5in., girth 2ft. 6in., the tail being exactly 1ft. across.—Yours, &c., Giant.

FISHING NEAR SOUTHEND.

Dear Sir,—Would you kindly inform me of the nearest place to Southend where I could get some good coarse fishing, and what bait best to use, and whether it is necessary to hire a boat?—I am, Sir, yours truly, E. T. Stoner.

19, Brampton-road, South Hackney.

TEES SALMON.

Sir,—In your issue of May 30 last, "J. H. R." reported that the first specimen of the *Salmo salar* had been caught this season in the upper reaches of the Tees. This statement naturally put the salmon fishers into a great state of excitement. I understand some of them blamed their stars because they were so far behindhand with their preparations, and so they set to work to varnish rods, overhaul tackle, &c. When the facts of the case oozed out, there was some laughing, and some hard words used towards "J. H. R." who had caused the stir with his accurate "facts." When asked to give particulars about this wonderful catch, he fights shy of the business. The fact is, no specimen of the *Salmo salar* was caught at all. What was caught was a miserable sea trout (*Salmo trutta*) kelt, by a man who was fishing for trout, and who had no licence to take salmon, and the fish was therefore poached. And yet "J. H. R." announces that a *Salmo salar* had been caught with as much seriousness as if it were indeed a fact. The fish weighed about 2lb., which would be an unheard-of weight for a *salmon*. Fresh-run sea trout do not reach here until well into July; whilst if a specimen of the *Salmo salar* is killed in June, it is looked upon as quite a wonder. Let us quote the boastful utterance of "J. H. R." in the *F. G.* of 13th June: "In any reports I send to your paper I make accuracy my first aim and care. I do not send you hearsay, but *facts* which I have proved to be correct."

How far the profession and the performance agree in this case I leave your readers to judge. If he had reported the matter as "hearsay," he would have saved his credit. Let him qualify his statements by such little terms as "I hear," when he has not taken the trouble to prove them to be correct.—Yours, &c., Hawthorney.

POACHING ON THE TWEED.

Sir,—I write you to enlist your efforts in redressing a grievance which I am sure will appeal to you or any angler—namely, to put a stop to the netting which is devastating the upper reaches of the Tweed, from Lyne to Stanhope, possibly above and below these points; scarcely a week passes without these poaching scoundrels emptying the river of the finest and best trout. At this time of year the fish leave the pools and come into the long shallow stretches of water to feed at night-time, and a few accomplished netters can take almost every fish out of the water. Last night I was out fly-fishing, and saw a gang of seven or eight of these blackguards at work. The river has been staked by private subscriptions, but one or two wade down in front of the net, and lift it over when they come to a stake, and so can net, however well staked the river may be. The Glasgow and Edinburgh Angling Clubs apparently exhaust their energies and subscriptions in pot-hunting, fishing competitions for prizes, and seem to be quite content to allow what should be the finest trouting stream in Great Britain to be utterly denuded of good fish, while the Tweed Commissioners do nothing to protect trout in any shape or form; and I feel sure that public opinion will have to be stirred up in the matter before they can be induced to make any movement.—Yours obediently, C. E. Hale.

QUERIES ABOUT A POND.

Dear Sir,—I should be very much obliged if you or any of your readers would kindly inform me if there is any way to keep a stagnant pond clear and clean. I have lately had one made for keeping bait in, but directly the water is pumped in, although coming from an excellent well, it gets thick and green. The pond is cemented and has gravel at the bottom which has been thoroughly washed. The water is not shaded by trees, but I have put some white water-lillies in, planted in fish baskets, to give the fish shade. The bait seem to thrive in it well (a Thames dace has lived there more than four months), but it is very unsatisfactory to have the water too thick to see anything three inches below the surface. The pond is about 3ft. 6in. deep, shelving to 18in., and about 20ft. long. I should be very thankful for any advice.—I am, &c.,

Arthur S. Duffield.

Chelmsford, Essex.

THE CHAMPION ROACH ANGLER.

Dear Sir,—Replying to your last week's *Gazette* as regards the champion roach fisher, I was not aware Mr. J. Woodward held the title of champion. I am a member of the Sheffield Angling Association, and quite prepared to make a match for one of our members to fish Mr. Woodward home and home, to draw for the third place, for £50 or £100. Hoping we can arrange a match, I am, &c., C. W. Lockwood.

28 Mushroom-lane.

HOOKING HERRINGS.

Dear Sir,—In your issue of the 4th inst., a "strange incident" is related by some ladies and gentlemen fishing off Whitby as to catching a herring with a hook. It is no rare occurrence, as I have caught hundreds with a "bare hook." When a youth, and could get permission from the pater, I would accompany the herring-fishers to sea, and they used to give me a "jigger" to amuse myself with by fishing. After all had "turned in," while the nets were fishing, I would sit and amuse myself by working my "jigger." The "jigger," as its name implies, is worked up and down with the hand in the sea. Attached to the line are various lengths of wire, 12in. long and about 12in. apart. Tied to each end of the wire are white hooks—the kind usually used for haddock fishing—and a lead sinker. By working or jigging this up and down in the sea I have caught hundreds of herring, when they were plentiful. They all took the bare hook, as every one I have caught by this *modus operandi* was hooked by the mouth. Now the question is. Why did the herring take the hook?—I remain, yours faithfully, J. M.

A GOOD BAG.

Sir,—I think it may interest some of your readers to hear of an incident which I should have imagined to be almost impossible, but for the truth of which I can answer.

A few weeks ago I paid a visit to an old friend of mine who rents a large farm and mill near Neen Sollers, in Shropshire, the mill being upon the river Rea, a tributary of the Teme. Between five and six o'clock in the morning, the man who works the mill set out with his gun for the purpose of shooting magpies, which had been very destructive to the chickens in the poultry-yard, and when a very short distance on his way his attention was attracted by a noise of splashing in the deep water above the weir, and immediately after saw a large otter walking along the river-side towards him. He immediately fired one of the barrels at him, and, although the otter was hit hard, the man, fearing the animal would escape, pulled the trigger of the second barrel to finish him; but the cap missed fire, and, by the time another cap was placed, it was evident to the man that the otter was dead. At that moment another otter left the water on the other side of the river just opposite, and the man then fired his second barrel and shot him through the head. The otters were taken to the house, and found to be very fine animals, both males, weighing 25lb. and 26lb. respectively, and were immediately sent off by my friend to a taxidermist to be stuffed.

I believe the killing of two full-grown otters within the space of a few minutes in such a manner to be almost without precedent, and it was a source of great satisfaction to myself (particularly as my visit to my friend was for a week's trout fishing) to find that two such formidable enemies to all lovers of the "gentle art" had been destroyed. I think the man who shot them deserves great credit and also some reward for his good shooting, although in a small country place like Neen Sollers I am afraid he will not receive a very generous recognition of the services he rendered.—I remain, Sir, yours faithfully, Edwin Mills.

Teddington.

ON KILLING FISH.

Dear Sir,—In answer to "W. D. L.'s" question, I have always killed my trout before taking the fly out by cutting through the spine immediately below the head. I use an ordinary pair of nail scissors, which do not measure in their case more than 3½in.—Yours truly,

W. Pugin Thornton.

Canterbury, July 4, 1891.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

By C. W.

THE annual meeting of the St. George's Angling Society was held on Monday evening last, at the club-house, the Waggon and Horses, Parade, Birmingham. Mr. A. G. Hall presided, and Mr. E. Simkin occupied the vice-chair. The secretary was called upon to read the balance-sheet for the half-year ending June 30, which showed that the financial position of the society was all that the members could wish for. The amount in hand was £17 17s. 3d., out of which the sum of £7 7s. 3d. was voted for prizes for the club's annual contest. The question of the payment for the boat and boat-house on the Bidford water, was decided upon by the club paying all liabilities as soon as the work is completed, but the whole of the members would be levied two shillings and sixpence each, the same to be paid on or before the end of September next, so that the money may be refunded back to the society again. The election of a member to represent the society in the Marston Challenge Cup Competition, on August Bank Holiday next, at Tewkesbury, resulted in Mr. J. Moore being elected by a substantial majority. The important matter of the club contest was next taken, when it was proposed that the contest should be held on the last Saturday in August, and it was proposed as an amendment that the contest be held on the last Monday in August; the resolution and amendment being put to the vote, the amendment was carried by the narrow majority of one vote. It was also decided to fix a neutral place to hold the contest at, and Wyre Piddle, near Pershore, was unanimously selected, and the arrangements were left in the hands of the committee.

THE St. John's Society, held at the White Horse Inn, Icknield, Port-road, held their annual contest on the 19th inst., at Droitwich. Twenty-seven members sat down to fish, and the contest was of the usual duration—two hours, at the termination of which it was found that only fourteen had been successful in taking fish for weighing in. The first prize-taker came from quite an unexpected quarter, as it was thought that the first prize was at the mercy of the old veteran, Mr. J. Jukes, but he was doomed to disappointment, as the winner turned up in Mr. T. Bird, who never before had taken a rod in hand until the present occasion. This gentleman managed to secure a perch of 13¾oz.; Mr. J. Jukes was second; Mr. W. Darby, third; Mr. T. Howes, fourth; Mr. E. Peters, fifth; Mr. E. Edwards, sixth, &c. The weather was all that could be desired, and the whole of the members were greatly pleased with their outing. The prizes will be distributed on Friday week.

THE Spring Hill Society, held at the Reservoir Tavern, Eyre-street, Spring Hill, held their annual contest on the 19th inst., in the canal at Stourport. The contest was of two hours' duration, during which time it rained without ceasing, and the majority of competitors were wet to the skin. The sport was of the worst possible description owing to the canal in this part being poisoned some little time ago. Twenty-three members took part in the contest, but at the call of time to cease fishing, it was found that only three of the competitors had taken fish, and upon being weighed, Mr. R. Thurman was first, Mr. S. Allen, second; and F. Jones, third. Another contest will be held later on in the season for the remainder of the prizes, which number twenty-five, and consist of some very nice articles, not forgetting the copper kettle.

A FAIR amount of sport has been had lately on the Avon, and more anglers have been seen out than at any other previous week since the season has opened. The roach are getting into capital condition. and have been taking the stewed wheat and malt well; paste fishermen have also had some decent sport. The fish seem to have left the scours, and the best fish have been taken in the deep waters. The best fish taken have weighed a trifle over a pound. Perch fishermen have been also doing well on the Avon. the worm being the chief bait used. Some of the members of the St. George's Club have taken some very nice fish at Bidford, the majority of the fish running large, and over a pound each. Eels have been running freely at Pershore. On the 19th inst. one angler took a very nice lot. The Avon is now in grand condition for all kinds of angling.

THE Trent is also in grand condition, and those members belonging to the Birmingham clubs who rent water in the vicinity of Alrewas, who have been out during the week, have had nothing to complain of. The roach have left the shallows, and are taking the gentles freely, so are the dace. Several fine barbel have been hooked, but lost, owing to the fineness of the tackle. Some decent perch have been taken, up to a pound each. Eels have been rather quiet. The chub have been rising well to the fly, and these fish seem to abound in great numbers in the Midland Piscatorial water. There are rare prospects in store for the Birmingham clubs who rent water in the Trent this year, as the water has been considerably benefited since it has been better looked after.

SOME capital roach were taken on the 19th inst. from the river Anker, near Tamworth, by some of the members of the St. George's Club, who rent the water here. The largest roach weighed, when dry on the following Monday, 1lb. 8¾oz., and was in grand condition.

A SPECIAL committee meeting of the Birmingham Association will be held on Thursday evening, July 30, instead of the first Thursday in August, according to rule. This will enable the members of the committee who think fit to have a week at the water-side.

NEW PATENTS.

THE following is a weekly list of New Piscatorial Patents, specially compiled for the *F. G.* by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Patent Agents and Engineers, 76, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., authorised Attorneys for the procuration of English and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks:—

11,651.—Arthur Hughes Cornwallis Burrow, of Colne Cottage, Staines, for "An artificial convertible bait for spinning, trailing, trolling or dead bait snap fishing."

11,730.—William Hardy, John James Hardy, and Charles Henry Cook, of Alnwick, Northumberland, for "Improvements in fishing rods."

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

SPORT has been bad; still, however, in the preserved portions of our local resorts, good baskets have been made, in one instance, sixteen trout weighing 10lb.; in another fourteen fish (various) 9lb. Wasp-bait can hardly be said to be in yet, but still a few nests have been secured of small size; the amateur who took one testifies to the vigour of the owners of that particular nest, and wisely determines in the future to leave the excitement of wasping to more experienced hands.

A GENERAL meeting of the Manchester clubs was held on the 17th. The various delegates turned up in goodly numbers and disposed of the business in as short a time as possible. Mr. Chadwick read the minutes of the previous meeting, and also the minutes of the delegates from the various districts comprising the amalgamation; these latter minutes came in for severe criticism from the chairman, who pointed out that Manchester was paying the piper for the whole association. The annual meeting in November will doubtless be of an interesting nature. With other business that of the Northern Anglers' Association took a prominent place, and the delegates were urged to loyally support the N.A.A., and to influence every club to support the same with their money and membership. Angling associations in Lancashire, especially in Manchester, need a reformer or two amongst them--one equal in power to Cromwell would be accepted with open arms. Anyone who could move the railway companies in the matter of concessions would be doubly welcome. Club news this week is very scarce, perhaps owing to the near approach of Bank Holiday. The Ellesmere have had an outing, but the members have wisely withheld the details.

THE Free Anglers have also arranged their annual picnic, and he will be a lucky man who participates in the same. The inter-club contest between the Wellington and Royal Walton, resulted in the capture by thirty-eight rods of four very small fish. The rest of the time, however, was filled up in a more satisfying manner. Pollution had again to be blamed for the failure of this spirited arrangement.

LANCASHIRE anglers will be wise when next visiting Lincolnshire to make conclusive arrangements for their fishing. Warning has been given through a legal gentleman that during the last trip fishing of an illegal character was indulged in, and asking for a donation in condonation, and stating terms for the future. This will have a great influence on the success of the next annual trip. The secretary of the amalgamation (responsible for the trip arrangements) is very amusing in his efforts to saddle the Manchester official with the settlement necessary in this novel position. Hitherto we supposed the fishing free, but it is not, and the best thing is to face the question in a manly way, stump up and be thankful.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

BARBEL anglers on the Trent are now in full swing, and sport amongst the fish improves daily. Swims, however, must be baited to yield well. The river at Shardlow seems alive with them, and those who patronise the water early and late, stand, by far, the best chance. On a baiting, on Monday, Mr. Sam Poyson, of the Nottingham Bowling Green Inn Society, landed in the King's Mills district, 41lb. of chub, barbel, and dace, and on the following day he again scored heavily amongst the same class of fish. He was accompanied by Mr. W. Dupe, of the "Lace City," and the two had the benefit of the sound advice of J. Theaker, the well-known Nottingham professional. Mr. T. Wood, the lessee of the fishery, has fared well at the "Lane End" swim, and I hear that Mr. George Wood, his son, has weighed in a very heavy chub at the Wellington Society's rooms. Members of this body have been out in force during the past fortnight, and at the last meeting a fair sample of chub, dace, barbel, and eels was shown by Mr. J. Spray, brother of the hon. sec. Most of them frequent Shardlow, King's Mills, and Weston; others preferring Kelham and Hoveringham. A portion of the Hoveringham, or rather Kneeton water is in the hands of Mr. W. Gaskell, the president of the society, and it is sure to yield well in the autumn. The bottom weed has grown to such an extent as to become a complete nuisance to the ordinary run of fishermen. Only those who know how to fish the streams properly stand any chance of success, and in their case they rely on the use of the finest possible lines and tackle. Legering seems a favourite pastime, and at every throw the angler, who selects slow-running water, can boast of showing his friends any amount of "carpet lining." Numbers of eels, varying in weight from three ounces to two pounds, continue to be taken by the method, which often enough proves disastrous to the barbel and chub. Fly-fishermen seem a little quiet, and very few takes are heard of. Most of the shallows are lined with surface weed, and unless they wade into mid-stream they are handicapped by reason of the fish seeking shelter and quiet underneath it.

LAST week two gentlemen baited the celebrated "Fitchett's Hole" with two thousand worms in anticipation of getting the fish freely on the feed, but their wishes were not realised, for after a hard day's work, they only landed one solitary fish, weighing. I was informed, between 4lb. and 5lb. They fished the swim from the bank in Mr. Pearsall's meadow, and were naturally disgusted with the result of their outing. No doubt one great drawback towards sport is the fact that three or four large salmon have taken possession of the hole, and whilst these will not look at a bait, their presence has a tendency to drive away other fish of smaller dimensions. Years ago the hole was unquestionably one of the finest barbel resorts on the whole length of the Trent, but in recent times it has, like most other swims, been over-fished. Anglers frequenting Mr. Pearsall's meadow may angle at the rate of one shilling per rod per day, and if they prefer a season ticket the cost is 10s.

ON the north side of the river, the fishery belongs to Sir Francis Burdett, of Foremask Hall, and season tickets, price one guinea each, are issued by Mr. William Collier, of the Green Man Inn, Willington, and by Messrs. Peach and Son, fishing tackle dealers, of Derby. The sum charged includes salmon fishing, and as, with few exceptions, the water extends downwards to within a short distance of Swarkestone Bridge, anglers cannot do better than give it a trial. It contains great quantities of all kinds of coarse fish, and having frequented it for years with varied success, I can thoroughly recommend it.

A NEW angling club has been commenced at Mr. C. Welker's, Chesterfield Arms Inn, Chesterfield-street, Nottingham. Mr. J. King has been elected secretary, and his intimate knowledge with previous clubs should prove of considerable service to the new venture. The worthy host is devoted to pike and chub fishing during the winter season, and already a large number of well-known anglers have rallied round him. Personally I wish the new club every success.

SOME years ago the late Mr. Greville Fennell, of the *Field* newspaper, offered premiums for a roach weighing 2lb., and I believe the condition was that the fish should be caught by fair angling with rod and line. A Nottingham angler, the late Mr. "Jem" Woodward, killed one off Wilford Bridge, in the Trent, weighing 2lb. 3oz. This fish I sent for him to Mr. Fennell, but the premium never reached the "lace city," the reason being that specimens above 2lb. each had already been received. Now I have to state that a specimen weighing 2lb. 10oz. has been caught with the rod, within the last few days, by Mr. Alton, of Nottingham, in the river Welland, at Deeping, Lincolnshire. The fish was shown to several Nottingham gentlemen, and was finally given by Mr. Alton to a friend. It is to be hoped that this friend will have it "set up" as a memento of a phenomenal specimen of its class.

TROUT anglers seem to have fallen off, and news of takes is extremely scarce from the whole of the tributaries, which, like the Trent, are dead low, and of gin-like consistency.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

So far as it has gone the result of the inquiries of the Executive and Pollution Committee of the Severn Board of Conservators in reference to the decrease of salmon in the Severn, and upon their report, the action taken by the Board itself at the last meeting at Birmingham, on Thursday in last week, must be eminently satisfactory, and the experiment of extending the close time should do much to remedy the evil. by allowing the spawning fish more facilities for ascending the river. The committee's report goes to prove beyond all doubt that the decrease in the number of fish of late years has been alarming, and the causes assigned are various. The committee deem pollution to be the real cause of the decrease above the mouth of the Vyrnwy; but although river pollution may have something to answer for, it is, in the opinion of many, only one of the lesser evils. In the first place, the river is pure for many miles above Shrewsbury, and in that district are many excellent spawning beds, so that, even were the salmon turned back by a flow of polluting matter above the Vyrnwy mouth on their way to the narrower portions of the river to spawn, they would still have the lower reaches to fall back upon. Whatever may be the state of the river past the mouth of the Vyrnwy, the stream from there to Shrewsbury is pure—so pure in fact that a large portion of the members of the Shrewsbury Town Council desire to supply it to the town for drinking purposes after filtration. There is no denying that the river is polluted by the sewerage of Shrewsbury and other places below to a considerable extent, and the sooner public bodies on the river banks undertake to dispose of their sewerage otherwise than by allowing it to contaminate the river, the better it will be for the interests of salmon fishing and anglers in general. But, in the opinion of many competent judges, the inefficient state of the weirs and over-netting down stream are far the greater evils which have been at work diminishing the stock of fish. The committee advise that no concession should be made to the nets, but that further restrictions should be placed upon them, and in this they made a very wise recommendation, and one which was in the interests of the netters themselves, as well as those who desire to see the river in the upper reaches so stocked with salmon that rod and line angling would be a practicable and profitable sport. There was a long discussion at the meeting at Birmingham relative to the expediency of extending the close season, and some diversity of opinion was manifested, but eventually the upper water representatives carried the day, and on the proposition of Mr. Buckland, of Worcester, it was resolved that the close season should be extended for a month. With this bye-law in force, and the weirs made passable, as it is hoped they soon will be, there should be a decided change for the better in the future of Severn salmon fishing.

THE chairman of the board mentioned at the meeting that some thousands of trout fry had been forwarded to the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society, and he hoped that the result would be that a large quantity of fry would be turned into the river. Unfortunately, however, as Mr. J. Williams, the hon. sec. of the Severn Angling Society, informed the board, this ova has not hatched successfully, and has not turned out nearly as good as the ova from the society's own breeding fish or that from Mr. Wood. Notwithstanding the failure of the board's ova, however, the society has had a fairly successful year with ova from other sources.

SHROPSHIRE anglers are beginning to wonder what has become of the Shropshire Severn Angling Association. a body which was recently formed by some influential county landowners, and with every promise of success, for the purpose of propagating and preserving trout and grayling in the river Severn within the limits of the county of Salop. At a recent meeting the draft of an agreement to be used between the riparian owners and the association was presented and passed, and it is to be hoped that the promoters of the association are working quietly and successfully in getting this signed formally and arranging preliminary matters before commencing to work in earnest. Shropshire anglers are waiting to see whether the old adage "No news is good news" will be borne out in this instance.

BUSTARD FISHING.

"As soon as the air clears, and we have a few hot days, bustard or moth fishing will be worth following. I know of few things more refreshing than to stroll down to the river in the cool of the evening, to indulge in an hour or two of this kind of fishing. Ten o'clock is quite soon enough to make a start, and before daylight fades it is best to settle upon your ground, and study well all its bearings, for as wading is necessary, a neglect of this important point may lead to disaster. An ordinary fly-rod, not too supple, a check reel, and waterproof silk line must be provided, also a strong 3yd. gut cast. The three best dressings for bustards are as follows:—

"Brown Bustard—Body, fur from a hare's neck, mixed with a little cinnamon-coloured mohair; legs, hen's hackle, of a mottled brown colour; wings, feather from the wing of a dark-brown owl; tag of white leather at the tail; hook, No. 5 or 6, Kendal scale.

"White Bustard.—Body, white Berlin wool, short and full; legs, two turns of a white hen's hackle; wings from the quill feather of a white pigeon; tag of white leather at tail; hook as above.

"Yellow Bustard.—Body, light yellow mohair, ribbed with red silk; legs and wings, a soft hackle, dyed yellow, struck from head to tail; tag of white leather at tail; hook as above.

"The flies must be tied on strong gut same as the cast, for the fish must be held with a pretty tight hand. A pair of wading trousers are better than stockings, as you run the chance, in the case of the latter, of getting over the tops in the dark. The best plan is to select some long, flat about 18in. in depth, with a level, gravelly bottom; wade carefully down the centre of the stream, casting on either side. When you obtain a rise, a sudden pull at your rod-top announces the fact, and, as I said before, the sooner you get the fish into the basket the better. Moonlight nights are not considered favourable for this style of fishing; but one when it never really is quite dark, and no mist gathering in the fields, or on the surface of the water."—"*Halcyon*," *in the* "*Leeds Weekly Mercury*."

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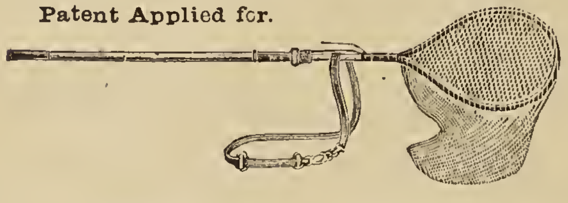

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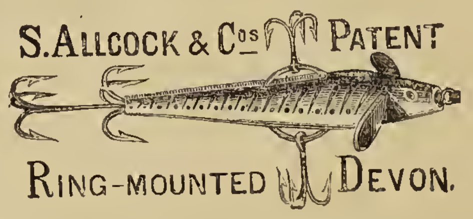

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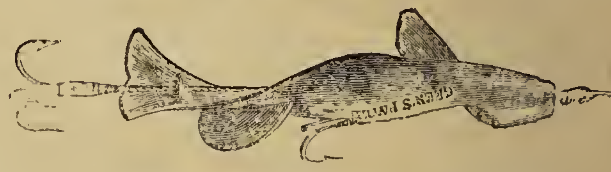

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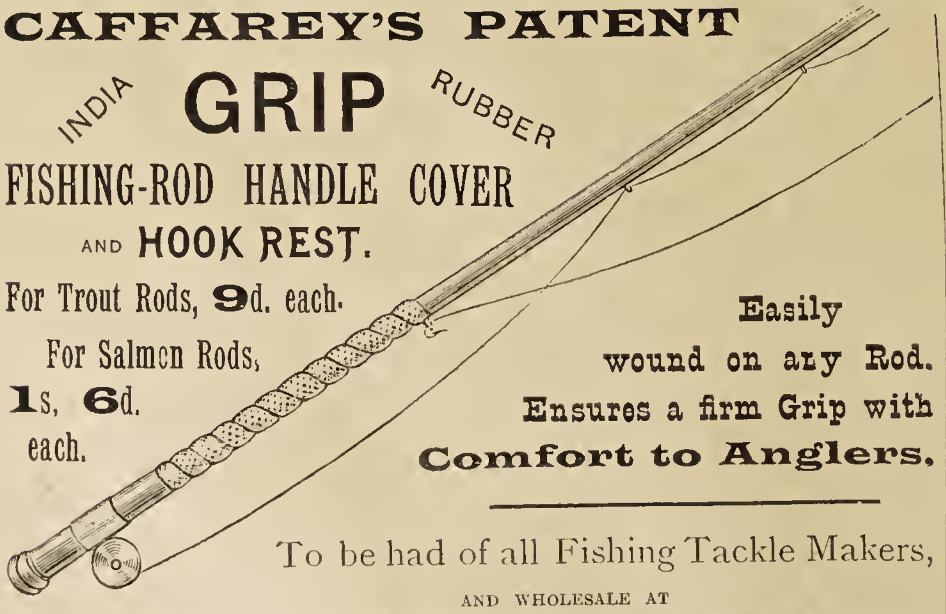

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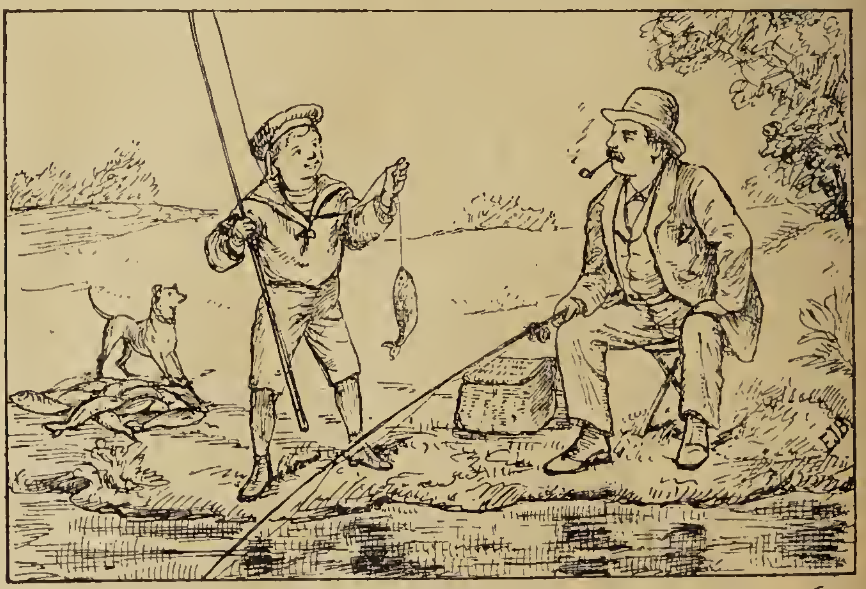

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SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1891.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night**, *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The delegates assembled at the above, on Monday, the 20th inst., at eight p.m. Mr. R. Murphy occupied the chair. After the minutes of the last delegate meeting, held on 6th inst., had been read and confirmed, the minutes of the last committee meeting, held on the 6th were read, from which it appeared that Mr. R. Ghurney had been instructed to attend the meeting at Norwich, on the 11th inst., to consider the best steps to be taken to defend the public right to sail and fish on the Norfolk Broads, which from time immemorial have been recognised as free to the Crown and its loyal subjects. The chairman next read the minutes of the Renting and Preservation Committee, held on the 13th inst., from which it appeared the committee recognised the great importance of defending angling rights on the Norfolk Broads. The delegates were next called upon to act as a Court of Appeal regarding several matters affecting certain anglers and their clubs. Mr. R. Ghurney gave a short report regarding his visit to Norwich, and referred the members to the supplement of the *Fishing Gazette*, page 49, of July 18th, for further particulars. Messrs. Taylor and Bentley attended, and invited the delegates to a meeting to be held at the Gresham Angling Society's Club-room, Masons' Hall Tavern, Masons' Avenue, Coleman-street, on Tuesday next, the 28th inst., at eight p.m., when Mr. T. J. Woodrow, C.C., Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, and hon. secretary of the Norfolk Broads Protection Society, will be present to explain the objects of the latter society, as well as to afford information regarding the assumed or usurped rights of the riparian owners of the land adjacent to Hickling and other Broads. The chair will be taken by G. C. T. Bartley, M.P. for the North Division of the Borough of Islington, and various other gentlemen of influence will also attend. An important discussion followed the proposal of Mr. Field, seconded by Mr. Fletcher, to make the Norfolk Broads Protection Society a grant of twenty guineas. Whilst several members preferred waiting until they had had the opportunity of learning more regarding the merits of the case by attending the Gresham meeting, others, supported by W. H. Beckett, vice-president, who had been unavoidably absent at the commencement of the meeting, contended that there was quite sufficient prima-facie evidence to warrant the association in making this grant. After Mr. A. W. Parker had given a brief outline of the case, regarding the claim now being put forward by those wishing to stop the rights of the public, which have been hitherto held without let or hindrance, a division was called and the grant of £21 authorised by an overwhelming majority. Gratuities of £1 each were next voted to sundry lock-keepers on the river Wey. The Clapton Park Angling Society, with twenty-two members, meeting at the Social Club, Clapton-park, was next enrolled, after evidence had been given as to the sizes of fish permitted to be weighed in. The secretary reported that a brickmaker had been convicted of taking fish out of season by means of a net from the river Lea, and fined five shillings, also that he had issued three thousand and thirty-seven railway privilege tickets, which exceeded those issued last year up to same date by sixty-two. The following sixty-three clubs were represented:—Allison United Brothers, Antwerp, Burton Piscatorials, Brompton, Burdett, Bomore, Bostonians, Bermondsey Brothers, Brunswick Brothers, and City of London, Cobden, Crown, Buckland, Clapham Junction, Campbell United, Clissold, Clapton Park, Duke of Norfolk, Dalston, Edmonton and Tottenham, Golden Barbel, Good Intent, Hearts of Oak, Islington Brothers, Kilburn Piscatorial, Lady of the Lake, Midland, Marylebone, North Lambeth, North London, North Western, Original North Lambeth, Odds and Evens, Prince Albert, Rodney, South Hornsey, St. John's, South London, Stepney, South Belgravia, St. Andrew's, Sundial, United Brothers, West Ham Brothers, Westbourne Park, Waggoners, Wenlock, Walworth, Waltonians.—HON. REPORTER.

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Free competition (no entrance fee) takes place on July 26, from Slough to Langley Bridge, two rods, roving, for seventeen prizes, previously advertised in *F. G.* of the 18th ult. It will be open to all anglers producing the usual privilege ticket of the Anglers' Association only, and each angler must register his name at the Brickmakers' Arms, Stoke-road, Slough Station. Fishing commences at ten a.m. and ceases at seven p.m. punctual, and winners will be declared at eight p.m. at the appointed house, where the weighing in takes place. Anglers must please note after that time I shall refuse to weigh fish. E. Buildham, Esq., of the Globe Angling Society, has kindly promised to photograph the anglers. Hoping to see many good old friends on this grand occasion, I may mention I have asked the cottage-keepers to supply the anglers with teas cheap, and they charge anglers sixpence for a capital tea. They will take the orders for the teas in the afternoon, and bring it to the anglers. Hoping all brother anglers will not forget this. Tea itself is twopence per pint. Names of stewards appointed to take the names of anglers when catching fish, and the duty of the stewards is to enter correctly the name and size of fish, and the angler's name, so there will be no unfairness to any angler. Stewards: E. Clark, chairman Marylebone Angling Society; W. Harris, secretary Prince Arthur Angling Society; E. Buildham, of the Globe Angling Society; E. Wood, of the Campbell United; T. Harris, Marylebone Angling Society; B. Abrahams, Allason United; T. Corney and W. Arnold, Prince Arthur Angling Society. I hope all anglers who hold the above privileges will compete in this competition. Times of trains which leave Paddington Station (Great Western Railway) on July 26: 8.10, 8.30, 9, 9.20, 10, 10.10, 10.20, and 10.40 a.m. All these trains stop at Slough. All further information can be obtained at the Brickmakers' Arms on the morning, of Benjamin Abrahams, jun., judge and referee to the above competition.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT No. 1.—The next return visit will be to the Havelock, General Havelock, West-street, London Fields, on Monday next, July 27. Friends who will give us a look in on that occasion will oblige.—G. MANNING,

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT No. 2.—The next return visit on the above list will take place at the Crown annd Buckland Angling Society, on Wednesday, July 29, when I hope to see all the clubs on the list represented by nine o'clock, and so give them what is intended by a return visit—a bumper.—F. THORLING.

Anglers' Association (SOUTHERN DISTRICT) VISITING LIST.—A next return visit on the above list will take place on Tuesday next, the 28th inst., at the Original North Lambeth A. S., Wellington, South-street, Hercules-buildings, Westminster Bridge-road, where I hope to see a good muster of brother anglers.—G. W. ARMSTRONG, District Officer.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of five shillings, donation from S. Wertheim, late Brunswick Piscatorials.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Aberdeen Amateur Rock Fishers' Association.—The holiday competition was held on Saturday, when there was a large muster of members at the favourite spots around Muchalls, Newtonhill, Cove, and Portlethen, and very good baskets were obtained, but owing to some cause or other, most likely the irregularity of the arrivals, only three members weighed in. In all probability the competition will be cancelled, and come up again later on.—G. M.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—We had a good muster of members turn up on the 21st. Fred Roberts proposed E. Merritt as working member, and he was duly elected by the members present. The most important business was the change of meeting night. It will now be Wednesday instead of Monday. Secretaries please copy. I wish to remind all anglers who compete in the great competition on the 26th, to enter their names at the Brickmakers' Arms, Stoke-road, Slough, and number of privilege ticket. Fishing starts at ten a.m., ceases at seven p.m., and eight p.m. is the very latest the fish will be weighed in, and winners will then be declared. B. Abrahams, referee and judge.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—The following members weighed in on the 19th inst., viz., Mr. Harding, roach, dace, and perch; Hutchins, roach; Farebrother, dace; Potter, dace. The four prizes are to be fished for on the 26th inst. All members to go where they like but they must go on the same morning.—J. H. POTTER, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Several members were out on the 19th inst., and the following weighed in: Mr. James had a very nice show of roach and bream from Woking; Mr. King had chub, roach, and a very nice tench, 1lb. 5oz., from Windsor. Four of our members fished in the Amberley Competition, but did not reach the required weight. Our next outing will take place at Woking on the 26th inst., jack barred.—J. RICH, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Gt. Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 19th our members were out in strong force, and the trays of the society were well filled with a very nice show of fish, contributed by the following members: Mr. C. Irwin, having a very fine show of bream; Mr. G. Merry, a handsome tray of rudd and tench; Mr. Lattimore, a fine show of roach; Mr. Embleton, sen., some nice roach and perch; Mr. Embleton, jun., roach, dace and perch; Mr. Humphreys, roach and bream; Mr. W. Hake, roach and bream; Mr. Lambarth, jun., roach and bream; Mr. Reeks, roach. We have enrolled four new members, and have to ballot for two more, and are still open for a few more working members. Members are particularly requested to attend to decide where our annual dinner will take place.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday night, with a fair muster of members present. Our lucky member, Mr. Tom Simpkins, managed again to secure the second prize in the South London match at Amberley, on the 19th, with 3lb. 6½oz. bream. Mr. Scott weighed in barbel and dace, 4lb. 8¾oz.; Mr. Palmer, gudgeon, dace, and roach, 4lb. 6¼oz.: Mr. Bowling, dace and gudgeon, 1lb. 4½oz. I have no doubt that on Wednesday next the photos will be to hand.—A. G. SMITH, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The members of this club fished a match (roving) on the 19th inst., with the following results: Mr. J. Ancliff, first; Mr. G. Mumford, second; Mr. C. Wastell, third; Mr. W. Wastell, fourth; Mr. G. Mumford also took the first prize in the South London Competition at Amberley. The next match will take place on August 2 and 3 (both days to count), for six prizes, value three guineas; all fish to weigh; roving. On Tuesday we made seven new members, making twenty since the opening season. Members are requested to attend on Tuesday next, as several extra prizes are promised for the Bank Holiday Competition.—G. MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—Several of our members took part in the South London Visiting List Competition on the 19th, two of them being successful—viz., Mr. J. Smith, fifth prize, and A. Conn, ninth. On the same date Mr. W. Streeton weighed in a handsome show of bream, 26lb., five fish, weighing over 21lb., largest fish, 4lb. 7oz.; Mr. Metcalfe, carp: and Mr. Allum, perch.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—On Wednesday Mr. W. Roeszler was proposed as a working member, and will be balloted for next week. Gentlemen attending the match on the 26th will go by the first train on the South-Eastern Railway. Late arrivals must report themselves to the referee, Mr. Aaron, before commencing to fish. Cease fishing at seven p.m. There was a nice show on the 19th inst., the following gentlemen weighing in:—Messrs. Foster, bream and roach; F. Roberts, bream; J. Barker, carp and roach; and F. Barker, rudd. We had a crowded room on the occasion of our visit on Tuesday last, nineteen clubs answering to the roll. I hope members will rally round Mr. Deplidge on Monday next, July 27, when he will read a paper on the Wey and its surrdundings, before the members of the Causton A.S., at the Coffee-Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, Ludgate-hill, at nine o'clock.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bostonian Angling Society.—The first outing of the season came off on the 19th inst., when we journeyed by brake to King's Langley. The members were photographed before starting by our old and esteemed member, Mr. J. Taylor, assisted by Mr. Spalding, likewise. There were six prizes given to be competed for—the first, one guinea, being for the largest fish taken on the day, was won by Mr. Rundle, with chub; the second, ten shillings and sixpence, gross weight, was won by Mr. Jamieson, with roach. The other four prizes were not won. After the competition the members and friends sat down to a capital repast, prepared by Mr. Markitt, host of the Bell Inn, King's Langley, and was done justice to in an angler-like manner. The day was a most enjoyable one, and the members look forward to many such jolly gatherings. Mr. Chapman had tench from other waters.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On the 19th inst. we had some good takes of fish brought up by the following members: Mr. F. Briggs, tench; Mr. E. Briggs, perch; Mr. Ducker, chub; Mr. G. Ducker, chub and dace; and Mr. Aitchison, chub and dace. On the 23rd, Mr. Brown aud Mr. J. Hall brought up a very nice lot of roach and dace. Members will please vote that Wednesday, 29th inst. is quarterly night, when there is some very special business to be done.—H. ROACH, secretary.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—We fish a pegged-down match on the 26th inst. at Dagenham Gulf. A brake will leave the club-house at midnight on Saturday. Fare, one shilling, there and back. Five prizes to be fished for; all fish to weigh (sizeable, of course); one rod only; Messrs. Wilson and Mearing will peg out the swims.—T. HAWKES, secretary.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—Several of our members were out on the 19th, and some good fish were brought home: Mr. J. Pether had 7lb. 14oz. roach, bream, and dace; Mr. Donald Flint, 6lb. 12oz., roach, dace, and bream; Mr. B. Mellor, bream, 2lb. 1½oz.; Mr. Green, 7½oz. ,dace. I hope our members won't forget to come up next meeting night, as we want to arrange to go out for a batch of prizes as soon as possible.—J. PETHER, sec.

Burton Piscatorials, the Globe, Derby-street, King's Cross.—On the 19th inst. our trays were fairly patronised with mixed shows of perch, bream, roach, dace, and gudgeon, contributed by Messrs. Biggs, sen., Biggs, jun., Roberts, Butler, and Sturman. A special meeting is called for July 29th.—C. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Buxton Brothers' Angling Society, Walthamstow Liberal and Radical Club, 4 and 6, Buxton-road.—Members are informed that our first match will take place on August 9, when it is hoped that all members will be present, so as to make it a success.—A. SHUKER, sec.

Caledonian Angling Society.—Since my last report the following members have been out and weighed in some very good takes—viz., Mr. A. Knock, upon one occasion, 11¾lb., roach, and dace, including a specimen dace of 11¾oz.; and upon another occasion, 10lb. 10oz., roach and dace, this time including a handsome roach of 1lb. 9oz., and two dace over ½lb. each; Mr. W. Whitlock, 6lb. 4oz., rudd; Mr. R. Mills, upon one occasion, 6lb. of carp; and upon another, 9¼lb. of the same fish; myself, upon two outings, carp, 15lb. 9oz. and 7lb. 14oz. Members are earnestly requested to attend on Thursday evening next, the 30th inst., to arrange for the annal outing and dinner, and also to fix a competition for prizes in hand.—A. GEORGE, sec.

Cambridge Friendly Angling Society, Masons' Arms, Titchborne-street, Edgware-road, W. — Three prizes were taken at Yalding on the 19th inst., by Messrs. Wilson, Allen, and Scutt. The remaining four prizes will be added to a future outing.—W. SUTTON, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 19th inst. the following members weighed in: Mr. A. Chapman, tench; Mr. C. Chapman, tench and roach; Mr. King, roach; Mr. Sharp, roach; Mr. Fitter, roach. Our next brake outing will take place on Sept. 6, place to be decided next week.—E. T. WHITE, sec.

Campbell United Angling Society, High-road, Kilburn.—Our trays were well stocked with fish again on the 19th inst., contributed by Mr. J. Smith, bream; Mr. Hunt, bream; J. Tanner, tench; R. Smith, roach; E. T. Lake, tench and roach; and Mr. Wood, tench and roach; Mr. J. Smith and J. Tanner winning second and third prizes left from the outing.—E. W. WOOD, hon. sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—Monday, July 20, Mr. J. Deplidge in the chair, the attendance was fairly good, and included Mr. Birkett, of the Earlsfield A. S., and Mr. F. Ryan, of the Kenningtonians. The chairman started a discussion upon "Roach, Bream, and Rudd," in which Messrs. Harry Dunn, Birkett, Ryan, Tom Keeble, A. Sowerbutts, J. S. Pulsford, and the secretary took part. With regard to sport, Mr. Tom Keeble is at the top of the tree this week, with a 4lb. bream, and a roach-bream, 2lb. Mr. Henry J. Tibbatts has kindly consented to take the chair at the meeting of this society on Monday, July 27, when at nine o'clock Mr. J. Deplidge will read his paper, "An Account of the River Wey." Numerous cards of invitation have been posted, but in the event of any omissions, brothers of the rod and line will please accept this invitation as a *quid pro quo*.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

Central Association.—A special meeting and smoking concert will take place at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, on Monday next, 27th inst., at nine p.m., when the prizes taken in the recent Pulborough Competition will be handed to the respective winners. Anglers and friends are cordially invited to be present.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—The following weighed in on the 19th: Mr. Garbrecht, roach and tench; Mr. Macdonnell, bream from Amberley, 7lb. 2oz.; Castell, bream from Dagenham Lake. Our visit on the Clerkenwell and District List was on Tuesday evening, Mr. Burwash in the chair, the following fifteen clubs being represented—viz., Lincoln, Crown and Buckland, City of London, Independent Brothers, Rising Sun, Seymour Brothers, Eustonian, Amicable Waltonians, Islington Brothers, Bloomsbury Brothers, Alma, Burton Piscatorials, North London, Royal George, and Midland. The next will go to the Independent Brothers, at the Three Doves, Berwick-street, Oxford-street.—CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.—On the 17th inst. Mr. Edwardes weighed in 13lb. 14oz. roach and dace. On 18th, Mr. Trowbridge, tench and roach, 1lb. 15½oz., one tench, 1lb. 8½oz. On 19th we had a splendid show of specimen fish by the following members: Messrs. J. W. Jameson, jack, 6lb.; G. Jameson, one bream, 4lb. 5¼oz.; Scott, 6lb. 2oz., carp, one carp, 3lb. 5¼oz.; Painter, chub and bream, 7lb. 1½oz., one chub, 2lb. 12oz.; and Turner, roach, 2lb. 7oz.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clapton Angling Society.—A meeting was held at the club-room, Weyland Hotel, Weyland-avenue, Dalston-lane last Monday evening, Mr. Oliver in the chair. It was resolved to request the special attendance of members at next Monday's meeting to consider matters of importance. As some members think that it would benefit the society to make a fresh departure on new lines, it is hoped that every member taking an interest in it will attend. A new member was proposed by Mr. Colls, and a most enjoyable hour or so was then spent in the discussion of angling reminiscences.

Clerkenwell and District United.—The clubs enrolled on the above will compete in the Medway on July 26 for money prizes, which will be paid over to the winners immediately after the match. Book to Yalding by the 7.10 a.m. train from Cannon-street. Competition tickets only to be shown at the pay box, by which means they will get a reduction of elevenpence off the angler's fare. Mr. Burwash will give a prize. I was much surprised to find in the *Fishing Gazette* last week a notice of another big competition to come off the same day. We have always done our best to avoid two visits coming together, also competitions. Who is responsible for this muddle? Our date has been announced several weeks. It is not fair to the nineteen clubs on our list, and not good business.—F. Castell, hon. sec.

Cliftonville Angling Society, Cliftonville Hotel, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey.—The society will hold their first pegged-down match on the 26th inst., from the bridge at Ware to the Lock.—W. W. Andrews, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We fished a club match at West Drayton on July 19, and the winners were as follows: T. Twyman, J. Slicks, W. Hill, C. Young, F. Hannabus, J. Godfrey, C. Stone. F. Caddle, E. Baxter. There were three prizes left for the 26th instant, under same conditions.—A. Smith, sec.

Corinthian Angling Club, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, W.—On Wednesday, the 22nd, Mr. G. Sharpe was duly elected an active member of this club. Several gentlemen have been out, but with the exception of Mr. E. Day, who had a nice bag of roach from Pangbourne, nothing much has been taken.

Crown and Buckland United Piscatorial Society, Middlesex Arms, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.—The following members were out on the warpath on the 19th, and made a grand show: Mr. Walters, with 6lb. 10½oz., of bream, roach, and perch; W. Long, roach and dace; H. Long, roach; G. Norris, dace. I may as well mention that a return visit will take place at the above on Wednesday, July 29, when we hope to see as many as can make it convenient to attend. Chairman, Mr. G. Norris; vice, G. Franklin. Mr. Burwash and Mr. Draper's prize will be fished for at Yalding on the same terms as the Clerkenwell and District United Competition, and the same day, July 26.—G. Rogers, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 19th instant, Messrs. Wild, Hills, W. Midson, Towndrow, Cogswell, Killick, Parram, J. Edwards, W. Edwards, and Redwood had a very fine show of bream, roach, perch, and dace. On Tuesday, the 21st, a series of prizes for honorary members were decided on, and they will receive full particulars by post.—S. Malby, sec.

Earlsfield Angling Society, Half-way House, Earlsfield, S.W.—The firt outing of the season took place on the 19th inst., with the following result: Mr. Rowsell, first, carp, 3lb. 7½oz.; Mr. Bird, second, roach and bream, 2lb. 3½oz.: Mr. Waterman, 7½oz. A two days' roving match takes place on Aug. 2 and 3, for the sum of £1 1s., and 1s. sweepstakes for every competitor, to be divided into four prizes. All names to be given in by next Wednesday, the 29th inst. The terms are bank and public water only, and the fish can be weighed in both on August 2nd and 3rd or both days' takes together. All fish to weigh. I hope to see as many members as possible turn out for this two days' outing, and a show on Bank Holiday night at the above house.—R. W. Bird, hon. sec.

East London Piscatorial Society, London Hospital Tavern, Whitechapel-road, E.—We fished our first competition at Twickenham, on Thursday, July 16. The stipulated weight being 3lb. to obtain a prize, none of our members reached that weight, so no prizes were taken. During the temporary absence of the puntsman, our president was much annoyed by one of the genus "loafer" who hang about fishing stations, in this case not only seeking, but demanding "backsheesh," accompanied with bad language. Three of our members and three friends drove to Dagenham on the 19th. No fish, but a deal of wet.—Frank Woods, sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On the 19th inst. the following weighed in a nice show of fish: Messrs. Biggs, bream, dace, and roach; F. Vanhegan, bream and dace; and S. Hill, bream, dace, and perch. We have made several new members and still have room for some more. Our worthy host, Mr. A. A. Eldridge, is much better and will soon be about again.—J. W. Biggs, sec.

General Post Office Angling Society, Post Office Hotel, Noble-street, E.C.—At our meeting on the 23rd inst., we had a very fine show of fish, Mr. Witmore producing some roach, several exceeding 1lb. in weight. A special meeting will be held on Thursday, July 30, for the purpose of electing a new committee, when it is to be hoped that all members taking an interest in the welfare of this society, will endeavour to be present. A competition will be held on Thursday next, July 30.—L. W. Dornne, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had a fair show of fish on the 19th inst.: 18lb. of roach, perch and bream, taken by Messrs. Slade, W. Lawrence, Ellis, Snow, and Evans. Other members were out, but not successful.—A. Payne, sec.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—At our meeting on Tuesday, the 21st, Messrs. W. Savage and W. Creeke were elected working members of the above club. It was also decided that a pegged-down match take place at Cheshunt on August 16. On the 19th inst., Messrs. F. Bates, W. Carr, and A. Wheeler weighed roach, perch, dace, and bream. —G. F. Weaver, sec.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Robin Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 19th inst., J. Hewitt weighed in a nice lot of tench and bream weighing 23lb. 5oz. Messrs. W. Parkin, J. A. Fitch, C. Large, C. Watling, junr., and W. Theobald, had small hows of dace, roach, and bream.—J. A. Fitch, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, presided over by Dr. Brunton, M.D. The secretary read an article from the *Sportsman*, written by Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, entirely confirming the statement made by Mr. Tayler, that Mr. Joseph Woodard, a member of the Gresham Society, is the champion roach fisher of England: and Mr. Wheeldon also says Woodard considers his match days are over. Having held the championship twenty years, he may well be content to rest on his laurels; but, in order that the angling spirit may be revived, Mr. Wheeldon offers a ten-guinea challenge cup to be competed for. Mr. F. R. Ohlson added to the library of the society a set of valuable engravings of aquatic birds, for which he was heartily thanked. A member reported that he had that afternoon seen thousands of roach and dace floating down past Kew Bridge, dead and dying, apparently having been poisoned, it is supposed from some dye works farther up the river. It was stated a short time ago, on the authority of a river-keeper, that the death of many fish lately had been caused by the hot weather, and the quantity of fresh water coming down; but what the latter cause had to do with it is not very apparent. Whatever the cause may be, it is certainly a matter the Thames Preservation Society should inquire into. A paper of an exceedingly valuable and interesting kind was read by Mr. E. H. Bramley, entitled "Babble about London," in which very many of the points of interest—such as the gates, the taverns, and the bournes, were dealt with, and the history of some of them for the last seven or eight hundred years was graphically put before the meeting. Although the paper had no special connection with angling, the writer, from the unusual facilities he has had for acquiring his information, and from the able manner in which he put it before the audience, fairly delighted them, and it is hoped he will shortly continue the subject. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded him.

Havelock Angling Society, General Havelock, West-street, London Fields, Hackney.—I beg to inform you that on July 19, Mr. Young, sen., and Mr. Young jun., and Mr. T. Thompson had a fine show of roach and dace. Members of societies will please take notice that on Monday, July 27, the next return visit of No. 1 District will take place as above. We shall be pleased to see as many members and friends as can attend, as we expect a host of talent to be present.—T. Thompson, sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 19th inst. many of our members were again enjoying themselves at the good old sport, many of whom were rewarded for their pains, Mr. Callcutt had a nice show of bream; Walford, roach and bream; Rider, perch; Saalfield, roach and perch; Russell, roach; and Fish, bream; and one of our new propositions, Mr. H. Bagshaw, showed himself to be a promising young angler. Messrs. Geeves and Levoir brought home a curiosity show from the sea.—W. Fenner.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—We had a splendid show of bream on Thursday, 16th inst., taken by Mr. Rutherford, weighing 14lb. On the 19th inst., Mr. Monty had some excellent barbel and chub from the Thames, in all, 16lb. I hope all members will send in their names for the sweepstake that is to take place on the 16th of August, at Amberley, as soon as possible.—J. H., sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—On the 19th inst, A. Hattemore weighed in a few nice roach. The annual dinner will take place at Rye House, on July 26. —R. Ghurney, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—We proposed three new members on our last meeting-night (Messrs. Pryer, Richards, and Peacock), who will be balloted for on Thursday, all being well. On the 19th inst., Mr. Davis showed bream, roach, and gudgeon; and Mr. A. Pain roach, dace, and perch. We shall be fishing off a match early in August. I should like all those absent members to understand, so that if they wish to qualify themselves for it, they had better put in an appearance as soon as possible. I believe that the next visit on the C.D.V. List comes to us. Invitations will follow in due course, as soon as we decide on the night, and very probably our esteemed friend, Mr. Harding, will give us his reading on that occasion.—Snap.

Islington Angling Society, Jubilee House, Hornsey Rise, N.—Mr. C. S. Bentley took the chair at the meeting on Monday evening last, when, the ordinary business having been transacted, the discussion on fishing lines (commenced at the last meeting) was continued, special attention being given to those suitable for fly-fishing. The question of the right of the public to angle on the Norfolk Broads was also before the meeting; and, in this connection, members are particularly requested to note that a public meeting, to discuss—and take means to prevent if possible—the threatened closure of these prolific waters, will be held at the Gresham Angling Society, Masons' Hall Tavern, Coleman-street, E.C., on Tuesday, the 28th instant, at eight p.m., when Mr. G. C. T. Bartley, M.P., president of the Islington Angling Society, will take the chair. All gentlemen interested in maintaining the right of the public to fish these magnificent pieces of water are invited to attend.—C. S. B.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—We met on Thursday last, when it was arranged that we should move the club to the Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road, on Friday last, the 17th inst., which was executed without any damage being done. The members showed up in strong force on the 19th inst. Several of our members were out on that day, but did no good. We have very comfortable quarters, which of course is everything. We have room for a few more members.—J. H. Herbert, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—A portion of the members dined at the Pied Bull, Stanstead, St. Margarets, on the 19th inst. Twenty-five sat down. Mr. J. Lyndsell served the dinner in his usual very nice manner. The members competed for four special prizes on Wednesday, 22nd inst. Mr. C. Hayward secured first honours; Mr. T. Harris, second; Mr. H. C. Wheatley, third; Mr. J. Featherstone, fourth. There are four specials to be fished for on the 26th inst., at Pangbourne; no competitor to leave London before the morning of the competition, and fish from the towing-path only. Two members and a friend had a day amongst the tench, on Tuesday last, 21st inst.; Mr. T. Harrison had the good fortune to get three nice specimens, which scaled 10lb. 15oz., also a nice rudd, which weighed 2lb. 4oz.; Mr. H. Butt also had three tench, scaling 9lb. 4oz. The whole of the above are being preserved, and will be added to the club collection.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—On the 19th inst. we fished a pegged-down match at West Drayton for four prizes, the result being as follows: First, Mr. Beales, with roach and gudgeon; second, Mr. Mathews, gudgeon; third, Mr. Warner, roach and gudgeon; fourth, Mr. Tomkins, gudgeon.—A. Ide, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—During the past week our members have been out and weighed in very fair shows of bream, perch, roach, dace, &c. We are pleased to find that our higher standard size has up to the present not prevented previous records being kept up.—T. Salter, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road.—On the 19th inst., a few members were out, the following weighing fish: Mr. Blygh, roach and dace; Mr. Webster, dace and gudgeon; Mr. Belton, roach and dace; and Mr. Holmes, tench. On Wednesday last an outing was arranged to take place at Pulborough on August 23, for several prizes; association waters only. Two members of the above society were successful in getting a prize in the Central Competition. Mr. Adshead was unanimously elected a working member of the above.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—At our last weekly meeting two nominations for membership were made. It was resolved that there be the usual excursion on the August Bank Holiday to the Vyrnwy, at Llanynynech, full arrangements to be made at the next meeting. It was also resolved that, considering the time and cost, we do not send a representative to the contest for the Marston Challenge Cup, presented to the Provincial Angling Association by Mr. Marston, of the *Fishing Gazette*. We regret this, as we should, in honour of the doner, have been glad to compete, but Tewkesbury is a long way from Liverpool, and the P. A. A. declined to meet us in the matter of expense. All things equal, our representative would have troubled the winner.—R. Woolfall

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 19th inst. our members were at various waters, and we had some good shows of bream, tench, and roach, by Messrs. Penfold, Pearce, Clarke, Barnard, and Grey. On the 26th, a number of our members go to fish in the Slough Competition.—W. F. Pearce.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Ball's Pond-road.—We had a very good attendance of members on Tuesday evening, and another outing was proposed, open to all new members, so I hope to have a good attendance on that day. We had another new member proposed during the evening. I hope all gentlemen desirous of joining will do so at once.—J. Comber, sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W.—On the 16th inst., Messrs. Schultz, sen., perch; Schultz, jun., roach. One new working member elected, and another gentleman proposed. Our annual outing for prizes takes place at St. Margaret's on August 30. One rod; roving; all fish to weigh bar jack. On the 19th we had a handsome show of tench by Messrs. Plumpton and North.—G. Schultz, chairman.

Original North Lambeth Angling Society, the Wellington, South-street, Hercules Buildings, Lambeth, S.E.—On the 19th inst. only two of our members were out, both weighed in roach and dace. On Tuesday we attended the visit at the Blackfriars. On Tuesday next we receive a visit from A.A.L., when I hope to see a good number of clubs represented.—J. Mann, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—We had a nice show of fish on the 19th inst.: Mr. Gardham, with a bream of 3lb., taking the fourth prize in the South London Competition, at Amberley; Messrs. Duke and Stidolph also showing some good fish. A match will take place on the 26th inst., open to members who leave town that morning only.—A. G. Drake, sec.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Pancras-road, N.W.—On the 16th instant we had a very nice show of roach, bream, and perch, the prizes being won by Messrs. Reed, Carr, and Elbourn, several other members weighing in fish. One prize will be angled for on the 26th at Uxbridge; and on August 2 and 3 four prizes—viz., Mr. Ben Forster, 30s.; Mr. Brown, 25s.; club, 20s.; Mr. Homan, 10s. 6d.—will be angled for by the members; all to go where they like, and the best shows to win. On Tuesday last we had a very jolly evening, three new members being made and several more proposed. All members are requested to attend next Tuesday, as we are expecting a nice show of fish.—W. Elbourn, sec.

Piscatorial Society.—There was a good attendance at the meeting of the above society last Wednesday evening, it being the last evening but one of the Barbel Competition for the Society's Silver Cup for the heaviest weight, limited to six fish. Among the successful competitors came Mr. Foreman, sen., with a nice show, largest fish 4lb.; Mr. P. Dewar Head, largest fish 4½lb.; Mr. M. G. de Courcy, largest fish 5lb. 8½oz. It is expected there will be a good attendance next Wednesday, as it will be the last day of the competition and several members have decided to compete.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—On the 19th inst. our members went to Cookham to finish the match, with the following result: Mr. W. Buck, second prize; Mr. Rodber, third; the fourth not being taken. On Wednesday we had a first-class meeting, and had the pleasure of electing four new members. I hope to see a good muster of anglers at Westbourne Park Station on the 26th inst., to take part in the competition at Slough.—J. W. Harris, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—On the 19th inst. forty-three of our members were pegged down in the Slough Canal, to compete for seven prizes, given by the society. The following were the fortunate ones: Messrs. Stanniford, Wilson, Davy, Robbins, Norris, and Neal, thus leaving one prize for the 19th inst., under the same conditions. The first prize-winner, Mr. Stanniford succeeded in catching a fine roach, which turned the scale at 2lb. 3¼oz., which was much admired by a great number who saw it. I need hardly say that the fish has gone to be cased, as a fish of that weight is very rarely caught. Members are requested not to forget the match which takes place on the 26th inst. in the Slough Canal, given by the landlord of the Brickmakers' Arms as above, and I hope some of our members will be in it.—W. B.

Queen's Angling Society, the Latimer Arms, Walmer-road, Notting-hill.—On the 19th we had a good show of roach, dace, and perch by Messrs. Pearce, Messenger, jun., Messenger, sen., Cook, Thorburn, Edgington, Fathers. Members are requested to attend on July 30, to make arrangements for next outing.—F. G. Pearce, sec.

Richmond Piscatorial Society.—The annual summer dinner of this society took place on Friday evening last at the Castle Hotel, near to Hampton Court Railway Station. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Montague Davenport, C.C., the popular chairman of the society, it was efficiently presided over by Mr. C. W. Potter, who was supported by Messrs. W. H. Brougham, Harry Davis, G. H. Wright, E. V. Powell, F. W. Perkins, E. Pallant, W. C. Shillito, H. Heath Hebbs, H. H. Holt, F. Rains, W. Spooner, H. Clark, T. Clark, J. Poupart, W. Jones, J. Castle, J. Hansley, C. Davis, W. Reeve, G. Bennett, and W. Wareham. The popularity of Mr. John Mayo as a caterer accounted for the dinner being held at the hostelry, and every satisfaction was expressed by those present at the general excellence of its service; the attendance also being much larger than was expected, and the tables had to be extended to meet the requirements. It is not customary on these occasions to have any formal list of toasts, and after the loyal one, that of "Success to the Richmond Piscatorial Society" was given by the chairman, who, after expressing regret at the indisposition of Mr. Davenport, briefly asked those present to do honour to the toast, which was responded to with great enthusiasm. Shortly afterwards, Mr. E. V. Powell proposed "The Thames Angling Preservation Society," and in coupling the name of Mr. W. H. Brougham, referred to that gentleman's long connection with their own society, and he would be afraid to state the number of years he had so long and honourably occupied the position of secretary to the T.A.P.S. The toast having been drank with musical honours, Mr. W. H. Brougham replied, thanking those present for the compliment they had paid him in the reception of his name, and hoped the work he had done during the last thirty-three years in connection with the river had been of benefit to all classes of anglers. The remainder of the evening was spent in harmony, under the direction of Mr. C. W. Potter, who had previously undertaken to do so, and his services in that direction are always much appreciated by the members. The singing of Mr. W. Harding, Mr. W. Andrews, Mr. F. Perkins, and Mr. Potter himself were much applauded, Mr. W. Wareham ably presiding at the pianoforte.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—On the 19th inst. we had a very nice show of fish, consisting of roach, dace, perch, and rudd. The following members weighed in: Messrs. A. Barclay, F. Barclay, J. Stanloy, E. Perry, G. Barclay, Barrow, J. Holden, Denyer, J. Yeo, G. Yeo, Henson, and Sallnow; total, 52lb. 13oz. On Tuesday, Mr. A. Barclay had a nice show of fish (20lb. 9½oz.) of chub, roach, dace, and perch; heaviest chub, 3lb. 14½oz., 2lb. 13oz., and 2lb. 8oz.; heaviest roach, 3lb. 4¾oz.; heaviest dace, 12oz., which made a nice show. Members, please note that fish can be weighed in on August 2, 3, and 4 as one day. We made one new member on Tuesday.—A. Barclay, sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The return visit on the A.A. on the 14th was a success, when twelve clubs answered the roll call. The next monthly outing takes place on the 29th, at Amberley, start from London Bridge at 6.55 a.m. The following members weighed in on the 12th: Messrs. Wigley, bream and dace, 6lb. 4¼oz.; F. Lamberton, sen., bream and perch, 2lb. 2¾oz.; Davis, roach, dace, and barbel, 5lb. 11¾oz.; F. T. Lamberton, 9¼oz. On 19th, Mr. J. Clark weighed in a splendid show of bream, weighing 13lb. 2oz.; also Mr. Ulling, with a similar show of 10lb. 10¾oz., largest bream, 3lb. 5½oz.; Messrs. Naylor, chub and perch, 2lb. 1½oz.; F. Lamberton, sen., bream, 2lb. 5¾oz.; F. T. Lamberton, 2lb. 5¾oz.; Davis, barbel, 1lb. 14¼oz.; Markins had a very fine roach of 1lb, 6½oz.; Mitchell, roach and dace, 1lb. 1½oz. —F. T. Lamberton, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—Our return visit on the Anglers' Association took place on the 15th inst., but I am sorry to say was not such a success as anticipated, only seven clubs being represented. I have to thank those gentlemen who kindly amused us during the evening: Messrs. Clark, Buck, Shaw (Golden Barbel); Brett, Elmes, King (Midland); Jennings (Bostonians); Holder, Gibbons, Hyde, &c. (Royal George); Ivermey, Clark (Prince of Wales); Liversage (Independent Bros.); and Mr. Ellens (Golden Barbel), chairman; Mr. Harris, vice. Mr. J. Pears presided at the piano. On the 19th inst. several of our members were out, but only three weighed in: Messrs. Webber, roach, Upper Thames, 5lb. 15oz.; Chart, ditto, 2lb. 2oz.; and Holder, 2lb. 1oz. One new member, Mr. Wood, was balloted for, and elected a fishing member, and glad to say he swelled our prize list with two prizes, £1 1s. for last fishing in September, and 10s. 6d. for last fishing in October.—F. C. Longland, hon. sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—Mr. Wink, a member of this club, took a prize in the tournament at Amberley on the 19th; Mr. Channer had roach from the Lea; Mr. Stone dace from the Arun. Other members had fish, but did not weigh them in. The two gentlemen proposed last meeting night were duly elected members. A special meeting will take place next Wednesday to arrange for an outing; prizes to be fished for given by members, and money to be withdrawn from the funds. I hope all members will be present.—J. Wright, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 19th inst., the following weighed in some nice fish: Messrs. W. North, roach, chub, and dace, 5lb. 4oz.; J. Petrie, roach and dace, 6lb. 7oz.; J. Barnes, roach and dace, 2lb. 10oz.; H. Bigsby, roach and bream (one bream, 3lb. 4oz.) On Tuesday last, members did not attend in very great muster as I should have wished; Mr. F. Moore took the chair for the evening, as our new chairman had not undertaken his duties yet; one working member was proposed and will be balloted for next Tuesday. All members are requested to attend when the balance-sheet will be read out, and the prize list up to date.—S. E. Cane, sec.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.—Although several of our members were out on the 19th, only one, Mr. Williams, weighed in, roach and bream. On Tuesday, the 21st, the auditors went through the accounts for the last quarter, and found a good balance in hand. I have much pleasure in informing members that the negotiations which have been going on for some time respecting the renting of a piece of water for their use, have been satisfactorily concluded, and they can now fish the water at their convenience. There will be no extra charge, and as there are plenty of fish in the water, and a nice quiet spot, any gentleman wishing for the privilege to fish it can obtain the same by joining our society. The two prizes left from the last outing will be fished for on August 9, at Little Baddow.—Pelican.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The clubs enrolled on the above list fished their first friendly competition of the season at Amberley on the 19th inst. with the following result: First, G. Mumford, of the Battersea Friendly, 3lb. 10½oz., winning a marble timepiece and 5s.; second, Mr. Sinking, Anchor and Hope, 3lb. 3½oz., prize 15s.; third, A. Gordon, Wellington, 3lb. 1½oz., 9s., and also a prize value 10s. by Mr. G. George, of the Second Surrey, for the largest roach, 12oz.; fourth, W. Gardham, Peckham Bros., 2lb. 14½oz., 8s.; fifth, J. Smith, Bermondsey Bros., 2lb. 4oz., 7s.; sixth, Mr. Wood, St. Albans and Excelsior, 1lb. 14½oz., 6s.; seventh, Mr. Wink, Second Surrey, 1lb. 11½oz., 5s.; eighth, Mr. Beak, United Bros., 1lb. 11oz., 3s. 6d.; ninth, A. Conn, Bermondsey Bros., 3s. The return visit to the Blackfriars A.S. on the 21st was most successful. The next visit will be to the St. George's A.S., held at the Prince of Wales, St. George's-road, Peckham, due notice of date next week.—A. Conn, hon. secretary.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—On the 19th inst., the members showed up strong, when we had a splendid show of fish by the following members. Mr. W. Hooper, bream, the three largest scaling 9lb.¾; Mr. T. Jones, a fine show of bream and roach; Mr. Polykett, bream and roach; Mr. D. Marks, bream; A. M'Quinn, bream; R. Spenceley, roach and dace.—R. Spenceley, sec.

St. Andrew's Piscatorial Society, Turk's Head, East-street, W.C.—On the 19th instant, the following members weighed in: Messrs. King, roach; A. Long, bream and dace; H. Long, bream; J. Long, roach; E. Roberts, perch; B. Chevalier, roach; and T. Harris, roach and dace.—B. Chevalier, sec.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—The members of this club fished at Harlow on the 19th, a pegged-down competition for club prizes; but the stipulated quantity of a half-pound of fish not being taken, the prizes were not given. Mr. T. Dumbleton was duly balloted for and accepted a member of this society.—G. Morton, sec.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—We had a full meeting on Tuesday last, when three new members were made. The competition prizes were awarded to the following successful competitors:—Messrs. Comley, Fountain, Parker, Taylor, Lewis and G. Boreham. The arrangement of another outing is left over till Tuesday next. Members will oblige by attending early, as there is plenty of business to be done, and new rule books will be ready.—H. R.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above have been out during the week with the following result:—On the 17th Mr. R. Lawes weighed in barbel and chub. Two members of the above fished in the South London match on the 19th instt., Mr. F. Beak taking a prize. Messrs. W. Bennett, W. Tyler, J. Turner, Champion and Hayden weighed in bream. The members of the above have voted 10s. 6d. to the Maidstone Preservation Society.—H. Tyler, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall-cross.—We had a good attendance on the 21st, Mr. Smith in the chair, faced by Mr. Philips. Another new member was proposed, Mr. Denyer, to be ballotted for next week. Members take notice the match on August 2 will take place at Byfleet. Conditions to follow. Our members were out in full force on the 19th. The following weighed in: Mr. Skinner, chub and dace; Mr. Ilsley, roach and dace; Mr. Smith, roach; Mr. Russ, roach and dace; Mr. Bird, jun., roach and dace; and Mr. Clegg, who had a nice show of rudd.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walton and Cotton Angling Association, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-street, N.—The annual dinner of this association was held on Wednesday, 22nd inst., at the Roebuck Hotel, Tilehurst. About twenty-five members and their friends sat down to a repast which gave general satisfaction. The *cuisine* and attendance reflected great credit to the hostess and her daughter, Mrs. and Miss Noyes. The chair was occupied by the president, Mr. H, P. Isaac; the vice-chair was ably filled by James Collingridge. The usual royal toasts were responded to with enthusiasm; the next in order, "Success to the W. and C.A.A.," was feelingly responded to by Mr. William Potter. A handsome testimonial was presented to Mr. H. P. Isaac, president and hon. sec., consisting of a valuable Tantalus and a silver cigar-case, with suitable inscriptions engraven thereon. The members and friends returned to town after spending a most pleasant and enjoyable day.—H. P. Isaac, hon. sec.

Walworth Waltonian Angling Society, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—For the competition on Wednesday, July 29th, it was carried that it be open. Two prizes, first given by Mr. Hardy, cash £1 1s.; second, copper-kettle, given by Mr. W. J. Crisp. Members that have not taken up their privilege tickets will please kindly do so.—C. Hibble, secretary.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 19th inst., but the weather was so bad that there were only two members weighed in fish (Mr. J. Evans, roach and dace; Mr. R. Lowther, roach). Hoping to have a better report in our next.—R. Lowther, sec.

Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, Earl Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday, 22nd inst., Mr. Hesse in the chair. Another new member was elected. Messrs. Rayner and Cartland, fishing at Cheshunt on Saturday, 18th inst., caught two jack and four perch, all of which were returned. Mr. Cartland caught a tench weighing 2lb. 10oz.; and Mr. Rayner, an eel. 2ft. 7in. long; weight, 1lb. 13oz. Mr. Gibson, fishing at Harefield, on the 19th inst., caught a roach weighing 1lb. ½oz.; and Mr. Hesse, fishing in private waters on Tuesday, 21st, caught 7lb. 9½oz., roach and chub; two largest roach, 1lb. 3¾oz. and 1lb. 3½oz. respectively. Our club outing on Bank Holiday will be held at Sunbury-on-Thames.—H. Richardson, hon. sec.

AFTER A DAY'S FISHING,
Call on TIBBATTS,
AT "THE CITIZEN," 70, HOUNDSDITCH
(OPPOSITE BISHOPSGATE CHURCH),
Two minutes walk from Liverpool-street and Broad-street Stations,

THE FRIENDLY ANGLERS.

THE annual summer dinner of this venerable society, at the New Inn, at Eton, is always regarded as one of the interesting events of the year, and the splendid dinner provided by Mrs. Goddard in the old English style, is one of its greatest attractions. On Saturday last, the members and friends mustered in strong force, and the hour of six o'clock sharp being fixed for the commencement all were ready at that time to do justice to the good things bountifully prepared for them, and which all thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. H. Mitchell, an old and valued member of the club, occupied the chair, and was well supported in the vice-chair by Mr. W. H. Brewer. Amongst those present were Messrs. George Evans, W. H. Brougham, Brownsword, C. H. Woodall, George Newson, T. Barwell, F. Berry, F. W. Howard, George Palmer, W. Bloxham, E. T. Craggs, S. Peet, W. Meakin, H. G. Young, G. A. Duke, Cramer, J. W. Nicholson, W. H. Holland, H. Calcutt, W. Edwards, J. B. Garrett, &c., &c.

After the loyal toast and one verse of the National Anthem, Mr. G. Mitchell, as chairman, introduced the toast of the evening, "Friendly Anglers," in a most effective and practical speech, in which he regarded the present as an eventful year in the history of the society, as they had now entered on its jubilee; but that circumstance could be more fully recognised at their winter dinner in London. He stated there was a good prospect of a favourable fishing year, as up to the present time there was a very fair average, especially with the trout, as 78lb. 13oz., had already been weighed in, and principally from the Thames, Mr. George Palmer and Mr. Howard each having weighed in one of over 7lb., in addition to others of a smaller size. He was glad to find their young members had been industrious amongst the trout, and occupied a most forward position, and also in their constant attendance at the weekly meetings. With reference to the barbel, there had been an excellent commencement, Mr. W. H. Brewer having made a fine show from the Thames. Mr. Garrett, their time-honoured member, had contributed a fine display of roach and tench—one of the roach weighing 2lb. 5oz., and ten of the tench weighing 33½lb. There was another eventful circumstance in the year, which they would all regard with much regret, as the house in which they were now assembled was changing hands, and that would be their last dinner under Mrs. Goddard's excellent catering. Their summer dinners, which at one time were held at West Drayton, had for the last twenty-four years taken place at the present hostelry. The toast was then most enthusiastically responded to, and Mr. W. Meakin, the painstaking secretary, whose name was associated with it, briefly replied, assuring those present that all was going on smoothly, and their treasurer had established a reserve fund.

The next toast was a joint one of "The Thames Angling Preservation Society" and the "Press," proposed by Mr. W. H. Brewer, and after some complimentary remarks on their old friend and honorary member, Mr. W. H. Brougham, he associated that gentleman's name with it.

Mr. W. H. Brougham, after noting he had been connected with the T.A.P.S. for a period of thirty-three years, said he had been associated with the Press for a much longer time, as he commenced writing for some local papers in Staffordshire at least fifty-five years back, and it was always a pleasure to him to attend their dinners.

Dr. Duke then gave "The Visitors," which was replied to by Mr. Brownsword.

Mr. F. Berry was called upon to give the toast of "Mrs. Goddard," their present hostess, and in doing so remarked it would be their last dinner under her catering; and in saying that it would be a keen pang to most of them, as the records of their doings there formed some of the most pleasant pages in the history of the society. He was quite sure in her retirement, after over forty years' possession of the hostelry, every good wish would be expressed by those present.

The toast was drank with much heartiness, and Mrs. Goddard was afterwards escorted into the room by Mr. George Newson amidst great applause, when the chairman reported to her what had been done, and after other complimentary remarks, the venerable lady feelingly thanked them all for their kindness.

The other toasts were "The Chairman," and "The Vice-Chairman," and all the toasts were interspersed with some excellent harmony, contributed by Messrs. Browhsword, George Evans, W. H. Brewer, F. Berry, T. Barwell, W. Bloxham, Cramer, and Dr. Duke.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea.		Add	55 min. for Kew.	
	40 ,, ,, Putney.			75 ,, ,, Richmond.	
	45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.			80 ,, ,, Twickenham.	
	50 ,, ,, Barnes.			85 ,, ,, Teddington.	

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	July	25	4.30	4.54
Sunday,	,,	26	5.17	5.40
Monday,	,,	27	6. 4	6.29
Tuesday,	,,	28	6.53	7.18
Wednesday,	,,	29	7.45	8.13
Thursday,	,,	30	8.43	9.18
Friday,	,,	31	9.56	10.31

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—During a visit to some portions of the river the last few days, I found the water very low and in a bright condition, but on inquiry amongst the fishermen I found they had not been doing much, as the fish had gone off their feed. Several of the clubs have been keeping up their annual custom of a summer dinner, and I have been well in amongst them, so that I am maintaining my position, as the *Fishing Gazette* some time ago put me down as "the hero of five hundred dinners." One thing, when I am invited and the coast is clear, I seldom refuse to comply with the request, if within reasonable distance, and I have certain fixtures, for which I am annually booked. One of these is the "Friendly Anglers," and I always enjoy their friendly gatherings. I am pleased to find this club, which is ever moving in the right direction, has recently moved in the question of sizes of fish, and the following standard has been laid down as the "minimum weights":—Salmon, 5lb.; trout (Thames), 16in., 1½lb.; trout (Kennett and Colne), 1lb.; trout (other rivers), ½lb.; jack, 2lb.; barbel, 2lb.; chub, carp, bream, and tench, 1lb.; grayling, perch, roach, and rudd, ½lb.; dace, 3oz. There can be no doubt other clubs will follow in the same direction, but as regards the standard, I prefer it given in sizes to that of weights, as it is very much easier and far less trouble. I was in the neighbourhood of Bishopsgate-street on Tuesday last, and called in at the Citizen, where our old piscatorial friend, Mr. H. J. Tibbatts, is now located, and it was really a pleasure to have a few minutes chat with him. I happened to be somewhat hungry at the time and he strongly recommended me to try his *special* rump steak pies at twopence each, which I relished very much, supplemented with a little "special Scotch." He has a charming daughter to attend upon customers, and altogether the surroundings are so pleasant and comfortable, I hope he will be well supported by his piscatorial friends, who after one visit will be sure to form the same resolution I have done to go there again. I have made these remarks in an angling spirit, as the past services of Mr. Tibbatts, from my own experience in the interest of anglers and angling, entitle him to recognition and regard; and they cannot be considered out of place when writing on angling subjects as anglers, like all other mortals, cannot enjoy life without lubrication, and the Citizen is a good place to get it.—B.

Richmond.—Henry Mansell, during the week, 40lb. of roach and dace, and Job Brain, senr., twenty dozen and a couple of barbel.

Twickenham.—Samuel Cole, in two days, eleven dozen of roach and dace; C. Brown, in two days, thirteen dozen; A. Hammerton, in two days, ten dozen and three barbel; C. Annesey, in one day, six dozen; Richard Coxen, in three days, 40lb.; J. Holden, in one day, 15lb.; John Frost, in three and a-half days, 37lb.; George Coxen, during the week, 60lb.; John Coxen, in two days, 21lb.; J. Dunn, in one day, six dozen; and Richard Moffatt, in two days, seventeen dozen.

Teddington.—W. McBride, in one day, four dozen of roach and dace, and a jack of 7lb.

Kingston.—Angling has been very slack in this district, and nothing worth reporting.

Hampton Court.—John Smith, in five days, twenty-five dozen of roach and dace, and seven barbel; W. Milbourne, in three days, fourteen dozen of roach and dace, five jack, and a couple of barbel.

Sunbury.—The punts of Messrs. T. and A. Stroud, during the week have brought in fifty-six dozen of roach and dace; and those of Messrs. E. Clarke and Son, forty-nine dozen.

Chertsey.—John Poulter, in three days, the first day, seven dozen of roach and dace, which were all returned; the second day, five and a-half dozen, which were put back again, and two bream; the third, day with Mr. C. Wastell, six and a-half dozen and one bream, part being returned as too small for the Battersea Friendly Angling Society. L. Hackett, in two days, fourteen and a-half dozen of roach and dace and some good chub. In the report of this fisherman's take last week, it should have been roach and not perch.

Staines.—John Keene, jun., one day with Mr. Colls, thirteen chub and five barbel; another day, with Mr. Wilson, 28lb. of roach, and dace, and barbel; another day, with Mr. Codd, seven jack, four bream, and three dozen of roach and dace; and another day, with Mr. Dunn and friend, seven dozen of roach and dace and six barbel. Charles Hone, one day, with Mr. Cragg, with the fly, fourteen chub; and another day, with Mr Colson and friend, ten chub.

Upper Thames.—Rain has fallen heavily all up the Thames Valley during the past week, and as I write it keeps on steadily descending. This influx of water into the river will be very welcome, and should put all classes of fish on the feed, better than they have been of late. From most up-river resorts I have encouraging reports of success amid roach, chub, and more especially barbel. In the Harleyford waters, Mr. H. and A. Thompson from London, have done capitally with roach, one short afternoon's take, which I had the pleasure of scaling, going 15lb. odd, and a brighter or better conditioned lot I have not seen this season. In the Marsh and Hambleden waters, Bob Young of Medmenham, with patrons, has been waking the barbel up to the tune of 50lb., 60lb., and 75lb. per outing. At Marlow, Lady Wilton with Bob Plummer, jun., has been going for barbel, but as yet I do not hear of details of success or otherwise. I am pleased to say perch are showing up quite in force. Marlow Buzz.

Thames (Richmond).—Prussian Carp Caught.—Last Sunday's rain—or rather storm—has proved beneficial to the tidal waters, and there is a little colour in the river now. The rain, whilst it lasted, was exceedingly heavy, and anglers and boating people alike fled for shelter, the scene being somewhat amusing. Those of the anglers who were disposed to "stick it" gave in at last, and suddenly the puntsmen were seen to fly to the poles, and punt with wild despair to the shore. Dace have not been feeding well; only a few roach have been caught; and barbel—except in one or two cases—have proved shy. Several good bream have, I hear, been caught out of a certain hole (one of 3½lb.); but the scene is sacred to those who "found them." On July 19, numerous parties of anglers were out, and all the punts were engaged. Fishing is proving most remunerative in the evening, especially just before dusk, when one may get hold of a decent roach or two with soaked bread. Fly fishermen are getting a few dace on the shallows. On July 19 several chub were caught. The heaviest take of barbel I hear of was one of 28lb. Last Tuesday night a member of the New Albion Piscatorial Club, punt fishing with Brain, senr., caught a Prussian carp, weighing about 1lb.; also a fine dace. The carp, a somewhat uncommon fish for this part of the world, was put back. Goosequill.

Thames (Staines).—Chub are feeding well just now, and are being taken with the fly and cheese paste. Having fished this water often for chub, I know what it contains. Anglers fond of "going a chubbing" could not go to a much better place. A few days ago I saw some regular monsters reposing under a bough, and have marked them down for a future call. On the 19th, despite the weather, Mr. Cragg, member of the Friendly Anglers' Club, London, landed seven brace of chub with the fly, out with Charles Hone, who informs me that the water is very low and bright, and no good for roach. The following day Hone had a Mr. Colson and friend for his patrons, and they accounted for five brace of chub, which were caught with cheese paste.—Goosequill.

Thames (Windsor).—Sport in this district for time of year has been good, some fine specimen fish being caught, notably barbel and roach. Of the former, two 7lb. fish were taken, one by Mr. Brewer, of the Friendly Anglers, London, out with R. Gray, and one by a member of the New Albion Piscatorials, out with James Gray. This gentleman also had five other barbel, two chub, and four dace, the entire bag weighing 25lb. In roach, Master Molyneaux, of Windsor, heads the list for specimen fish, having one which I weighed, going 1lb. 3½oz. For the Thames this is a good specimen, but a larger was caught in the Slough canal last week by a member of the Prince of Wales Angling Club, which went 2lb. 5oz. Mr. E. J. Harbard, of Eton, has also had some good roach, his best basket being thirteen fish before breakfast, largest, 11oz. Lumsden, of Datchet, has been giving his patrons some good sport on the the 21st inst., having ten barbel, largest, 6lb., 20th inst., nine barbel, nine chub, largest chub, 3lb.; Mr. Thomas, of the "Christopher," Eton, has also had some good sport with chub. A few jack have been caught. Mr. Battenbury, of Eton, having three, 5lb., 2½lb., and 2lb.; Mr. Coomber, of Eton, one 1¾lb. Water still in good condicion for all-round angling, and though gudgeon have not yet to my knowledge been tried; three rods should in a day now take from forty to fifty dozen.—B. R. Bambridge.

Ancholme District.—It has been unsettled during the week and fewer anglers have been out. Messrs. Dinter, Meanwell, and Ford, went over one day and caught a basket of perch, only fish alone with the worm. The event of the week has been a fisheries fête held on Tuesday and Wednesday last at Cleethorpes. The festivities were marred a little by showers, but the attendance seemed to be fair in evenings. The financial results are not yet made out.—Thomas Ford.

Arun (Pulborough).—Capture of a Salmon.—The river continues low, and sport, therefore, has not been up to the mark at all. A refreshing rain at the time of writing was much required, after which the bream fishermen will no doubt make some good baskets. The rain, and more especially a good push of water, would not only tend to put the fish on the feed, but also help towards carrying away some of the immense quantity of weed, now beginning to decay, which meets the eye of the angler at almost every turn. Just now a great deal of time has to be wasted in looking for swims, and these are few and far between, with more than 3ft. of water in them. The river is full of small eels, and these voracious little "shoe laces" are a source of constant annoyance to anglers ledgering for bream. I am glad to see that the fish are now getting into better condition, and with the advent of September, roach, dace, and bream are expected to yield excellent sport, especially the latter fish, this being the best time of the year for it in this river. I have heard of no more carp being caught here this season, but I see that Mr. Nutt, of the Swan, has had the large trout which was caught in the river here during the winter set up, and it is now proving a source of considerable interest. The fish weighs 10lb. On the 19th numerous anglers were out, but only small takes were recorded, as very boisterous weather was experienced. The catches comprised roach, dace, perch, and bream. On the Central Association water nothing much was done, but at Amberley bream of 3lb., 2lb., 4½oz., and a roach of 12oz., were taken. The members of the South London United Visiting List fished a match there, when fifty-five competitors entered. The prizes were all won, Mr. G. Mumford (of the Battersea Friendly Club) taking first honours. An interesting piece of news has reached me of the capture in this river, below the Central Association's Fishery, of a fine salmon of 16lb. It seem that one of the farmers is in the habit of putting a net in all night, and the other morning on going to examine it, he found a fine salmon fast in the meshes. I may say that I heard of the capture of the fish on good authority. I also understand that several other salmon, smaller fish, have been caught here at different periods, and at Stopham they say there is a large show of grey mullet.—Goosequill.

Barle (Dulverton).—The rain has freshened up the river and put it in perfect order for fly, worm, or minnow. Baskets of from 4lb. to 5½lb. are being taken. Mr. Routh, jun., killed with Green Drake a very ugly fish of 4lb. 1oz., and a handsome little trout of 1½lb. Your reporter has done well in all-round fishing, and, amongst others of good size, a pretty fish of 1lb. Warm and showery. Killing flies, Uprights, hackled and winged, and Coachman. Some salmon now up.—Iron Blue.

Chichester and Sussex Rivers.—Rain is much needed, both by agriculturists and piscatorials. The sluggish waters are low, and in many parts covered with floating weed and slime, and a really good freshet would greatly improve matters. Yet fish have been feeding well, and those who have cared to spend a night by the water side have had no rest (this is not an intentional pun). Mr. Paul Bedford, fishing with the veteran angler, Jas. Wright, at Chichester Canal, during the small hours of Monday morning, landed upwards of eighty sizeable bream and roach, bream up to 2lb., and roach 11oz. A few good tench have been taken; one secured recently at the basin weighed 2lb. 7oz. From the Ouse some good roach and chub have been taken, the heaviest roach notified me weighed 1lb. 9½oz. At the Rother, in the Midhurst district, several fine roach have been landed, and a brace of good trout. From the Adur, near Steyning, roach, dace, and flat fish have made variety baskets; at Littlehampton Harbour several mullet have been taken.—Geo. F. Salter.

Dove and Tributaries.—The water and the weather are now both favourable to sport. Up to the last day or two we have had but little rain and a clear water, and the upshot has been small takes, save at the edge of dusk, when the caterpillar and the Light Turkey Brown have done well. To-day we are having some nice rain, which will prepare the water well by the time this is in print. A few fish have been taken from the Dovedale length, and also from the Okeover and Norbury Club lengths. Mr. W. Bullock has taken a few grayling, including one of 2lb., with the maggot, from the river.—D. and W. H. Foster, Ashbourne.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—The rivers are in very fair order, and thanks to the vigilance of Mr. Caloy, the river inspector, there is much less poaching than usual. The sea fishing is very good; this week's spring tides have brought up shoals of mackerel, but I fear they will not remain long on the coast, as they are of an unusual size—viz., about 2lb. This is never a good sign. Codlings are very plentiful, but should be fished for during the ebb-tide. —Stormy Petrel.

Eden (Armathwaite).—River very high, running bank full, having been raining persistently these two days. No reports of any sport to hand.—C.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—The fishing season on the waters of the Esk has so far proved anything but satisfactory. The weather, generally speaking, has been much against sport, while as a rule the river has been low and dead. During the last day or two, however, we have had some copious rains, which have had the effect of considerably improving the river, and it is expected that in a few days there will be some good chances of fair sport. A few salmon have got up the river from the sea during the week.—J. J. Jackson.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—Anglers are doing fairly well in this locality, but on some of the drains the prevalence of weeds is a great hindrance to sport. The water is in capital condition, and in the evening good baskets are obtainable, and particularly from baited swims. In the clearer water roach bite rather shyly, but some good business has been done with perch, baiting with the small red worm. Baskets on the Forty-foot have run to 5lb. or 6lb. in a couple of hours' fishing, and more if longer time was taken. One gentleman caught a tench last week scaling 3½lb. Good business has been done with eels. Mr. Ball, of Billingborough, has had a fine lot from Swatton brick pits.—Limpet.

Idle (North Notts).—The river is now running rather low, and anglers say more rain is wanted to freshen it. Moderate sport is stated to be obtainable about Bollam and at other points down the river, and at some places on the canal very fair baskets are made. Roach, bream, dace, and eels are the fish chiefly sought for. Perch are also to be got from the river and drains in the lower district. Some of the local club-men have this week been patronising the Trent at Laneham. The water of the Trent in that district is in good condition, but the barbel fishermen are rather disappointed with the results so far.—L.

Lake District.—A great revival in fishing has taken place during the past few days throughout the whole of the Lake District. After an almost unprecedented spell of dry weather a change took place on Monday, when rain came in torrents, and copious showers have fallen at frequent intervals up to the hour of writing. For the first time this summer our rivers have presented a tempting appearance, many of them being bank full, and anglers were not slow to take advantage of the opportunity. "Capital sport" was the general report of those out on the 21st and 22nd, and I believe some good hauls might be reported. Messrs. Storey and Quirk, fishing the Kent on Tuesday, had thirty good trout; and similar takes are reported from other quarters.—Westmeria.

Lea and Stort.—The weather lately has been so very unsettled, that at the very best, successful angling has been but a lottery; in some cases and at some places fish have been feeding well. This, however, has not been the rule. Some good sport amongst the bream and roach has been had at St. Margaret's and Rye House. At Waltham Abbey and Cheshunt some fair fishing has been had, roach and bream having constituted the principal takes. A few good bream and some decent takes of roach have been had at Ponder's End. Some roach, dace, and bleak have been taken at Cook's Ferry, and on Saturday last a very good chub. Some dace have been taken at the Ferry Boat, Tottenham, with the fly, and a few roach bottom-fishing. On Monday Mr. Herbert caught a very fine carp, weighing 5lb. Bream have been showing up, but have not been on the feed here as yet. Eels have gone almost entirely off. I fancy the cold winds we are having in the evenings account for this.—Spliced Joint.

Leicester—Anglers hereabouts are having a really good time of it just now. Better weather could hardly prevail, and both the professionals and amateurs have literally been out in swarms. Up to the present the waters have remained in fairly favourable condition, and sport all round has been of a pretty successful kind. At Foxton, Mr. J. Morton was well among the pike a few days since, and generally the large number of anglers who have visited this spot have met with good success with the perch and pike. The charming Wreake Valley, has together with Yarborough, Langton, Rearsley, Wigston, and other places furnished sport of an exceptional kind. At Leicester anglers were extraordinarily thick along the banks of the river Soar in the Abbey Park, but the chief attention at Leicester was bestowed by the experts on the Leicester Angling Society's preserves, from Leicester to Anglestone eels have been again taken in abundance from these preserves during the evenings, and roach up to 1lb. 3oz. were among the fish shown. The last mentioned species have lately greatly improved in condition, and should now show fine sport.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both streams have been refreshed with slight storms, which has not altered the state of the water. The weather has been stormy, but the water is in good order for angling. There are plenty of flies on the water, and the fish are taking these fairly well of an evening. A few anglers have been out and tried the wasp grub with success. Minnow fishing has been a good killer. The Pinsley is clear but low, fishing in it quiet.—Gwynne.

Medway (Maidstone).—The water is in grand condition; the roach are now coming on the feed, but biting very finely, only the expert who uses the finest tackle can get them; they are now coming nicely to the boiled wheat and it will assuredly take the best fish. Very few bream have been taken, none of any note to my knowledge, some few perch have also been secured. The changeable weather still prevents the chub from rising to the fly. I should like to see some of our old anglers take steps to secure some of the grand carp that are to my knowledge in the various parts of the Medway.—W. Shrubsole.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—Mr. John Rowell, of Cromwell-road, Pulborough, had good angling in the Castor district on Saturday. His basket included thirty-one roach, the average size being nearly ½lb., many reaching ¾lb. each. This is very good for roach. He also had a bream of 1½lb.—Nenebank.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Rivers.—Weed cutting is now being carried on in most all our waters near here. There ought to be some good roach fishing now the water is a good colour, and when the weeds are gone away, which will not be be long, good takes will, I hope, be the order of the day. I had a try in the Mildenhall river on Monday, and took a nice lot of dace and perch. I also tried the west row swim, there I got a few good fish. I hear very favourable reports from the Yarl, bream and perch are feeding well. From Brandon, the "little Ouse," I saw a nice tray of dace and roach this day, 21st, very clear and bright they were. Roach are not on at all in the Ouse at Ely or Littleport. Bream are feeding fairly well now, also the perch. A gentleman fishing near Denver, took on Thursday a very fine sea trout when spinning for perch. I think roach are all right now in the tideway near Denver sluice, and anglers staying at the Jennyns Arms, close to the sluice, have the privilege of fishing there. Mr. Reid, the landlord, is a capital angler, and very obliging. Weather at time of writing dull and raining; wind in south.—William Howlett.

Ouse (Brandon, Norfolk).—I hope anglers will pray for better and settled weather, this is all the above river requires now. Several angler's down this week. Host Rolph is doing his very best to procure sport in his baited swim—but at present the "weeds" are floating down stream. Hope to report good catches next week after the river is clean. Time of writing wind W.; showery, unsettled. The above place is good for railway service. —John O'George.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—The unsettled state of the weather has put sport almost at a standstill, but lately both roach and bream have been feeding fairly, more especially the roach, and some fair size ones have been taken with gentles and wheat, and it is to be hoped that some good takes may be had now that the water is settled and in prime condition. Bream are not feeding well at present, although great numbers are seen rising in the evening in many parts of the river which have been tried for with both brandlings and lobs. Late in the evening of the 18th thirteen fair fish were taken with brandlings.—H. ROUT.

Plymouth.—SEA FISHING.—On and off the weather has been favourable for fishing, though we have had some nasty days. Some good catches have been had near the Eddystone, the Rev. Mr. Nixon, in his yacht, getting three hundred good fish in three days, and good sized ones. Whilst at dinner one day, an alarm was given on one of the whiting lines, and it was with difficulty hauled in, when it was found that a huge ling, about 4ft. 6in. long, had taken the two whiting that had been caught on the two separate hooks on the line, and was itself firmly hooked; the three fish were safely landed after a deal of care. Some gentlemen staying here went out with Jewell, the boatman, to the west end of the breakwater, and had a dozen nice pollack on Friday, and after they came in to the old ponting pit, and I left them doing well at the bottom with these nice little fish.—WILLIAM HEARDER.

Rother (Fittleworth, Sussex).—Like the Arun, this river is in need of land-water, a push of which would doubtless put the fish on the move. A party of London anglers were out here on the 18th and 19th, but, as far as sport was concerned, were somewhat unfortunate. To make matters worse, one of them hooked a 3lb. bream, but lost it again through not having his landing-net put together. I hear that another angler, on the other hand, had the good fortune to land a fine roach of about 1½lb. This river contains some splendid specimens of the red fins, as it does also of the pike. One caught last year scaled 24lb.—GOOSEQUILL.

Scarborough.—(SEA FISHING).—Whiting, gurnard, and dabs are very abundant in the bay, and boat anglers are having some excellent sport. Pier anglers are also doing fairly well. Mackerel have not yet come in, but may be expected very shortly.—H.

Taw (North Devon).—The heavy rain on Monday caused the water to rise 3ft., but was gone again in twenty-four hours. The salmon ran up, and were taken with the net in large numbers. I fear trout in the Bishmill, Bray, and Mole are almost annihilated.—RUSTY GAME.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this district the water is still clear, but rather low. The weather has been stormy, but it has not stopped anglers going out, and fair sport has been had. The fly has been best at evening. Maggot and wasp grub have been tried and some nice fish landed. On Tuesday, some nice fish were taken with the fly. The Red Kyre and Ledwyche are all clear and in fishing order, but little done in them this week.—WORCESTER.

Whitby.—SEA FISHING.—White fish of all descriptions abound in the roads off Whitby and also among the rocks a little to the south of the harbour mouth. Each night when the weather is favourable and the sea smooth, witnesses large parties of ladies and gentlemen going to the fishing ground in open pleasure boats, which are very handy for the purpose. The whiting is the most plentiful of all the tribe, but billets, dabs, gournard, and the like are also in great abundance. The largest fish caught by the line during the week was a billet which measured 2ft. 4in.—JNO. J. JACKSON.

White Hart, Ringwood.—The river is now in fine condition for angling. Roach and dace are well on the feed, and several good takes have been recorded. Some excellent perch, trout, and grayling have also been taken.

Tees (Barnard-Castle).—This river came down in full flood on Tuesday night, and there will now be no hindrance to the salmon running up. Little fishing has been done last week owing to the low state of the river, Mr. R. Wandlers, Mr. Brown, and others got a few trout, several eels, and an odd chub or two have been obtained. The Red Spider and Black Gnat the most killing flies. In the Estuary good catches of salmon are being obtained, and as a natural consequence, the price has now come down to tenpence per pound retail.—J. H. R.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire).—Some excellent sport has been had on these rivers this week, principally late in the evening. Since Wednesday, the Derwent has had a nice flush on it, which will do a good deal of good, and doubtless put the fish off feeding on the Midge, so much as they have done for the last week or so. Mr. W. Higton fishing at Matlock Bath, on Tuesday evening last, killed a grand trout, weighing 2¼lb., with the Throstle Wing Dun. Thts fly Grey Quill and Little Marriott, are best at present.—DOTTERCH.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire).—The rivers are a good colour and plenty of water. Sewin are again running up to the weirs very freely. Good takes of trout have been made during the past week, by evening fly fishing, one angler taking five brace of very nice fish one evening this week.—H.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—For several days since last report the sun has been much too bright, and the lake too calm for very heavy baskets to be expected. However, since the change to rain on Saturday last, very fair sport has been obtained, and the water is now in capital order. Captain Stevenson has been the most successful, on the whole, with twenty-six trout, 23lb. 2oz.; the Rev. St. Vincent Beechy got fifteen very nice fish, 13lb. 1oz.; and Mr. T. S. Odell, fourteen, weighing 11lb. 11oz. Captain Stevenson's number included eight lovely fish, scaling 8lb., caught yesterday, when Mr. Ward also got eight, weighing 6lb. 5oz., taken in the afternoon. Heaviest fish: Mr. T. S. Odell, 1lb. 14oz.; Rev. St. Vincent Beechy, 1lb. 10oz. Best flies: Mal, March Brown, Alder, and a gold-bodied fly with pheasant wing. In last week's report 30,016 should have been 3,016.—LONG DRIFT.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—Some excellent sport has been had during the past ten days, both on the Towy and its tributary, the Cothy. On the 13th inst., Mr. Owen Richards landed two sewin (2½lb. and 3½lb.), and a trout of 2lb., on the Towy; and the Hon. Hugh Campbell (same day), one sewin, 1½lb., and two others, 2¼lb., besides seven and a-half brace of good-sized trout on the "Golden Goose" water. Mr. John Morgan also took a good basket of trout. On the 14th, Dr. Naunton Davies, 2½lb. to 3lb. of trout, all with fly. On the 17th, the Misses Hughes and Miss Croxen, of Tregib, took 4½lb. of trout; and the Hon. Hugh Campbell, a nice basket of sewin and trout; Sir James Drummond, of Edwinsford, has had some good sport with salmon on the Cothy. On Saturday, Sunday, and Monday last we had more flood-water down the river, and although there are lots of salmon up, none have been taken for some little time past.—H.

Usk (at Usk).—Sport continues to be very good, especially with grilse, and most anglers come in for a share. The slight rise in the water on Monday wonderfully improved angling the past three days, and many fish were taken. Mr. H. W. Pride caught four on Monday, and Gen. Mignon five; Col. Rocke has been very successful, taking two or three most every day. On Tuesday, Mr. T. Rees caught four, and Col. Roche five. No angler could wish for a better season from the commencement.—T.

Scotch Reports.

Altnacealgach Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—On Tuesday last week, Mr. Beith, Glasgow, and Mr. Miller, Musselburgh, on Loch Cama, two-and-a-quarter dozen trout, 10lb.; General Ranken, London, on Loch Veyatie, twenty-eight trout, 9lb.; Mr. Conacher, Luncarty, on Loch Cama, thirty-eight trout, 12lb., and a *Salmo ferox* of 1¾lb.; and Messrs. Clay and Winstone, London, on Loch Urigill, twenty-six trout, 6½lb. On Wednesday Messrs. Beith and Millar, on Loch Boarlin, one-and-a-half dozen, 6lb.; General Ranken on Loch Urigill, two-and-a-half dozen, 10½lb.: Mr. Conacher, on the same loch, two-and-three-quarter dozen, 10¾lb.; and Mr. Macintosh along with Mr. Cantrell on Loch Cama (a short time only), twenty trout, 6lb. On Thursday Messrs. Beith and Millar on Loch Urigill, sixty-seven trout, 19lb.; Messrs. Macintosh and Cantrell on the same loch, six-and-a-half dozen, 91lb.; Messrs. Clay and Winstone on Loch Cama, thirty-five trout, 9lb.; General Ranken, on the same loch, forty-seven trout, 20lb.; and Mr. Conacher on Loch Veyatie, five dozen, 17lb. On Friday Messrs. Beith and Millar on Loch Veyatie, four dozen trout, 22lb., and a *Salmo ferox* of 2lb.; General Ranken on Loch Urigill, five dozen, 16½lb.; Mr. Conacher on the same loch, four-and-a-half dozen, 14¼lb.; Messrs. Clay and Winstone, on Loch Boarlan, twenty-nine trout, 9½lb.; and Messrs. Macintosh and Cantrell on same loch (one hour only), ten trout, 4lb.; Major Broadfoot, R. E., London, along with Captain Broadfoot, Royal Horse Artillery, made a nice basket in about two hours fishing. On Saturday Messrs. Beith and Millar on Loch Cama, forty trout, 12¼lb.; Mr. Conacher on same loch, twenty-five trout, 8½lb.; General Ranken on Loch Boarlan, thirteen trout, 4lb.; and Major Broadfoot, R.E., with Captain Broadfoot, R.H.A., on Loch Urigill, fourteen trout, 5½lb. On Monday this week Messrs. Beith and Millar, on Loch Veyatie, twenty-eight trout, 18lb., besides a grilse of 8lb. caught by Mr. Beith, and one of 2lb. by Mr. Millar. Loch Cama was fished by General Ranken, twenty-three trout, 8lb.; by Mr. Coutts, twelve trout, 5lb.; and by Major Broadfoot, R.E., and Captain Broadfoot, R.H.A., nineteen trout, 16lb. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Coull fished Loch Urigill, and got seventy trout, 17lb.—McB.

Border Esk.—Both the Esk and Liddle are gradually decreasing in volume since the recent rains, and day fishing is not much indulged in. At night, however, some good takes have been made. In the upper waters salmon are running in fair numbers. There is a good stock of sea trout and grilse, and whiting are making their appearance. Visitors staying at the Cross Keys, Canonbie, are having good sport in the lower waters, particularly Messrs. Craig and Shard, who seem to favour the well-known Cauldron Pool. On Thursday the former gentleman landed two salmon, 15lb. and 9lb., and four sea trout, weighing in all 8½lb.; while Mr. Shard had seven sea trout from the same pitch, from 1¾lb. to 4½lb.; several sea trout and whiting fell to the rods of Messrs. W. Davidson, D. Murray, D. Edgar, J. Graham, F. Little, W. Riddle, A. Irving, and others. Messrs. Ast and F. W. Kerr, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, have been very successful in the upper reaches; four sea trout, two whiting, and seven yellow were taken by those gentlemen from the reserved water, and a 10lb. basket, which included six sea trout, subsequently rewarded their efforts. Mr. F. Irving and others have had good hauls in the Skipper's gullets, and several sea trout have been had from the Black Stones Pool and Craig Corner Pool, a little above Langholm. I may mention that these are the best salmon pools above the meeting of the three waters, and well worth visiting. Mr. Stubbs is again to the fore in the Metal Brig water, and Messrs. Bell and Mason have each landed sea trout and whiting from the Roost—Miss Cartner's favourite pitch—and also in Wilkin's Pool and Birrel's Weir. Sport has been pretty fair after sunset in the Liddle in the upper waters, near Newcastleton. Baskets of sea trout have been taken from Sandholm Pool, principally by Messrs. A. Crozier, Glasgow, and Jas. Crozier, Carlisle, while Mr. Wm. Murray landed a salmon of 14lb.; Mr. G. Elliot had a sea trout, 4lb.; Mr. J. Beallie had two, and Mr. W. Edgar three sea trout; Mr. J. Graham has also had good sport in the Penton water, in Auld Brig Pool, Maggy's Ford, Double Pot, and Dreble Bank. These pools, by the way, are the best in the Liddle, and close to Penton Linns. I am not at all given to superstition or any other kind of delusion or fad, but I always prophesy a flood in the Esk and Liddle during the last week in July, and I am generally correct in my prognostication. Should the usual deluge take place there will be a slaughter of the innocents, and no mistake, as there is a tidy good crop in both waters.—G.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—On Tuesday, last week, Mr. Crowdson, Balnagown Arms Hotel, fished the Gruinards water, and landed two grilse, weighing 5lb. and 7lb. With the exception of one fish caught on the Hotel water, sport was nil until Saturday, on all the beats, so far as can be ascertained, the river having been quite out of order owing to heavy rains. On Saturday, an improvement took place. Mr. Crewdson landed a grilse of 7lb. on the Gruinards water; Mr. W. Allis Smith of Glencalvie, had one of similar weight on the upper water; Mr. D. MacMillan, Somerset House, London, grassed a 10lb. salmon on the Hotel water; and Mr. John Mackenzie, Invercharron, who fished Craig's water on Mr. Littlejohn's rod, landed a beautiful clean-run salmon, weighing 22lb. Mr. Crowdson fished the Hotel and the Gruinards water, on Monday, this week, and landed two grilse, weighing 6lb. and 5lb.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—The recent freshetts have had the good effect of giving the rivers and streams all over a good scour out. With regard to the Dee, the water has been discoloured—that black peaty colour, where nothing succeeds in moving the fish till it has run itself clear again. The weather variable, the prevailing lights unfavourable, anglers indifferent, and the week's results correspondingly low. However, those who have been prosecuting the work have met with encouraging success. There is a good run of heavy grilse in the water, while not a few of fresh salmon have also come away. On the Ballater and Balmoral reaches the same phenomenal run of luck has not, been experienced lately which prevailed during the whole spring and summer months, yet the sport is good. Mr. Yarrow, Mr. McGregor, Captain Cook, Keeper Morgan, and others are having more or less sport every day. Grilse are plentiful, and the prospects for the next fortnight are of the best as regards summer fishing. On the Glentina water, Sir William C. Brooks, Bart., M.P., and guests are having a fair grilse season, and better things will yet be done when once the water settles. On the Upper Dess waters J. Harper landed a grilse of 4lb. lately; while Mr. Milne, Aboyne, had one grilse and two sea trout on the Huntly Arms reach. On the Ballogie water Mr. W. E. Nicol landed a salmon 10lb. on the Monday, and a grilse of 6½lb. on Thursday last. On the Woodend water lately Charlie Gill had two salmon, of 8lb. and 10lb., several grilse and sea trout, in all light fish, while Mr. Chalmers had one on the sluice water, while several have also been had on the Blackhall, Inchmarlow, and lower reaches. On the Park water Mr. Hugh MacDonald landed a fine grilse of 5½lb. There is a fine show of fish on the coast, and the nets have been doing remarkably well. On the tidal reaches good baskets of sea trout have been plentiful, the fishing on this reach having been assiduously prosecuted on Saturday and Monday last, the occasition of the city holiday.—DEESIDER.

Deveron (Banffshire).—For the past week this river has been more or less in flood; several heavy thunder-showers have fallen. The water has been in very variable condition, and anglers' hopes have, like the stream, risen and fallen. On the 10th inst., Mr. Fraser, keeper, Netherdale, had a salmon of about 6lb.; Mr. Thurburn, of Mayne, had a grilse of 6lb.; and Mr. J. Sanderson, the keeper, had two salmon, weighing 8½lb. and 9¾lb. On the Huntly and tidal waters a few grilse and some fine-sized trout have been landed. Netting continues fair on the river. On the Duff House water as many as a score of grilse and salmon were taken by the net on one day. The remarkably productive fishing that has been got on the coast is now falling off, and this week the hauls of fish were not so large. Notwithstanding, the catch for the past week is up to the average of any previous year. On Friday last fifteen boxes were consigned to the London markets, eighteen on Monday, and eight on Wednesday of this week. The fishings on the coast farther east yielded an average of three boxes per day.—H. W.

Esk (Langholm, Dumfriesshire).—The river has kept low, but in fair fishing order owing to the frequent showers which occur more or less daily. On Wednesday, Mr. A. H. Kerr, and Mr. F. W. Kerr of York, staying at Eskdale Hotel, had an 8lb. basket, containing four sea trout, two whiting, and eight yellow trout. On Thursday, one sea trout, 3lb., and on Saturday night, they had 10lb. of fish, including six sea trout; and again on Monday night, four sea trout, and several yellow trout, all caught at night in the reserve water. Amongst those who have been successful are Mr. T. Irving, and Mr. A. McMillan, both having had several sea trout, besides other anglers who have had good baskets of yellow trout. Mr. Craig, Cross Keys Hotel, two salmon in the Cauldron Pool, 10lb. and 14lb.; and Mr. Shand, six sea trout, weighing from one and-a-half to 5lb., beside a goodly number of anglers who have had smaller catches in the Canobie Waters and in the Liddle. There is a considerable number of sea trout and whiting in the river, and one of the sights of the district is in driving or walking along Gilknockie Bridge, to see the shoal of sea trout lying in the river there.—W. D.

Helmsdale (Helmsdale).—Sport during the last two weeks has been very poor, so far as anglers were concerned, the weather being far too warm and sultry, and fish refusing to move. This has not been the case with the netsmen, who have daily been getting great hauls of grilse and salmon. Of late the river has been several times in Food, and it was so on Friday last, when fish were running very strong, so strong indeed was the run that two boats constantly netting was quite unable to cope with it. The river is so stocked with fish now, that so far as angling is to be considered, the prospects were never better. The river will now remain during the season in good fishing order, and as the weather gets colder, fish will take. Sea trout this season have been remarkably scarce, indeed, on no occasion have I seen them so few, what the cause is for this one cannot tell. The herring fishing has opened very successfully here. On Tuesday one hundred boats landed over a thousand barrels of herrings.—S. C.

Inchnadamph Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—Trout angling has fallen off on account of adverse weather. The following are a few of the baskets since last reported. On Mid Assynt, Mr. and Mrs. Kirby, Coventry, in day, landed forty-two trout, 13lb.; and Mr. Leatham, in one day, forty-three trout, 20lb. On Loch Assynt, Mr. Kirby in two days, seventeen trout, 5lb., and a grilse of 6½lb.; Colonel Gillespie, London, one day, sixteen trout, 6lb.: and Mr. Graham, one day, twelve trout, 4lb., and a grilse weighing 6½lb. On Loch Awe, Mr. Kirby, one day, twenty-four trout, 12lb.; and Mr. Cookson, York, one day, thirty-six trout, 14lb.—McB.

Kyle of Durness.—Fishing is going on tolerably. Results for three days by two anglers sea trouting: Rev. H. L. Porter, 16th, fifteen sea trout, 21lb.; Mr. Yarborough, Leeds, three, 3lb. 17th. Mr. Porter, fourteen, 24lb.; Mr. Yarborough, five, 5lb. 18th, Mr. Porter, eight, 9lb.; Mr. Yarborough, five, 5lb.—JOHN SUTHERLAND, head gillie.

Kyle of Sutherland (Bonarbridge, N.B.)—Capt. Holder, London, and party, besides several local anglers have been rod fishing on this tidal water, but sport has not been good for some weeks back. The hauls of salmon and grilse by net fishing have also been less productive of late. As compared with the previous week the takes on Messrs. Penrie and Pitcaithley's skibo fishings were about the same; but Mr. Smith's Invercharron and Craggandubh fishings, as well as Mr. Anderson's nettings at Scalp, River mouth, and South Bonar, all showed a considerable falling off. Taking all the fishings in this neighbourhood together it is estimated that the weight of salmon and grilse consigned to Billingsgate in the course of the week would aggregate about 3 tons 4cwt.—McB.

Lairg, N.B.—On the hotel waters some very good baskets were made last week. The following are the details: On Monday, Mr. Meakem killed twelve trout, 6½lb., on Shinness Bay; Mr. Jowers on Loch Cracail had eleven, 5lb.; Messrs. Copeland and Cumming, fifteen, 8lb., on Loch Shin; and Major-General Stafford, seven, 1¾lb.; on Loch Beannech. On Tuesday, which was much too calm and bright for good sport, Messrs. Copeland and Cumming killed thirty-two, 13lb., on Loch Shin; Mr. Jowers got nine, 5½lb. on Loch Beannoch. On Wednesday, on Loch Shin, Messrs. Copeland and Cumming got nine, 6lb.; Mr. Jowers, nine, 4¼lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Milne, nineteen, 1½lb.; and "X. Y." five. On Loch Beannoch, Mr. Meakem got three of 2¾lb. Thursday was calm and wet but a good fishing day. Mr. and Mrs. Milne caught fifteen, 6lb., on Loch Shin; Messrs. Copeland and Cumming, twelve, 7lb., on same loch; Mr. Meakem, seven, 7lb., on Loch Beannoch; Major-General Stafford, seventeen, 10¾lb., on Loch Naur-fuar-leachd; Mr. Jowers, eight, 4lb., on Loch Cracail. On Friday some excellent baskets were made. Messrs. Copeland and Cumming fishing Loch Shin killed eighteen fine trout, weighing 19lb.; Mr. Jowers on same loch got nineteen, 9½lb.; and Mr. Milne, twenty-seven, 12lb.; Mr. Meakem, six, 4½lb., on Loch Beannoch: Mr. Muir, sixteen, 7lb., on Loch Naur-fuar-leachd. On Saturday, on Loch, Beannoch, Mr. Jowers got five, 4½lb. J. Y.

Lochasopal (Bunessan Hotel Water).—On the 15th inst., Dr. Somerville, of Glasgow, angling on Lochasopal, had four sea trout and fifteen brown trout; 16th, the same gentleman had three sea trout and ten brown trout; 17th, Rev. Mr. Tremeneheere had six sea trout, the heaviest one 2½lb., and fourteen brown trout; 18th, Rev. Mr. Tremeneheere had four sea trout, the heaviest one 3lb., and twelve brown trout. We have had very heavy showers of rain during the week, but on the whole the weather is very suitable for angling.—J. C.

Loch Laro (Sutherland). —On Monday, 20th, Mr. Walter Scott-Brock, Achindinch House, Invershin, and Mr. A. Duncan, Brighton, landed nine fine trout, which averaged ½lb.—McB.

Loch Leven (Kinross).—With a heavy electric atmosphere, clear and low water, and a lack of beneficial moisture, angling is at a great disadvantage here. Evening fishing, however, has been prosecuted with fair success in the deep water, the average basket for about three hours' sport after five p.m. being 5lb. Two gentlemen from Edinburgh had the best evening sport on Saturday, when they captured thirteen trout, 12lb. 8oz. The most successful party out during the day was Messrs. Ferrier and Donaldson, Edinburgh, eighteen trout, 18½lb. The Stirling Club, on Tuesday, with six rods, reported a total capture of nineteen trout, 15lb. 11oz. Perch fishing has been prosecuted with great success here during the week. Three boats landed, with the rod, nearly four hundred in the course of about eight hours.—ROBERT B. LAING.

Loch Lochy (Invergloy Hotel).—Mr. W. F. Webb, fishing on Friday, Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday made the following baskets of trout—4½lb., 4lb., 5lb., and 2lb., and caught one sea trout of 3¼lb., another of 2lb., and one *Salmo ferox*, weighing 6lb.—J. R. EGGER, manager.

Loch Migdale (Bonarbridge, N.B.).—Some nice baskets have been made by various anglers. On Monday this week, Mr. MacPherson, Bridge Hotel, landed several beautiful trout, which weighed ½lb. each on the average.—McB.

Lochy-Spean.—Some remarkably fine large fish, fresh run, and in the perfect pink of condition, have been caught in this river this summer season. July we count our best grilse angling month, but, strange to say, though so large and fine-fed as almost to be an exception, these fish, so far, have proved to be scarcer than usual.—CAPTAIN WAUGH.

Naver (Strathnaver, N.B.).—Salmon and grilse angling appears to be improving. On Saturday week, Mr. Darwin, Skelpick Lodge, caught six fish instead of four, as stated by mistake in last report. Mr. Lundie Tongue, on the Borgie, had two fish on the 11th and two on the 13th. Last week, Mr. Darwin landed five on Monday, two on Tuesday, two on Wednesday, seven on Friday, and two on Saturday; Sir J. Edwards-Moss, Borgie House, caught several fish both on Naver and Borgie, since last reported. River at present well stocked with fish.—McB.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.). — As full details for the whole week would occupy too much space the following abbreviated record may suffice. Mr. and Mrs. Sample, Morpeth, fished Loch Shin on Tuesday and landed one dozen trout, weighing 5lb., besides a *Salmo ferox* of 7½lb.; and on Wednesday on same loch, seventeen trout, aggregating 8lb. Mr. Hills and Mr. Murrey fishing together on Merkland on Tuesday, twenty-six trout, 11lb.; and on Loch Griam, on Wednesday, forty trout, 11lb.; Mr. Henderson fished Loch Shin, on Tuesday (a few hours only), twenty trout, 7½lb.; and on Wednesday, seventeen trout, averaging ½ib. each. Mr. Criechton, Edinburgh, fished Loch Griam on Tuesday, nine trout, 5lb.; and Fiag beat on Wednesday, twenty-one trout, 7½lb. Captain Murchison, London, fished Fiag beat on Monday, fifty-eight trout, 21lb.; on Tuesday, Loch Gorm, sixty trout, 20lb.; and on Wednesday, same loch, sixty-four trout, 20lb.: a total for three consecutive days of one hundred and eighty-two trout, 61lb. On Saturday, which was very unfavourable for angling, Captain Murchison, on Loch Shin, twenty-eight trout, 12lb.; Mr. Liddell, same loch, three dozen, 9lb.: Mr. Sturrock, on Loch Merkland, one dozen, 5½lb.; and Messrs. Hills and Murray, on Fiag, half-dozen trout averaging ½lb. each. Captain Burton and Rev. Mr. Porter were also out for a day last week, and landed twenty trout, 12lb.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.)—On Wednesday, last week, Dr. Irvine, Preston, and Rev. Cave Brown-Cave, Preston, were out on Loch Inchard, and landed a number of cod and lythe; Mr. and Mrs. Young, London, on Loch Tigh-Seilg, two dozen trout, 8lb.; and Mr. Maitland, Dover, off Cape Wrath, a number of cod. On Thursday, Captain Livett, Oxford, on Loch Mathair-a-Gharbhuilt, one dozen trout, 5lb.; Rev. Mr. McConnell, Dorset, on Loch Tigh-Seilg, thirty-one trout, 9lb.; and Mr. Livetti Scrivener, Oxford, on Loch Garbet-beag, one salmon of 5lb. On Friday, Mr. Livett fished Loch Mathair-a-Gharbhuilt, and landed fifty trout, 21lb. On Saturday, Rev. Mr. McConnell, on Loch Blarloch-Beag, one dozen trout, 5lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Young, London, on Loch Inchard, nine sea trout, aggregating 12lb. and 19lb. lythe; and Mr. Maitland, Dover, on Loch Garbet, one sea trout of 2½lb., and a salmon of 8lb.—McB.

Shin (Sutherland, Arms Hotel, Inveran, N.B.).—Since last reported the sport obtained by Lord Braybrook and party on the lower beats has been as follows: On Wednesday, the 8th, his lordship landed a grilse of 7lb.; and on Thursday three grilse, weighing 6½lb., 7lb., and 8lb. On Friday, Lord Braybrook was again successful, having caught two grilse, 7½lb. and 6lb.; and on Saturday, four, weighing, respectively, 4lb., 5lb., 3½lb., and 6lb. On Monday last week, the same angler caught two nice fish of 6lb. and 7lb. Tuesday was blank; but on Wednesday Captain Greenwood landed a fine salmon of 21lb., on Meadow Pool. On Thursday, Lord Braybrook caught an 8lb. grilse on Big Fall, one of 5lb. on Fir Dam, and a 13lb. salmon on Cromarty. On Saturday Captain Greenwood had a grilse weighing 6½lb. on the upper waters, and Lord Braybrook one of 5½lb., on Cromarty Pool. On Monday this week Lord Braybrook grassed two salmon, a thirteen-pounder on Cromarty Pool, and one of 10lb. on Clarag. A 19lb. salmon was caught on Meadow Pool by Captain Greenwood.—McB.

Sutherlandshire (Forsinard Hotel).—We are having excellent sport and good fishing at Forsinard Hotel this season, both trout and salmon, particularly since July set in; it was not so good in June owing to cold easterly winds. We now get, occasionally, baskets from 25lb. to 30lb., of from 71 to 80 or 90 trout, for one rod. Salmon fishing is very good indeed, owing to frequent spates we are having lately.—DONALD GUNN.

Tongue Hotel.—July 13, Dr. Phillipps, on Kyle, one salmon, weighing 7½lb., and eleven sea trout weighing 15½lb.; Mr. Bourne, on Loch Slam, 7lb. trout; Mr. Ratcliffe, on Loch Craggie, 7lb. trout. On the 11th, Mr. Bourne, on Kyle, two sea trout, weighing 2¼lb: Mr. Bolton, on Kenloch river, twelve salmon, weighing 4½lb.; Mr. Ratcliffe, on Loch Loyal, 12lb. trout. On the 15th, Mr. Bolton, on Kyle, six sea trout, weighing 16lb.; Dr. Phillipps, on Loch Loyal, 10lb. trout; Mr. Rigden on Loch Loyal, 4lb. trout; Mr. Ratcliffe, on Loch Loyal, one salmon, weighing 5lb. On the 16th. Mr. Rigden on Loch Loyal, ten trout, weighing 7lb.; Mr. Bourne, on Kyle, eight sea trout, weighing 12lb., and one bass, weighing 4lb.; Dr. Phillipps, on Loch Loyal, 9lb. trout. On the 17th; Mr. Bourne, on Loch Loyal, 10lb. trout; Dr. Phillipps, on Loch Loyal, 3lb. trout; Mr. Rigden, on Loch Slam, one salmon, weighing 8½lb. On the 18th, Mr. Bourne, on Kyle, two sea trout, weighing 3lb.; Mr. Rigden, on Loch Loyal, 8½lb. trout; Dr. Phillipps, on Loch Loyal, 4½lb. trout.—A. CAMPBELL.

Tweed.—Angling of all kinds is nearly at a standstill, very few Waltonians caring to go out during the day, while the few who try their luck during the evening or early morning have but poor sport. Salmon angling is *nil*, and must continue so until we have a rattling good flood of some five or six feet, so as to allow of an upward run of fish from the sea coast and the lower reaches. In some of the waters further down the river, and nearer to the sea coast, a considerable number of grilse and sea trout have been observed, but there are few captures, the fish evidently awaiting a rise in the rivers to enable them to ascend to the higher stretches. In a few of the deeper pools in the vicinity of Kelso a good few fish have been seen disporting themselves lately; this sign is said by wiseacres to betoken a rise in the rivers, and has certainly proved to be correct, for, as I am writing this (Thursday, noon) the rivers have both suddenly come down, and the Tweed ometer at Kelso Bridge registered a flood of two feet at one o'clock. Few captures have been made of grilse since last week, but when once this flood subsides there are sure to be a few days good fishing, both for trout and fish of the salmon kind. The weather, however, has again turned out very fine, with a nice soft wind from the east; while the barometer is fairly high and steady.—MAXWHEEL.

Ugie (Aberdeenshire).—This once famous sea trout and autumn run salmon stream has been the cause of much discussion in the Peterhead Town Council on account of two of the officials having recently been summoned and fined for allowing the liquid manure being washed out of the depot into the river, under the Rivers Pollution Act. The majority have decided to apply to the higher court for a bill of suspension as the facts of the case did not warrant a conviction. A small but influential majority were for allowing judgment to stand, as against the officials and make them attend better to their business in future. "All's well that ends well," come that when it may, but meantime the Ugie will be all the better of the row.—E. N.

Whitadder (Ellemford).—On the 14th inst. several rods left the cottage but the sport was very poor; wind, north-west. On the 15th, the two best baskets by far were got by Dr. C. Martin and Mr. Sandy Martin, they fishing the upper reaches of the river; Mr. Volck, of London, has been very successful indeed in the evenings, with the fishing, he had one over 2lb., several about 1½lb. The weather is very thundery and heavy showers, but no rain to make any perceptible difference in the water. 21st, Dr. C. Martin had 5½lb.; Mr. Byers, of Edinburgh, 4lb. of pretty good ones.—R. J. FENTON.

Ythan (Udny Arms, Newburgh, Aberdeenshire).—Splendid sea trout fishing is presently being enjoyed on the tidal reaches. The fish are plentiful and of an exceptionally heavy size. Among those making successes recently may be mentioned Mr. and Mrs. Davidson, Wellwood, Aberdeen; Mr. G. and A. Rennie, London; Mr. and Mrs. Piercy Smith, Sussex; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Smith, Kent; Mr. and Mrs. Leslie, Aberdeen; Colonel Hunter, Tillery; Mr. Snowie and Mr. and Mrs. Briggs, of St. Andrews.—G. M.

Irish Reports.

Blackadder.—Ballynahinch fishery, since my last report the following have been the takes: General Beresford, nineteen salmon and twenty-five sea trout; General Cooke, five salmon and some trout; Messrs. Pike and Antoni, four salmon and sixty trout; Mr. Hadden, three salmon and thirty-eight trout; Mr. Woollston, one salmon and forty-five trout; Mr. Moore, in two days, fifty trout; Mr. Houlgrave, one salmon and thirty-six trout; Mr. Winter, two salmon and forty sea trout; Mr. Debenham, one salmon and some trout. Total, thirty salmon and three hundred and forty-eight trout. Water still very low, but a break for wet this last week.—TOOMBEOLA.

Erne and Lough Melvin.—All through the past week the weather was very hot and bright, and not a breath of wind, and hopes of catching salmon was almost out of the question. However, the four salmon anglers who were on the river kept at it with a keenness worthy of a better reward, for but few salmon were taken. This week is looking much better, and capital sport was had on the 20th. Trout fishing on Melvin was also poor, and but few decent baskets were taken.—M. ROGAN AND SONS.

Lough Currane (Waterville, Co. Kerry).—While trout fishing is now in full swing, and brown and lake trout are rising freely as many as twenty white trout were had in a day, and the average basket has been about nine white and six brown trout. The general run of white trout are now very small; in fact, only herring size. The big fellows which came up earlier are very sulky.—THOS. J. DENNEHY.

Lough Neagh (Ulster).—A recent good run of salmon has stopped short again and the fish are getting scarce, only a few brace being netted along the Derry and Tyrone shores. Lake trout are rising better. A Glasgow professional, Mr. James Eccles, the other evening made a bag of forty-two trout off Blackards Rocks, the day being very rough and therefore favourable. Heavy pike are plentiful and some running as high as 40lb. have been taken since my last report. Bream are getting scarce and not taking so well; but perch are in shoals of enormous numbers. Good takes of trout are made by netting.

Moy and Lakes (Ballina).—Fairly good sport has been obtained on the river here last week and the beginning of this. Mr. J. Boyd killed twelve fish in three days, his top score being fix fish one day, weighing 37lb.; Dr. Nodes had six fish for the week, weighing 42lb.; Mr. Clarke, seven fish; others had from three to five fish each; the Rev. Adams, three fish one day. Plenty of sea trout and grilse ascending the river with every tide. Another good fresh would improve angling. Fishing free to tourists and strangers.—FRANK HEARNS.

Shannon and Lough Derg.—Rain is falling in abundance and water rising. In addition to the splendid stock of salmon and grilse already in the river, hundreds of others are certain to run up from Limerick and Castle Connell this week and next, so that sport here at Killaloe during next month (August) stands a good chance of being better than in June or July. As for trout fishing, August is always a good month for the sea and brown trout, and the preserves positively swarm with the latter. I attribute this pleasing state of things to the fact of the wings of the eel weirs having been considerably shortened a year or two ago. On July 12, Mr. W. Gorst, one grilse, 5lb. 13th, Major Traherne, one grilse, 6lb. 14th, Mr. W. Gorst, two grilse, 6¾lb., 6½lb. 15th, Dr. R. Gorst, one salmon, 11½lb. 17th, Dr. W. Williams, one grilse, 5lb.; P. Ryan and W. Fogarty, two grilse, 9½lb., 9lb.; Dr. R. Gorst, one salmon, 7lb., and three grilse, 7lb. each; F. Johnson, one grilse, 3¾lb. 18th, one, 2¾lb.; Dr. W. Williams, two grilse, 7lb., 6lb.; P. Ryan and W. Fogarty, one grilse, 8lb. 19th, one, 9lb. 20th, one, 8lb. 21st, one, 6½lb.; W. Barry and Bill Malone, fishing for Dr. Gorst and party (who have returned to Liverpool), two grilse, 7lb., 6lb., and lost a salmon and a grilse. Dr. Gorst and friends have killed several baskets of grand trout during the week. On the whole these gentlemen have enjoyed very good sport during their three weeks' stay. Fishing prospects good. July 22, Wm. Barry and Bill Malone, fishing for Dr. Gorst, one grilse, 5¾lb.; P. Ryan, and W. Fogarty, one salmon, 11lb.—S. J. HURLEY.

Suir and its Tributaries (Clonmel).—The Inspectors of Irish Fisheries, are holding a series of inquiries in the different divisions of the Waterford District on the following subjects:—(1) To inquire into the alleged diminution in the numbers of salmon that have been taken since 1885, in the fresh water portions of the rivers Nore and Barrow, and to make such bye-laws as may be considered necessary for the further limitation in powers of netting in these rivers, or, to extend the close season for netting therein. (2) To inquire into the present mode of using the draft or Seine net in the river Nore, below Innistioge Weir, and to impose such restrictions as to its length and mode of use as may be considered necessary. (3) To prohibit the use of any engines to take fish in the Navigation Basin at Carrickbeg, on the river Suir. (4) To prohibit the use of draft or Seine nets, on the river Suir above Tinhalla, and to regulate the length and mode of using nets on river Suir below Tinhalla. (5) To prohibit the use of gaffs as auxiliary to angling with rod and line, and also the use of worms or natural bait during February and March. (6) To alter the open season for taking salmon and trout in the whole district, so that fishing shall not commence before the 1st March in any year, instead of as at present on the 1st February. Meetings have already been held at Carlow, on the 18th inst., at Bagnalstown on the 20th, at New Ross, on the 22nd; and Kilkenny, on the 24th; and will be held to-day at Thomastown; Innistioge, 27th; Clonmel, 29th; Carrick-on-Suir, 31st; and at Waterford on the 3rd August, and as these enquiries will be most exhaustive, it is hoped that the result will be a marked improvement in our fisheries.—RICHD. BRADFORD, Clonmel.

NOTES FROM IRELAND.

[FROM OUR DUBLIN CORRESPONDENT.]

ALL over this country, at the present time, anglers are having as busy a time of it as they ever had since the season opened, and reports say a perfect raid has been made on most of the notable fisheries this week. I am not at all surprised that such is the case, for I do not recollect having seen for many years such an influx of tourists as I have met everywhere through Ireland this past fortnight. The Scotch are in the majority, but there are hundreds of English and Americans as well. It is pleasing to be able to say the weather is behaving extremely decent, and in the eastern districts has been especially favourable to the angler. Trout fishing continues excellent in Dublin, Wicklow, and Kildare districts, whilst on Westmeath Lakes sport has improved, particularly on Loughs Owel and Ennell, where dapping has been indulged in with much success. Salmon and peal fishing at Castleconnell is as good as is on record, so far, and although bright, warm weather has latterly prevailed, the score is good, peal captured running up to 9lb. The Newgarden, Summerhill, and Hermitage waters are greatly patronised for salmon and peal, whilst trout fishing at Castleconnell continues fair.

DURING the last fortnight Mr. C. E. Hill, on the New Garden Fishery at Castleconnell, killed seventy-three peal to his own rod. It is said the run of these fish on the Shannon and its tributaries has been the best for years.

SEA angling everywhere around the coast never was better than at present, and it is a positive treat to see numbers of boats that skirt the land along by Howth, Dublin, Kingstown, Bray, &c. I learn one sea angler at Waterville (Co. Kerry), who used the rubber eel, caught twenty-five pollack, 7lb. each on an average. Gurnet are giving fine sport everywhere, too.

IRRESISTIBLE attractions are being just now held out to visit the renowned Loughs Corrib and Mask, where, according to report, salmon fishing is at its best. Mr. Joyce, the proprietor of Clonbur Hotel, has always made the comforts of anglers his special study, and, being a practical angler, is as good an authority as any in the west; therefore I would recommend those going to the district to drop a line to Mr. Joyce.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

ALTHOUGH thunderstorms have passed over Yorkshire, and rains have fallen almost daily, the rivers in the county of broad acres have, speaking generally, only slightly experienced the sadly-in-need-of freshes. Sport during the past week, however, has been, for the most part, good. On the Cota, the Yore, the Wharfe, the Nidd, and the Derwent I have heard of a few nice panniers being taken. The Tees at Middlesborough has also been improved, and anglers have done well. The Ouse at York has attracted numerous fishermen, especially worm anglers. A few gentlemen have tried the fly but although fish have been fairly well on the feed, they have not been well rewarded for their trouble. The worm anglers have certainly done the best, but nothing out of the ordinary course has been taken. Few anglers have tried the Foss. The York branch of the Northern Anglers' Association did at one time entertain some hopes of remedying its unhappy state, but, so long as the ownership of the river is disputed, any steps in that direction would be impracticable. Several riparian owners, too, according to the accounts given by some anglers, show some little indisposition in allowing fishermen on their lands, but nothing in the way of a stoppage has presented itself.

The Stonegate Angling Association, formed principally of the employées of Messrs. Waddington and Son, held its annual contest at Cottingwith, on Saturday, the requisite permission being kindly accorded by Mr. J. J. Dunnington-Jefferson, J.P., a well-known and highly-appreciated friend of anglers. A strong wind interfered much with sport, and unhappily little was caught. The York Angling Association propose to hold their yearly match on Bank Holiday, when, should the conditions be favourable, the gathering will doubtless be of no little interest.

Of the numerous competitions which have this summer taken place, none has attracted more competitors than that of the annual match in connection with the Thirsk and Sowerby Angling Society, which took place in the river Swale, in the vicinity of the village of Catton, on Saturday last, permission being kindly accorded by Mr. Rob. Nearly sixty anglers journeyed to the stream, the prizes—which were of a substantial character—doubtless being one of the chief causes of so large a numerical assemblage. Although the water was somewhat low, it was not in a bad state for bottom fishing, the majority of the fish being taken with the worm. At the close of the match the successful competitor was Mr. G. Hudson, Thirsk, who scaled 4lb. 3½oz. His pannier consisted principally of roach and perch, the latter fish being seemingly well on feed. There were many minor prizes, and altogether a pleasant and most enjoyable day was spent.

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS, 1891.

The Great Eastern Railway Company announce cheap excursions. Bookings on Friday, July 31, to Ely, Hunstanton, Dereham, Colchester, Ipswich, &c., and on Saturday, August 1, to Cambridge, Lynn, Norwich, Yarmouth, Doncaster, Hull, York, Newcastle, Leeds, Manchester, &c. A special booking office will be opened at the Liverpool-street Station from July 28 to August 1, for the issue of ordinary tickets, and of tourist, fortnightly, and Friday or Saturday to Tuesday cheap tickets to the sea-side and the Broads district, for use on forward dates. Tickets can also be obtained at the company's West End offices, 61, Regent-street, 215, Edgware-road, and at their other City and West End offices. Additional relieving trains will be run on Friday and Saturday to Southend-on-Sea, Colchester, Ipswich, Norwich, Clacton, Walton, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Cambridge, Lynn, &c., and on Saturday for the accommodation of persons detained at business until late in the evening on that day. A special midnight train will leave Liverpool-street at 12.15 for Norwich, Yarmouth, and Lowestoft, via Ipswich, calling at the principal intermediate stations. On Bank Holiday excursion trains will leave Liverpool-street via the new route for Southend-on-Sea, also for Clacton, Walton, Harwich, Yarmouth, Cambridge, and Ely; and St. Pancras, for Yarmouth, Cambridge, and Ely. Excursion tickets will be issued by all trains to Epping Forest, Broxbourne, and Rye House. A special service of trains will run from Liverpool-street every ten minutes to Chingford, and every half-hour to Loughton, and at frequent intervals to Rye House; also from Fenchurch-street every half-hour to Chingford and Loughton. For the accommodation of business people wishing to return to London early on Tuesday morning a special fast train will run from Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Clacton, &c., due at Liverpool-street at 9.1 a.m.

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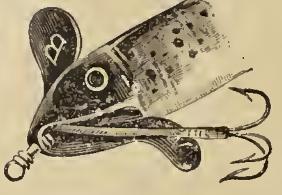

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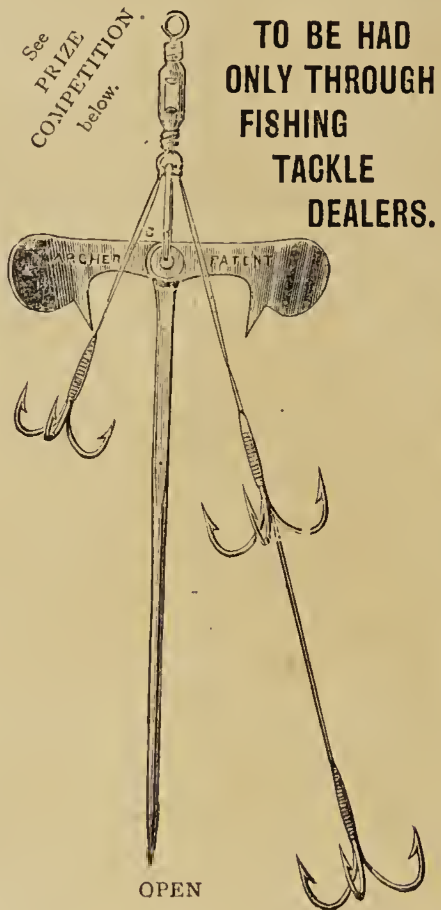

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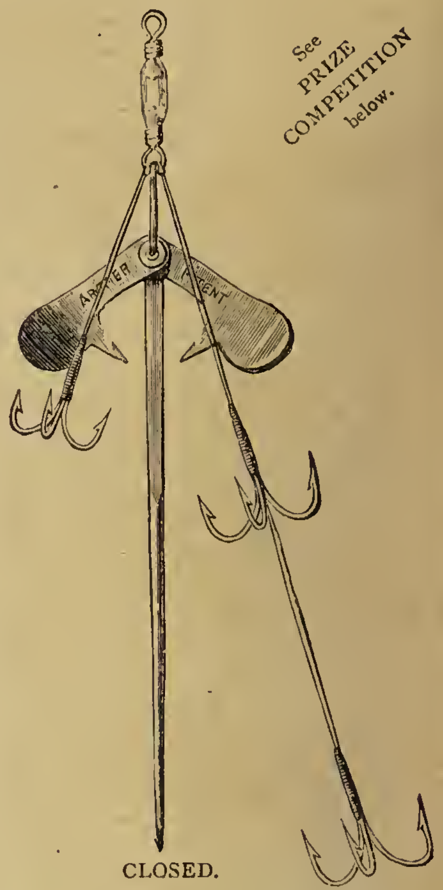

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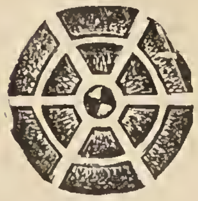

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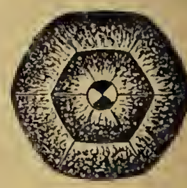

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 1ST, 1891.

GRILSE, SEA TROUT, AND BROWN TROUT.

By RENAE.

ADVICE TO HOLIDAYING ANGLERS.

(Continued from page 36.)

GRILSE.—What I have already said on this subject regarding the equipment, I now seek to follow up with some hints concerning the practice. To go right to these without preliminary, I shall assume that the angler has arrived on the spot with all the gear and gibbles wherewith he has deemed it necessary to furnish himself. His holiday is to be spent in fishing for grilse on a Highland river of about the most common size and character. To conduce to his comfort and be a guide and helper to him in getting sport, he has secured the services of a "ferry goot" man—the best available, at all events. No time is lost in getting to the river. It is found to be in ply—delightful! Fish, too, are plentiful, for is it not of all times of the year the time for them—the very height of the season? Great hopes—grand sport certain! Before deciding where he was to go, and ere yet he left his home, he had, by carefully sifting the whole of the information received and comparing the accounts of this place with those of that and the other place, perfectly satisfied himself that if all was gospel and nothing important to know had been concealed from him, his holiday would be spent at this place, on this river, fishing at the choicest time of all, and he now finds he has not been misled. So far so good, then. But first he gets his gillie to select the likeliest fly. This is quickly done, for does not Kenneth know right well from long experience that a certain size of any of the few locally acknowledged good patterns will, when the water as *now* is perfect and the fish are taking freely, prove a thorough nailer. Kenneth, however, finds fault with the hooks: he likes the double ones, but those his "shentleman" has are not the thing; either they are set too far apart or too close to each other. The disadvantages arising from whichever of these faults it may be he points out, and it is forthwith resolved to send for some hooks which are right set—say at an angle of 35 deg. Meanwhile, however, the fishing must go on. It does so, and sport proves good. Lots of fish rise, and that too boldly. With the single hooks, which necessarily require to be a good size owing to the round-running state of the water, they are found to be well held, few, indeed, getting off if fairly hooked at the outset. Nearly all the casts that are in size fish well, and the angler is satisfied. He has lost nothing by using the single hooks, and now he is satisfied that when a good size is required the single hook is as sure a holder as the double one. He has seen also that none of the patterns he has used entirely failed to get him sport. His conviction, therefore, is, that when fresh-run, the fish, provided the water is in right fettle, take any acknowledged good local pattern with a readiness which proves that nice distinctions are merely finical preferences on the part of the angler, fancied, it is true, but not actually found to enhance the character of the sport to any great extent.

I shall now assume that, gradually having run out, the water has at length become very wee—not exactly so terribly small as to be everywhere unfishable, but wholly of no use trying, save here and there. While it kept up, and fish—as they had the chance, or the tide suited—were running up to occupy the catches, it was not required of the angler to fish very fine, dwell long *over* the casts, or trouble himself much about flies. Without doing so he could easily run up a gratifying score. The fish rose freely and boldly; if they meant to come they came at once. Now, however, it is entirely different. Either they are dour and rise badly, or shy and rise distrustfully. Nearly all have become potted; some are getting stale, and most are more or less brown, a colour which they quickly take on in the warm water of summer, and all the more quickly the warmer the weather and the stronger the sun. There is now no longer a fragrant aroma from Nature's garden, or a freshness of earth, air, and water. The earth is parched and thirsty, the air hot and sultry, and the water low run down, heated, and beginning to get filthy. In consequence, no longer, also, are the large hooks—comparatively—which but a few days before took so well, of any use, except late in the evening. They are seen—only too well seen—and the fish fight shy of them. The little skill on the angler's part, which before was required, has now to give place to great skill. He must tax his imagination, the gillie his memory; and the latter, if an observant man, who has practised "noting," should be able to give some most useful wrinkles, tell how, where, and with what, under precisely similar conditions—and at the same time of the year, too—he has before seen fish made to succumb. He will most likely, for one thing, advise his "shentleman" to wade. This previously, I shall assume, had proved unnecessary, indeed not practicable, except at a few places, where, without going in, it had been found that the fishing could be quite as well done. Then the fish lay near the bank, or where not near the bank, at least in water which it was found quite easy to reach and fish perfectly well by throwing a good tearer of a line. Now they are in stream necks, mid-stream runs, and far out catches in deep slow water covering, or only partially covering large stones, which cause eddies and boils. These, then, for the time being, are their holds, and it is out of these holds that they have to be fetched.

The angler is certain to find that for every catch one and the same size of fly is not always the best. Most likely his gillie will inform him of this fact. It is accounted for by depth, velocity, roughness, or placidity of water. Generally speaking, where depth, velocity, and roughness are all combined, the best killing size of fly will be found to be the largest size really good at the time. Even in particularly deep water, which possesses but little current, such a size is not likely to be required; indeed, in nine cases out of ten will not prove the best. As a rule even-running, fair-paced, uncongested, well-out streams, where the water is tolerably shallow, require the smallest flies of all. Along with them, however, owing to their frequency in some rivers, may be named those little odd corners, rush heads, and side casts, which do not stand thrashing, and where if the fish mean to come they come at once. Of such anglers are wont to say, "just a passing throw over it, as we are on our way down, *or up*, to the next cast." The difference between the sizes of the largest and the smallest flies absolutely required is not usually—for summer fishing at least—very great. For example, should nothing larger than No. 5 be required for the strongest, quickest, roughest water, nothing smaller than No. 8 is likely to be needed under almost any circumstances for any of the other casts whatsoever.

On the assumption that the angler is wholly unprovided with flies, I now come to give him what I personally, from experience, conceive to be the best advice he can get as to patterns and sizes for most Highland rivers. The general favourites, Jock Scott and the Silver Doctor, I put to the front, as it is seldom they do not come in useful. The former, when conditions fit, will kill well on almost any river, and the latter is the most widely known and popular bright weather fly. This is so; but, speaking for myself, I should hesitate to say that for many rivers the Jock Scott is the very best fly when the weather is particularly dull, or the Silver Doctor the very best one when the weather is particularly bright. Jock Scott is a rattler in round-running water, and especially so when the day, like the body of the fly, is "mixed"—dark and light. The Silver Doctor is also a rattler of a round-water fly, answering, however, best when the day is bright. Until the water gets very low I am strongly of the conviction that for fishing on mixed days the Jock Scott will, itself alone, be found to be *patterns* enough. In general, it will in a day secure for the angler as many fish as will any number of patterns; as a rule more, because it is seldom an unsuitable fly, while of a lot some are almost certain to be unsuitable, and so in fishing with them time is wasted, as also in often changing. Since I uphold the Jock Scott for a "mixed" day, it is but natural to expect that I should uphold a bright fly for a bright day, and a dull fly for a dull day; and so I do. I am entirely averse to small flies, either for bright or dull weather, having mixed bodies; that is two or more colours. Combinations in small sizes lessen effectiveness, and, moreover, preclude the possibility of thorough adaptability to all circumstances and conditions likely to be met with being compassed by a few patterns. Oh, the indecision, the bewilderment, the humbug of unsuitable selection dead certain to be experienced when the angler has a plethora of mixed bodied flies—a collection, forsooth, that would do no discredit to a peripatetic fishing tackle maker like myself!

The bodies which my own experience has led me to like best, and which I recommend are: For bright weather—light blue, black, herl, silver, golden and green. For dull weather—black, claret, brown and dark orange. The bodies for bright weather should have more, or else much broader tinsel than those for dull weather. This, of course, will be understood to mean as regards size for size. With a couple of Jock Scotts and the same number of another good pattern—say Childers—on No. 3 hooks the angler is equipped with patterns and sizes than which nothing better could be got or larger be required for grilse fishing in summer, on almost any river in the Highlands of Scotland, when the water is in its highest fishable state. Then for all other sizes of water less high, no matter what the size, he will find himself appointed as well as he possibly could be, and not likely to lose anything by losing a fly provided he has six other patterns (with duplicate), in the three sizes, No. 4, 6, and 8,* (according to Messrs. Wm. Bartlett and Sons scale of hooks). Such a stock, which would be eight patterns and forty flies, should not come to much money—might I believe be obtained from the very best fly dresser's for 35s., if not less. The patterns, which I shall name, and leave the angler to make his own *free choice* selection from are: Bright weather—Sun Fly, Dunkeld, Golden Wasp, Green Peacock, Silver Blue, Golden Blue, Blue Doctor, Fail-me-Never, Black and Silver, Green Mantle, Green and Teal, Kelly, and Green Fly: Dull weather—Black Doctor, Claret and Mallard, Brown and Mallard, Dark Bumble, Watson's Fancy, Brown Bumble, Claret Jock, Badger, Cinnamon, and Dark Orange with mallard wing (known in some parts as "Norman").

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* But in general, when fish are taking particularly well, Nos. 5, 6 and 7 are the sizes which I should say will be found to oftenest come in.

(To be continued.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Anchor and Hope: We consider the carp ranks higher than any of the other fish you refer to.

Straker: Address the Secretary of the United Brothers Angling Society, Druid's Head, Broadway, Deptford.

R. Chapman: Of any bookseller, or at our publishers, price 2s. 6d.

J. W.: Yes, you will get good trout, pike, and perch fishing by staying at the Kenmure Arms, New Galloway, N B. The charges are very moderate. Tariff can be had of the proprietor.

Camp: We fear you will not do much in the daytime in August at either Newbury or Winchester, unless you get private fishing; but the fish often take well for an hour in the evening, when the various sedges and the red rail kill as well as anything. You should have also a supply of quills and spinners for dry fly fishing.

L. W. Donne (G.P.O. Angling Society): The "critter" you sent to us is the hair-worm (*Gordius aquaticus*). It is not uncommon. In appearance it is like a bit of fine fishing line or horse-hair animated, and it is no doubt this animal which gave rise to the absurd idea that eels were bred from horse-hairs, as described in some old angling books. Walton mentions the idea, but with evident incredulity.

Correspondence

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. Pritt.

ANGLING FOR BARBEL.

Sir,—In reply to "Streatham," in your issue of July 25, I bait as described with a *small* maiden lob. If barbel are feeding well, the bait is almost always sucked *wholly* into the fish's mouth; but if they are "merely nozzling and turning over the bait as if in a spirit of inquiry, &c.," we should find a crafty old stager attempt to suck off the head or tail of the worm. I then slack my line a little, giving the fish time to absorb the bait, and by doing this, I seldom fail to hook the fish.

I don't quite understand what "Streatham" means by a medium-size *ragged* bait.—I am, &c.,

Alfred Jardine.

FISHING QUERY.

Dear Sir,—I should be greatly obliged if any of your readers could inform me, through the medium of your valued paper, as to what salmon and sewin fishing is to be obtained in the Clothi and the upper waters of the Towey (above Llandiloes), at a reasonable cost or fee during August and September? Also where it would be best to make headquarters.—Yours, &c.,

Greenheart.

FOWL IN THE FENS.

Sir,—Excessive game preservation has led to the trapping and shooting of large and small birds of prey, stoats, weasels, &c. Pheasants will be had, and foxes are held sacred. But should a peregrine falcon and her mate, the tiercel, be seen on a manor or a moor, the beautiful and rare birds like the lesser hawks, the buzzards, hen harriers, down to the comparatively harmless kestrel and the owls, alike fall victims, and add to the natural history collections nailed to a barn-door, or on the kennel-house. Fish-eating birds are also thinned down in the interests of fish-breeders, trout-fishers, and anglers generally. And gunners, inexperienced as a percentage always is, help to wing, or wound, or disturb the wildfowl in such splendid waters as the Norfolk Broads, and in the diminished Fen districts. Of course, wildfowl afford fine sport to the clever shot with a ten-bore double (cylinder) gun; and a not too big, but a good retriever. A muff should never go to disturb the birds, and perhaps wound a duck uselessly. You cannot have trout, and herons, and kingfishers, and dabchicks, too, in our shallower streams; and if a golden eagle, a white-tipped eagle, a peregrine falcon, or a bittern be anywhere seen, the impulse of destruction instantly seizes upon most countrymen to shoot or fire at the bird, as if watching the interesting visitor in its glorious freedom was not pleasure enough for the time being.

But is your Eastern Counties' correspondent, William Howlett, quite sure that the ruffs and reeves (male and female of the same species) are among the "now extinct" birds in the Fens? These birds used to be caught early in the summer in large numbers—in springes, it was said—while the pretty-plumaged ruffs were making very comical advances to the more sober-feathered hens. Ruffs and reeves formerly constituted one among several summer tit-bits in every London poulterer's shop, hung beside half-fledged young pigeons, leverets, Aylesbury ducklings, lapwing's eggs, and chicken.

At length somebody suggested how cruel it was to take these migrants in their breeding-time, and the thing got stopped, perhaps about twenty-five years ago or so.

Consequently, one would infer that the ruffs and reeves, so far from being "extinct" visitors to the Fens—land or bog birds—would breed in peace, and increase accordingly. Is William Howlett's experience confined to one locality? He might be interested in reading his old book; and possibly some other person more intimately acquainted with the "feather" *in the Fens*, might give the result of his later observations of Bird Life thereon.

About the time of our good Queen's accession to the Throne, men hawked wildfowl from town to town. The ducks were strung up in a rough staging in the cart, and "ropes" of oxbirds hung in festoons about the vehicle. The fowl, it was stated, were decoy-caught birds, and were sold at a cheapish rate.—Yours, &c.,

Pinion.

LENGTH OF ROACH.

Sir,—Will your correspondent, "Giant," kindly inform me the length of the longest roach he has ever known? The reason I ask is, my friend, Mr. F. Malcom, of 27, Ludgate-hill, caught at Amberley, on July 12 last, a roach that measured from eye to the *fork* of tail 13½in., and the entire length of which was just over 16in., and yet it only weighed 1lb. 7oz. He says: "I have a roach in a case, only 1in. shorter, that turned the scales at the Waltonian Club at 2lb.; and another, 18in. in length from eye to fork of tail, that weighed 1lb. 15¾oz., and obtained the specimen prize. The 2lb. roach was caught at seven a.m., and not weighed until ten p.m."

I should like to hear "Giant's" opinion of the above specimen, and if he has seen one of similar size and weight.—I am, &c.,

G. A. S.

FEATHERS FOR FLY-TYING WANTED.

Dear Sir,—Would you let us know of any place where we could get any feathers? There are a lot of advertisements in your valuable paper on fishing materials, but we are surprised to see so few advertisements on feathers for fly-making. An answer through your valuable paper will oblige.—Yours truly,

John Raisbeck.

Page Bank, Willington, Durham.

REALLY GOOD TROUT FISHING WANTED.

Dear Sir,—Can you kindly inform me, through the medium of your valuable paper, of some really good trout fishing stream not over fished, within say a twenty mile radius of Windermere? Also of quarters where one can put up at, well *in* the country; and I should feel extremely grateful for such information.—Yours, &c.,

X. Y. Z.

Re TROUT FISHING IN THE ARDENNES.

Dear Sir,—I should be much obliged if you could inform me through the *Fishing Gazette*, if there is any fly-fishing likely to be obtainable in the Ardennes district during August, either free or by payment, and if so, what would be the class of flies to take?

Any information will greatly oblige, yours faithfully,

Governor.

[Good trout fishing is to be had in the Ardennes, when water and weather are favourable. The landlord of the Hotel des Ardennes preserves a portion of the river near Deekirch for visitors, as also does the landlord of the Hotel de la Tête d'Or, at Dinant, and others.—Ed.]

LIGHT WADERS.

Dear Sir,—In reply to H. S. Hall, he had best make up his mind to use wading stockings, and light canvas brogues (of course wearing a sock between the two), as these will protect both his feet and knees from wet. High leather boots, or boots with waterproof uppers, reaching over the knee are both great mistakes, as they require two or three days to dry after being saturated with perspiration from the feet, and nothing is more uncomfortable than putting on and wearing a moist boot.

You may fill long boots with hot oats or bran, but it is not good enough, whereas the wading stockings, if turned inside out when taken off, are as dry as a bone next morning, and are quite as light as leather boots.

To protect the knees, take a piece of stout brown canvas, and coat well with india-rubber solution, likewise coat the knees of the wading stockings, allow both to harden, then with rubber solution fix them. The pieces of canvas should be of the size of a soup plate.—Yours faithfully,

Maidenhead. Fraser Sandeman.

AN EEL TAKES THE FLY.

Dear Sir,—Referring to a letter in *F. G.* of June 6, of James Tayler, on "The Life of an Artificial Fly," in which he mentions having caught an eel with a Red Palmer, it may be interesting to your readers to know that while fishing for trout the other evening with an artificial White Moth, I got a rise at once, and was very much astonished to find that I had landed a fine eel, hooked as fairly in the mouth as ever fish was. I write this, as I think it is a rather uncommon occurrence. I may say that the fly was floating, and the fish rose deliberately at it.—Yours truly,

Peeler.

Moynalty, Kells, Ireland.

A HUNGRY THIRTEEN-POUNDER.

Dear Sir,—Fishing to-day in private water, spinning from a punt for jack, I hooked a 3½lb. fish, which was immediately seized by a thirteen-pounder, and so determined was the hold of the larger pike on his victim that I succeeded in landing the brace, although the larger fish hadn't a hook in him.—Yours truly, G. Wilson Wilson.

Buxton.

INIMITABLE MAY FLIES.

Sir,—Kindly allow us to inform those of your readers who, in using our "Inimitable May Flies," found some of the wings stick, that we have now quite overcome the objection, and think that the improvement we have now made in them will make the recurrence of the sticking an impossibility.—Yours truly,

S. Allcock and Co.

A BIG ROACH?

Dear Sir,—On reading my *F. G.* of Saturday last—a paper I metaphorically devour once a week—I notice in your report of the Royal Oak Angling Society, the mention of a roach 3lb. 4¾oz. Is this correct? If so, it is the heaviest I have ever heard of. In reference to "Streatham's" remarks *re* "Angling for Barbel," I have adopted, a (to me) new plan in trout fishing with worm, which has answered admirably; and, I imagine, *may* do for barbel fishing—viz., I thread the worm with a fine baiting needle from head to tail, bringing the head of worm round the bend of the hook.—Yours truly,

Edwin Rogers.

THE CHAMPION ROACH ANGLER.

Sir,—There is a confident ring about the challenge under the above heading in the *Fishing Gazette* of July 25, which seems to imply the possession by the cutlery town of something extraordinary in the way of roach fishermen.

After the memorable series of matches some twenty years ago between our London champion, Woodard, and Bailey, of Nottingham, the latter, excellent all-round fisherman though he was, admitted that for roach fishing pure and simple London stood first; therefore, if the honour now rests with Sheffield, it should be fairly demonstrated by a contest as suggested.

Let this extra keen Sheffield blade be pitted against either Woodard, Fortescue, or Bell, and a very interested circle of *Fishing Gazette* readers will then know if running tackle, however refined in character, is a more effective equipment for capturing roach from the bank than the light tackle generally employed down south.

I cannot help hoping that Woodard will voluntarily come out of his shell of modesty, or that his friends will draw him out from it as blackbirds do snails, and so induce him to do battle once again for the supremacy of the big village. A man is only just as old as he feels, and how our veteran of sixty-five bears his age may be judged from the fact that cold weather has no terrors for him when there is a chance of taking fish, and also that he was quite surprised when, a few seasons ago, he was laid up for the first time in his life through a wetting which would have spelt rheumatic fever and future indoor existence for many a younger man.—I am, &c.,

Clayr Kenwal.

Sir,—Should the proposed roach-fishing contest come off, I believe great interest would be felt by all anglers, and I feel certain the London anglers need not fear they would be disgraced. We have many good men to choose from—Geo. Watling (to say nothing of his clever brothers), and George Fortescue are both clever, quick, with wonderful nerve; even Woodard, old as he is for such a trying contest, would even now be difficult to beat.

In the hands of such men, and I could mention many others, it is impossible for the Lea style of roaching to suffer. I conclude by trusting a match will be made.—Yours truly,

An Old Roacher.

SEA FISHING AT TENBY.

Dear Sir,—In answer to Mr. Aylmore, there is very good mackerel and bass fishing here (Tenby). The former are just coming in, a few odd ones having been caught during the last ten days. There are any quantity of bass, but so far this season, they have taken very badly; but given some warm, settled weather, sport should be had. Conger eel are also plentiful.

Reasonable apartments are to be had; boats at two shillings an hour; but if taken for any length of time a little bargaining will reduce this. If Mr. Aylmore wants bass fishing, I should advise him to inquire for the brothers Howells, as they are out and out the best in that particular line.—Yours faithfully,

George H. Logan.

FISHING QUESTION.

Sir,—Can you or any of your readers suggest the manner in which the trout referred to below were killed?

The watcher employed by the Wensum Preservation Association, whose headquarters are at Fakenham, found, on July 18, about one to one and a-half miles below that place, nineteen trout, from 2¼lb. to ¼lb., lying dead in the deeper holes at the bends of the Wensum, besides two or three very small roach, lying at the bottom, not floating, recently killed, as they were not stiff, showing no external marks of injury. The two largest fish were sent the same day to the public analyser at Norwich, who reports that he "could not find any poison in the intestines or passages leading thereto. If *cocculus Indicus* had been used there would be great difficulty in finding traces of it." The only thing he could find "is lime on the gills. This might come from ordinary chalk, but it might also from caustic lime or chloride of lime put into the water. He could not take upon himself to say that such was the case."

The Wensum is an ordinary, slow, chalk and gravel stream, some 10yds. to 15yds. wide. In it the trout have been increased of late years artificially, but are far outnumbered by roach and dace. The water in the stream is very low, owing to the late dry autumn and winter—not more, I think, than half its average volume—so that when the mill at Fakenham is stopped there is little or no stream below, and the fish retire into the holes at the bends. The difficulty seems to me to be, Why were the trout only killed and no coarse fish, save the two or three small ones mentioned, though far more abundant than the trout? *Cocculus Indicus* is out of the question, as it would be difficult to administer it so as to affect trout only, if at all; and the same may be said of any form of lime or explosives, which would destroy all fish alike. No sewage or gas water is discharged into the stream only at Fakenham Bridge, one to one and a-half miles above where the fish were killed, and where it has been done for very many years.

I own that I am entirely at fault as to the cause of death, and shall be very glad, on behalf of our committee, if you or any of your readers can suggest any way in which it is done, with a view to future prevention.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

E. W. Dowell.

The Vicarage, Dunton, Fakenham, Norfolk.

AVERAGE DIMENSIONS OF SALMON AND GRILSE AT DIFFERENT WEIGHTS.

Dear Sir,—A gentleman connected with the Hull Blind Institution has written to me asking what size baskets the inmates should make for 6lb. or 8lb. grilse and 14lb. salmon. I at the moment cannot give him average dimensions, but have told him, as he is in a hurry, that I thought a 24in. long, 9in. deep, and 6in. broad would about do for grilse. Would you be able to give me fair average dimensions of salmon? I enclose a rough form, which I should be much obliged if you could fill up. As a subscriber to your excellent paper I have the less hesitation in writing to you.

I hope you will pardon me for troubling you, but I am anxious that the blind inmates may develop another branch of basket work.—Yours truly,

C. Hutton Coates.

Claxtou Hall, York.

[Mr. W. Murdoch has kindly sent us the following in reply.—Ed.]

Fair Average Dimensions of Salmon and Grilse at Different Weights.

Weight.	Length.	Depth.	Width.
5lb.	25¼ inches	7 inches	4 inches
6 ,,	25½ ,,	7 ,,	4 ,,
7 ,,	25¾ ,,	7 ,,	4 ,,
8 ,,	26½ ,,	7 ,,	4 ,,
9 ,,	28 ,,	7 ,,	4 ,,
10 ,,	30½ ,,	8 ,,	5 ,,
11 ,,	31½ ,,	8 ,,	5 ,,
12 ,,	33 ,,	8 ,,	5½ ,,
13 ,,	33½ ,,	8 ,,	5½ ,,
14 ,,	34 ,,	8 ,,	6 ,,
15 ,,	34½ ,,	8 ,,	6 ,,
16 ,,	35 ,,	8½ ,,	6½ ,,
17 ,,	35½ ,,	8½ ,,	7 ,,
18 ,,	36 ,,	9 ,,	7 ,,
19 ,,	36½ ,,	9 ,,	7 ,,
20 ,,	37 ,,	9 ,,	7 ,,

A GOOD FISHING PLACE IN NORFOLK.

Dear Sir,—I was out on the Broads with A. Nichols, fisherman, Stalham, on Monday week, and caught about a stone and a-half of fish, chiefly roach and perch. Yesterday, we caught over two stone, including bream from 1lb. to 3½lb., roach from half-a-pound to 2lb.; a tench, 2lb.; perch from 6oz. to 1lb.; an eel, 1lb., and several rudd, at 1½lb. Anglers desiring to fish the rods cannot do better than make Stalham their headquarters; they can either lodge with Nichols, who always has a large stock of tackle, and keeps two or three boats, or they will find very comfortable and cheap quarters at the Maid's Head, which I have made my headquarters for the last six or seven years. Host Morfey, though not an angler, makes his visitors thoroughly at home, and they are only five minutes' walk from the river.—Yours truly,

(Dr.) W. J. Simpson Ladell.

The Maid's Head, Stalham, Norfolk.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

Notes and Queries

Mr. F. C. Nash, 3, Parade, Canterbury, informs us that he has a vacancy for a rod on the fine stretch of the Stour preserved by his association. The best of the season is from now to the end, and the water is well stocked with fine trout. Mr. Nash will be happy to give further information.

Messrs. R. Anderson and Sons, of 67, Princes-street, Edinburgh, write: "Fishing in the North has been very bad for some time, but during the last ten days we have had a good lot of rain, and the prospects of the autumn salmon and sea trout fishing are very good indeed."

The Important Solway Sea Trout Case.—On Friday week, in Dumfries Sheriff Court, Sheriff Campion gave decision in the cases in which Robert Beattie, George Irving, and James Johnstone, fishermen, Annan, were charged with fishing for sea trout within the limits of the Solway by means of an anchored boat and a drift net with a weight attached, which, it was contended for the prosecution, constituted a fixed engine. His Lordship had delayed his decision for ten days, and, in announcing his finding, said these prosecutions were for a contravention of the Salmon Fisheries Act of 1861, amended by subsequent Acts. Originally the Act was an English one, but Section 33 of the Scottish Act declared that the provisions of the Act of 1861 should extend to the salmon fishings of the Solway and rivers flowing into the same in so far as they related to the use of fixed engines. Having reviewed the evidence, his Lordship found the accused guilty, but, in consideration of a plea raised by their solicitor that this mode of fishing had been practised in the Solway for a number of years, he fined Beattie and Johnstone 10s. and 31s. expenses each. The charge against Irving, who was a lad, merely in the employment of Beattie, was withdrawn. His Lordship added that if any other case of the kind came before him it simply meant that the penalty would be considerably larger.

Knee Pads for Anglers.—Some one was asking recently who makes these. Mr. Basil Field, the well-known salmon and trout angler, writes that he can recommend those which Mr. F. Malcom, of Messrs. Woolgar and Co., Ludgate-hill, have made for him for years. The pad should be supported by a strap attached to the wader; those which strap on above and below the knee are very uncomfortable if tight, and always slipping if loose.

Mr. J. Richardson, of 151, High-street, Notting Hill, London, W., asks if we will mention that he has removed from the above address to Darenth House, Eynsford, Kent (three minutes from Eynsford Station, L.C.D.R.).

Last week the Deeside Committee of the County Council received the last and final notice from the town's clerk of the "Silver City of the Sea," that legal proceedings would be taken forthwith if steps were not at once taken to remove the grievances complained of as to part of the sewage of several villages finding its way to the Dee, and the council sensibly took the bull by the horns, and appointed their County Sanitary Inspector to confer with an engineer as to what is best to be done rather than dispute the matter longer. The Dee is the purest stream of its size in the kingdom. There is not a single mill on it, nor manufactory of any kind along its banks. Yet this is deemed necessary to make assurance doubly sure that the Aberdeen folks will get literally a draught of *aqua pura* drawn from the river thirty miles off.

Otters in the Solway.—During the recent droughty weather, when the rivers were exceptionally low, several otters were seen by fishermen disporting themselves in the Solway near the estuaries of the Nith and Annan. As all the Border streams have now increased in volume, they will no doubt return to their old haunts, where they have been sadly missed of late by at least two hard-working packs.

To Whip Spliced Rods.—The following is the method recommended by Messrs. William Blacklaws and Son, tackle makers, Kincardine-O'Neil, and is the outcome of half a century's experience on the part of the senior member of the firm. The rod should be fitted with ordinary tiers or keepers and very small brasses, just to keep the parts in position while being whipped. Wax a six-yard cord of from six to ten ply lint, according to the size of rod, and which may be had from any village saddler or cobbler. First make the figure 8 round the keepers, then whip the splices from end to end, covering brasses and all. By this method it is impossible the parts can work out, while the rod may be put up or taken down at will—a new cord being the only necessary requisite.

Eel Choked by a Frog.—Mr. William Howlett writes: "Dear Sir,—I herewith enclose for your inspection one of the most remarkable occurrences I have ever seen—an eel choked in attempting to swallow a frog—and which I thought would be a very interesting illustration for the *F. G.* I had a long walk lately all through the Reach and Wicken Fens, and there I found the eel and frog. A Mr. Wells, a large farmer at Reach, first discovered it on a dry bank about half-a-mile from the river, a fortnight since. It was then scarcely dead. He took it home, and simply hung them up to dry, and kept them until I went over, and as I found them, so I have sent them for your inspection. Please return to me safely. It certainly is a most remarkable occurrence, and well worth recording."

A Trout Fishing Story.—One day a well-dressed man visited a certain hamlet, carrying the newest of fly rods; he intended to fish for trout. Could anyone give him information as to the best place for his day's sport? As he asked for it at the bar of the small inn of the hamlet, the information was soon forthcoming. One of the customers there told him he knew where there was a big one, and no mistake; he could show it to him, and then all he had to do was to catch it. The bait took. After a generous "liquor up" and the tip of a shilling, away they started. He saw the fish, and for nearly the whole of the day he threshed that water hard enough to frighten all the trout that ever swam in it. But not even a fish the size of a sprat did he capture. At the inn, before his train started, as he rested for an hour, his guide of the morning appeared and asked him what sport he had had. "Not a single fish," replied he; adding, "I would spend half-a-sov. in drinks if that trout lay in my basket, or give the same sum to anyone who would put me up to getting it there." Five minutes later the native whispered to him, "Did ye mean what ye said?" The angler pulled out half-a-sovereign and showed it to him. "Bide here a bit," said the man; "your train don't start yet." In less than half an hour the stranger was beckoned out of the bar to see the big trout, still alive and kicking vigorously, on some flags in a basket. He had a hook attached to a piece of broken gut in his upper lip; not a bruise or a mark was on him. "Take him, basket an' all, fur what ye said," quoth the native; "he's a precious sight too big to go into that consarn o' yourn; and I be werry much obleedged to you for this 'ere half-sov'rin, and no mistake." I was informed afterwards that the fish had been so frightened by the threshing of that would-be angler that ho had retreated to the utmost limit of his haver under the bank, and there he had remained, as only a trout will remain. The cute rustic knew this would be so, and he had simply gone down to the spot, taken off his shoes, and tucked up his trousers, and "groped him out." That is how mest of the great trout are captured, but I never saw one that had been groped for that was not shown with a hook in his mouth. A gut hook does not cost much, and it looks so very much better.—"*Ways and Whims of Fresh-water Fishes,*" *by a Son of the Marshes, in* "*Blackwood's Magazine.*"

DEE FISHINGS.

[WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.]

The Roe's Pot.—This famous pool, of which the illustration is a view of the upper portion, is quite two hundred yards in length. Its fishing from the right bank goes wholly with Mr. J. T. Hay's beautiful estate of Blackhall; but from the left, where the photograph was taken, it is about equally parted between two proprietors—Sir Robert Burnett, Bart., of Leys, Crathes Castle, owning the upper, and Mr. Duncan Davidson, of Inchmarlo, the lower length. From Mr. Hay's side the sport is sometimes good; from the other it is usually much better. Both opposite the detached birch tree and from the large stones out in the water there is always in spring, summer, and autumn, at the right time and when fish are plentiful, a very good chance of the angler experiencing the gratification of getting on a fish, provided the river is nothing above its seasonal average volume. This is on the Inchmarlo "water," where a little lower down, close to the "march" paling and dyke, there is from a huge boulder-stone, another tip-top cast. The Roe's Pot, however, is close fishing throughout, as within easy casting reach of the left bank fish lie all over it, during the best times of the best seasons, which without a doubt are spring and autumn. Till within twenty yards of the lower end of it, where Crathes comes in, the Inchmarlo part of the pool is best for sport in a fairly small state of the river; the remainder when the height is the average for the season; while the Crathes part undoubtedly does best with a good round water, the bay and lower slower portion in a biggish water.

THE ROE'S POT (from Inchmarlo Side).

From where in the view the water first comes into sight (in a direct line beyond the birch tree), it tears down when in strong volume at unslackened speed over a rocky bouldery bed, first south then east, for a distance of three hundred yards, till it gets somewhat beyond the large stones (seen in the water) which would then be covered.

Taken for the whole fishing year round, the Roe's Pot is one of the most productive pools of Dee. It is nearly twenty-two miles from the sea by the windings of the river, yet in spring and summer not very many of the fish rest long or take well till they have pushed up thus far. Unlike the autumn fish, the springers and grilse are unencumbered (the former wholly), and so hold on till here they encounter the first regular series of rushing dashing bouldery rapids. In the "back end," however, it is different, more seaward reaches at the first being best, in consequence of the fish being heavy, and not seeking, save when delayed, to make the run quickly through the generally easy swimming water. Several times the Roe's Pot has been known to yield to the rod in one day nine to twelve autumn fish, averaging little short of 20lb., but those takes were all obtained in years prior to the terrible ice flood of March, 1880. Since that memorable "breaking up," when, like many other famous pools, the Roe's Pot was not a little damaged, a good deal of silting or running down of sand and shingle from above has now and again taken place, with the result that some of the best rough bottom has become quite level, affording now no lie for the fish. Eight autumns ago I one afternoon had a desperate fight with a 30lb. cock fish on the Crathes part of the pool. A wilder large fish I never hooked, and it really was hot work the while he was played. He didn't seek a moment's rest—and in twenty minutes I had him out. But did I not feel it? and did I not sweat? Sweat! and was I not properly warmed up for once? I must have been, for a brother angler who came the way just as I was dragging the fish up the bank told me my face was "red as a north-east moon!" I've killed lots of good fish on the Roe's Pot, among them one July evening, eight summers since, on a very wee Jock Scott, and during a half flood, the largest grilse of the year to the rod on the whole of Dee.

Of the Invercannie or 'Cannie streams, the view is up stream for a distance of fully a quarter of mile, from underneath the boughs of one of the fine old beeches on the high bank above the river. The whole length seen is lively rushing water, with many a break, and many an eddy caused by many a boulder. The same character of water continues downward for a couple of hundred yards farther, where commences the long swift, dashing, surging, sounding descent of the stream, known as the Mill Rush. Than the whole length in question. there is not a better of such dimensions in Dee for fresh run grilse. From opposite where the view was taken, down to the very commencement of the "rush"—the grilse fishing, when the water suits, is splendid in a good year. Upward from the Roe's Pot the distance is quite a mile; and the whole fishing from the right bank, and for two miles still farther on is connected with Blackhall. The Cairnton water, the property of Sir Robert Burnett, Bart, and let to Mr. Turner Farley, begins at the Mill Rush, and extends upward about a mile-and-a-half, the whole way opposito Black-hall. For the entire angling year these two fisheries (because in good years they give excellent angling in the three seasons of spring, summer, and autumn) are the most productive of all on Dee for their extent. Some may excel them in spring and some in autumn, but none for all the fishing year throughout. They have the pull, because they have the best of the grilse fishing, which in wet summers is rather superior. Then again they afford very good spring and autumn fishing—so good as not to be equalled for both seasons by any other section of Dee.

In the good catches of the 'Cannie streams the fish almost always rise freely, "grip siccar," dash right off and play splendidly. When Kilmartin was the laird, many an exciting run did I have with them. Well do I remember, though it is ten years since, losing a splendid, wild, large fish, through a piece of bungling—not holding above him in the swift water. He turned of a sudden—dashed away like lightning to the other side, got the loose line round a boulder sixty yards or so out as he tore down stream; and snap went the cast, and away he was, with gut, "Gordon," and all. The keeper laughed, and had good reason to ask me, as he did, "Fat did ye dee yon for?" He was the best-natured keeper I ever saw—took things most philosophically. Suppose he lost a fine fish after playing it a long long time, he was not the least upset. He was not—No. He seemed to enjoy it. He just stood straight up and laughed heartily, frequently rubbing his "een" and remarking the while: "The beastie focht weel for its liberty and it's got it: it deserved it." Good-natured, feeling, most humane fellow!

The Mill Rush undoubtedly "tries" the fish hard—pretty well tires them out—when ascending, and this is probably the reason why they lio so well in the 'Cannie streams immediately above. Just at the overflow—the very head of the rush—there is a little cast on the Blackhall side, where twice I have caught a fish under precisely the same conditions. On both occasions the rush must have only but a moment before been ascended. I had fished the cast without seeing anything, and had gone up a little bit to fish down again. Whilst doing so, I observed a fish leap at the bottom of the little cast, a quite common thing for fish to do when they get out of swift into easy water. I fished down, and a little above where it leaped I hooked it. It had scarcely a "kick" of strength left in it. Right off it made a rush, for about ten yards, across stream, and then I drew it in like a log. The tremendously swift water and the buffeting it had got amongst the boulders of the long rush had clean taken the fighting power out of it. On the opposite side, a little higher up, I once had a comical experience with an 8lb. grilse, which I hooked on a light trout rod. This fish, soon after coming on, got into an eddy, and fifty times at least, I am safe to say, it went with the regularity of clockwork round and round the large boulder in the centre of the eddy. Finally, the performance became monotonous, beyond endurance on my part: then I waded in, though it was rather risky, and scared the fish away, after which I soon landed it.

The 'Cannie streams I have always found fish best in the early part of the day and the evening. The afternoon, especially of bright days, is not generally good, as then the sun is right in the head of the fish. The Blue Charm, I used to find (in summer) the best of all as a general killer, with the Silver Doctor for bright forenoons, and the Claret Jock for dull weather.

The illustrations are from photos very kindly (at my request and in my presence) taken specially for the *Fishing Gazette* by my friend, Mr. Charles M. Brown, banker, Aberdeen. Mr. Brown is not altogether satisfied, as, at the time of photographing, the conditions of lighting were unfavourable for obtaining fulness of detail. But this apart, the main object was to give an idea of the scenery and character of water of the middle reaches of Dee, which are those between Banchory and Aboyne. From the illustrations being small, coupled with the fact that the water was dead low when the photos were taken, the impression may be conveyed to some that the Dee is little better than a trout stream. Such indeed it was when Mr. Brown and I selected the views; but right, however, it is to state that the stretches of water in these same views are, when the river is in fair volume, not generally under fifty yards in width—in some places eighty. There is a deal of close landscape and lovely woodland connected with the fisheries named, and skirting the upper portion of Blackhall a profusion of heather on the hill-sides comes in to add still further variety to a scene of Nature's unstinted adorning.

W. MURDOCH.

THE INVERCANNIE STREAMS (FROM CAIRNTON SIDE).

AN ANGLER'S DIARY.—JUNE.

BY J. H. B.

THE Carnival is over, and one more May-fly season is numbered with its predecessors. For once the May-fly justified its name, here in the west at any rate, for so early as mid-May some were observed on the small streams of North Devon and North Cornwall, and a couple of anglers scored well with them. The first Green Drake of the season coming under my observation was on May 22; but there was not what would be called a good rise of the May-fly until the early days of June; they came from that time forward with the regularity of clock-work daily about noon. Here in the West—on the Tamar especially—it has been as good a May-fly season as I have known, and the Green Drake and the male and female Drakes have all been in great request. And how they set the big fish a-moving!

It should be remembered that in this part of the country trout are numerous, but small; a half-pounder is a good fish, and one three quarters of a pound very good. On the evening of June 3, I took a stroll as a constitutional, rod in hand. About two miles from home is a piece of water not worth looking at under ordinary circumstances. It is about a hundred and fifty yards of what is known here as "dead" water—that is, still water. It is backed by the head-weir of a small flour mill, but does move, though imperceptibly. At the lower end there are a few yards quite open, and this was rippled by a strong S.E. breeze. The higher part of the one hundred and fifty yards' stretch is bushy, but a fly may be got on here and there, and above again the stream—a very small one—is so very much wooded that it is fishable only with dapping gear. It certainly is not worth visiting as a fishing haunt, but as it afforded a chance of giving a pleasing variety to the incidents of a saunter, I took the route in which it lay, and carried a rod, a cast or two, and a few flies. On this particular evening there were two circumstances which strongly influenced me—the May-fly was on, and the little water there is was sure to be "cockled," as they say here—that is, rippled. I got by going over it four times eleven trout, weighing not quite 4lb. Of course, as fishing was only a secondary consideration, I had not burdened myself with any superfluities, so a landing-net had not joined in the expedition, and I was obliged to play the larger specimens until they were completely exhausted, draw them to the bank, and then land them by hand, placing a finger far down the mouth.

We do not "yank" fish here—it doesn't pay. I read sometimes in fishing sketches of trout something just under a pound having been pulled out immediately on rising. I confess I do not understand it. The risk of fish and tackle seems to me to be too great, to say nothing of the loss of sport. With casting line of decent fineness, such a feat would be simply fool-hardy and utterly unsportsmanlike. Fish considerably smaller should not be yanked. For my part, I scarcely know which to admire most, the man who throws well, or the one who strikes well, that is without lifting his fish, whatever its size. There can be no doubt that in small streams artistic striking is a more desirable object to be sought for than long distance throwing.

In my early days I had a fine lesson which was not lost upon me. I was fishing the salmon pool at Exeter, with small flies, angling for roach. A gentleman of the city, a well-known and clever angler, was interested in my proceedings, and took the rod, a new one, and essayed it. He soon had out what I should judge to be about twenty yards of line, and a small fish rose, which he struck and hooked, but not lift from the water in the doing of it. It turned out to be a roach, which judging from the estimate my memory brought away was about 1½oz. But you know the old adage about rules and exceptions, and you will see presently that my rule is not according to the laws of the Medes and Persians.

On the 5th I took my constitutional in another direction, visiting an old angling friend to compare notes. A third angler dropped in to show his take of that afternoon, of which he was justly proud. He had over two dozen trout in his basket, of good average size, and had replaced several; and had done it all with the May-fly in a couple of hours. Then the rise was off and he left.

On the 6th I had a good innings, scoring three dozen "not out," chiefly with the May-fly, but supplemented by others. I had a friend down from town to take the cream of the fishing season, but could not join him on the 8th. I despatched him to the same piece of water from which the two dozen mentioned above were taken, supplying him with two casts fitted up, one for the morning, and the other which he was to don immediately he saw the Drakes on the move, and telling him to keep a good look-out for them at twelve o'clock. The morning turned out poorly, because he took a high reach which is miserably wooded and unfishable, but the day resulted in his securing a very nice basket of three dozen, and practically all his sport was had in a couple of hours, during which the trout were doing a roaring trade with the Drakes and he with them, quite a reversal of

"Great fleas have little fleas
Upon their backs to bite 'em;
And little fleas have lesser fleas,
And so *ad infinitem*."

And so the record might go on; favourable days when the water was right and wind and sky as they should be, bringing good records; other days, when conditions were unfavourable, not adding so rapidly to the register, but each affording its modicum of sport. Of rain there was very little until the end of the month, and the streams, in consequence, dwindled down to next to nothing, and on a few days in the middle of the month brought an easterly wind and a cloudless sky, when even trouting was a labour.

Two other days deserve special mention. Four anglers met on the 13th, and fished two up and two down, those going upward having the best of the wind, and the others apparently the best of the water. The latter pair soon found, to their great disgust, that the miller was doing his annual clearing of the leat, and the water some little distance below the trysting-place was the colour and consistency of pea-soup. However, the Tamar is sluggish, and we shouldered our rods hoping to head the dirty water, and presently succeeded. About half-a-mile below we found the water fishable, and had very good sport for two or three hours. And now for the exception referred to above. The water was low, there was no ripple in the pools, and the best—almost the only—sport, was obtained from pools which are more or less overhung with bushes, and I never did so much yanking in any one day in all my experience. To play any but a large fish was almost as mad a thing to do as yanking under ordinary circumstances, and you would, ten chances to one, get hitched up in the bushes above. We stood as far back and below as possible, with a shortish line, of course, and when the rise came any ordinary trout (and as a rule they could be seen and gauged easily enough) was lifted out with the strike, not with a jerk, but with a steady pull. Hitching was thus avoided, and we sometimes got a second and even a third from the same pool. The score on that day was enough to satisfy the most exacting, even in the height of the season. But my best day was towards the end of the month, when I was fishing alone—partly, perhaps, because I was alone—and when the Alder had joined the Drakes and was in fact first favourite. I scored six dozen, the largest being over 17oz. but not 18oz., and had to leave to attend a meeting when the rise was at its best. Never did I so anathematise secretarial duties.

One of the quartet mentioned above had driven seven miles one morning in June, comfortably housed his nag, and presumably taken a drop of comfort himself—indeed, many confidently affirm that subsequent events proved he must have taken a pretty big drop, or continued the motion more frequently than wisely—and had taken his stand by the river to commence operations with who knows what visions of ravenous trout taking his dark and light Mays, when horror! he found he had left his winch behind. Basket and pockets were searched; but, no, he must have left it at home. He made a shift with some twine he got from the village shop, and an old reel without a handle he got turned out from somewhere; but, of course, his day's sport was spoilt. He relieved his feelings by penning me the following lines:—

> "A man went to fish at Trepool;
> There can be no doubt he's a fool;
> He forgot winch and line,
> And used draper's twine,
> Which astonished the trout at Trepool."

Other anglers in the neighbourhood were astonished to find they did so well in what they called thunder weather; but we know how to account for the sulphurous flavour of the atmosphere that day at Trepool. On returning to the inn the luckless wight found his reel in a pocket of his mackintosh, which he had left there.

Of course, the Mays have not done all the execution, and it is well always to have a second seasonable fly on. The early days of the month saw the Hawthorns dying out, but the Black Gnats were on in myriads, the memory being searched in vain for a season producing such a number of goodly-sized gnats—flies which made the trout as eager and thoughtless of guile as the most ardent fisherman could wish. The Alder has also been well to the front, also the Oak-fly and the Marlow Buzz; and in the evenings, after the larger flies had dropped, and before the moths came out, the Pale Evening Dun and the Yellow Sally came to the fore. As an item of information, it may be mentioned that a miller and gang cleaning out a leat bagged two hundred and twenty-five trout.

Waltoniana

Bishops often tell a good story. His Grace of Wakefield, speaking at the inevitable luncheon after the opening of a church at Great Yarmouth, said that a woman in Yorkshire told her clergyman quite seriously that her husband had become dissatisfied with the Baptists and Congregationalists, and had become a Yarmouth bloater. She meant a Plymouth Brother.

A few may have heard the following excellent story before. The crew of a Clyde yacht were in want of provisions, so the skipper sent Dugald ashore to buy bread and whisky. Dugald returned with seven bottles of whisky and one loaf. Seeing this, the skipper turned pale, and, nervously scratching his head, muttered, "Dear me, Dugald, what are we to do with a' this bread?"

Though so much has been written about trout, comparatively little is known for certain respecting their growth in rivers. Fish culturists of course know how old fish of a certain weight are in their ponds, but in rivers and lakes, where the fish are not fed, the conditions are altogether different. For practical purposes it would be very important to discover, with some degree of certainty, whether one variety of trout grows quicker than another if placed in the same river. Another question to be solved is whether Loch Leven trout, if put in a stream, rise as well or better than the local fish, and whether they stay or wander away. On these points I confess to a fairly strong opinion, but nothing can be said at present with absolute certainty, because in many cases, when strange fish are turned into a river, they soon resemble the local fish in appearance, and no one who catches a trout can say positively that it is a foreigner or a local fish. I have an instance in my mind, however, of artificially-bred trout being put into a river and preserving their characteristics, doing well and growing rapidly.

The only satisfactory way to test important questions of this kind is to mark the fish which are turned in, using, as on salmon rivers, a tiny tablet attached to the fatty fin with silver wire. On it anything can be inscribed, and when the fish comes to be caught he can be weighed, his weight and the date scratched on the tablet, and then be turned in again. I would myself, if the owner of a sufficient length of water, turn in trout of different varieties, marking every one of them, and I would from time to time mark undersized local fish which I caught and returned. At the end of a few years, supposing careful note had been taken of all marked fish caught, the results could be tabulated, and I have no hesitation in saying that most valuable information would be obtained.

Some three years ago the Marine Laboratory was started at Plymouth with a great flourish of trumpets. Various great names appeared on the prospectus as patrons, presidents, and vice-presidents. The Government actually promised a grant of £500 a year for a limited number of years, and every one said that at last something was going to be done for our sea fisheries. Three years have elapsed, or passed away, as novelists say, and behold our sea fisheries are much as they were, certainly no better. Are the members of the staff of the laboratory to blame? I venture to think not. A couple of thousand pounds is not sufficient to carry on investigations which if properly worked out require the use of steamers and fishing boats. The association has a steam launch, called the "Firefly," which I should imagine was bought cheap second-hand, for as the council in their report pathetically put it, "while very economical when in working order, she is a considerable source of expense for repairs, and great inconvenience was caused during the summer of 1890 by her breaking-down when the laboratory was full of workers. Ye noble patrons and presidents and vice-presidents, cannot among you all a steamer be presented to the association, such a one as will not suffer from a chronic breaking-down?

What has the association done to justify the aforesaid flourish of trumpets? The hatching of sea-fish eggs has been attempted, but not, I fear, with very great success; or I should say that the eggs were in most cases hatched, but that poor results attended the attempt to rear the fry to such a size as to make their future a safe one in the sea. Mr. Cunningham, the naturalist, has studied the sole, and written a book about him, and a large number of small marine organisms have been studied in the aquarium, which is now open to the public at a small charge. The great bait question has been looked into without any particular result; but I see from the report that a Mr. Hughes has been appointed to make further search for an artificial bait, the funds for the purpose being provided by Mr. Bayly, of Plymouth. Everyone, and salt-water anglers in particular, will wish Mr. Hughes success. Mr. Thomasson, M.P., has given £250 for investigations to be carried on as to the state of the North Sea fisheries, and if this and the bait question can be satisfactorily solved, the Marine Laboratory will have justified its existence. At the same time, it must be admitted that both these questions could have been examined into without the existence of the Laboratory. I owe an apology to my readers for intruding this subject into "Waltoniana," but I know that it is one which interests many persons, and I frequently hear people asking what has become of the laboratory of which so much was heard when it was founded. Some day, let us hope, the Government will devote as much to the improvement and preservation of our sea fisheries as does the Government of the United States. We give £500, the Americans give £50,000.

Templar.

AMATEUR SEA FISHING.[*]

Mr. Aflalo, the author of the latest addition to the literature of sea fishing, gives his readers, in the short compass of something under two hundred pages, a really useful and excellent manual. It is divided into three parts, the latter of which is decidedly the most valuable and novel, for it is the first attempt of any importance to give a descriptive guide to the sea fishing to be obtained at the principal English watering-places. At many of these the author has fished himself and has succeeded in finding good sport at places which have not hitherto been deemed particularly good for the amateur sea fisherman. Of these we may mention Hastings, to which eight pages are devoted. There is no better place for pout fishing than Hastings' pier, says Mr. Aflalo, who in thirty-six days' fishing took 748 of these little fish—little we say advisedly, for they averaged about seven to the pound. The fishing stations mentioned on the east coast are Scarborough, Filey, Lowestoft, and Southend. On the south-east coast Margate, Ramsgate, Deal, Dover, Hastings, Bexhill, and Eastbourne. On the south coast, Brighton, Shoreham, Littlehampton, Bognor, Selsea, Southampton, Southsea, Bournemouth, Poole, and Swanage. Some account is then given of the fishing to be obtained round the Isle of Wight, Ryde being described as the best place for the angler. On the south-west coast, Weymouth, Budleigh Salterton, Torquay, Plymouth, and Megavissy, are described, and there is a short account of the fishing to be obtained at Ilfracombe and Tenby on the west coast. Several pages are devoted to the Isle of Man, which is very rightly described as a capital resort for the holiday angler. This guide to the coasts of England is, as we have have said, far in advance of anything that has been done, and in future editions we hope to see it considerably enlarged. To most of the places a small sketch map is given and these in some cases bear the depths in fathoms besides showing the position of rocks, &c. The time involved in the railway journeys from London are also given as well as the cost of a third-class return ticket.

For the first part of the book, so far as it relates to tackle and baits, the author does not claim any considerable originality, the matter having, in his own words, "been handled by every writer on the subject." But the advice given is good and reliable, and a number of illustrations considerably assist the text. We observed, however, but little mention of eyed-hooks, which we consider most useful for the sea fisherman, being far neater than the hooks flattened at the top, which have the advantage of cheapness and nothing more.

Part II. consists of fifty pages, devoted to an account of the sort of fishing to be obtained at different seasons of the year, and should be diligently studied by those who wish to succeed in their sea-fishing endeavours. Ignorance of the right season to fish, and the most likely fish to be found in particular localities, are among the most common reasons of failure in both fresh and salt-water. It is, for instance, about as profitable to fish from a pier-head for bass in January as to angle for gudgeon on a Thames' shallow in that month. Mr. Aflalo's great difficulty has, of course, been that certain fish visit certain parts of the coast at different times, and that in some seasons they are later or earlier than usual, as the case may be. But so far as general rules can be laid down, the book will be found reliable, and, as we have said, this question of season should be considered most carefully. A place may be celebrated for the cod-fishing it affords close in-shore, but the simple angler, for whom that bare fact is sufficient, and who determines to spend his holiday at the place without first inquiring *when* the cod-fishing is likely to be at its best, may be sadly disappointed. There is not much in the book calling for criticism. We should not be inclined to say that there was fine fly fishing for bass off Filey brigg, almost the only fish the flyfisher gets there being billet (the young of the coal-fish) and an occasional codling. Fly-fishing for bass is something more than blow-line-fishing, as described, and we should like to see some account of Nottingham fishing, as adapted for the sea. It is a most useful method of getting out a bait from pier-heads, where the tide is not strong enough to take out the ordinary drift-line. But these are small matters which are easily remedied in future editions, and we have no hesitation in recommending Mr. Aflalo's book, and in congratulating the author in having produced a very useful addition to angling literature.

Mr. Afflalo acknowledges his indebtedness to the *F. G.* for many a wrinkle.

A Trout Swallowing an Adder.—On Saturday last Mr. Clay and Mr. Mead, two London gentlemen, angling at Altnacealgach Hotel, in Sutherland, fished Loch Veyatie in the same boat, and made a total basket of twenty-six trout, aggregating 10lb. The heaviest fish weighed 1½lb., and on being opened it was found to contain an adder, measuring 18in, in length.

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[*] "Sea Fishing on the English Coast: A manual of practical instruction on the art of making and using sea-tackle, with a full account of the method in vogue during each month in the year, and a detailed guide for sea-fishermen to the most popular watering-places on the English coast." By Frederick G. Aflalo. Illustrated. London: L. Upcott Gill, 170, Strand, W.C., 1891.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

By C. W.

The Tenby Piscatorial Society held their first contest on July 26, at Fernhill Heath. The members and friends, which numbered about forty, were conveyed from Birmingham to their destination by saloon carriages kindly placed at the club's disposal by the Midland Railway Company. Fernhill Heath was reached at ten o'clock, and luncheon was partaken of at the Bull Inn, when, after refreshing the inner man, a move was made to the water, which lay about a mile from the village. Arriving on the scene of action, and the draw for places being got over, the members proceeded to their places, and at ten minutes past twelve the referee gave the signal for the contest to commence, which proceeded until ten minutes past two o'clock, when the weighing in of the fish was commenced on the ground, the result of which was as follows: Mr. C. Wainwright, first; Mr. C. Bowler, second; Mr. Marshall, third; Mr. J. Smith, fourth; Mr. Bushell, fifth; Mr. Harris, sixth; Mr. A. G. Hall, seventh; Mr. Harding, eighth, &c. After the weighing in had been concluded, the whole of the competitors and their friends were grouped together in a shady nook on the banks of the river Salwarpe and photographed by Mr. J. A. Ashmore; the committee were also taken separately. After these operations had been successfully accomplished, the members spent the remainder of the afternoon in angling. At five o'clock the members began to pack up and make their way back to the Bull Inn, where the whole of them sat down to a splendid cold collation served up in first-class style by Host Hylton. A stroll through the fields was then suggested and acted upon, after which the members made their way to the railway station and awaited the arrival of the train, which conveyed them back to Birmingham. The arrangements of the contest gave the greatest satisfaction, and great praise is due to Messrs. King and Ashmore and the committee of the society for the business-like manner in which the whole of the arrangements were carried out. A word of praise is also due to the gentleman who acted as referee. The prizes, which consist of articles too numerous to mention, will be distributed at the annual dinner, the date of which has not yet been decided upon. The first prize is the gift of Messrs. Bevan and Hands, and consists of a large, specially designed, silver-plated cup.

I am pleased to inform those who are interested in the Marston Challenge Cup Competition that there will be no difficulty in bringing the contest off within easy distance of the Mythe Bridge. I have made inquiries and find that the Tewkesbury Regatta, which takes place on the same day, will be held on the water below the bridge, and the contest will in consequence be held up the river, where the Birmingham Association have in the past held their contests. The exact locality will be kept a secret until the morning of the contest. The ground will be defined by two flags, and the contest will be held between the flags. Any one going outside the boundary will be disqualified. A number of gentlemen will act as umpires, and any competitor doing anything dishonourable to secure a prize will meet with very severe punishment from the association. I hope the contestants will take notice of the last circular sent out, and be at the toll-house on Mythe Bridge at 10.30 prompt. I also hope that the best men may win, no matter what association or society they may represent, for whoever they may be they will hold a position which should command for them the respect and admiration of not only the members of the Provincial Angling Association, but all true sportsmen and lovers of the gentle craft.

The river Avon still continues in first-class condition for all kinds of angling. This is owing to the sharp showers that have fallen during the week, which has put the fish on their best behaviour, and those who have visited the river have no cause to complain of the lack of sport. The perch have been on the feed and some good baskets have been had, one angler taking about 16lb. in a very short time with the brandling worm, some of the fish weighing nearly 1lb. each. The roach are now in good condition, and are taking stewed wheat, malt, and paste freely, but the fish run rather small as yet. They are reported to be very plentiful. Chub are also in the pink of condition, and some good sport has been had with these fish in the neighbourhood of Bidford and Binton. Taking the Avon fishing on the whole, it will repay those who like to spend their holidays at the water-side. The river is well stocked, and there are all varieties of coarse fish, all of which are in first-class condition, and I should recommend my friends to give the Avon a trial during the holidays.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

Reports all round are of a much more encouraging nature. River fishers are having considerably better catches, but the canal fisher has had another week of disappointment. From some of the following reports a good idea may be formed of our doings during the past week. One party of Free Anglers have had a good catch on the Wye (ten trout, weighing 12lb.), and another party, on the same stream, also had a splendid day's sport. The Cheshire brooks have had a fair amount of visitors, and from their success it is a natural conclusion that fish are plentiful. Reports from the Dane at Middlewich and Northwich are, taken as a whole, good; the fish are in good condition and fairly numerous.

Llanymynech is still a favourite resort, and, if anything, gains in popularity with anglers from this district. A pike of 15lb., taken by an Oldham angler, is a very fine specimen. Speaking of specimens, we have one on view in Manchester, taken a short time since, that will be soon located at Openshaw, having been taken by a member of the club at Openshaw.

The Ingleton waters are receiving attention, and amply repaying the trouble and expense of a visit. The Ribble is affording good sport; 12½ brace of fine fish surely is sufficient reward, and there are many not far behind this result for a day's fishing. A visit to the Dee would amply repay the angler, at the end of this week, or on Bank Holiday, if reports to hand are reliable. One party is going, and intend camping out, for which purpose they have secured a boat. We wish them luck. The Bridgewater Club and the Islington Club have joined the N. A. A., still there are many who have not joined; but perhaps the appeals for membership now being made may have the desired effect. The Buckland Club has just fished their initial match. They did well, but this was only to be expected from such a combination of veterans. The Openshaw Club were out the same day, with a lot of their members, and satisfactorily fished their second competition. The Shakespeare Club fished one of their numerous matches a few days since, and had a really good day's sport.

The Pendleton Union Angling Society have a rather unpleasant item to deal with. For the convenience of their members unable to be present at a contest, a deputy is allowed to fish for them. This rule appears to have been taken advantage of by a member to engage an expert angler, who secured the first prize for his principal, who watched him from the bank. This conduct has caused a lot of trouble, but doubtless a rule will be made to stop the like abuse in the future. Great preparations are in hand for the approaching holidays. Tackle makers are at it early and late, and if plenty of fish do not find their way to the County Palatine from various remote districts, great will be the disappointment.

[What does "Free Anglers" mean? Are any anglers not free? We should be glad if our correspondents would not chronicle catches where neither names nor places are mentioned.—Ed.]

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

The sunny month of July is seldom a good period for piscatorial pursuits in this neighbourhood, but this year anglers have been even less successful than usual. The small number of trout taken lead one to suppose—even taking into consideration bright days and low clear streams—that there are fewer fish in the river than usual, and if this is so, the matter calls for increased activity on the part of the Severn Board of Conservators and anglers generally. The Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society has done much to improve the fishing in the neighbourhood of Shrewsbury by annually stocking the river with fry, but so extensive is the water to be supplied, and so numerous are the anglers to be provided for, that the results of their work must necessarily be small. The Board of Conservators, it is true, have assisted the society to a great extent, but when it is considered that a very large proportion of its revenue is derived from the licences of anglers in the upper waters, it is obviously only fair that every effort should be made to make sport worth having. At present anglers are allowed the privilege of trout fishing for the sum of one shilling per annum; but it is doubtful whether half their number catch sufficient trout to repay them for even this slight expenditure. Rough fish, it is true, may be captured in plenty, but trout undoubtedly are few and far between. This being so, the anglers of the upper waters are entitled to more consideration on the part of the board than they have received in the past. Few would object to pay twice or thrice the amount of the present trout licence, if the return were increased proportionately, and in the case of working-men anglers, rough fishing might be granted free or on payment of the same sum now charged for trout fishing. Whatever be the cause, it is certain that the genuine breed of Severn trout in this locality is becoming extinct, for nearly all the fish taken of late have been the Loch Levens or other imported breeds that have been turned in from time to time by the angling society.

It is not often that one hears of Mars being associated with Pisces, and himself turning piscator, but this will be the case next week at the camp of the 1st Vol. Batt. K.S.L.I., at Lythwood Hall, the seat of W. E. M. Hulton Harrop, Esq. A fishing contest has been arranged to take place on Wednesday between the soldiers in a well-stocked pool belonging to Mr. Harrop, and the event will doubtless be a very interesting one.

The Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society's trout in the breeding ponds in the Dingle are thriving remarkably well, and to all who know anything of the habits of this vivacious fish, it is a matter of surprise that with so small a supply of water running into the pools the fish live so well. The fish, of which many are considerably over 1lb. in weight, are becoming thoroughly domesticated, and will take food ravenously when thrown from the edge of the pools. The other day, Mr. Williams, the hon. sec. of the society, threw in a quantity of minnows for their benefit, and the gusto with which they swallowed them was surprising, and made one entertain fears for the welfare of their digestive organs. The weeds prove a great nuisance in these ponds, and the angling society, as well as the corporation of Shrewsbury, would doubtless be glad to receive a satisfactory answer to the letter in the *Fishing Gazette* of last week relative to their extermination.

NOTES FROM WORCESTER AND DISTRICT.

On Friday week, at the Bull's Head Inn, there was nearly a full attendance of delegates from all the Worcester clubs to make arrangements to fish for the fifteen guinea Challenge Cup, given by E. H. Bowen, Esq., the president of the District Association, that gentleman being present and occupying the chair. As the contest for the Marston Cup takes place on Bank Holiday, this contest was deferred until the second week in September, and will take place on the Teme at Tenbury, at which time grayling may be expected to go well. The president said he was very glad at the arrangement, and it would enable him to supplement the prize with five brace of partridges to the winning man. Mr. Hubert Holland, one of the vice-presidents, promised twelve couple of rabbits to be divided among the four clubs competing. These two gentlemen promised £50 each, to put the Worcester Angling Clubs on a good footing next season, their wish being that they should be second to none. For this they were most enthusiastically cheered, and a very hearty vote of thanks was passed to them for the past and present liberality and the interest taken in the angling societies of the district. Both gentlemen replied in a most felicitous manner, and Mr. Holland said he looked upon the executive as the hard-working machinery of the angling body, and he would ask them to meet himself and the president on the club-water on the Lower Teme on Monday afternoon, and he would give them £6 to fish for, to be divided into three prizes of £3, £2, and £1; which event duly took place, and a very pleasant competition it was, although the sport was but slow—Mr. Martin Perks taking first prize; Mr. T. Meredith, second, and Mr. A. Glover, third. The president weighed in a nice jack in very good condition, but did not compete for the prizes.

On Tuesday the same gentleman (Mr. H. Holland) gave the same amount of prize money to be competed for on the Severn at Holt, for members of the Izaak Walton Club, of which he is an hon. member, to which place the party journeyed by brake. At the Holt Fleet Hotel a splendid luncheon was awaiting them, at which the lordly Severn salmon was a most important and enjoyable part, which with the other good things was washed down with home-brewed and sparkling champagne perry. After fishing the water for a few hours, the party sat down to an excellent dinner, put on the table in Host Hundley's best style, after which sport was continued until 8.30, when weighing-in commenced. Sport was not good, and no heavy baskets were taken (not one single trout), the first prize being won by Mr. Holland himself with a pike, which he caught trolling with a small minnow; Mr. F. Moore taking second prize: and Mr. S. Webb, third prize. Mr. Holland received a very hearty vote of thanks for providing the party with such a grand day's outing and entertainment, in responding to which he expressed the pleasure it afforded him to meet them, and the great pleasure it gave him to beat the best of them. As he had won the £3, he would make it £10 and give them another outing in a week or a fortnight, as they might decide, to be fished for in three sections, the best man in each section to have a prize, which would separate the expert from the less skilful angler, and give the latter a better chance of obtaining a prize. He would leave it to the committee to make their arrangements. He would be with them and endeavour to bring the president with him, and he trusted they would have good sport, and a large gathering. The usual toasts followed and the return journey was much enjoyed.

On Thursday last the St. John's Club had their second outing of the season on the Teme. There was a good attendance of members, but there were but few good fish taken. Some of the members had plenty, as far as numbers went, but they were not up to the weight allowed to be weighed in, Mr. Gummery winning first prize; Mr. Gillham, second; and Mr. C. James, third.

I regret to say that a great many otters have been seen on the Teme and its tributaries, and many a good fish have fell victims to them, and I hope something will speedily be done to reduce their number, for they must injure sport considerably.

All the clubs are looking forward to the competition for the Marston Challenge Cup, at Tewkesbury, on Bank Holiday Monday next, and there will be a very large gathering there, to see the sport and know the result. There will be excursions by water and by railway.

R. Wingfield.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

The water in the Yorkshire streams has, during the past week, been exceedingly favourable, but wind and weather have not been so agreeable. In the early part of the week fine freshets filled the rivers and gladdened the hearts of local piscators, but the high wind and unfavourable weather has somewhat militated against good fishing. The streams have not been patronised much in the daytime, though the cool of the evening has attracted a good sprinkling of fishermen. Salmon fishing in the Ouse I know has been very disappointing. The season opened well, and every prospect of a royal time was assured, but the fishers have been doomed to disappointment. Within the last week or two good catches have been like "angels' visits," and the unlucky fishermen can assign no reason for this paucity. It was thought that the recent floods would have brought up a quantity of fish, but they have failed to do so. In the lower reaches of the river the scarcity is even more apparent than it is higher up. The other day, at Cawood—where they usually have a better supply than at Naburn Lochs—they had to send to York for salmon. The supply of the lordly fish in the Derwent is fairly good, but not so plentiful as of late years.

One or two prosecutions have been undertaken by the Tees Fishery Board at South Stockton. On Monday a man named Samuel Coddick was charged before the local bench, under the Salmon Fisheries and Fresh Water Fisheries Acts, with having in his possession a net for the purpose of illegally taking salmon. Mr. W. B. Dodds, the Town Clerk of Stockton, prosecuted on behalf of the conservators. The case was proved by P.C. John Henderson, who stated that on the 17th of July he saw defendant and another man on Levan Bridge. When they saw him they ran off. He followed them, and caught defendant, who had the net in his possession. He was fined £2 and costs, or, in default, ordered to prison for one month. The other case was one of more importance, and is a vexed question to the salmon fishers in the district. John Davis was charged with doing damage to the amount of fifty shillings to the river Tees embankment, by removing sand on the Ingleby Barwich estate, the property of the trustees of the Kirkleatham Hospital. Mr. W. B. Dodds appeared for the prosecution in this case also, while defendant was represented by Mr. Fowler. The embankment in question had been constructed by the complainant, Mr. John Rowlands, at a cost of £200, for the purposes of his salmon fishing, the rights of which he held by lease. The case for the prosecution was that defendant, after being repeatedly warned, removed sand from the place mentioned, and so undermined the embankment and caused it to fall in, besides interfering with the fishing operations of Rowlands. Defendant pleaded that he was in the employment of a sand merchant named Cowell, who had got up sand from a gravel pit in the bed of the river for upwards of twenty years, and had never previously been interfered with by anyone until Rowlands took the place for fishing. As a salmon fisher, Cowell deposed that it could not interfere with Rowlands' fishing operations, because it was all rock at the place in question, and they could not fish where he got the sand from. The sand was from a gravel trench he had made himself in the bed of the river, and which four days in a fortnight was covered with water. The bench observed that the case was an important one, and deferred judgment till next Monday.

ANGLERS in the Swale and its contributing streams have experienced capital sport. During the early part of the week the water was in excellent condition, and this circumstance attracted a good number of fishermen. Trout fishers have turned out fairly well, while bottomers have been numerous. Some capital catches of scale fish have been notified, some of the fish exceeding 3lb. in weight, Mr. Isherwood, of Reeth, I hear has had splendid sport, and other Swaledale gentlemen have been equally fortunate. A barbel caught below the Castle turned the scale for over 3lb. The Derwent has been fairly well patronised, while the Wharfe has yielded some first-rate panniers. Mr. A. J. Kempley, a York angler, fishing in a pike-pond near Brough, captured several fine specimens.

THE members of the Fulford (York) Angling Society, to the number of about twenty, fished their second match of the season the other day at Cheesecake Farm, on the Derwent, the necessary permission having been given by Mr. Carr. Notwithstanding a drenching rain, fairly good sport was enjoyed. The winner of the first prize was Mr. C. Arminson, with 5½lb. of fish; the second was Mr. T. Laverack, with 4lb. 14oz.; and the third Mr. Walker, who caught 4lb. 11½oz. Many of the local clubs are now busy arranging their matches, the August race week being a favourite time. Amongst these, which are composed for the most part of working men, the York City Angling Association, hold their annual competition on Bank Holiday Monday, and the event is likely to raise considerable interest.

NOTES FROM TYRONE.

THE past fortnight has been a very unfavourable one on the majority of the Tyrone trout streams from many causes, but chiefly owing to the low water and bright sunshine—two important factors against the making of heavy baskets. The Ballinderry has yielded a few brace of trout, and an odd salmon now and then, and there the record stops. Such light waters as the Terrew (or Newmills), Kildress, Rock, Moneymore, and other small streams are reduced to mere threads, and even the Blackwater is far below the usual summer level. In the latter river trout are plentiful in the pools, but at present are inclined to sulk. From the more distant streams—the Mourne, Strule, Castlederg, &c.—a similar state of affairs is reported; the Mourne, however, is said to be doing better than the others. While the Assizes was sitting in Omagh, a large number of the grand jurors up from the country took the opportunity of trying the salmon waters of the Strule, but I hear that the greater part met but with indifferent success.

COARSE fishers are having a splendid turn of sport on the many lakes of the eastern section of Tyrone—Roan, Furlough, Eskeragh, Moy, and a dozen others. On the first-named for the past week, perch, two and three-pounders, are taking very greedily any kind of artificial or natural fly, and in no other lake that I have fished have I known perch to take a fly on the top of the water. The best time for perch fly fishing is just at sunrise, with a strong "curl" on the water from the west or south-west. Some anglers can make a bag of 70lb. of perch in a morning on the black fly. On the other lakes the ordinary bait fishing is resorted to, with good results; but for the best coarse fishing no place in Ulster can equal the Burmouth of the Ballinderry, where it enters Lough Neagh.

SALMON netting would appear to be improving in Lough Neagh, and also trout fishing, while the other industries—eel, pollen, pike, bream and perch fishing—continues fairly good.

THERE is one great bar against the rivers in East Tyrone rising into repute among "foreign" anglers, that is, their remoteness, and in a backward country, the want of proper hotel accommodation, and the want of proper protection in the close time. The chief river is the Ballinderry. Now the only village on it where hotel accommodation can be found is Coagh, Cookstown, Dungannon, and other towns are too distant, while the nearest point where good hotels can be found is Stewartstown, three miles distant from the Ballinderry, Blackwater, and Lough Neagh.

EAST TYRONE.

THE PULBOROUGH COMPETITION.

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

LAST Monday night there was a crowded assembly of disciples of Old Izaak at the Bedford Head Hotel, Covent-garden, on the occasion of the distribution of prizes won in the competition held on the Arun, at Pulborough, on July 12. The chair was occupied by Mr. C. A. Medcalf (president of the Central Association); and Mr. J. Kelly, the famous carp fisherman, filled the vice-chair. Supporting him were a number of well-known anglers, including Mr. J. A. Fitch, Mr. A. Conn (Bermondsey Bros.), Mr. C. Watling, Mr. G. Watling, Mr. Wright, Mr. W. J. Wade (secretary), Mr. Simms, Mr. Simpkins, Mr. Arthur Matthews (New Albion Piscatorials), &c. Mr. E. L. Nutt, of Pulborough, was also present and brought with him many fragrant bouquets, which in the course of the evening were handed to the principal prize-takers.

Prior to the presentation of prizes several excellent songs were sung by Messrs. W. Stretch, Harvey, Pettitt, Taylor, Butler, and others.

The Chairman then addressed the meeting and said it was a pleasing duty he had to perform that evening—viz., to distribute the prizes in connection with the late Pulborough Competition. He thought that the match was quite a success. (Hear, hear.) The committee had worked very hard to make it so, and he was glad to say that not one single complaint had been received from any of the competitors. (Hear, hear.) In respect to the prizes, one or two gentlemen had contributed very largely—he referred to Mr. Eldridgo who, he was sorry to say, could not be present owing to ill-health, who had given £2 2s.: and their old friend Mr. Nutt, who had given them £1 10s. 6d. (Cheers.) They had also received a very substantial prize list from the Great Northern Brothers' Club, including several donations from individual members—(cheers)—and on behalf of the Central Association he heartily thanked all for their kindness. (Renewed cheers.) He then proceeded to present the prizes. The names of the principal winners have already appeared in the *Fishing Gazette*. The prizes consisted of some sums of money, a silver watch, a gold pin, fly-rods, a landing-net, a hook-book fully fitted up, winches, ornamental vases, anglers' knives, &c.

Mr. Nutt also said a few words and concluding by proposing a vote of thanks to the press. More songs ensued, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

ANGLING EXTRAORDINARY.—PLUCKY RESCUE FROM DROWNING.—Young Robert Steele, son of Mr. Reginald Steele, a well-known and accomplished Border angler, rescued a drowning lad from the Esk by the aid of his fishing-rod in a very plucky manner. The young lad, whose name is Elliot, a pupil teacher at Limyclonch School, was bathing in the stream a little below Canonbie Bridge along with other boys, all younger than himself, when the current proved too strong for him, and he was washed down to a dangerous pool called Trimble's Hole, which is about 10ft. deep, within about 150yds. south of the bridge, and lies under the shadow of the churchyard, and within sight of the Cross Keys Hotel. Steele, who was busy in his shop at Bowholm, about 250yds. from the river, noticed that Elliot sank while he was endeavouring to swim the pool. With much presence of mind he ran for his fishing-rod, rushed down to the water-side, waded in up to his neck, and found Elliot lying quite still at the bottom. With the help of the fishing-rod, Steele managed to draw the boy near to him, and then he dived and brought him to the surface. Although life was nearly extinct, by vigorous rubbing and the application of other restoratives, Elliot was at length brought round a bit, and assistance having arrived, the lad was taken to his uncle's house close by, and attended by Dr. Anderson. He is still in a weak condition. I spent my boyhood at Canonbie School, at least that portion of it from 1844 till 1855, and know Trimble's Hole (or Trummel's Pool, as it is called) well. I have bathed in the Hush Knottyholm Pool, the Goats, Prior Pool, Long Pool, the Cauldron and Willow Pools, but I never ventured into Trimble's Hole or the Dead Nook. They are the most dangerous holes in the Esk; in fact, if any one had asked me when a boy to name the deepest pool in the world, I would have selected the Dead Nook, and most other lads then would have done the same. It is a fearful, black, treacherous-looking spot, and the other, although a good angling pitch, has something uncanny-looking about it, whether it is because both are in close proximity to the kirkyard or no, goodness knows; but I advise all strange anglers never to wade in either Trimble's Hole or the Dead Nook.—G.

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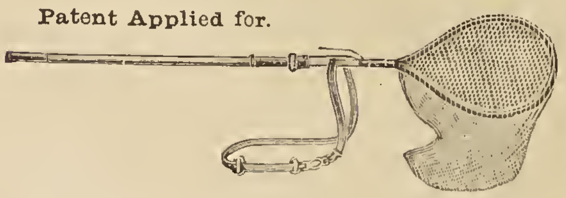

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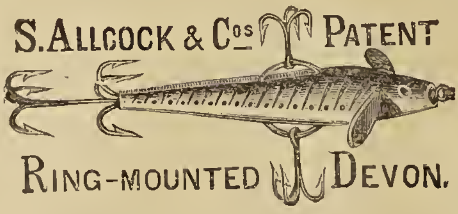

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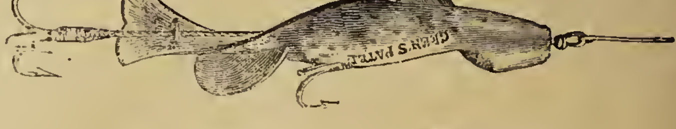

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SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 1891.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The free competition on July 26 was duly fished for in the association waters, from Slough to Langley, when about one hundred and fifty competed, and duly won by the undermentioned: E. T. Blake, Campbell United, first; R. Onree, Jubilee, second; F. Spicer, Eclipse, third; F. Warner, Jubilee, fourth; F. Taylor, South Belgravia, fifth; Collins, Eclipse, sixth; J. Randall, Anglers' Pride, seventh; J. Fountain, Sundial, eighth; J. Tanner, Campbell United, ninth; E. Merritt, Allason United Brothers, tenth; L. Griffin, Walworth Waltonians, eleventh; J. Cheek, Acton Piscatorials, twelfth; W. Harris, Prince Arthur, thirteenth; Mr. Davy, Prince of Wales, fourteenth; W. Fountain, Sundial, fifteenth; E. Wood, Campbell United, sixteenth; J. Axworthy, Prince of Wales, seventeenth; united weight of fish, 21lb. 1½oz., and several other anglers weighed in fish. Mr. E. Baildhams, of the Globe Angling Society, photographed the anglers at the Brickmakers' Arms. A vote of thanks was given to the donor for his kind gift, and he hopes to give a much larger one, which I will announce shortly, open to all on the Anglers' Association, but no member will be allowed to compete, only those who arrive by the down morning trains on the day of the competition. The above prizes were distributed by B. Abrahams, the referee, and a vote of thanks was passed to that gentleman. A vote of thanks was also passed to the stewards for their good services rendered. Considering the hot day and the weed which the canal holds, there was a good show of bream, roach, perch, and tench. After the anglers partook of refreshments, they left by the 9.7 train, which had special carriages, for the anglers, and London was reached at 9.45 p.m. The reporter of the *Sportsman* and *Lloyd's* was chosen clerk of the scales.—B. ABRAHAMS.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT No. 2.—A return visit on the above list was paid to the Crown and Buckland Angling Society, on Wednesday, the 29th inst., and I am sorry to have to report it a failure, as only six clubs put in an appearance; if this is returning a compliment to a well-known society the sooner return visits are done away with the better, so that the people that have the trouble to arrange them may find something better to do.—F. THORLING.

Anglers' Association (SOUTHERN DISTRICT) VISITING LIST.—A return visit on the above list, took place on Tuesday, the 28th inst., at the Original North Lambeth Angling Society, Wellington, South-street, Hercules-buildings, Westminster-bridge-road, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. On the roll being called the following nine clubs answered: Bermondsey Brothers, Blackfriars, North Lambeth, Peckham Brothers, Second Surrey, St. George's, United Brothers, St. Thomas's, Original North Lambeth. The next visit will take place at the Peckham Brothers on Monday, the 10th instant.—G. W. ARMSTRONG, district officer.

Aberdeen Amateur Rock Fishers.—The third competition was arranged for Saturday afternoon, and to be open to those who had failed to land 20lb. of fish at one fishing this season. The weather was fine, but the sea rather smooth and clear for good baskets all over. However, the first two who weighed in had splendid takes, and especially so the premier basket. First, William Cruickshank, 38lb. 1oz.; second, William Campbell, 18lb. 9oz.; third, George Garvie.—G. M.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—We are going to fish a match on August 2, at Slough. One of our new members was fortunate enough to take a prize in the competition on July 26.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—On Tuesday last we had a good number of members present, and I wish to remind those members that were absent that we fish our quarterly prizes in August. On July 19 only two members weighed in, namely: W. Hopping, roach, dace, and gudgeon; and Wal Gunuell, perch. This week several of our members went out, the following weighed in: W. Hopping, roach; W. Steward, perch; and J. Pailes, roach, dace, perch, and a grayling.—J. PAILES, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—Mr. Harding weighed in on July 26, he having some nice dace and one jack, weight 5lb. 11½oz. The four prizes standing over from July 12, will be fished for on August 2; members to go where they like, and all fish to weigh.—W. H. POTTER, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our second match this season came off July 26, at Woking, when three prizes were taken as follows: Mr. J. Bell, first, roach and bream; Mr. J. James, second, roach and dace; Mr. A. Knowles, third, roach and dace. Mr. T. King had a very nice show of dace from Twickenham; Mr. W. Knowler weighed in roach, dace, and barbel. Members are requested to attend next week as quarterly night is near at hand.—J. RICH, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Gt. Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On July 26, we had a very nice show of fish, contributed by the following members, Mr. Embleton, sen., having a nice show of roach.; Mr. W. Hake some nice roach and dace; Mr. Lattimore, roach; Mr. Humphreys some good bream; and Mr. C. Irwin with a fine show of bream, winning the monthly prize for the heaviest weight during the month.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday, when it was decided that we should hold a sea fishing competition on August 30, for four prizes. The matter will be brought forward again next Wednesday, when I hope every member will attend, to fix the destination and conditions of the match.—A. G. SMITH, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The members of this club will fish a match on the 2nd and 3rd inst., both days to count, for six prizes, value three guineas, roving. Our show on July 26 was very poor, Messrs. C. and W. Wastell being the only two to arrive with fish. Members can weigh in on Monday until 11.45. Members are requested to attend on Tuesday next to arrange next outing.—G. MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—Our trays were fairly well filled on 26th ult. by the following members: James Smith, J. Warman, G. Pocock, and H. Metcalf, total gross weight, 51lb. 7oz., mostly bream.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—On Wednesday Mr. Roezzler was elected a working member. Our match on the 26th ult. was very successful, all the prizes being taken: Mr. F. Barker, 1st, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Foster, 2nd, meerchaum pipe in case; Mr. Smith, 3rd, bottle of whisky. The first two gentlemen also divided a sweepstake between them. Let me remind gentlemen that fish caught on Bank Holiday and the day previous may be weighed in as one day on Monday evening.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On the 26th ult. the following members weighed in: Mr. Aitchison, chub; Mr. E. Briggs, tench; and Mr. F. Briggs, tench. The competition, which was arranged to take place at Edenbridge on July 12 and was postponed, will now take place on August 9.—H. ROACH, sec.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—Our members were out on July 26, with the following results: Mr. J. Fleming, 3lb. 5oz.; Mr. D. Flint, 3lb. 2oz.; Mr. J. Green, 3lb. 1oz.; Mr. J. Pether, 2lb. 8oz.; Mr. W. Antill, 1lb. 8oz. Next week our meeting night will take place on Thursday instead of Wednesday, to fix date for next outing.—J. PETHER, sec.

Burton Piscatorials, Globe, Derby-street, King's-cross.—The following weighed in on the 26th ult.: Messrs. Sturman, Richards, Brierly, and Biggs, jun., with tench, roach, bream, and gudgeon. Mr. S. Porley, fishing the reservoirs at Tring on the 20th ult., in a few hours succeeded in capturing eleven fine tench, scaling 33lb.; also one very fine eel of 3lb., and one rudd of 10oz., making a total of 36lb. 10oz., and those who have the time and privilege of fishing there I should advise to go now, as the fish are feeding and heavy bags are being made.—C. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 26th ult. the following members weighed in:—Mr. W. White, bream and roach; Mr. C. Chapman, jack and roach; Mr. Boxall, jack and roach; Mr. Fitter, roach; Mr. Sharp, roach; Mr. Critcher, roach. Our next brake outing will take place on Sept. 6, when we go to Weybridge. Members who have not already given in their names will oblige by doing so at once. Members are reminded that Wednesday next is quarterly night.—C. T. WHITE, sec.

Campbell United Angling Society, High-road, Kilburn.—Several members weighed in on July 26—viz., Mr. E. T. Lake, roach, tench, and perch; Mr. Hall, tench, roach, and bream; Mr. J. Tanner, roach; Mr. R. Smith, roach; Mr. J. Smith, tench; Mr. Pope, perch and roach; Mr. Hiscock, roach; and E. Wood, roach. A great number of our members competed for the prizes kindly given by Mr. Cook, of Brickmakers' Arms, Slough, and I am pleased to report that one of our members, Mr. E. T. Lake, succeeded in winning first prize, field-glass; Mr. J. Tanner, eighth, knives and forks; and E. Wood, sixteenth, spoons. All the members that fished for the prizes journeyed to Slough on July 26. The competition was a great success, and passed off satisfactorily. I wish to inform members that they can weigh in on Monday night.—E. W. WOOD, hon. sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—The announcement that Mr. J. Deplidge would read a paper—"An Account of the River Wey"—drew a large and appreciative audience on Monday last. Mr. Deplidge thoroughly exhausted his subject, and clearly revealed the beauties of the river Wey. According to the usual custom of this society, a musical entertainment followed, which was an unqualified success. Mr. H. J. Tibbatts (of the Citizen), Houndsditch, Mr. J. Willson, treasurer of the Blackfriars Angling Society, Mr. J. E. Gold, of the Fishing Rod and Tackle Stores, 17, Oakley-street, S.E., were elected honorary members, and another gentleman a working member. In consequence of Monday next being Bank Holiday, the weekly meeting will be held on the following Wednesday.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—Five of our members took part in the Clerkenwell competition at Yalding, on July 26, Mr. H. Gates winning first prize; Messrs. Chambers, Castell, and McDonnell also having fish, but not sufficient to take a prize.—CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.—On the 26th ult., twenty-four members of this society fished a pegged-down punt match, at Staines, for six prizes, but owing to low and bright state of the river the takes were rather small. The following were the successful competitors: Mr. Wilson, first, 9lb. 6¾oz., barbel; Mr. Robinson, second, barbel; Mr. Turner, third, dace; Mr. Chapman, fourth, roach; Mr. Tringham, senr., fifth, barbel; Mr. Edwards, sixth, dace. The following also had fish: Messrs. T. Bowater, Painter, A. Bowater, Ellis, Aplin, and Lee.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—At last Monday's meeting, Mr. J. P. Connellan in the chair, Mr. J. Day, Upper Clapton, was elected a full member. The proposed new departure was considered, but in the absence of our secretary, Mr. H. Howes, no decision was arrived at. Next Monday, being Bank Holiday, there will be no meeting, as we trust that most of our members will be on the war-path. Lists of the slain sent in to Mr. Wheeldon by Tuesday evening will be duly noted in next week's *Gazette*. Our next meeting will be on Monday, August 10.

Clarence Angling Club, Red Lion Hotel, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.—At a special meeting held on July 29, some very important business was done, the first being the rental of a stretch of one and a-half miles of first-class water, about eighteen miles from London; after which another new member was enrolled. Mr. J. F. Dawson has had some good sport amongst the perch, roach and dace, our worthy treasurer being well in with the minnows. The sec. had a fortnight of good fishing in Essex, with full bags each day of rudd, roach, dace and eels. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.—ALF. E. EVANS, secretary.

Clerkenwell and District United.—The competition in connection with the above took place on July 26 in the Medway, with the following result: Mr. H. Gates, (City of London), 1lb. 12oz.; Mr. Rapley (St. John's), 1lb. 11½oz.; Mr. H. Long (Crown and Buckland), 13¾oz.; Mr. Glover (Crown and Buckland), 11¼oz.; Mr. Webster (Lincoln), 8¼oz.; and Mr. W. Clark (Crown and Buckland), 7½oz. We had our usual fine weather, and all of us enjoyed our pleasant journey through the hop country. Our list is now full, the Camden Angling Society having joined us.—F. CASTELL, hon. sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We fished for remainder of prizes on July 26th; the winners were: A. Smith, W. Parbury, G. Perkhams. We also had a nice show of fish weighed in by F. Hannabus, with tench and bream; F. Stone, with tench.—A. SMITH, secretary.

Corinthian Angling Club, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, W.—A few nice chub have been taken from our water in the Colne. Mr. R. B. Brown had a handsome fish of 4½lb. from the Wey.

Crewe No. 1 Angling Society.—The annual tradesman's match in connection with the above-named society took place on Saturday last, in the Shropshire Union Railway and Canal Company's Canal at Audlem, when some ninety members took part in the competition. The tradesmen of Crewe kindly presented the society with some very handsome prizes, one of which deserves special mention—viz., the one given by Mr. Summerfield, an oil painting, subject, "A Brace of Trout." This picture was painted by Mr. West, of Sydney, near Crewe, a very old and respected inhabitant of Crewe, and reflects great credit on his ability as an artist; and was taken by the first prize winner, Mr. C. Mitchell, chairman of the society. Other chief prize winners may be mentioned: Mr. S. Clewes, J. Bate, H. Thomas, H. Plevin, R. Seddon, N. Dean, &c. £7 10s. was granted from the funds of the club in addition to the tradesmen's gift, making forty-eight prizes in all, valued at something like £18.—F. A. WILLIAMS.

Crown and Buckland Angling Society.—This club held their return visit on July 29. Mr. Norris was in the chair, and Mr. Franklin vice-chairman. Among those present were Messrs. Chambers (City of London), Catnach and Thorling (St. John's), A. Greeling and Baker (Rising Sun), Burwash, Clark, &c. Mr. A. Greeley presided at the piano.—E. ROGERS, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On July 26 several of our members were out and met with very fair sport. Messrs. Wild, Parram, T. Midson, Cogswell, W. Midson, J. Edwards, and Killick, having a fine show of roach, perch, and bream, one gentleman having 10lb. of roach from the new association water at Ponder's End. Members will be able to weigh in on Bank Holiday as usual, honorary members on Tuesdays.—S. MALBY, sec.

East London Piscatorial Society, London Hospital Tavern, Whitechapel-road, E.—At the meeting held July 23, a new member was elected and another proposed who will be balloted for next meeting.—FRANK WOODS, secretary.

Edmonton and Tottenham Angling Society, Old Bell, Edmonton.—This very old-established society made its *debût* for the season on July 26, by its members going out for a fishing competition to the river Stort to fish where they liked as far as Harlow. The outing was rewarded with most successful results, every member who competed bringing to the trays a splendid show of fish. The following were the successful members: Mr. Hadtkis, first: Mr. Litch, second; and Mr. Hopton, third.

Eustonian Angling Society, King's Head, Swinton-street, King's-cross.—During Bank Holiday the above society will fish the association waters, at Enfield, for the remainder of club prizes not taken last season. On July 26 very few fish were weighed in. Mr. Bailey takes Mr. Neall's prize for the largest roach for the month of July.—R. NEALL, sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On July 26th, the following weighed in: Messrs. S. Hill, bream and roach; F. Vanhegan, roach and dace; and Biggs, roach and dace. Mr. Biggs wins Mr. Vanhegan's prize for gross weight in July. At our last meeting we made one member, and have two more on the book for election this week. We have still room for a few more working members, as our prize list is still increasing.—J. W. BIGGS, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We were saved from a blank on July 26, by Mr. Stebbings with 9lb. of bream, and Mr. Riggs, with a few roach. A friend of mine tells me that on Wednesday, last week, the banks of the Thames between Hammersmith and Kew were covered with dead fish, roach and dace.—A. P., sec.

Good Intent Angling Society.—We have had some good shows of fish at our club this last three weeks. Our nineteenth annual dinner will take place on August 17, at the Rye House Hotel. Mr. H. J. Tibbatts will preside. A four-horse brake will start from the club-house on the morning at nine o'clock; so members give in your names at once.—R. M.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—We had a good show of dace, barbel, and chub from the Thames, by Mr. Monty, on July 26. I take this opportunity of calling the attention of those gentlemen who intend giving prizes and have not yet done so, that the committee meet on Thursday, the 6th of August, the latest, to arrange them for the season, and that the sweepstake at Amberley is arranged for the 16th. There is still a chance of a few more entrances.—J. T. G., secretary.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—On July 25 Messrs. Davis weighed in perch and gudgeon; Farrell, gudgeon; and T. Morris, dace. Last meeting night Messrs. Pryer, Richards, and Pocock were duly elected members of this club. Wednesday, August 19, is the day fixed for our visit on the Clerkenwell List, and I hope next week to be able to report that I have secured the services of Mr. Harding to read us his paper on the occasion, which will ensure a fine evening's amusement. All anglers and friends are invited, and we can stow away very comfortably over one hundred persons.—SNAP.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—We met on the 23rd ult., Mr. G. Holder in the chair, when it was arranged to call a meeting for Thursday, August 13, for special business. Several of our members fished in the match at Yalding, but were not successful. The following showed fish: Messrs. G. Holder, roach and bream, 4lb. 7¼oz.; H. Herbert, dace; J. Herbert, roach and dace. We had a very good muster of visitors and friends. We have room for a few more members.—J. HERBERT.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members competed for four special prizes on the 26th ult. at Pangbourne, only two (Messrs. C. Layton and A. Furlong) succeeded in taking the required weight. There are five special prizes to be fished for on August 9; particulars and conditions can be had at the club-house, Messrs. T. Harris and J.

Poole weighed in roach and dace on the 26th ult. There was a long discussion on "Eel Fishing During the Fence Months," on Wednesday evening last; it was proposed and unanimously carried that our delegate (Mr. G. Manning) bring the question forward at the next meeting of delegates.

Jolly Anglers, Cambridge.—The above club had its first outing last week, which for the first time since the formation of the club, this match was called a Special Day. £8 was offered in money prizes. There were fifty-three entries, and fifty members fished a pegged-down match at Upware. Logan's boat conveyed the members down stream, about nine miles to the above place. There would have been a much larger entry, but business just at this time prevented many. The day as to the weather was not all that an angler would like, as it was very windy, great catches were not the order of the day. For just as the ground was pegged-out, the weed-cutter went through all the swims; hence the consequences, to the said annoyance of the anglers. Another hindrance was the travelling of great barges through the swims; however, just upon £7 in prizes were won—and the money paid last Monday, at the club room, to the successful competitors. On next Monday (by-day), match will take place. Hoping for better luck.—JOHN O. GEORGE, auditor.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—The only members weighing in fish on July 26 were: Messrs. Onree, Warner, and Dunham, who had roach from the Slough Canal, the first two gentlemen winning second and fourth prizes in the competition.—A. IDE, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—The dinner to inaugurate the new headquarters, the Queen of England Hotel, Goldhawk-road, took place on Friday, 24th ult., and was a great success, being well attended by members and friends. The repast was of an exceptional character, and all credit is due to Mr. C. Downes. In the unavoidable absence of the president, the vice-president took the chair, and ably carried out the duties, supported by the treasurer and secretary. The musical programme which followed was most successful. Several new prizes were promised, and members proposed to join.—T. SALTER.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road.—On the 26th ult., a few members were out, three of thom fishing in the Clerkenwell District Competition, Mr. Webster winning fifth prize. The following members also weighed in: Messrs. Porter, Belton, and Ellingham, some nice dace; Mr. Holmes having a pretty show of rudd. Members can weigh their fish from Saturday till Monday night for specimens and gross weight only.—W. E. WATLING, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association. — Only fourteen members attended our last week's meeting. Why this apathy, gentlemen? Many things may happen behind your backs, and then of course some of you will grumble and want this and that reopened. Two non-members were duly elected, and three more nominated for membership. We have now decisively passed the ceutury, and it is proposed to celebrate this by a special outing—say to Windermere. The details, arrangements, and prizes were settled for the conpetition in the river Vyrnwy at Llanymynech on August Bank Holiday, and several minor matters got through.—R. WOOLFALL.

Liverpool East End Friendly Angling Association, 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool.—We had a good attendance of members on the 21st ult. It was proposed that a match take place at the Vyrnwy, Llanymynech, for three prizes, no fish to be weighed in under 4oz.; one rod only to be used by each competitor. To leave Liverpool landing stage by the six o'clock boat, on the day of match. Bank Holiday.—T. C. SEGAR, sec.

Lord Palmerston Angling Society, Earl Russell, Isledon-road, Holloway, N.—The members of this society met on the 27th ult., when Mr. Wooderham and Mr. J. King were made members. We fish a match on August 2 and 3, the two days' fish to weigh, all fish included, and to be taken from public waters.—R. SHARPLESS, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On July 26, our members were at various waters, when we had some good shows of bream, roach, tench, chub, and perch, by Messrs. Penfold, Weller, Samson, A. Clark, Grey and Barnard. On the 9th inst. we fish our first outing this season at Boxmoor, when we hope to have a good muster.—W. F. PEARCE.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Ball's Pond-road.—Tuesday being our usual meeting-night, we did not have a very large attendance, as most of our members are out holiday making. Mr. Garratt weighed in dace on the 26th ult.; and Mr. H. K. Applin was out on same day with Mr. Smith, of the Dalston, and several of the Great Northern members, and succeeded in bringing home a dozen very nice roach.—J. COOMBER, sec.

New Albion Piscatorials. Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—Since my last report, Mr. R. Turnham has weighed in a finely-formed jack of 11¼lb., and at to-night's meeting (Thursday, July 30) Mr. Grimmett, our chairman, just to make our mouths water, as he said, reported that a friend of his had recently caught twenty tench weighing 73lb., one rudd of 2¾lb., and a roach of 2¼lb.! Our own Benevolent box produced a guinea. Next outing fixed for Bank Holiday Monday, an open competition. The Norfolk Broads question was brought before the meeting, and the chairman said the club ought to feel proud of the position the London anglers had taken in the matter, considering that the New Albion Piscatorials were the first to contribute to the Defence Fund.—A. E. BALDWIN, sec.

North Eastern Angling Society, City Arms, 9, Blomfield-street, London-wall, E.C. — On July 23 tho balance-sheet for the past year was read and confirmed, showing everything to be in a highly satisfactory condition. We have two or three vacancies for activo members should any gentlemen be disposed to join.—G. T. FLETCHER, hon. sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 106 and 108, Westminster Bridge-road, S.E.—On 26th ult. no very great success was met with, only two members weighing in dace. I may mention that a rather large catch was made early in the morning, in the person of one of our members, who had a tumble in about 20ft. of water, but was luckily hooked and landed, not much the worse for the drenching. —F. WALLIS, sec.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway-road, Highbury.—We met as usual on Wednesday, when another member was admitted. It was decided that we fish a roving match at Harlow for three club and two private prizes, on August 16; all members to go down by the 8.10 train from Hackney Downs.—H. STRETCH, hon. sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W.—Mr. Schultz, senr., saved us from a blank on July 26, with perch. August 13 is quarterly night, when I hope to see a good muster, as there is some interesting business to be brought forward. —G. SCHULTZ.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—On July 19, Messrs. Bygrave, sen., Bygrave, jun., and Harrison weighed in roach, dace, and perch, making a first show for the season of our club-house. On 26th ult. Messrs. Bygrave, sen., roach and dace, 2lb. 5½oz.; Bygrave, jun., and Neville, roach; heaviest fish, 10oz.—J. CUTHBERT, sec.

Original North Lambeth Angling Society, the Wellington, South-street, Hercules Buildings, Lambeth, S.E.—On Tuesday last we received a visit from A. A. L. Although only nine clubs answered to the roll, we passed a very pleasant evening. On August 2 we have a competition at Twickenham, from punts; members to go by first train from Waterloo.—J. MANN, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Au open match took place on July 26, when there was a nice show of fish, and all the prizes were taken: Mr. Stidolph being first, Mr. Kemp second, Mr. Gardham third, Mr. Daniels fourth, and Mr. Tozer fifth, several other gentlemen having fish.—A. G. DUKE, sec.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Pancras-road, N.W.—We had a fine show of fish on July 26 and 28, Mr. Elbourne weighing in 35lb. of bream, largest fish 3lb. 13oz.; Messrs. Mares, Dove, Carr, also a nice show of fish. All members please note that on Aug. 2 and Bank Holiday, We fish for five prizes; all fish to weigh; all members are requested to weigh in not later than 11.30 on Monday night. W. ELBOURNE.

Prince Albert Angling Society, Prince Albert, Lincoln-street, Bow-road.—Our members were out on the 26th ult. Mr. F. Pignatelli was first to weigh in with 5lb. 10oz. roach; Mr. C. Mead, 4lb. 5oz.; Mr. Gandy, roach and dace. We have a silver cup to be fished for, also two other prizes, on the 9th; pegged-down fishing. Place will be decided on the 6th inst. Any gentlemen wishing to join will be heartily received.—F. PIGNATELLI, hon. sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—Several members where out on July 26, at Slough and the Thames, when the following weighed in: Mr. W. Rodber, three fine chub; Mr. Buck, one barbel; Mr. Harris, tench, which won a prize in the competition at Slough. From report of our members great praise is due to Mr. Abrahams for the able manner in which the arrangements were carried out. No meeting will be held on Wednesday next, August 5.—J. W. HARRIS, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—The following weighed in on July 26: Messrs. Scott, Knight, Ivermee, Robbins, Brett, Crawley, Axworthy and Davy. The two latter being successful in the competition at Slough. Mr. William Chambers was elected a fishing member of the above.—W. BOWYER.

Queen's Angling Society, the Latimer Arms, Walmer-road, Notting-hill. — We had a good show of roach and bream on July 26, by Messrs. Pearce, Fathers, Drake, Pratt, Cook, T. W. Morgan. I hope members will show up to arrange for the annual September outing and dinner and arrange prize list.—F. G. PEARCE.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—On Monday, the 20th ult., a smoking concert was held to celebrate the removal of the club to these premises. Mr. Bradley occupied the chair, and was faced by Mr. Baber in the vice-chair, when, considering tho fact that there were unfortunately three other concerts fixed for that night, a very fair muster was present. On the 26th ult. Mr. Comley saved the society from a blank by a show of roach. On Monday last, Messrs. Henry Taylor and Thomas Grantham, the worthy proprietors, together with a friend, Mr. Ernest Bedford, were unanimously elected working members, and gave some very interesting fishing experiences; Mr. Fred Roser and Mr. Fred Robinson were proposed as working members, and Mr. Edward Hawkins was duly proposed as an honorary member. There are several other names to be brought forward next week.—J. SKINNER, sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—About twenty members of the above society took part in the match at Amberley, on the 26th ult.; and I am very pleased to say all the prizes were taken as follows: Messrs. J. Winley, first; J. Utting, second; T. Hill, third; F. Lamberton, sen., fourth. On Wednesday, 29th ult., Mr. J. Davis weighed in some dace.—F. T. LAMBERTON, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—Several of our members were out on July 26, but only three weighed in, Messrs. Webber, roach, 9lb. 10oz., Upper Thames; Harris, junior, roach, 2lb. 12oz.; Chart, 3lb. 8oz.; tho rest fished the Lower Thames, but were too late to weigh in. In the report of the week previous, Mr. Wood, two prizes, should read £1 10s. for last fishing in September; 10s. 6d. for last fishing in October. It was proposed and seconded that Mr. Galloway and Mr. Phillips become members of this society. They will be balloted for next Wednesday.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—On July 26 we had a very fair show of fish, consisting of roach, dace, perch, chub, rudd, by the following members: F. Barclay, I. Yeo (one of this gentleman's roach scaling 1lb. 2oz.), G. Yeo, Parsley, F. Barrow, E. Perry, J. Stanley, A. Barclay, J. Holden, Cox, and Henson; total 36lb. 2¾oz. Last week's report should read "heaviest roach, 1lb. 3¾oz." instead of "3lb. 4¾oz." We are still open for a few good working members.—A. BARCLAY, secretary.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—We have had some very good fish weighed in during the week: Mr. Stone, a nice carp of 6lb., from the Thames; Mr. Wood, a 4lb. 2oz. bream; Mr. Brocken, perch; Mr. G. Ballinger, barbel; and Mr. George, bream and roach. On Wednesday, at the special meeting, some very good prizes were given by the members to be fished for on the 16th August, at Amberley, roving between Houghton and Timberley Bridges—viz., by Mr. Howard and Son, F. C. Ballinger, G. George, J. Wright, and club prizes. All members must go down by the first train on the morning of the match, or they will be disqualified. I trust all members will compete for the prizes.—J. WRIGHT, secretary.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On July 26 the following members weighed in some nice fish: Messrs. J. Petrie, roach and dace, 7lb., 5¼oz.; W. North, barbel, roach, and dace, 6lb. 11oz.; T. Lovibond, jun., roach, 2lb. 4oz.; G. Giles, roach and perch; J. Barnes, roach and dace. On Tuesday last we had a very fair muster, when a matter of great importance was brought before the members. Mr. Robert Alston was unanimously elected a working member of this society. The balance-sheet was also read and passed. Members wishing to fish can go out on the 2nd and 3rd of August and weigh in as one day take; members will also be able to weigh in till twelve o'clock on Monday night. Mr. H. Lancaster (fish preserver) brought two fish, club and rudd, another addition to our collection. We have a very handsome marble inkstand to be drawn for, tickets sixpence, further information to be had from S. CANE, secretary.

Shepherds' Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherds' Bush-green, W.—Several of our members have been out during the past week, and the following amongst others have weighed in—viz.: Messrs. C. Bennett, W. A. Bennett and friend, a nice show of roach and dace; A. Jones, barbel, dace, and chub; L. S. Fountaine, 12lb. chub (largest, 2½lb.); C. J. Benwell, a handsome tray of perch (largest, 2lb.). Several trips have been arranged for the Bank Holiday, when it is hoped the members will render a good account of themselves. The following is our standard size for all gross weight prizes—viz.: Barbel, 16in.: bream, 12in.; carp, 10in.; chub, 12in.; dace, 7in.; gudgeon, 5in.; perch, 9in.; pike, 24in.; roach, 8in.; rudd, 8in.; tench, 10in.; and trout, according to the various fishery bye-laws. The standard for specimen fish is proportionately high. We shall shortly be in a position to fix the date for the meeting of the Norfolk Broads Defence Association at our club-room, when we trust to see a good muster of anglers interested in the matter, and especially hope for support from West End clubs.—CRYSTAL HOOK.

Silver Trout Anglers' Association, Darlington.—The members held their annual picnic on the 22nd ult., at Wynyard Park, the seat of the Marquis of Londonderry. They were kindly allowed to visit the splendid gardens, and to fish in the lake in the grounds. It proved the wettest of wet days this year, but nothing daunted, they were not to be debarred by the weather; they were granted the use of the schoolroom for lunch and tea, and made themselves as jolly as possible under the circumstances. A number of them held a contest, the results being as follows: First prize, a silver cup (presented by the president, Mr. C. H. Sharp), being won by Mr. Swainston, with 3lb. 15¾oz.; second, Mr. Wright, 2lb. 12¼oz.; third, Mr. Elgie, 1lb. 6½oz.; others as follows: J. Martin, C. Gilham, T. N. Lloyd; pike and perch being abundant. The musicians under Mr. T. N. Lloyd made it pleasant for the ladies and their friends. Previous to departing they assembled, and drank to the health of the noble marquis, and altogether spent a very pleasant day, notwithstanding the adverso weather.—J. F. SMYTHE, sec.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.—On July 26th, Mr. Williams weighed in 14½lb. of bream and dace. Mr. Smales, 10lb. of bream and roach from the Ouse (largest roach, 1lb. 6oz.). Several other members were out, but did not weigh in. Tuesday, 28th, Mr. Clark had a small basket, and some dace from the Thames, We made another new member. Members are informed that the final arrangements for the outing at Little Baddow, on August 9th, will be made next Tuesday. Any member wishing for a seat in the conveyance from the station to the water, will please let me know on or before that evening.—PELICAN.

South Belgravia Angling Society, Duke of Clarence, Horseferry-road. Westminster, S.W.—We had a nice show of fish on July 26th: Mr. Phillips weighed in 4lb. of roach; and Mr. Mandry, 1lb. 12½oz.; Mr. F. Taylor took the fifth prize (a clock) at the Slough. Competition, with one bream weighing 1lb. 6¾oz. Our worthy host, Mr. J. Evans, was elected a working member last Thursday. We have room for more new members, and have plenty of prizes to be fished for.—F. TAYLOR.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Rhodeswell-road, Stepney.—Since my last report, we have had some very good takes on the 19th nlt., eight members turned up with a good show of bream, filling all our trays. On July 26th, the following came to the scales: Messrs. Ruston and Jolly, with roach and bream; Woodford and Willsher with bream.—E. N. P., hon. sec.

St. George's Angling Society, Prince of Wales, St. George's - road, Peckham. — The next visit on the S.L.U.A.V.L., goes to this society on Monday, August 10, when we hope to be well supported. Mr. Regardsoe fishing at Ripley on July 26, had some nice chub.—G. ETHERINGTON, sec.

Stoke Newington Angling Society, the Dun Horse, Kingsland-road, E.—The eleventh annual dinner of the above society took place at the club house on the 22nd ult., our host and hostess deserving all praise for the excellent manner it was placed upon the table, Thirty-three members and friends attended and thoroughly enjoyed themselves until the extension of timo was reached at two o'clock. Mr. George Manning advocated the claims of the Anglers' Benevolent Society in his usual earnest manner, and some valuable prizes were offered for competition during the season. On the 29th ult., we had a nice show of fish, about 36lb. weight. Mr. P. T. Godfrey having eight tench, scaling 19lb. 13½oz.; Mr. Collier, twelve roach, 9lb. 2½oz.; and Mr. Moore, three tench, 7lb. 1oz.—G. GRETTON.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—Several members attended the Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, last Monday night, at the presentation of the prizes for the Pulborough Competition, and two of our members had tho pleasure of taking a prize each (Mr. C. Fisher, a fly rod; and Mr. J. White, a sportsman's knife). It was decided by the members that tho club prizes remain in abeyance until the next meeting night, owing to it being Bank Holiday time.—G. MORTON, sec.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—Seven of our members took part in the competition at Slough on July 26, two of whom were successful in winning prizes—namely, Messrs. Fountain and Son, and they did not tako the advantage of baiting their swim overnight, did not start fishing before ten o'clock and weighed in before eight o'clock. Members will be allowed to weigh in on August 2 and 3 for gross weight. An outing is arranged for August 23, members to go where they please, punt or bank; amount of prizes to be arranged the Tuesday previous.—H.R.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members were out on the 26th ult., with the following result: W. Windred, roach; J. Payne, roach and bream; W. Bennett, bream. Tho members will fish thoir next match in the Medway on the 16th of August for several money prizes.—H. TYLER, secretary.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall-cross.—Our members were out in full force on 26th ult., the following had some good shows, Mr. Ilsley, roach and dace, and an eel, 1lb. 9oz.; Mr. Clugg, roach; Mr. Bird, junr., roach and jack; Mr. Petty, perch. I wish to remind members that the match that was to have taken place on August 2 is postponed till tho 28th. Mr. Denyer was elected a member.—H. C., hon. sec.

Waltonian Angling Society, the Cape of Good Hopo, Albany-street, Regent's Park.—On July 19, we had a nice show of fish from one of our members, Mr. Jukes, 4lb. 12½oz. roach and chub. On the 26th ult., Mr. Waltham perch, &c., 3lb. 4½oz.; H. Putnam, roach and dace, 1lb. 12oz.; Muller, roach, 3lb. 6½oz. On the 29th ult., Mr. Waltham, 7lb. 6oz. roach; H. Putnam, roach and dace, 2lb. 3oz., one roach turning the scale at 1lb. 8oz.—J. Packman, sec.

Walworth Waltonian Angling Society, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—On July 29, the result of the competition was declared as follows: Bailey, first, with splendid show of bream, the largest, one fish of 3lb. 11½oz.; Mr. Griffin, second prize, with good show of roach; Mr. W. H. Crisp, also a good show of roach, third.—C. Hebble, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—At the meeting on Wednesday last it was decided to postpone the August match until the 9th inst., the place to be decided on Wednesday next. On the 22nd ult. Mr. Cooper showed bream 8lb. 12oz.; Dartnall, bream, 7lb. 12oz.; Barnes, roach, 3lb. 12oz.; Gordon, roach and dace, 3lb. 2oz. On the 29th, Dartnall, roach 8lb. 12oz.; Pinder, dace, 4lb. 12oz.; Bryant, roach, 3lb. 4oz.; Barnes, dace, 2lb. 1oz.; and Gordon, roach, 2lb. 1oz.—R. J. Dartnall, sec.

Western Piscatorials, Bear and Rummer Tavern, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square.—On July 19 Mr. Parry weighed in over 8lb. bream and perch, and 3lb. on July 26. Mr. Moon made a very fine show on Wednesday, July 22, weighing in 26lb. of tench and rudd, one tench being a fine four-pounder.—D. W. Evans, sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on July 26, but only the following members weighed in fish: Mr. J. Newton, roach, one fish weighed 1lb. 2oz.; Mr. R. Lowther, roach; Mr. J. Evens, dace.—R. Lowther, sec.

Woolwich Brothers Angling Society, Green Man, High-street, Plumstead.—Our members have met with very little sport lately. We intend fishing a roving match in the Medway on the 16th August. We shall be pleased to enrol a few more members in our ranks. I omitted to mention in the last report that, whilst W. Hart was fishing at Dagenham on the 11th ult. he succeeded in hooking and landing a jack, 2½lb., with tight line, fine drawn gut, and gentils for bait.

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Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add 30 min. for Chelsea.
Add 40 " " Putney.
Add 45 " " Hammersmith.
Add 50 " " Barnes.
Add 55 min. for Kew.
Add 75 " " Richmond.
Add 80 " " Twickenham.
Add 85 " " Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

Time of High Water at London Bridge.

			Morning.	Evening
Saturday,	Aug.	1	11.12	11.50
Sunday,	"	2	—	0.23
Monday,	"	3	0.51	1.17
Tuesday,	"	4	1.43	2.5
Wednesday,	"	5	2.24	2.42
Thursday,	"	6	3.0	3.18
Friday,	"	7	3.35	3.52

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—General Remarks.—There has been no season which has occasioned greater anxiety than the present one in regard to reported destructions of fish. It is only about a month ago there were quantities of barbel and other fish seen floating on the surface of the river in considerable numbers, which it was supposed to have been occasioned by some poisonous fluid from the dye or gas works; but this was negatived, and the cause assigned to the storms and hot weather, when the barbel were weak from spawning. After this came the report to the committee of the T.A.P.S. There had been a destruction of fish near the draw-dock on the Strand-on-the-Green side of Kew bridge, occasioned as it was said, by the spilling of what is termed "Blue Billie," in unloading, and which is used by agriculturalists in the neighbourhood. This was reported to the proper quarter, and with the following reply from the Conservancy head river-keeper, Mr. G. J. Rough:—"I beg to state there has only been two small freights of "Bluo Billie" unloaded at Kew Bridge draw-dock this year, which was carted away by Mr. Jeffries, market gardener, of Gunnersbury, and I am quite sure every caro was taken in the unloading. I saw the barges myself every day during the time they were being unloaded, and there was not any spilling. This man had mats from the barge into his carts, to prevent any falling on to the foreshore." This reply was considered satisfactory by Mr. W. H. Jackson, the member of the committee who brought the matter under consideration. The greatest calamity is now under consideration by the Conservancy officials, in whose hands the matter rests, as specially belonging to their jurisdiction. On the day of the river trip—last Thursday—the head river-keeper, William Douglas, reported the destruction of a large quantity of fish, and produced a bottle of brown coloured water that had been taken out of the river; and this report was supplemented by Mr. W. H. Jackson, confirming the great destruction of fish. It could not have happened at a better time, as Mr. H. Little, the inspector of the Thames Conservancy, joined the launch at Sunbury, and afterwards Mr. J. H. Gough, the secretary, in the evening; and I am soon expecting to hear the result. Mr. W. H. Jackson, whose business premises are at Brentford, has kindly offered to become a honorary river-keeper, and his practical knowledge of the river will render the position valuablo to the society.—B.

Richmond.—Henry Mansell, in three days, 12lb. of roach and dace, and a bream of 3lb.; Henry Howard, in three days, seven barbel, and six dozen of roach and dace.

Twickenham.—C. Annesey, in two days, 20lb. of roach and dace, and one bream; Samuel Cole, in two days, fourteen dozen of roach and dace, and three barbel; John Coxen, in three days, 30lb. of roach and dace, and three barbel; Richard Coxen, in two days, ten dozen of roach and dace, and a fine perch of 1¼lb.; George Coxen, in one day, two dozen of roach and dace, and a couple of barbel: John Frost, in three and a-half days, 46lb. of roach and dace, and seven barbel; John Spong, in four days, 46lb. of roach and dace, and five barbel.

Kingston.—N. Bolton, in three days, twenty-nine dozen of roach and dace; J. Wilkes, in three days, twenty-three dozen of roach and dace, a barbel of 5lb., three jack, and six dozen of gudgeon; John Johnson, during the week, seventeen barbel, twenty-two dozen of roach and dace, and two chub; J. Knight, during the week, ten dozen of roach and dace, and twelve barbel.

Hampton Court.—William Milbourne writes:—"The water is very low and brighter than I have seen it for years, but we are getting a few good roach. The punts are bringing in from five to six dozen each per day. Some of tho roach are very large. There has been, this week, some fine chub taken under the weir. Mr. Parkes, of Moulsey, got one of 4¾lb.; Mr. Rogerson, of Moulsey, also got three fine ones, and a barbel of 4lb. There has been some good takes of roach from the banks at Tagg's Island fishery. I know one man who caught seven dozen in one day, and five dozen the next day, all good roach.

Sunbury.—Messrs. T. and A. Stroud, during the week, have taken forty jack, and some roach and dace; and one of the anglers got one of 5½lb. Mr. Chitty has captured a trout of 5lb.

Chertsey.—John Poulter, one day, with Mr. May, in four hours, over four dozen of roach and dace; and another day, with two gentlemen, eight dozen; L. Hackett, one day, three barbel, two chub, and some good roach, and another day seven and a-half dozen of roach and dace.

Staines.—John Keene, jun., in one day, with Mr. Dunn, five barbel, and six dozen of roach and dace: another day, with Mr. Waterer, ten chub, three barbel, and four dozen of dace; another day, with Mr. Taylor, 18lb. of roach, dace, and barbel; another day, with Mr. Angarde, six dozen of roach and dace, and one barbel; another day, with Mr. Graham Bennett, seven dozen of roach and dace, and one barbel.

Upper Thames.—During the past week the upper portions of the Thames have been visited by daily downpours of rain, which have seemingly kept the disciples of Izaak from following their gentle occupation. Angling, therefore, has been more honoured in the breach than the observance, or if observed, the breeches have had the worst of it. On the 26th it was so hot that it was almost dangerous to be on the water, and in a ramble in the Hurley and Marlow district by the side of the river, I did not observe a single punt at work, and even if there had been, the crowd of pleasure boats was so great as to preclude any chance of sport in mid-channel, or even in generally secluded nooks and corners. Since Monday morning it has done little else but pour, and the only few reports of success are amid roach. I hear, however, of good hauls of lob worms, and if the elements will but become propitious, these alluring baits should induce good business amid barbel, roach, and chub, in the near future, in the already colouring water.—Marlow Buzz.

Thames (Datchet).—Thero is a little more water in tho river now than at the end of last week. The weather seems too unsettled to get sport. I have only been out once this week, they didn't bite in the least. Caught one barbel, and another broke both the rod and line. All last week the barbel fed very well, 30lb. and 40lb. per day up to date. Fishing is far better than it was this time last year.—G. Lumsden.

Thames (Windsor).—The recent cool, showery weather has been greatly in favour of angling, and as a result, baskets have been numerous and of good quality. Tho largest fish of the week was a perfect specimen barbel, which I weighed, and found to go just 7¾lb. It was caught by a Mr. Marsham, of Eastbourne. Another of 5lb. 6oz. was taken from the same spot by Mr. S. Wilson, of Eton. The veteran enthusiast, Mr. Herd, of Egham, has had splendid sport amongst his favourite fish, the roach, taking many dozens. His best basket was seven dozen after four p.m., a fine show. He has also recently had a trout of 4lb., another trout of 3lb. being taken at Boveney Weir. Mr. Oades, of Egham, and Mr. Herd on another occasion had a basket of four dozen roach, a barbel of 3lb. (taken on roach tackle by the former gentleman), and a perch of 1lb. Several barbel have been taken, but are very backward, owing to the cold season, the milt running freely from a fish which R. Gray, of Windsor, caught on July 26. Gudgeon are feeding, but not well, two punts on July 24 taking just over twenty dozen. Chub are very numerous, and good baskets are had, the heaviest being one of a 17lb. basket, caught by Mr. Coomber, of Eton. It weighed just over 3lb. Mr. Howlett, of Eton, before eight a.m. on July 27, had a good basket of four dozen roach and a jack of 2½lb. Water could not be in better condition for time of year.—B. R. Bambridge.

Ancholme District.—There has not been much trout fishing during the week. Mr. A. Ford, of London, two-and-a-half brace one day, and three-and-a-half brace another; all being good fish. The angling on the Ancholme has much improved, the bream getting well on the feed. In addition to a lot of minor takes Mr. J. Simpson had four fine bream up to 4lb.; Mr. F. Ford, two bream, 3½lb. each; Mr. Brown, of Gainsborough, one bream, 4lb. and one of 3½lb., and two jack; Mr. Helton six bream up to 3½lb; J. Neal, six bream, the largest 4lb.; J. Rotheray, two bream, about 4lb. each. Since Monday Messrs. A. White and Smith had 18lb. of bream and roach between them. Two or three matches have been fished. On Tuesday Captain Jardine, of Cape Town, Mr. A. Ford, of London, and your correspondent had a most enjoyable day at Crosby Lake. They got no trout but bagged a fine dish of thirty perch and two large eels.—Thomas Ford.

Arun (Pulborough).—The much-wanted rain has come at last, this neighbourhood being the scene of quite a torrential deluge on Monday morning, and at the time of penning these lines the river is in much better condition for angling than it has been since the opening of the season. This will be especially good news to those fond of bream fishing; and providing we don't have too much wet between now and Sunday, some respectable baskets of these fish look like being made by the London visitors to the Central Association's water, and other reaches of the river. The succulent gudgeon have commenced to bite well, and an angler made a catch of two dozen on Wednesday last, which, if I mistake not, were duly served up and considerably relished at the breakfast table of mino host at the Swan, the principal rendezvous for anglers in this locality On Thursday, one of the Metropolitan anglers, staying in the village, accounted for a pretty dish of thirteen roach, all good-sized fish, landed from the waters of the Central Fishery. Concerning my report of the capture, in a farmer's net, of the 16lb. salmon, one of the local people assured me that several salmon had been shot from the Swan Bridge, but, of course, I took this on with a very large pinch of salt, Mr. Editor. That the river holds salmon is well known, and some of these days it may fall to the lot of one of the Central men to do battle with the lordly fish. I hope it won't be with his roach-pole, that's all! I am glad Mr. E. L. Nutt met with such a cordial reception at the prize distribution held in connection with the recent great fishing competitions here, which came off on Monday night at the head-quarters of the Central Association, the Bedford Head Hotel, Covent Garden. He very kindly brought up to town with him some pretty bouquets of flowers for the prize-takers.—Goosequill.

Barle (Dulverton).—The water has run down, and fish can only be taken after 7.30. p.m. The glass is rapidly falling, so we may expect a rise of water. There are plenty of salmon below Tiverton, and if the weirs have proper passways or ladders, we on the higher waters might share the sport of killing an occasional fresh run fish; but Tiverton is a hungry place, and select for fish.—Iron Blue.

Brighton.—Sea Fishing.—Boat anglers have again been having good sport with bream, but the rough weather of to-day (29th) has put a temporary stop to it.—H.

Cambridgeshire and Suffolk Rivers (Newmarket).—Fishing in all our rivers and broads have been much better during the last week. I had a try myself at Barton Mills and Icklingham on Wednesday last, in the river Lark, and took a splendid lot of dace, chub, and some good roach, they are coming on well now in this river, and the Little Ouse at Brandon. In the Ouse, below Ely and Littleport, roach are not feeding so well, the bream are gone off a little, perch are well on. There was an angling match at Upmarl on the Cam, last week, nothing much was taken, the recent rains have made the water a very good colour and nicely high. I still advise anglers to try the sharper streams, as the Lark, Little Ouse, Yhet, in preference to the deeper waters of the Ouse.—William Howlett.

Derwent (Ambergate).—Although the Derwent and Amber have been rendered in good condition for either fly or bottom fishing by the recent showers little is doing on either stream, consequent, upon the prevailing cold northerly winds which have checked the hatching of aquatic flies, and trout are rising badly. There appears little prospect of a change at present, consequently prospects of sport for bank holiday anglers are not encouraging.—Amber Dun.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—The rivers for the time of year still remain in good order, but rain would be welcome. The Isle of Man Angling Association have at length succeeded in renting the new reservoir from the Douglas Commissioners on very advantageous terms, and they hope to make it into another Lake Vyrnwy on a small scale. It has already a fair stock of fish, and we hope judicious replenishing will make it the best water in the island. Fly alone is to be used and no boats permitted. This latter I cannot help thinking to be a mistake, as it will be well nigh impossible to get at the ancient cannibles that we know the water contains, however, as it is a clause of the lease, there is no help for it. Sea fishing is still excellent, mackerel are all round the coast, and all other varieties are taking well.—Stormy Petrel.

Dove and Tributaries.—Weather showery, sport fair on the whole: a dish of ten brace was made on the Norbury water, on the 24th, and several decent takes are reported from the Bird's Grove length, there are very few fishermen out. If we get a good fall of rain, as the outlook promises, sport prospects will look bright enough for the most fastidious.—D. & W. H. Foster, Ashbourne.

Eden (Amathwaite).—Water much coloured with heavy rain. Some good baskets have been made with the worm, Mr. Barnes, Chesterfield, staying at the Red Lion, having done fairly well, his biggest take being fifteen fine trout, on Saturday. The club members also have been pretty successful. Prospects good if not too much rain. The otter hounds met at Amathwaite on Tuesday, having stayed all night, meeting at five in the morning. The river been too high, nothing was done, but were very unfortunate in losing a valuablo hound, (Eden) who must have taken a fit and been drowned in the strong water. It cast rather a damper on the followers of the hunt. They meet at Longwater on Friday.

Eden (Carlisle).—Herling fishing is now in full swing, and heavy baskets are being made, especially in the Esk, where the fish are very numerous. Some anglers have had forty, fifty, and, in one case, over seventy in a day with the fly. It has been remarked for some years that these game little fish do not run up the Eden in the same numbers that they used to, and there is a general feeling that the serious pollution of the stream by the Carlisle sewage has a good deal to do with it. Now that the Eden Fishery Board have taken the matter up, it is hoped that the corporation will take steps to lessen the evil, at all events, To entirely do away with it would be rather a "big order" and heavy on the ratepayers. The late run of salmon and grilse is said to be the heaviest for fifty years, though sea trout have been exceptionally scarce.—Silver Grey.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—The river continues to be very low, and all attempts at sport result in disappointment. Besides there is almost a daily recurrence of thunder, and the atmosphere is yet unsettled. Very few salmon have got up the river from the sea, and it will be impossible for there to be a good run until there is a regular fresh. Anglers at a distance will be glad to learn that the Esk Fishery Conservators have nearly completed two new passes, one Ruswarf Dam, and the other at Sleights Dam. These will materially facilitate, it is expected, the passage of salmon and salmon trout from the river into the upper streams which has long been much needed. I believe the improvement is being carried out at the suggestion of Mr. Berrington, the Chief Inspector of Fisheries.—J. J. Jackson.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—Since last writing the weather has been showery and unsettled, and angling has proceeded under rather worse conditions, so far as pleasure is concerned, but the showers will improve the colour of the water. Rain has been wanted to bring roach better within the angler's prowess, and no doubt bream fishing will be benefited. Very fair results have followed operations, but hitherto perch have been best to catch. Some good specimen fish have been landed, and odd ones have been spoken of up to nearly 2lb. Gentles and creed wheat will probably be useful with roach, and possibly bream. "Roding" or weed-cutting proceeds slowly.—Limpet.

Idle (North Notts).—The few showers wo have had during the past few days have improved the angling, and as I write, we are having what looks like a heavy rain which may have its effect on the streams. They were wanting a freshening up, not only to sweep down a lot of bottom weed, but to give a better colour to the water. Angling for coarse fish has been fairly remunerative, some very nice baskets having been got early in the week, and mainly in the lower reaches. I do not think much has been done with trout in the upper district, but after a few days sport may be renewed. Bottom fishing for grayling should succeed now, though I have heard of little luck in that line as yet.—L.

Itchen (Winchester).—Some good fish has been taken during the evening rise, the best bag being four brace, largest fish, 2lb. 4oz.; best killing fly, Red Quill; wind, south-west.—Ginger Quill.

Kingston.—Fishing with Josh Wilkes on July 26, Mrs. and Mr. John R. Richardson, of High-street, Kingston, caught in Town End Hole fourteen and a-half dozen of roach and dace and one turtle, 5lb. On Monday, Mr. H. Ogden Smith and Mr. J. Richardson fishing in the same river, four dozen of roach and dace, and two bream, 4lb. and 4½lb.

Lea and Stort.—Many people would naturally consider that the heavy rains of this week would have brought down a flush of water; unfortunately, such is not the case; rivers still remain at the low level, whibh has been continued for the last few weeks. It may be a matter of interest to anglers to know that the waters of the Navigation Canal, will be drawn off from the 10th August, until the following Saturday, to protect the long stretch of water brought down to a very low level, will tax the resources of such a well organised society as that of the Angler's Association, let us hope they will be equal to the occasion. Sport has been fairly good at most fishing stations; but it makes one almost hold his breath when we hear of a capture of a carp of unprecedented dimensions, yet this has occurred, for on the 24th inst., Mr. H. T. Haslewood, a member of the Eagle Angling Society, captured, after a very hard fight, a carp which scaled no less than 13lb. 13oz.; this is indeed a piscatorial trophy for the Lea. Roach have not been well on the feed; let us hope they are waiting for the Bank Holiday anglers. Friday.—Water in fair condition, and weather promising.—Spliced Joint.

Leicester.—Anglers are doing well at Leicester, especially at the Leicester Angling Society's five miles' stretch of waters, where roach are being taken in large quantities. Perch and chub have also afforded rare sport; one specimen of the former was taken from the West Bridge Pond, 1lb. 8oz. The rains have done the waters a lot of good, as not only close to Leicester, but throughout the district, reports show that roach, pike, perch, chub, and dace have been freely landed. Mr. A. J Lee captured one brace of chub from the Aylestone Brook, weighing 7½lb., fish generally on these waters being well on the feed. Among the most successful anglers, the lots taken by Messrs. A. Bachus, W. Pinnock, J. W. Smith, C. Lings, W. Dewick, H. Painter, T. Condon, T. Kitson, J. Billson, J. Parsons, W. Mansty, A. Wragg, W. Thomas, J. Potter, and L. Tyler are worthy of mention, most of those mentioned having fine takes of roach. Anglers are sure to be busy, and I would recommend as best baits for next week, creeded wheat for roach, well-scoured lobs for chub and perch. White Moths evening fishing for chub, and spinning with either artificial or dead bait for pike.

Loddon (Earley).—The weather has been very stormy this week, which has improved fishing, and fish are well on the feed. Several good baskets of roach have been taken, some scaling up to 1lb. 5oz. Good takes of chub have also been had with fly; jack have not been tried for yet, but occasionally a brace have been taken, improving in condition every week. River in good condition.—J. R.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—These streams are now running low and clear, and scarcely any fishing done in them during the middle of the day. Grayling have taken the grasshopper in the morning. The Pinsley is low and clear, and fishing in it has been very quiet.—Gwynne.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Rivers are low and bright, with their beds very foul, to clear which and bring the trout on the feed, a good fresh is much wanted; angling is quiet. Next week we begin with the grayling, and hope to have the pleasure of sending a more cheerful report. Flies are very numerous. Some of the best are July and August Duns, Silver Blue, Black Palmer, Red Ant, July Gnat, Owls and Spinners. Wasp grubs are particularly scarce this year, much to the annoyance of many pot-hunters.—R. T. Williams.

Medway (Maidstone).—Since my last report some of the experts have got on good terms with the roach. I saw one basket of roach of 10lb., taken at Farleigh weir, by the secretary of the Maidstone Angling Society, taken with wheat, from Farleigh to Yalding. The anglers were not having mueb much sport. The fish have not yet left the runs and shallows. The late rains have quite thickened the water, but it will soon tone down, and in a few days the prospects for the anglers will be good.—W. Shrubsole.

Medway (Tonbridge).—The season, though somewhat late, has opened very well: but the storms of the present week have stirred up the water to such an extent that all fishing for a few days is out of the question, unless the water fines down quicker than anticipated. As soon as this takes place, no doubt bream, roach, chub (the last named with a fly, wasp, grub, or a bunch of gentles), and perch will be well on the feed.—Ye Medway Water Rat.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—Mr. Tom Burdett, a Peterborough angler, caught a tench of 3lb. on Saturday, at Castor; he also, among other fish, landed a fine eel of 2½lb. Some very good roach and bream have, I hear, been hooked in the river at Whittlesey, some of the former running to about ½lb. A willow tree, between Tuzzy Meadow and the Common, in Hunts, was recently struck by lightning, all the bark being stripped off. About forty fish were afterwards found dead at the roots of the tree—presumably killed by the lightning.—Nenebank.

Ouse (Brandon, Norfolk).—We are still grumbling as to the unsettled weather and the floating weeds just at present are a nuisance to the angler. However, the fish are there, and I am happy to state as numerous as ever, and there is no mistake to mention this, for it is a sight to take a boat and look at them. My advice to anglers is, especially to those who intend to visit this place for next week, write or telegraph to Host Ralph, Ram Hotel, as to what is required, and for further state of affairs, and he will gladly reply, but I am certain should the weather be favourable, a great many anglers will be down, but at the present time of writing I shall not be responsible for two or three days further as to future annoyance. Therefore, for one week anglers must take their own opinion as to a visit, but I believe the fish will be on if the elements of nature allow. Time of writing very showery and cold, wind changeable. A look at the G. E. R. time table will show a long day's fishing here. Station close on the spot.—John O. George.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—Both roach and bream have been feeding well this last week, and some very good fish have been taken, and at present sport is good. One local fisherman was out on the 25th ult., and had some good sport with the bream, landing nineteen good fish, and lost several more, owing to the hooks being too small, about 30lb. weight. The Angling Association had a tournament on the 22nd ult. Fourteen entered, but twelve fished, and every member had fish. The number caught was three hundred and seventy-five, weighing 63lb., including a fine roach of 1½lb., showing that they were well on the feed, and are at present, for the water is in prime order for all-round work. Prospects good.—H. Rout.

Ouse, &c., (York).—Weather fine and cooler, and to-day (Wednesday), the main river is running—that slightly peaty brown colour so characteristic of the Ouse at this time of the year; but is in first-class order for certain kinds of bottom fishing. This is the time of year when the barbel anglers turn out in force, and men may be seen just now with rod and line, who never wet their tackle except during "barbel time" as they term it The baits generally used are various kinds of paste and worms, which are sunk in the trough of the river by heavy leads, but the tackle generally, oh! Mr. Alfred Jardine, you should see it. Still by the rudest rods and lines some of these men manage now and again some fair sport, and I hear of some very fine fish being taken near to Lendal Bridge this week. The trout streams are in capital order just now, and I hear of some good kills in the neighbourhood of Sinnington and Pickering. I understand there will be a "gathering of the clans," on Monday at Pocklington Canal, which is in grand order, and some heavy kills are expected.—Ronald.

Plymouth.—Sea Fishing.—Bass are still about here, and are being taken with the throw-line from off the rocks, or with the india-rubber sand-eel and plano-convex minnow-spinning with a rod. The former class of fishing is practised very much here, and it is productive of a great amount of sport by the youthful population, whose purses are limited. The mode of fitting the line is as follows: Twenty fathoms of fine Whitney line, with 1lb. plummet lead at the bottom, and four or five hooks attached at intervals of about 1ft. up the line from the lead. Size of hooks, No. 2/0, either on the short-twisted gut or flax snooding, baited with a piece of pilchard, squid, or mackerel. These lines are thrown out just like a life-line, and the biggest fish are taken. I have seen sometimes as many as a dozen or twenty of these lines in as many yards round a pier. Pollack are still to be taken whiffing with the Black or Red Sand-eel and mackerel on the spinner. On Friday evening, Mr. Goodwin had a nice basket in about an hour, fishing with the Black Sand-eel. He had one fish 5¼lb., one, 4lb., one, 3lb., and several smaller. He was using a 3oz. lead, and pulling very slowly round the East Winter Buoy. I hear some good reports from the Scilly Isles, where a friend is fishing with pollack, and he says it takes the very strongest-twisted gut that I can make to hold them. Pollack from 15lb. to 20lb. require some handling and care before you can capture them. A friend of mine has told me of a curious capture he had some time ago whilst whiffing for mackerel with several baits on. He passed through a school, and took six mackerel at one haul, and on making a sweep to keep the lines clear, and on pulling back again over the same spot, he took six pollack at a haul. This was most extraordinary, and proved that there must have been two schools of fish travelling together.—William Hearder.

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—Both streams low and clear. The weather has been very bright and warm, and the fish rising fairly well at the fly, the Red Spinner, Blue Dun, Whirling Blue, and Red Tag, going best, but very few game fish have been taken during the week, and the bottom fisher has had the best of it. Mr.. Page caught a few brace of nice trout and some very large eels with the worm; and Messrs. F. and W. Smith took a few grayling with the maggot; but the take of coarse fish by members of the various clubs has been much below the average.—Wingfield.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—Dull, oppressive heat, low and clear water, and no rain have hardly been conditions under which one would be led to expect good trouting, and, indeed a more unproductive period than the last few weeks has seldom been experienced. Not a trout of any weight has been taken, and anglers are patiently awaiting a rise in the river. Wednesday's rain gave promise of better sport. Rough fish are very plentiful, and many have been taken during the past few weeks. The brooks are very low, and fishing in them is almost useless.—Piscator.

Stour (Grove Ferry).—The weather generally has been much against fishing, still some "in the know" have taken splendid fish, although not many of them. Dr. Morris and Mr. Stedman together took 28lb., all good fish. The roach were in splendid condition, but a bream, weighing 2¼lb., was ill-fed, lean, and out of condition. Mr. Chapman has usually taken home at least half-a-dozen fish, averaging 1lb. each, Mr. Morgan also doing the same. He was fortunate as well in taking a very pretty rudd, weighing 1¼lb. Mr. Robinson has again been among the trout, one scaling over 3lb.; and Mr. Colyer has been dead on the jack. A rabid and not-to-be-daunted fisherman (who shall be nameless) caused much mirth one evening last week, as after accidentally falling over head and ears in the river, took off nearly all his garments, which his friends took to be dried, while he with his shirt, cap, and waistcoat seized his rod, and quite unconcernedly went on fishing in the most eager style—H. King.

Sussex Rivers.—The long needed rain has fallen heavily in the south during the past few days to the discomfort of visitors to glorious Goodwood. The canal at Chichester in the upper reaches is somewhat discoloured, but in excellent order in the Donnington district. The water has been well patronised by turf *habitués* who find quiet recreation after the excitement of the day. Bream and roach have been feeding well, and a few tench and perch have been taken. The Ouse here yielded some good roach up to 1lb. 2oz. and chub of 3lb. The Rother has its supporters, and a few good roach and trout have rewarded the visitors. Dace and roach, with flat fish, have been secured from the Adur. Mullet are making their way up the Arun, and a few fish up to 2lb. have fallen to anglers at the harbour mouth. The weather has latterly been too treacherous for sea fishing.—George F. Salter.

Taw (North Devon).—Rivers have risen through the heavy rain on Wednesday, and the glass says much rain. Good fishing next week. I heard of twelve dozen fish taken last week on Exmore and four dozen on the Bray, also two dozen on one of the little brooks. Salmon and peal are not so plentiful as years gone by. The dishes of trout taken were with the Gammon and March Brown.—Rusty Game.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme is running low and clear and a flush of water is wanting to stir the fishing up. The weather is changeable and rain has fallen, but the water keeps low. Angling has been brisk but the sport has been dull. Fishing during the day is quiet, but at evening time the fish have been rising well. The Ony, Cluny, Corve, and Ledwyche, are all low and clear. Bottom fishing in the Corve has been very successful this week and good trout landed.—S. Ludlow.

Trent (Newark).—The Trent is running low, and fine, and in glorious condition for barbel fishing, but cold atmospheric influence prevent much success, though a few have been secured below the gulley at Averham weirs, and at the bridge at Newark. Roach and dace are taking gentles freely in the top length of the Rolleston fishery, Mr. D. Slater having a capital bag of the latter, and Mr. T. Lees has daily been taking some grand specimens of the former up to 1¼lb. Bream have a coming appearance in the "dead" waters at Muskham, a lot of good fish having been taken, including one of 3lb. 7oz., and prospects never appeared better for sport in this direction: Chub fishing is quiet, but wasp grubs should prove a killing bait during the next few weeks, and with these worms and gentles anglers should have no difficulty in securing any of the coarse fishes of the Trent.—Trentsider.

Trent (Nottingham).—The river keeps remarkably low and clear, and the recent hot weather has caused the bottom weed to grow very rapidly. Previously it had been a great drawback to the angler. Now, however, it is a complete nuisance. In the King's Mills district, Messrs. Pogson and Weaker have again been among the chub with the worm, but so far the adjoining water of Sbardlow has turned out very few barbel. The fish seem to be unusually late this year. At Barton, Mr. H. Stafford has caught four or five bream, averaging about 4lb. each, and of late numbers of these fish have been taken out of "Trent Pool," which is an inlet from the river. Sport seems to be very quiet on all the lower reaches, and it is only by great perseverance that a few barbel are being brought in from Clifton and Wilford. One of these weighed 7¼lb. Fly fishing has fallen off and scanty bags are the rule.—The Man-at-the-Clubs.

Wear (Co. Durham).—An abominable case of fish poisoning has taken place in this river near Lumley. On Sunday the surface of the water was literally covered with fish swimming about in a dying condition, and dozens of men and boys were busy gathering them in. The appearance of the water would lead one to think gas tar or something of the sort had been used, but whatever it was, no doubt could be entertained that a wanton and wicked destruction of fish life was the result. It is to be hoped the perpetrators will be caught.—J. H. R.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—A portion of the Witham has lately been run off, so as to allow the repair of the banks of the Barlings river bank, and this has put anglers to some inconvenience for a few miles below Lincoln, but below the locks they have done well. A good many visitors have patronised the waters towards Boston and the drains about that place. Roach and bream have been the chief fish taken. On the low water of the river dace have afforded sport with the fly. They are also taking paste when float fishing. Some good miscellaneous baskets have been obtained on Brayford Pool, near Lincoln, and along the Fossdyke, which is full of water. At Saxilby there have been some fine roach taken —Luce.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire). — Sport remains about the same as last week—moderate—and some heavy trout are being taken in the evenings. Not much good is being done in the day time. Baskets of from two to four brace have been the general rule on the Wye. Messrs. Hodson, Buxton, and Lymn, have had some nice baskets of fish on the Derwent. Prospects are good for the next week and best flies are Ash Dun, Little Chap, Stone Midge, and Sand-fly.—Dotterel.

Yare (Norwich).—Since my last report some good catches of bream have been had at most of the stations on this river. The heavy rains have greatly interfered with the angler's pleasure, but fortunately its been a series of one day fine and next wet in this district, sometimes one part favoured next another, but truly St. Swithin is keeping his name up in the Eastern Counties. At Cantley some catches of 3 stone and upwards are reported, also from Buckenham Ferry and Brundall reports of fairly good takes of both bream and roach are to hand, whilst at Tritton Decoy two friends of mine caught a skep full of bream during the afternoon. A large number of visitors on angling bent are now staying at our watering places, and those at Lowestoft cannot do better than pay host Mason, Wherry Hotel, Oulton Broad, a visit, as I heard at Lowestoft to day that immense number of bream are waiting to be caught.—Robert Moll.

Yore, Wharfe, Swale, Nidd, &c.—The fish are at present very disinclined to feed, and even after dusk very little has been done. Brown Owl, Stone Midge, and Fog Black best flies at present.—Francis M. Walbran.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire).—Trout continue to rise freely, although the rivers are lower than last week; but the colour is good, and good sport is to be had towards evening. More sewin are showing up, and waiting for a fresh to enable them to reach the upper waters.—H.

Lake Coron (Bodorgan, Anglesey).—Very fair sport has been obtained, fly-fishing late in the evenings the last two weeks. The fish feed freely between eight and nine, and two or three couples of well-conditioned trout can be picked up. One evening I caught five with a Quill Gnat, weighing 4½lb., and several times got four, averaging ¾lb. each. Mr. Coles, Bodorgan Arms, had two beauties, 1lb. each, caught with a female March Brown. The best flies, Sedge, Cinnamon, Quill Gnat, March Brown. I noticed a gentleman (stranger) fished the other evening with other flies, and never got a rise. Plenty of rain and fresh water in the lake.—W. H.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—Anglers on this water during the close of last week had some good sport, Friday and Saturday being the best days, when fifty-four trout, 44lb., and forty trout, 32lb. 5oz., were taken respectively. On Thursday Mr. Ward headed the list with eleven lovely fish, 10lb. 3oz., caught after 3.30 p.m.; Capt. Stevenson, in two days, got twenty-two, weighing 16¾lb.; Capt. Stavert and W. Stavert, twenty-eight, weighing 23lb.; and Messrs. A. and E. Price, eighteen, weighing 13½lb. Messrs. Williams and Davies on Friday had a very nice basket of twelve, scaling 9¾lb. On Monday and Tuesday a gale from the north-west blew, and anglers could scarcely keep their flies on the water. In spite of this, however, some very nice fish were brought in. The heaviest trout for the week was taken by Mr. W. Rees Roberts, fishing from the bank; weight, 1¾lb. Best flies—Golden Dropper, Alder, Black and Teal, Heckham Peckham. Later.—Rain is now falling, which generally increases the scores on this lake.—Long Drift.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—Sport has only been moderate during the past week. The Hon. Hugh Capel took a couple of sewin (2½lb. and 3lb.), and a few trout on the Golden Grove water. Mr. Jones, one salmou, 7lb. and Mr. John Morgan, a few good baskets of trout. Miss Croxen, of Tregib, continues as successful as usual, and made a heavy basket a few days ago, including a trout of 4lb. Some good takes have been made on tho Cothio (tributary), Mr. Percy Lloyd, several nice trout, with the artificial minnow. Sir James Drummond, and Sir John Llewelyn, several sewin, ono salmon; and the latter small baskets of trout daily.—H.

Scotch Reports.

Aberdeenshire Rivers.—Lately floods so heavy as to be almost phenomenal for the time of year have been experienced. For instance the Deveron has not flooded so high at any season for many a year—some say thirty—as it did last week. The spates are bound to have brought up some fish, but sport will not be greatly improved in consequence. These rivers do not fish well for grilse or salmon after the tone season for the summer's run until the middle of September, when the first of the autumn fish come. The summer's run fishing is practically all past by July 20. Trouting on the rivers is over for a season; on the hill burns it may continue fair for a little while longer now that there has come water to freshen these streams.—Mackay.

Altnaharra Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B).—Since last reported the baskets have been as follows:—On Tuesday Mr. Beitb, Glasgow, fished Loch Urigill, and got twenty-eight trout, 10lb.; Messrs. Coull and Coutts, Fife, on Loch Cama, sixty trout, 15lb.: and Major W. Broadfoot, R.E., along With Major A. Broadfoot, R.H.A., on Loch Veyatie, sixteen trout, 7¾lb. On Wednesday, which was very stormy; Mr. Beith, Glasgow, and Mr. Millar, on Loch Cama, forty-eight trout, 16lb.; General Rankin, London, on same loch, thirty-three trout, 13lb.; Major W. Broadfoot, R.E., and Major A. Broadfoot, R.H.A., on Loch Veyatie, twenty-three trout, 8½lb.; Messrs. Wilson, Coull, and Coutts, on Loch Urigill, one hundred and sixty-three trout, 42½lb.; and Messrs. F. and H. O. Ritchie, Stonehaven, on Loch Boarlan (two hours only) twenty-three trout, 7lb. On Friday, Mr. Millar, on Loch Veyatie, forty-eight trout, 16lb.; Messrs. Wilson, Coull, and Coutts, on Loch Cama, eighty trout, 20lb.; Major W. Broadfoot, R.E., and Major A. Broadfoot, R.H.A., on same loch, thirty-two trout, 13½lb.; and Messrs. Ritchie on Loch Urigill, fifty-two trout, 14½lb. Saturday was so stormy that sport was not so good. Messrs. Beith and Millar, on Loch Urigill, (blown off) twenty-four trout, 8lb.: Messrs. Wilson, Coull, and Coutts, on Loch Veyatie, fifty-three trout, 16½lb.; Messrs. Ritchie, on Loch Cama, forty-five trout, 15lb.; Majors W. and A. Broadfoot, on Ledmore Stream, fourteen trout 4½lb.; and Messrs. Sprout (two), Liverpool, on Loch Boarlan (a short time only), twelve trout, 4lb. On Monday the weather was exceeding boisterous and wet.—McB.

Awe (Taynuilt Hotel).—During the past week visitors at Taynuilt Hotel had some very nice sport, which is chronicled as follows:—Rev. Mr. Upsher, Holt, Norfolk, a salmon, 21lb., and a grilse, 8lb.; Mr. Movement, Norfolk, grilse, 8lb., and 6½lb.; Mr. Brian Coleby, London, salmon, 15½lb.; Mr. McWhinnie, Kesyth, salmon, 11lb.; Rev. Mr. Mackay, Donne, grilse 5½lb.; Rev. Mr. Harper, Alloa, grilse, 5lb. and 6lb.; Mr. King, Chard, Somerset, Captain Bullen, Marshwood, Dorset; Lieutenant Arnold 1st Madras Lancers, and others have had very good baskets of sea trout, running from ½lb. to 3½lb. per fish. Rev. G. Mackay and Mr. Handyside on Loch Nant, have done some very good work among the brown trout.—Donald Macdonald.

Border Esk.—The rain has come and the border rivers have been duly flooded according to ancient custom during the last week in July. Tbe best sport has been had in the lower portion of tbe Liddle, which is very prolific when the water is in flood. One hundred and nineteen whiting and several sea trout fell to the rod of Mr. Leslie, Glendenning Rigg. Mr. R. Calvert had sixty-five whiting and eight sea trout; Mr. J. Graham, twenty-tbree whiting and eight sea trout; Mr. A. Irving, sixty whiting and five sea trout; Mr. W. Murray, forty-three whiting and several grilse and sea trout; Mr. Graham, thirty whiting, three sea trout, and a grilse of 5lb. In the upper reaches near Newcastleton Mr. W. Murray caught a salmon of 10lb.; Mr. A. Nichol, three sea trout: Mr. M. Inglis, five sea trout; Messrs. J. Beattie and G. Elliot, two each; Mr. R. Cook, four; and Mr. H. Anderson, one of 3lb,; and fifty whiting were taken by Mr. Broatch, of Highgate. The Esk, although scarcely so productive as the Liddle, has afforded good sport. Mr. I. Ballantine, Woodhouse, had twenty-eight whiting, two sea trout, and a dozen yellow trout, in a night's fishing; Mr. G. Goodfellow had eleven whiting and eleven sea trout; Mr. W. Irving bad a salmon, 6½lb.; and a basket of whiting, 12½lb.; other anglers have also been fairly successful in the Canonbie water, while in the Langholm district, Mr. John Reed had fourteen whiting five sea trout; Mr. W. A. Connell, two sea trout and three whiting, and some yellow trout; Mr. T. Irvine, nineteen whiting and eight sea trout, at two fishings; Master W. Saunders, two sea trout, three whiting, and a dozen yellow trout; Mr. J. Elliot, six sea trout; Mr. W. Keir, Commercial Hotel, six sea trout; Messrs. James Anderson, Morrison, C. Elliot, J. Telford, Andrew Johnstone, and others have also made good hauls, but why prolong the list. I am satisfied. The water is in rare fettle and fair hotebin wi' fish, but aboon a' my prediction in last week's issue has come to pass.—G.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—The weather has been very unsettled, and altogether adverse to angling. On Tuesday last week, Mr. George Ross, Brailongwell, on Mr. Hasting's rod, landed a salmon weiging 9lb., and a sea trout, of 2lb. On Wednesday, Mr. John Matherson, on Mr. Crewdson's rod, caught one grilse, on the Gruinards water. The first to try trout fishing this year (so far as known), was Mr. A. Rixton, Glasgow, wbo, on Wednesday, fished the water in connection with the Balnagown Arms Hotel, and caught three dozen trout, the two heaviest of which weighed 2lb. and 1¾lb. On Thursday, Mr. R. Crewdson, Balnagown Arms Hotel, caught a grilse, of 7lb. and a sea trout weighing 1½lb. On Friday, the same angler grassed a fine salmon of 16lb. On Monday this week, Mr. F. H. Woodroffe and party, Skibo Castle, fished the Hotel waters, and landed one fine salmon and a grilse; Mr. Crewdson, on the Gruinards water, five grilse ranging from 5lb. to 8lb.; and Mr. J. MacLeod, on tbe Hotel waters, a 16lb. salmon and a grilse of 6lb.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—The rivers were again in high flood last week and entirely out of order for salmon angling, althougb worming for trout could not have been prosecuted under more favourable auspices, and some splendid baskets were got. Although the season is advanced yet trout have been late all through, and are meantime in the pink of condition as far as the Dee is concerned. Grilse have been running freely and a good few have been landed on the middle and lower reacbes. On the Ballogie water on Monday, Mr. Nicol's guests landed a nice salmon of 9lb. On the Aboyne reaches and Kincardine O'Neil waters few anglers have been out. On tbe Glen Tana pools Sir William C. Brooks, Bart., M.P., and friends have had a fairly good grilse season with an occasional salmon. On the Invercauld Arms water the river has not been so enticing of late and few rods were out. However last week Captain Cook landed two fish of 8lb. and 9lb.; while D. Morgan, gillie, had one of 13lb.: and on Saturday Mr. Yarrow had two of 7lb. and 9lb. respectively. On the Morven water Cameron, keeper, landed one of 9lb. On the Balmoral and Braemar stretches little has been done of late, although the recent rains have greatly aided the ascent of fish on the higber reaches of the river which have been virtually congested with fish since the early summer waters set in. However such waters as the Invercauld have fished well before now in the early day of August, and the chances in a season like the present are not to be dispised.—Deesider.

Deveron (Banffshire).—This river is now in high spate, in the lower sections overflowing the banks, and doing considerable damage. Only a few grilse were killed by the rod during the past week, and fishing will be at a discount until the water falls. The run of fish on the river is not so heavy as was expected, tbere being, to all appearance, an abundance of fish on the coast. Consequently the river net-fishermen are not getting very large hauls. In the nets along the coast up to Tuesday of this week good fishing has been got. Although salmon, as a rule have not been of large size, one was landed last week weighing 34½lb. If it had been a full fish, it would have weighed over 40lb. On Saturday last the number of boxes cousigned from all the stations in this district was fifteen, and on Monday twenty, weighing in all about four tons, about double the quantity of that sent the corresponding week last year. A gale prevailed on Tuesday from the north-east, with a rough sea. None of the cobbles ventured out, and the nets were moro or less destroyed by the heavy seas. On the Gardenstown coast for the week ending Saturday last, the nets yielded one hundred fish, a larger number than that of any week of last season. Fifteen boxes were sent south for the week.—H. W.

Don.—The trouting season on the Don is now on the wane, and, with the exception of the past few weeks, it has been a failure. Owing to the protracted cold, unfavourable weather in April and May, fish were late in coming into condition. There was little or no fly visible, and the best of the season was past before anything could be done. However, very good baskets have been got on some reaches "remote from towns," for near the villages the waters are all too much fisbed and poached. A close-time for trout is sorely needed on the Don at least, and, till this is obtained, the big baskets and big fish will remain memories of the past.—Don.

Helmsdale (Helmsdale).—Since my last, spates have been the order of the day. Last week the river was partly in flood, while this week on Monday and yesterday it was literally a downpour all day and night. The consequence is of course that the water is in high flood, impossiblo to fish either with net or rod. To-day (Wednesday) is dry however, and if this contiuues tbe river will fall rapidly. As it is, hundreds of grilse, salmon, and trout, have gone up during the last few days, and it is not too much to say that possibly in living memory, has this river been so beavily stocked with fish as it is at present. Mr. Ross, Suisgill (son of the late Horatio Ross, Esq.), has, along with the party there, had good sport with grilse and also got some sea trout. Mr. Bince and party have also had fair sport, but have now left for the south. Mr. Muir, the new tenant of Edenloch shootings and fishings have had good sport on the lochs. The weather being now much cooler, grand sport is sure to be got on the upper reaches of the river. The netsmen, who have done exceptionally well this season, are not likely to do much more, as the fish aro now almost all gone up, besides the large number of boats engaged at the herring fishing, going daily out and in, disturbs the ground, and keeps the fish off-shore. Stormy weather has been against the herring fishing, no boats being out this week. The lochs this season have not been so productive in sport as was expected, and I have heard of very few large trout being got. Sea trout, too, have been remarkably scarce, even the netsmen only securing less than one-fourth of the usual number and weight. Sea fishing could be got here of the first-class order, but few are trying it. Time will come, however, when this kind of fishing will become more appreciated. Here, at present, lythe, pollack, haddocks, flounders, cod abounds, while herrings, too, can be caught in any quantity. To-day is still showery, but looks as if it may clear.—S. C.

Kyle of Sutherland.—Capt. Holder, London, and party, and others have been out, but sport with the rod has not been good. A number of grilse have been hooked, but the most of them broke away, owing to trouting taekle being used. Quite recently, however, an angler from Invershin landed a beauty of 10lb. The net salmon fishers are still doing fairly. During the past week tbe takes on Mr. Anderson's Scalp, South Bonar, and Rivermouth fisbings were fully up to those of the previous week; the same may be said of Mr. Smith's, Invercharron and Craggandubh fishings; but on Messrs. Powie and Pitcaithley's Skibo fishings, at the head of the Dornoch Firth, a slight falling off was experienced. From all these fishings put togetber it is estimated that fully 3½tons of salmon and grilse have been despatched to Billingsgate in the course of the week.

Lairg, N.B.—On Monday of last week, Mr. Milne, fishing the Sluice Pool, lower end of Loch Shin, landed a salmon of 13½lb., and afterwards made a basket of twelve trout, 4½lb.; Messrs. Copeland and Cumming, on same loch, got six, 4lb.; Col. Butler had thirty-one; Mr. Jowers, five, 4lb., on Loch Cracail. Tuesday was excessively wet at intervals from mid-day, the total fall being 1·31in., and as much as ·47in. falling in less than ten minutes. Messrs. Copeland and Cummins, fishing Loch Shin, killed a *Salmo ferox* of 6lb., and sixteen trout, his total basket weighing 16½lb.; Col. Butler got five, 2lb., on Loch Nam-fuar-leachd. Wednesday was unfavourable, the various lochs being too full, and heavy rain in the forenoon. On Loch Shin, Mr. Wordsworth got seventeen, 5lb.; "X. Y.," nine; and another angler six. On Thursday, on Loch Shin, Messrs. Copeland and Cumming killed twenty-five, 11lb.; Col. Butler, fourteen, 6¾lb.; and "X. Y.," ten, 5½lb.; on Loch Cracail, Mr. Wordsworth, eight, 5lb.: Major-General Stafford and Surgeon-General Smith made a nice basket on Loch Beannoch. Friday and Saturday were so stormy that angling could only be prosecuted with the greatest difficulty, it being impossible to launch a boat on many of the lochs. Mr. Wordsworth made a fine basket of nineteen trout, 10lb.; on Loch Laur-fuar-leachd on Friday, and on Shinness Bay on Saturday, the same angler got five, 4lb.: Col. Butler killed twenty-fivo, 6¼lb.; Surgeon-General Smith, fifteen, 4lb.; and another angler, fifteen, 3¼lb., on Lower Loch Shin.—J. Y.

Loch Cracail (Sutherland).—Mr. Walter Scott-Brock, Achinduich House, Invershin, and Mr. A. Duncan, Brighton, were out on Thursday, and made a fine basket of trout, weighing 11½lb. in all.—McB.

Loch Leven (Kinross).—During the week angling has been at a great discount, owing to the protracted drought, which has reduced the loch to a considerable extent, the water being barely sufficient to float boats into the pier. Parties having 5lb. of trout, under the unfavourable circumstances of bright sunshine and variable winds, have, on the whole, been deemed fairly successful, and little better results can be expected until we have some more moisture.—Robert. B Laing.

Loch Migdale (Bonarbridge, N.B.).—On Thursday last, Mr. A. Ruxton, Glasgow, landed nineteen trout, averaging close on ½lb. each. On Friday (which was most unfavourable) he got six trout, 2½lb. Other anglers have also been out, but particulars not known.—McB.

Loch Stack.—On Monday Professor Drummond and Mr. Wilson had five sea trout. On Tuesday, four sea trout. Wedneday, unfishable day; only Mr Wilson went out after Wednesday. His takes were ten sea trout and one salmon, 8lb. Friday, one sea trout and one salmon. Saturday, six sea trout and one salmon, 10lb.; sea trout have averaged nearly 2lb. They seem to be unusually scarce. Salmon and grilse more plentiful than last year; but latterly lots of lean fish amongst them. On Laysford some good fisbing has been got by Lord Leicester and others. His Grace the Duke of Westminster is to arrive at Locb More Lodge soon for the season.—Neil Canon.

Naver.—The river kept so flooded, owing to continuous rain, that good sport could not be looked for. In the course of the week, Mr. Darwin, Skilpick Lodge, landed eight fish in all between salmon and grilse. Good sport anticipated.—McB.

North Esk.—The season is about over, and last week the Brechin anglers marked their sense of its approaching close by having their third and last competition for the season. There was a good turn-out of members, and fair baskets weighed in. (1) Wm. Bennett, 26lb. 4oz.; (2) J. Clark, 24lb. 13oz.; (3) J. Dures, 19lb. 6oz.; (4) D. Smart, 18lb. 8oz.; (5) J. Burnett, 12lb. 2oz.; (6) J. Strachan, 8lb. 8oz. Heaviest trout, J. Strachan, 12oz.; three heaviest, J. Kerr, 1lb. 3oz.; six heaviest, William Ferrier, 1lb. 14oz. The average weight of the fish is decidedly of a very low standard; but they are otherwise plentiful, and in good condition.—G. M.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—On Monday last week Mr. Thunder, Dundee, fished Fiag beat, and got twenty-two trout, weighing 10lb.; Messrs. Hills and Murray, on Fiag, twenty-nine trout, 11lb.; Captain Murchison, London, on Loch Merkland, twenty-four trout, 7lb.; and Mr. Sturrock, on Loch Shin, eighteen trout, 6lb. On Tuesday Fiag beat was fished by Captain Murchison, twenty-four trout, 12lb.: and by Mr. Liddle, seventeen trout, 8lb. Miss Macintosh and Miss Mackay, in a few hours' fishing, had twenty-four trout, 8lb. Wednesday was unfavourable, and none were out; but on Thursday Mr. Thunder, on Fiag beat, twenty-five trout, 9½lb.; and Mr. Sturrock, thirteen trout, 5lb. Captain Murchison fished river Merkland for salmon for the first time this season, and caught a fine fish of 7lb.; Mr. David Ross landed a 7lb. salmon, and Mr. E. Ross a grilse of 4½lb. Friday was very boisterous, and most of the boats which ventured out were blown off tbe lochs. Captain Murchison, fishing the sheltered bays on Fiag beat, made the excellent basket of forty-four trout, 19lb.; and Mr. Sturrock, on Loch Griam, had thirteen trout, 6lb. On the Merkland river, which is at present yielding good sport, a local angler caught a nice salmon of 11lb. The rivers it should be mentioned are yielding capital sport, though all the fish caught are not reported. On Tuesday this week a local angler took a 7lb. salmon on the Merkland; and Mr. Mackay two salmon, 6lb. and 12lb., besides hooking a very heavy one, which after considerable play broke off, carrying all the tackle with it.—McB.

Oykel (Benmore Waters).—Last month, Mr. C. A. Smith Rylands, Benmore Lodge, spent a fortnight on these waters, and as the river was all the time too low for salmon or grilse, he took to trout angling, and was very successful, bis total basket amounting to close on sixty-one dozen trout, aggregating upwards of 240lb. General Ranken, London, fished Loch Ailsh on Tuesday last week, and caught one grilse of 4½lb., two sea trout, weighing 1½lb. each, and forty-six loch trout, averaging three to the pound. On Thursday, Mr. Hugh MacLeod, on Mr. Smith Rylands rod, landed an 8lb. salmon and a grilse weighing 5½lb. On Friday he got two grilse, weighing 6lb. and 7lb., and a salmon of 10lb.; and on Saturday, two grilse, 5lb. and 4½lb.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.)—On Monday week Mr. and Mrs. Young, London, on Loch Inchard, three sea trout, averaging 1½lb. each; Captain Levett and Mr. Bagot, Oxford, on Loch Uidh-na-Tuim, forty trout, 14lb. Mr. Scrivener and Mr. Levett, Oxford, on Loch Tigh-Sheilg, fifty trout, 17lb.; and Rev. M. McConnell, Dorset, on Loch Sheiva, 9lb. On Tuesday, Mr. W. Levett, Oxford, on Loch Garbet-Beag, one salmon weighing 8lb.; and Mr. Scrivener, a grilse of 5lb. On Wednesday, Mr. Maitland, Dover, on Loch Garbet-Beag, a 4lb. grilse and a salmon of 6½lb.: Messrs. Hassel and Scrivener, Oxford, on Loch Tigh-Sheilg, twenty-four trout, 13¾lb.; and Messrs. Aitken and Harper, Aberdeen, forty-two trout, 16lb. On Thursday, Mr. Hassel, on Loch Mathir-a-Gharbhuilt, twelve trout, 4lb.; Rev. M. McConnell, on Loch Inchard, two sea trout, 3lb., and 45lb. lythe; Mrs. Young, London, on same loch, a sea trout of 1lb. and 5lb. lythe; Mr. Atkins, on Loch Tarvie, four trout, 3lb.; and Mr. Harper, on Loch Inchard, 9lb. lythe. On Friday, Mr. and Mrs. Young, on Loch Bervie, twenty-one trout, 7lb.; Mr. Levett, on Loch Garbet-Beag, a salmon of 7lb.; on the same loch a seven-pounder was grassed by Mr. Hassel, Oxford; and one of 9¾lb., by Mr. Young, London. On Saturday, Mr. Atkins, on Loch Tigh-Sheilg (two hours only), eighteen trout, 8lb.; Mr. Maitland, on Loch Garbet-Beag, one grilse, 4lb.; and Mr. Wilson, Edinburgh, a 4lb. sea trout, and a salmon of 8lb. All the waters were in heavy flood on Sunday and Monday, but after settling good sport in sea trout angling may be looked for on the fresh-water lochs.—McB.

Salen Hotel Waters (Loch Shiel).—Mr. Ellis caught a salmon of 10lb. on Loch Shiel, on Wednesday, 15th, and other gentlemen caught baskets of sea trout, some weighing over 3lb. Mr. Hix caught a salmon of 8lb., on Thursday, tho 23rd. Mr. Ashdown caught soveral baskets of sea trout for the last ten days. Loch in good order for fishing.—D. Cameron.

Shin.—Major Berkeley fished the Upper Shin on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday, of last week, his catches being—one salmon of 14½lb., and a grilse of 6½lb.; two salmon of 18lb., and 11lb.: three salmon of 14½lb., 13½lb. and 11lb.; and one salmon of 15½lb. Major-General Hafford killed a grilse of 4¼lb. on Friday, and lost a very fine fish. Mr. Milne, fishing Loch Shin at the Sluice Pool, landed a salmon of 13½lb. on Monday morning. "X. Y."

hooked a fine fish the other evening on the narrows between the upper and lower divisions of Loch Shin, but after giving fine play, the fly—a small trout fly, the light Heather Moth—failed.—J. Y

Shin (Inveran Hotel Waters).—The sport obtained by anglers from Sutherland Arms Hotel, Inveran, during the past week has been as follows: On Monday, Captain Greenwood, a 9lb. salmon, on Meadow Pool; and Lord Braybrooke, a thirteen-pounder, on Cromarty, and one of 10lb. on Clarag. On Tuesday, Captain Greenwood grassed two, 13lb. and 8lb., on the upper waters. On Wednesday, Lord Braybrooke got a salmon of 8¾lb., and a grilse of 6½lb., on Clarag. On Thursday, a 5lb. grilse on Angus, and one of 7lb. on Clarag. On Friday, one of 5½lb. on Angus; and on Saturday, a 6lb. grilse on Angus, a seven-pounder on Clarag, and one of 7½lb. on Fir Dam. Monday was very wet and stormy, but as it cleared up on Tuesday, a good record may be expected for this week.—McB.

South of Scotland.—There has been some really fine sport in the South of Scotland rivers since my last report. On Wednesday rain fell in Annandale, and a few of the rivers were placed in one of the small spates that have been rather characteristic of the South of Scotland rivers this year. This appeared to cause the run of herling to come on in better numbers, more especially to the Annan; but up till to-day there is a poor show of herling in the other Solway rivers. Although the Esk has been very low for weeks past, some excellent sport has been obtained. One of the most successful anglers has been Mr. Craig, who is staying at the Cross Keys Hotel, Canonbie. This angler landed two salmon on Thursday afternoon out of the Caldron pool, which weighed 14lb. and 10lb. respectively. Mr. Craig killed besides three fine sea trout of 3½lb., 2½lb., aud 2lb. each. In the same pool Mr. Shand, also out from the Cross Keys, had four sea trout, one a very fine fish of 5lb., while the others weighed 3lb. and 2¾lb. Messrs. Kerr, out from the Temperance Hotel, had four sea trout for two rods, besides two herling and eight yellow trout, in the reserved water at Langholm Lodge. The same party had a 3½lb. sea trout at another fishing. Mr. Thomas Irving killed four sea trout in the town water. In the lower section some capital sport has been had by the Longtown anglers. The river is abundantly stocked with salmon and grilse. The Nith has been angling wretchedly of late, and the sport may be said to be at a standstill. The higher streams are exceedingly low, and nothing can be done until after a flood. The Dee (Kirkcudbrightshire) is also very low. The long spell of dry weather has told very severely on the sport this season in this river. There are plenty of salmon, grilse, and sea trout in the lower pools waiting for a flood to allow them to ascend to the middle and higher waters. The Gatehouse Fleet is angling fairly well. On Monday, Mr. Harcomb caught three herling and one yellow trout; Mr. Bendall had four herling; Mr. Murdoch, Glasgow, two herling. Capital sport has been had on the Annan. Friday night, ex-Dean of Guild London, Annan, caught with fly in the Fish House Pool, eight herling and one sea trout; Mr. John Pool, Birmingham, killed niue herling and a sea trout of 1¾lb., in the same pool. On the provious day this gentleman had a fine basket of twenty herling.; Mr. John Lawrie, Annan, killed eleven herling with fly on Saturday morning, and six herling in the evening; three Glasgow anglers had very fair sport in the lower waters; the Rev. Mr. Coleby, Annan, and others, had a few herling each. In the Mount Annan portion, the keeper has been killing a good few sea trout and some odd herling; Mr. David Beattie and Mr. J. Halliday, of Brydekirke, caught one sea trout each. On Friday, Mr. Andrew Bell caught one sea trout and six herling; Mr. Bell has been successful in landing heavy sea trout. Mr. Dirom, of Mount Annan, has been killing some beautiful baskets of sea trout and herling with fly. In the Castle Milk water, belonging to Sir Robert Jardine, Bart., M.P., Mr. J. Rae, Ecclefechan, had six herling, two sea trout, and one dozen yellow trout, with Stewart tackle and worm. In Hoddom Castle section, belonging to Mr. Brook, Mr. Shennan had six herling and two sea trout; Mr. Wardrope, Ecclefechan, four herling and two sea trout; Mr. Tweodie, clothier, Ecclefechan, three herling and a basket of yellow trout; Mr. Bell, a nice creel of yellow trout and herling; Mr. Rae, six herling, and one dozen yellow trout. In the Brewery water, Mr. Henry Boyd, Annan, had with worm bait twenty-four herling, Mr. J. Dixon, baker, seventeen herling; the Rev. Mr. Duncan and friend had a few herling each; Mr. William Wright, Ednam, Annan, killed in the section below the Brewery pool, twenty-five herling and three sea trout. On Wednesday a large number of anglers were out, and some good baskets were made with worm. Mr. J. Dixon caught twenty herling at Violetbank stream; Mr. J. Iveson, Wigton, unfortunately lost a fine salmon, after playing it for some time; Mr. Iveson had a basket of herling; Mr. Wallas, Wigton, had a very fine catch of herling the other day. A slight rise of water in the Annan on Saturday morning induced an additional run of herling to come on. Mr. Dirom made a fine basket in Mount Annan water; Mr. Wallas had a basket of 12lb on the previous day, and he killed over eighty herling in four days with brandling worm; Mr. Dixon had nearly thirty herling with the same lure, Mr. Marshall twenty-seven; Mr. T. White, fourteen; Mr. W. Wright, Ednam Annan, twenty-three; Mr. Peel, Wigton, killed thirteen herling and a sea trout on Friday forenoon, and he had ten in the evening. On Saturday the catches were still better, Mr. James Thomson landing nine herling; Mr. Henry Boyd, draper, killed twenty-seven herling nearly ½lb. each, in the Browery water. Mr. Murray, Silverwalk (a lad), killed five and seven on Monday, at Newbie Mill Wheel. Mr. Johnstone, at Moffat, thirteen herling and one small sea trout. Mr. James London caught a brown trout of over 3lb. by angling after dark with fly, besides a few herling. In the higher water, on the same day, Mr. Lockerbie had a sea trout of 2lb.; Mr. Anderson, one of 1¾lb.; Mr. J. Varrie, Lockerbie, killed a basket of five dozen yellow trout and a sea trout of 1½lb.; Mr. Halliday had four dozen; Mr. T. Wilson, Glasgow, caught nine herling in the Milk water, and Mr. Lattimer a sea trout. On Monday and Tuesday Mr. W. Dickson, Edinburgh, filled his creel, on both days with herling, near to Annan Bridge, by fishing with the brandling. On Wednesday he had a sea trout and half a dozen herling in the forenoon. Mr. Henry Boyd, Annan, with the same lure, had a basket of thirty-eight herling, weighing close on 16lb. Mr. Thomas Gibson, Bridge-place, twenty-one herling; Mr. James Dixon, eight. In Mount Annan water, Mr. Dirom caught fourteen herling and eight yellow trout during three hours. On the same private water the Rev. Mr. Colcby, and Mr. W. Wright had nice baskets, the former caught half a dozen herling, and the latter had eighteen big ones. Above Brydekirk Bridge, Mr. A. Wilson killed one sea trout and half a dozen herling. The sport on Wednesday was very poor, as the fish would not rise to fly and refused the worm lure. Within the past few days good sport is reported to me from the Esk, and herling are now making a better show especially in the lower waters. A few grilse have been landed, and a fair quantity of sea trout.—HEATHERBELL.

Spey.—The salmon fishing has improved since the rise in the Spey with the late rains, and some good sport has been got, but the river has been very unsettled, rising and falling. On the Pitcroy Lodge waters on Tuesday, Mr. Burn landed two salmon, on Wednesday, one grilse, and on the same day Mrs. Burn landed a grilse. On Thursday, Mr. Burn caught two grilse; on Friday, two; and on Saturday, three. On the Easter Elchies lower water on Tuesday, Mr. Hanney killed two grilse, and on the same stretch on Wednesday, Mr. Teacher had two grilse. On the Craigellachie section, Major Grant Glen Grant had two grilse. On the Arndilly section, Mr. Sheach killed three grilse and one salmon. On the Aberlour House water during the week, five grilse, weighing 4lb., 5lb., 5lb., 6½lb., and 6½lb., and a salmon of 17lb. On the Duke of Richmond's net fishing at Fochabers, the fishing closed with a total of about two hundred grilse. Owing to the heavy rains, the river is not in very good order for net fishing. At this time of year the fishing ought to be at its best. The catch of the first two days of this week amounted to one hundred and fifty grilse and twenty-seven salmon. There has been good baskets of trout got by worm fished in the flooded waters. —HENRY LOGIE.

Tay (Perth).—The streams which have been in capital ply lately are again getting low, and up-stream worm fishing, which has been so successful this season, will again become general. On the May, Sergeant Tweedlie had thirty-two trout one day and forty-two another, the largest of which weighed 2lb.; Mr. Curl, twenty-seven; Mr. Muirhead, thirty-three. On the Tay, at Logierait, Mr. A. M. Meldrum and Mr. H. White had 12lb. pike, the largest weighed 5lb., and six trout. On the Tummel Mr. Findlay killed nineteen trout.—ALDER.

Thurso (Caithness).—The amount of salmon and grilse ascending the river must be enormous, as the river has been twice in flood during the past week, and no nets in the river mouth. The autumn anglers have not arrived, so the river is having a rest. The prospects for the remainder of the season are excellent. But what is good for fishing is not always good for the country, so that a good many people would now like a change.—A. H.

Tongue Hotel.—July 20, Mr. Rigden, on Loch Loyal, 6lb. trout; Mr. Bolton, on Loch Craggie, 8lb. trout; Dr. Phillips, on Loch Slamm, one grilse, 2½lb., also fifteen trout, weighing 6¾lb.; Mr. Rathbone, on Loch Loyal, one salmon, 7½lb. July 21, Mr. Rigden, on the Kyle, eight sea trout, 16lb.; Mr. Bolton, on the Kyle, eight sea trout, 12lb.; Mr. Rathbone, on the Kyle, four sea trout, 8lb. July 23, Dr. Phillips; on Loch Loyal, 11lb. trout; Mr. Rigden, on Loch Loyal, 9lb. trout. July 24, Dr. Phillips, on Loch Slamm, one salmon, 7½lb., and 4lb. trout; Mr. Anderson, on Loch Na Hakel, six trout, 3lb. July 25, Dr. Phillips, on Loch Craggie, one salmon, 7½lb.; Mr. Muir, on Loch Na Hakel, 9lb. trout; Mr. Rathbone, on Loch Slamm, 7lb. trout.—A. CAMPBELL.

Tweed, Teviot, &c.—Waltonians have, since my last notes, been in better humour, the flood which occurred last week having to some extent bettered the prospects of the partizans of the rod and line, and during the past week some grand sport has been had by anglers who delight in bottom fishing. The impetus thus given the gentle art has fully been taken advantage of, but strange to say, those who only use the fly have had little better success than before the rise in the rivers. One material good has, however, been done by the flood, small as it was, as it has enabled a good many fish of the salmon kind to ascend to the higher and middle reaches of the main river, and a few captures have thus been made. On one of the waters below Kelso, two grilse and one salmon were got on Tuesday, while on Wednesday one piscator rose six or seven fish, which, however, all came short, and he was not successful in hooking any. The weather seems now fairly broken, rain having fallen more or less all day (Wednesday), while since last week we have also had a considerable amount of wet. On the whole, however, the rivers have not been cleared to any extent of the dirt and refuse which have accumulated in them for months, and it will take a flood of some 5ft. or 6ft. to do this properly. On the Bowmont, near Yetholm, on Friday, Mr. Shiel Laidlaw, merchant, Yetholm, had 19lb. of grand trout. On the Jed, in the Jedburgh district, baskets of from 4lb. up to 17lb. have been killed; while one basket of eels was killed, which weighed 16lb. Several large trout, from 1½lb. up to 2lb. and 2½lb., have been got in some of the smaller waters in the same district. One trout hooked on a previous night with worm on Stewart tackle, but which broke the gut line, was caught the next day with the lost hooks still attached to it. On the Leader, baskets of from 4lb. up to 8lb. and 10lb. have also been killed. On the Gala and other streams in the Galashiels district, the sport got has been something unprecedented. It is said that a father and son had a take of 113lb. between them, while other baskets ranged from 10lb., 15lb., up to 20lb.; the lure said to have been used was worm. On the Blackadder, in the Greenlaw district, baskets of various weights have been killed, the two best reported being got by Mr. Leitch, chemist, which weighed 8lb. and 10lb. respectively. In the Kelso district of the Tweed and Teviot, takes of from 4lb. up to 6lb. and 8lb. are reported. The Tweed net salmon fishings in the Tweed and on the sea coast showed a very marked decrease last week, the yield for the month being several thousands below the total of last year at the same period, while the total catch was also far behind that of 1890, which was one of the worst on record. There is a very great scarcity of salmon, and trout are far below the average, but grilse are pretty numerous. Prices are: salmon, 11d. per lb.; grilse, 9d.; trout, 1s. 1d. At the same period last season they were: salmon, 1s. 1d.; grilse and trout, 10d.—MAXWHEEL.

Upper Shin.—The following are the details of the sport obtained by Major Berkeley, on the Upper Shin, during the past fortnight:—July 13, two, 14½lb., 6½lb.; 15, two, 18lb., 11lb.; 16, three, 13¾lb., 11½lb., 11lb.; 18, one, 15½lb.; 20, a grilse of 6lb.; 22, a salmon of 15½lb.; 23, one fish of 18lb.; 25, a salmon of 11½lb., and a grilse of 4½lb. Major General Stafford got a salmon of 10lb., on Tuesday last.—J. Y.

Whitadder (Ellemford).—The wind changed to-day, the 22nd, into the north, and since five p.m. it has rained very steadily, so that a good flood is a sure thing. 23rd, a good flood this morning, and everyone in such a hurry to be off. Dr. C. Martin, of Chelmsford, had the heaviest trout, one over 1lb. Mr. Sandy and Mr. Jack Martin had 8½lb. between them five of the trout over ¾lb., their joint catch was a good one. Mr. Fairbairn, of York, had 3½lb.; Mr. Bryars, of Edinburgh, 4½lb. I heard most of the gentlemen say the large trout rose freely, but took short. Yesterday, the 28th, Mr. Jack Martin had twelve trout, they weighed 5½lb. With worm in clear water. Wind, north-east, and prospect of more rain.—R. J. FENTON.

Ythan (Tidal Reach, Aberdeenshire).—Sport continues highly satisfactory on this famous sea trout reach, and baskets of 13lb. and upwards being quite common. Trout are improving in size. Among others fishing from the Udny Arms may be mentioned Dr. Arthur Cults, Mr. F. Holl, London, Mr. H. Holl Cults, Colonel Hunter, of Tillery, Rev. N. K. McLeod Ellon, Mr. Barclay, &c. August and September promise well, as far as prospects can be gauged. Meantime, the accommodation at the Udny Arms is being taxed to the fullest while the greater part of it is being rapidly booked for the next two months. —G. N.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—Trouting on the free reaches is but indifferent, and the few baskets made are small. On the Coagh section Mr. C. B. Irwin has been the most successful, his basket holding about two dozen trout during the week. On the Ardtren reaches, Mr. William McCord, Mr. C. R. Stevenson, Mr. Jardine Cooke, and Mr. William Ferguson have each had a few brace. A number of heavy salmon are reported to be lying in Ballygoney dam, in Green's Reck, and some other deep pools. The next heavy flood, with a strong west wind, will bring up a fresh supply, but the real good runs never commence till about the middle of August, and at that period trouting is also in its prime. The preserves of Mr. Moutray, Mr. Charles H. Linnon, and Mr. Hassard are yielding good sport to their owner and visitors. The Claggan reaches were fished on Monday by Mr. C. R. Stevenson, Mr. Geo. Molone, and Mr. William Stevenson, all of whom had half-a-dozen brace each of brown trout. A pike, said to be over 4ft. in length, is lying in the Ardtren reach, and so far has resisted all allurements for its capture. Such a brute must create awful havoc among young salmon and trout. Along the entire course of the Ballinderry—some fifteen miles—coarse fishing is splendid, while the Burmouth is the paradise for the devotee of the cork and quill.—EAST TYRONE.

Erne and Lough Melvin.—The weather improved a good deal during the past week, and some capital sport was obtained on the Erne. Mr. J. Hone had the biggest bag—nineteen salmon, ranging in weight from 8lb. to 24lb. General Dickens, Mr. Jameson, and Capt. Barry had fair sport also. Trout fishing on Melvin at present is very poor. —M. ROGAN AND SONS.

Lough Currane, Waterville (County Kerry).—Sport has not been as good as usual at this season. The wind has not been very favourable, however, and the water needs a little refreshing. The baskets for the week varied from sixteen white trout to four white trout. The average weight has been about 1lb., but several trout were had which weighed from 3lb. to 4½lb. Brown trout fishing has been moderate, and the fish small. Only two salmon have been caught. Mr. Brook, Leeds (on river), got one, 9lb.; and John Sullivan, one (on lake), 7lb. The following gentlemen had baskets of a dozen white trout on different days:—Major Hegan, Mr. G. Eades, and Major Cresswell; Colonel Rogers, Mr. Judd, Captain Reynolds, Mr. Brook, Leeds, Major Ffrench, Mr. Caldecott, Mr. R. Jones, and a few others, have also done well on odd days.—T. J. DENNEHY.

Shannon and Lough Derg (Killaloe).—Another most welcome change to rain and every appearance of its continuing. During the week the river has been running down rather fast, yet we have had very fair water for the grilse fishing. Should the rain keep on there is no doubt but that sport will be good for some time longer. The size of the grilse taken so far is most satisfactory. This very week some have been brought to bank and boat up to 9lb. and 10lb. each. Indeed, at all of the Shannon stations, Killaloe and Castle Connell in particular, many fine bags of large-sized grilse have been made since the end of May. July 21, Wm. Barry and W. Malone, fishing for Dr. Gorst, two grilse, 7lb., 5lb.; 22nd, P. Ryan and W. Fogarty, two, 10lb., 7lb.; Wm. Barry and W. Malone, two, 5lb. each; 23rd, P. Ryan and W. Fogarty, one, 5½lb.; 24th, one, 5½lb.; Wm. Barry and W. Malone, one, 9lb.; 25th, one, 8lb.; 27th, one, 9lb.; 28th, Major Traherne, one, 8lb. During the week W. Barry and W. Malone have, after fishing for salmon all day, killed each evening fine baskets of trout on the water rented by Dr. Gorst and party, Liverpool. On Wednesday evening they killed 7lb., amongst which were some pounders and three-quarter pounders. Walking down the river bank one evening, I saw more trout rising on Mr. Young's preserves (the Killaloe side) than one would see at all the other stations on the Shannon put together. It was a sight never to be forgotten. More English fishermen coming to enjoy the grand sport this week.—S. J. HURLEY.

Moy and Lakes (Ballina).—This river is down to a very low level, consequently sport has not been so good on the tidal portion this week. Anglers who fished early and late were rewarded with a fish or two—say, with a couple of sea trout. The upper water was fished splendidly all through the week, owing to having very many deep pools, where fish lie and rise well. Major Saunders and Mr. E. G. Perry, on July 25, killed twelve salmon and grilse between them, and since then are getting from four to eight grilse a day. Rain has been falling constantly during the last few days, and a good spate is sure to be the result, which will improve sport on the whole river. Trout fishers are not doing very well on the loughs, still some nice baskets are got daily.—FRANK HEARNS.

Westmeath Lakes (Mullingar).—Fishing on Westmeath Lakes has been of a rather disappointing character during the past fortnight. Even the perch and pike are slow to take the most tempting bait, and the only satisfactory baskets made are those which have been obtained by worm fishing for perch anchored beside a good bed of weeds. The second rise of Green Drake has commenced on Lough Enwell, and anglers are arriving. The two best trout which came under my notice this season was one of 9lb. taken on Lough Derravaragh with the Green Drake, and one of 9lb. on Lough Enwoll with Gudgeon.—T. J. W.

⁂ **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—Dyspepsia, Jaundice.—These complaints are the results of a disordered liver, which secretes bile in quality or quantity incapable of digesting food. Digestion requires a free flow of healthy bile, to insure which Holloway's Pills and Ointment have long been famous for eclipsing every other medicine. Food, irregularity of living, climates, and other causes are constantly throwing the liver into disorder, but that important organ can, under all circumstances, soon be regulated and healthily adjusted by Holloway's Pills and Ointment, which act directly upon its vital secretion. The Ointment rubbed on the skin penetrates immediately to the liver, whose blood and nerves it rectifies. One trial is all that is needed; a cure will soon follow.

THE NORFOLK BROADS QUESTION.

ANOTHER MEETING OF LONDON ANGLERS.

A LARGE number of London anglers assembled on Tuesday night at the club house of the Gresham Angling Society, Basinghall-street, City, for the purpose of "discussing what steps are to be taken to defend the public right to sail and fish on the Norfolk Broads, which from time immemorial have been recognised free to the Crown and its loyal subjects." Mr. Bartley, M.P. (President of the Islington Angling Society), presided, and amongst those present were Mr. J. Salmon, C.C., Mr. H. H. Thompson, C.C.. Mr. H. C. Richards, Mr. Walter Rye, Mr. Woodrow, C.C. (hon. sec. Norfolk Broads Protection Society), Dr. Bruiton, Mr. A. W. Parker, Mr. La Feuillade, Mr. Cross, Mr. Norman, Mr. J. Tayler (sec. Gresham Angling Society), Mr. Ghurney (sec. London Anglers' Association), Mr. Tibbatts, Mr. Feakes, Mr. Fay (Mildmay Angling Society), Mr. M. Davies, Mr. F. Fletcher, Mr. G. E. Simms (Gresham and Blackfriars Angling Societies), Mr. Arthur Matthew (New Albion Piscatorials), Mr. Chambers, Mr. J. Taylor ("Red Palmer"), &c., &c.

In opening the proceedings, the chairman said he knew the Norfolk Broads, and they did form a most excellent playground for Londoners. (Hear, hear.) He asserted that they must maintain those rights which were now threatened. On the other hand, where the riparian owners had their rights the public must respect them, and he should be sorry to interfere with anybody's rights. He was of opinion that where private interests clashed with the public, it seemed reasonable that the public should buy them up to prevent any difficulties. When the railway companies wanted certain rights and powers they paid for them, and if the public had rights in the Norfolk Broads, he thought they might pursue a similar plan. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Woodrow, C.C., then delivered an address on the question, and pointed out the localities of the different Broads by the aid of a large map. He maintained that they had a distinct right to fish and sail in those Norfolk waters which were navigable. (Hear, hear.) He could assure them that they intended to do their utmost to secure that end, and he pledged himself that their work would not terminate with the winning of the Hickling Broad case. (Cheers.) He proceeded to complain of the conduct of some of the cockney sportsmen who went shooting over the Broads, and said that the action of the riparian owners was in some measure due to this. They wanted to see an Act of Parliament passed which would enable the anglers to join with the riparian owners to keep order on the waters, so that every one could fish and sail in peace and quiet. (Cheers.)

Mr. J. Salmon (C.C.) proposed the following resolution: "That this meeting cordially supports the efforts of the Norfolk Broads Defence Association in its attempts to secure the public rights which have been enjoyed from time immemorial." He argued in favour of the establishment of a Broads Conservancy to protect the riparian owners and anglers from the mischief of the cockney sportsman. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. H. H. Thompson, C.C., seconded the resolution. There were, he remarked, places on land for public enjoyment, but there were comparatively few rivers and waters easily accessible to Londoners; therefore he maintained that the Norfolk Broads, which afforded attraction for anglers, yachting men, and others, should be preserved to the public.

Mr. Chambers moved: "That all interested in the rights of the public on the Norfolk Broads are by this meeting invited to co-operate with the Norfolk Broads Protection Society in obtaining help and evidence on the subject."

Mr. H. C. Richards, in seconding, observed in the course of an interesting speech, that the rights of the public would have to be settled by an Act of Parliament.

Mr. Cross supported the resolution and declared that the riparian owners had manufactured their claims for the purpose of pecuniary profit.

Both resolutions were carried unanimously, after which a hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Bartley, M.P., for presiding.

In reply, the hon. member said the right of the fishermen and yachtsmen was a matter of enormous importance to the country, and he felt that the movement which they had inaugurated should not end merely with the Hickling case, even if they won it. He would strongly urge them to obtain some legal opinion so as to draft a Bill and get it into the House of Commons. (Cheers.) He felt sure a great number of hon. members would come to their assistance and as for himself he would undertake to introduce the Bill back it, or support it. (Hear, hear.)

In the course of proceedings a subscription was set on foot on behalf of the Defence Fund, and £10 was collected.

PROSPECTS OF THE TWELFTH IN SCOTLAND.

ACCORDING to reports from the various districts of Scotland the prospects of the Twelfth would seem to vary considerably; although on the whole a good season may be confidently anticipated and especially so in the more important grouse districts. The tendency all over has been for the birds to leave the higher moors for the low grounds during the prevalence of the late protracted cold wintry spring, and consequently birds will be somewhat scarce and decidedly late on the high grounds, but quite the opposite and quite plentiful healthy and strong on the low grounds. Disease is reported from some districts, while in others there is not only no disease but the prospects are brighter than they have been for years.

The following are extracts from reports to hand from the various districts:—

Aberdeenshire.—On the Deeside side of the Grampians matters are not so bright as was anticipated a few weeks back, and the prospects are not much beyond those of last year, which was only about half an average. A good few barren birds have been met with, and some very meagre coveys. The severe frost on 17th May has, no doubt, much to answer for. On the Forest of Birse Moors and Finzean Moors, which suffered considerably from disease two years back, coveys number from five to six, and are strong and healthy, and fairly plentiful. On Clochnaben the hatchings were good, and birds are now well on the wing. On Upper Deeside birds will be quite ready on Balmoral, Invercauld, Mar, and adjoining moors, on the low grounds, but late on the uplands, where they have just recently been hatched.

Argyleshire.—In the Lorn district the prospects are good. Coveys are, however, smaller than the average, owing to the unfavourable weather during the nesting season, and little or no disease has been seen either here or on contiguous sections of the West Highlands.

Banffshire.—Owing to the late nesting, birds are not likely to pack so early nor be so wild on the wing by the Twelfth, and, with genial weather, sportsmen may confidently anticipate fairly heavy bags. Hares are scarce.

Berwickshire.—Reports vary as to the prospects on the Lammer Moors. Some birds will be late enough for the Twelfth, while others will be strong on the wing. No disease. Partridges have had a good nesting season, and pheasants have also done well.

Caithness.—Prospects, on the whole, are of a favourable character. The young broods, if somewhat late, are healthy and numerous, and only but slight reports as to disease. The past wet weather has not been favourable.

Dumfriesshire Moors.—Including also those of Lanark, Peebles, and Selkirk, prospects are the most discouraging for some years back. Disease has been prevalent and the stock has been greatly reduced in numbers. Only about half the average nests were observed, and altogether the early record of the season is a bad one indeed. During the past three weeks, however, young birds have made rapid progress, and there should be considerable sport by the Twelfth, although sportsmen are advised to shoot sparingly this season at least.

On the Eskdale Moors a good nesting season was enjoyed and good prospects were being entertained, when suddenly disease broke out, and the bags on many moors will be much below the average.

Forfarshire.—Reports of late nestings, barren birds and disease in some quarters are what we hear from this country.

In the *western* and *northern districts* the prospects are on the whole of a fairly encouraging description. Barren cocks are more prolific on the high grounds than breeding birds, but the low grounds have otherwise benefited the forced migration of early spring.

In *Inverness-shire* there are no signs of disease, and good sport may be confidently anticipated. On the high grounds second nestings were quite common,

In *Kincardineshire* grouse prospects are better than during the past two seasons.

In the *Lothians* the Pentlands show a clean bill of health as far as grouse are concerned, and none of the drawbacks have been experienced here so common almost everywhere else.

From *Perthshire* somewhat similar reports are to hand as prevail in general. The higher grounds suffered considerably during the May storm. But altogether the prospects are more encouraging than for two years back. On the extensive moors of Lochearnside the prospects are excellent, while equally flattering reports are to hand from Glenalmond, Glenquaich, Amulree, and Dunkeld districts. All the moors in the Pittochry district promise well. The reports from Ross, Sutherlandshire, &c., are, on the whole, highly satisfactory and promise good average sport, disease being absent; and what may be wanting in grouse will be more than compensated for by the fine head of pheasants, partridge, and other kinds of game, which go to swell the bag as the season advances.

THAMES ANGLING PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

THE annual summer river trip of the committee and friends of the Thames Angling Preservation Society took place on Thursday, July 23. The steam launch chartered for the occasion was appointed to start from the garden steps of Mr. Alfred Nuthall, J.P., at Kingston, at ten o'clock in the morning, and then to proceed to Staines, and afterwards to return back again to the Castle Hotel, Hampton Court Station, which was all most successfully carried out. On the arrival of the launch at the Town Hall steps at Staines, the company made their way to the Angel Hotel, where an excellent luncheon was provided by Mr. J. N. Flood, the new proprietor, which gave general satisfaction, and was served up under his personal superintendence. In the course of the luncheon, Mr. Flood intimated his willingness to become a member of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, which was heartily applauded. The return journey was made at 3.30, and being Staines Regatta, the visitors were able to see something of the races. There were no calls made, as there used to be, at Chertsey, when Mr. James Forbes was alive, and at the Swan Hotel, Walton, when Mr. J. P. Wheeldon was the piscatorial proprietor. Whilst the launch was passing through Sunbury Lock, the company made an inspection of the rearing pond, by arrangement, and saw some of the young perch fry.

The arrival at Hampton Court was practically effected at 6.30, and very little time was lost in getting to the spacious banquetting hall of the Castle Hotel, as the visitors, in spite of a substantial luncheon, were anxious to partake of one of Mr. Mayo's splendid dinners, which is one of the great attractions of the trip, and he did not fail on this occasion to receive an expression of their continued satisfaction. Mr. Alfred Nuthall, J.P., occupied the chair, the vice-chairs being occupied by Mr. C. W. Elsden and Mr. George Evans. Amongst those present were Mr. J. H. Gough (Thames Conservancy), Mr. Alderman Philip Jones, J.P., Mr. G. H. Harrison, J.P., Messrs. H. Mapplebeck, V. N. Donetil, W. H. Jackson, W. H. Brougham (sec.), John Elsden, Berristead, Thomas Crumplen, George Evans, M. R. Lawes, A. E. Armstrong (Chertsey), S. Peet (Friendly Anglers), &c., &c.

It is not intended on these occasions to have any special list of toasts, and only those which are suggested during the evening, whilst the guests are enjoying the dessert and choice old wines for which the hostelry is noted, and with any harmony the visitors might introduce.

The loyal toasts having been drank with much enthusiasm, including that of "The Royal Patrons," "The Prince of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh," the chairman gave that of "The Thames Conservancy," coupled with the name of Mr. J. H. Gough, and in the course of his remarks referred to the kind assistance the board on all occasions gave them when receiving a deputation, and to the courtesy and kindness they always met with from Mr. Gough.

Mr. Gough, in his reply, thanked them for the hearty reception he always received from them, and he was sure the conservators were at all times ready to assist them as far as they possibly could. He had enjoyed the pleasure of their secretary's friendship for a period of twenty-eight years, and he was at all times glad when he paid them a visit in Trinity-square.

Mr. Alderman Jones, J.P., proposed "The Chairman" in most complimentary terms, and in acknowledgment Mr. Nuthall said nothing gave him greater pleasure than to work for the grand old river, and to labour in connection with the T.A.P.S.

The Chairman gave "The Health of Mr. C. W. Elsden and Mr. George Evans," as they were always indebted to them for the success of the trips.

Both these gentlemen having replied, Mr. C. W. Elsden gave the toast of "The Secretary," who he highly complimented on his excellent manner in calling for subscriptions, thus making it really a pleasure for them to pay their guineas.

Mr. W. H. Brougham, in responding to the toast, remarked the great secret of getting subscriptions in was not to make too much of a business of it, but after some little conversation on angling or other topics, just to slip in the remark, "By the way, your subscription is due," which always brought out the guineas, and then quietly slip it into the pocket like the physicians do, and continue the conversation; by that means he always succeeded.

The concluding toast was that of "Mr. John Mayo," which the chairman gave in most flattering terms, and which the worthy host appropriately acknowledged.

The party broke up at nine o'clock to catch the 9.15 train.

THE CARLISLE OTTER HOUNDS. — An Otter Hound Drowned.—At five a.m. on Tuesday last, the inhabitants of the picturesque village of Armathwaite were roused from their slumbers by the deep-mouthed baying of the Carlisle otter hounds. It was a thrilling chorus, and as the music rang through the magnificent woods and died away in the distance, most of the hunters resident in the charming little hamlet were on the spot. There was Tom Parker, the sturdy little huntsman; there were the hounds panting for their prey; there were the brawny Cumbrians—aye, and the ladies, too—determined to follow the hounds "Over bank, bush, and scaur," and to be in at the death by hook or by crook. The river was very full after the recent heavy rains, but although almost too heavy for hunting purposes, the huntsman was anxious for a run, and the hounds were thrown off at Armathwaite Bay. At the outset, the veteran hound, Eden, took up a drag, and led the pack at a merry pace up to the rocks at Wanna Burgh, where he marked the game. Soon the varmint was bolted by the terrier Piper, and the exciting chase commenced up the rocky channel for nearly a mile, when the otter was lost for a brief period, but was again dislodged from a huge rock. Retracing his steps, he steered down stream towards Wanna Burgh with Eden, Bugleman, Rufus, Tester, and Thunder, in hot pursuit. Across the Coolon stream dashed the hounds—all but poor old Eden, who was seen to struggle for a few moments and then turn over as if seized with cramp. The hound was then swept down by the current into about fifteen feet of water, where he sank to rise no more. Both the deputy-master, Mr. R. Hind, and the huntsman were so cut up at the loss of probably the best hound that was ever produced in Cumberland, that they at once called off the pack and returned to Carlisle by the midday train. Eden was eight years old, and was bred by the master, Mr. J. C. Carrick. The hound had hunted regularly with the pack for six seasons and a-half, and was a worthy successor to such noted champions as Corbic, Ringwood, and Belfry. Tom Parker asserts that Eden was in at the death of fifty-nine otters. Whenever the old hound "marked," the game was never far off. It was a frequent saying of the huntsmen that "Eden never lies." It was true, too, he was the most unerring hound I ever came across. I had numerous opportunities of witnessing his performances during sundry hunting expeditions on the Border.—GILNOCKIE.

THE DUMFRIESSHIRE OTTER HOUNDS.—These hounds met at Black Esk Bridge, on 22nd ult., at 7 p.m., and hunted down the river. Below the junction of the Black and the White Esk, a drag was struck, and carefully followed for over a mile. Then the music pealed forth as the otter was marked among some willows on a small island. A lively hunt now ensued, but ere the huntsman could get up, the varmint had bolted and taken refuge in a wet drain, with a terrier in close pursuit. The hounds were at once withdrawn, in order to give the game a clear field on emerging from the drain. This soon took place in view of the whole pack, the otter and terrier both making for the river, biting and snapping at each other during their passage down the bank. Soon the animal was in deep water, and although several of the hounds closed with the game, none of them could hold on for long. Down stream went the otter with the pack in full cry, into the pool below, where a merry hunt was carried on for half-an-hour Then there was a lull for a few minutes, until two couples of hounds, led on by Hector, routed the varmint from some rocks, giving it a good shaking meanwhile The river was now getting too hot for further residence, and the animal steered for the adjoining wood, but was run into in the open and killed—a bitch otter, 15lb. There was a large attendance at the Kennels on Tuesday, July 28, and a grand day's sport was confidently anticipated, as some knowing hands had spotted the game on the previous day, and taken the necessary steps to secure a good hunt. The most sanguine expectations were fully realised as the run which followed was far away the best that has taken place in the district for many years. At the word of command the hounds rushed into the water, but never a whimper till passing Bridekirk they began to feather at the island alongside the mill dam. Then a glorious burst of music gladdened the hearts of the field. Across the dam flew the excited hounds, and into the wood, but in a moment almost they were back in the river. Now they began to "speak" in popular language, and at Meinfoot there was a general chorus like the sound of a mighty organ in some far-off cathedral. "Hie for him, Brusher," cries Mr. Davidson the honorary huntsman, and Brusher "marks" in a rabbit burrow, and in went the terriers, but the varmint refused to budge. Digging was then resorted to, and after several stalwart spadesmen had accomplished some prodigious telling feats, the terrier "Tors" was sent in, with the result that the other bolted in view of the whole field, into a deep pool, when there was some grand swimming for nigh half-an-hour, then the hounds were again at fault, as the varmint had evidently slipped past unseen. From the top of the pool, however, comes a loud halloo from the huntsman, Ho "Laurie." "Whipman good hounds, that's the genuine melody," shouts Mr. Davidson. Every hound was now dashing up the stream, in and out of the water in full cry. 'Twas a glorious sight, and the splendid harmony of their deep-toned notes thrilled the souls of many a well-seasoned votary of the chase as the otter was viewed in the river nearly two miles from where it was first put off. "I am not surprised," remarks a rustic, "at his pedestrian feats in the night if the animal travels at such a fearful bat in high daylight." Once more there is silence, but "Brusher" takes up the running on the land towards Hoddam Castle, casting about in the shallow water. The game is again sighted, evidently almost used up, as it shows now more frequently. Several encounters with the hounds take place, the otter always with the best of the deal, until at last the creature is driven into some loose roots and run into a well-developed bitch, 16lb. Mr. Wilsen Davidson deserves the greatest credit for the manner in which he handled the hounds. He is a most enthusiastic sportsman, and has proved himself many a time and oft a born otter hunter.—G.

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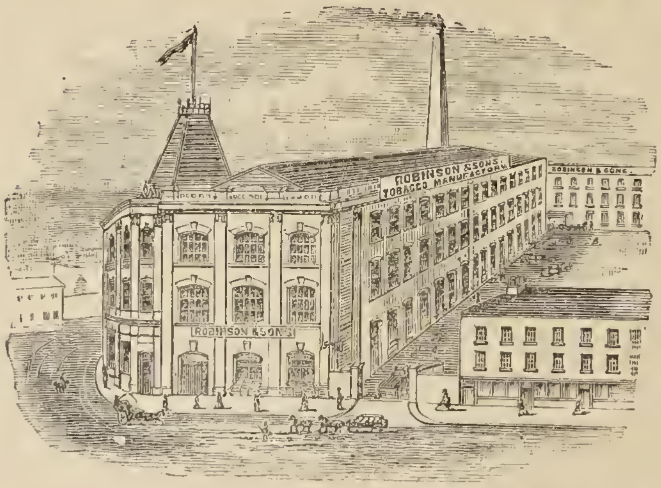

Extract from the "FISHING GAZETTE" of February 21st, 1891:—

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DEAR SIR,—Knowing how much you enjoy your pipe when out a-fishing, may I ask if you, or any of your friends, have ever tried "The Oriel" navy cut, manufactured by Robinson's, of Stockport? If you have not, do so at once, and I venture to say that you will be well pleased with it, being very cool and lasting, with an exquisite flavour. I have no interest in the matter whatever, but simply recommend it as my *beau ideal* of what a fisherman's tobacco should be.—Yours truly, SMOKER.

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A HINT to FISHERMEN.

MR. THOMAS KIMBERLEY, well known in Birmingham and the Midlands as an expert Angler of over thirty years' experience, writes as follows:—

1, KEY HILL, BIRMINGHAM,
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Mr. WALTER SCOTT,

Dear Sir,—I have much pleasure in letting you know that I have succeeded in winning First Prize in the West Birmingham Fishing Club, and the Special Prize offered for the largest Roach taken in the same contest. These Fish were caught with your "AQUARIUM" BAIT, in Harborne Reservoir, on September 13th. I have also won First Prize in the Brothers Well Met Annual Contest, fished at Fernhill Heath, near Worcester, on the 20th—also with the "AQUARIUM" BAIT—together with many other Prizes during the season.—Yours truly,

THOMAS KIMBERLEY.

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is published at STETTIN (Germany), by HERRCKE & LEBELING. Devoted to Angling, Commercial Fishing Fish Trade, Fish Culture, and Aquaria. Sample copies free and post-paid. Annual subscription, post-free, 12 Marks (12 shillings)

MAZAWATTEE TEA

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— NOTICE. —

The Fishing Gazette is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. Marston, the Editor of the Fishing Gazette, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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Telegraphic Address—"RIVSAM, London."
TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, AUGUST 8th, 1891.

STOCKING HIGHLAND WATERS.

By Mac.

The frequent announcements in the dailies and the sporting press of hotel-keepers and others receiving from fish culture establishments consignments of trout and fry, wherewith to stock their lochs and streams for the intended purpose of improving the fishing, induce us to offer a few remarks pertinent to the subject. To the question broadly put, Is it a good thing to stock? we take it for granted that almost everyone will give an affirmative answer. But to the question narrowed in its scope, Is it a good thing to stock all waters, whether they contain few or many trout? the answer that will be given by most parties who have given careful attention to the subject will be, we assume, an emphatic negative.

In popular favour the trout of Loch Leven stand high for their sporting and edible qualities, their symmetry and colour; indeed in these respects with the majority of anglers in Scotland they are held to be second to none. Nor is this any wonder. For long they have been fished for by anglers from all parts in their native waters, and spoken of in highest praise in almost every angling circle. Thus through their world-wide fame their cultivation by artificial means to the present tremendously great extent has been brought about. Metaphorically speaking, they may be said to have been in every one's mouth of recent years. They have been so loudly praised by tourist anglers, who have spoken with such positive certainty of their doing splendidly in the well-thrashed lochs of the Highlands, that every year for several years past an increased number of hotel-keepers, with a most laudable desire to please their patrons and secure for them gratifying sport, have been ordering consignments of fry and yearlings—in some cases two-year-olds—from the better known fish culture establishments; thereby creating a constantly growing demand, to meet which the owners of these establishments, with commendable foresight, have had reared and ready an adequate supply.

We desire to encourage by every means in our power the stocking of all suitable waters—waters whether public, private, or attached to hotels. Such waters are neither those which are polluted to any great extent, nor those in which from the scarcity or the poor quality of the food the native fish when full-grown are mostly but of small size. What waters we most desire to see attention given to would naturally be those in which most anglers are interested—public or hotel waters which anyone inclined to fish may fish—waters which through over-fishing have had their stock of fish, which were uniformly of a good size when the adult stage was reached, very much reduced.

To obtain the best possible results is what is aimed at by stocking. This, it is clear, must follow experiment, and those who succeed at the first ought to consider themselves remarkably fortunate. It cannot, of course, be expected that in very many cases great success will be manifest for some years. Few, especially hotel-keepers, like to risk spending a great deal of money to get a large stock of fish or fry introduced at the start. On the contrary, it is seen that many go about the matter over cautiously, putting, as a rule, too few into their waters, considering the scope of the waters. The result is that the fish practically are lost in the magnitude of water-space, and between this and the water perhaps not suiting them, the number lost by means of natural causes, and such as are destroyed by their enemies of earth, air, and water, the experiment proves so unsatisfactory that it is not repeated; and thus, without being fairly tried, the waters are condemned as unsuitable for the introduced fish, and thenceforward are left to be stocked as they may by their own native fish. Three or four cases in point, identically on all fours with what we have here set forth, have been known to us within a few years past. Doubtless there have been a good many cases of a pretty similar nature.

While we freely acknowledge the merits of Loch Levens as beautiful game trout, we should like to ask, Are they known to be hardy fish, well adapted for the purpose of stocking exposed Highland waters? Will they do well in very peaty water? They will, we are afraid, not do so well in such waters as loch *fario* of a good strain. Of course, where food is plentiful and nutritious, it is natural to suppose that any variety of fresh-water trout will thrive and grow to a good size, provided the water suit them and the stock of fish peopling it is not too great. But what concerns us most is to know the best trout for stocking different waters, and in this connection we would advise hotel-keepers to consider well all the probabilities before taking steps to stock. We picture, from our knowledge of it, a loch whose stock of fish, through severe angling and a little poaching on the sly in the spawning time, has got very low. For years this loch, very handy for hotel anglers, has been greatly run on, on account as well of its splendid large trout as of its easy access. Eight to ten years ago, a basket of trout weighing 20lb.—each trout little short of a pound —was the average take on it by an angler on a good fishing day, in the best of the season. Nowadays, under the best of conditions, and during the choicest time of the year, the average take would not exceed seven or eight pounds. The trout have neither fallen off nor increased in average size, but they have got greatly fewer. They are lovely trout—not silvery, as the water is peat-stained a good deal—splendid risers, game to a degree, and very firm and red-fleshed. Nothing, we have every reason to believe, has interfered with this loch to lessen the quantity or detract from the quality of its fish food, *ergo*, why should it not now contain and sustain to grow to a large size as many trout as ever it did? So far as can be seen there is nothing to prevent it. This, therefore, is a loch which reasoning from analogy it would not be a useless experiment—a throwing away of money—to stock. Being only a comparatively small loch, a few hundred yearlings would not be lost in it. It is in a well-sheltered and comparatively low-lying locality, has a long season of fly on it—the May-fly comes out for its short time—and, further, stickleback and fresh-water mollusca are known to be in it in any quantity. It is this most certainly that accounts for its fine trout and their large size.

Our knowledge of the facts is that Loch Levens have proved an immense success in many an artificial lake, but of their doing so well in Highland lochs as the common *fario* we have not often heard. In the latter waters, which are peat-stained to a greater or less degree, one thing is certain, the Loch Levens lose the beautiful natural silvering, which in artificial lakes they in some cases retain. The habitat—colour of the water and general surroundings—will affect and account for the outward colour and appearance of the fish, and the quantity and quality of the food for the nature and colour of their flesh. Where always all the trout except a few predatory ones have been very small, it is utterly useless, we think, to stock either with Loch Levens or the fry or yearlings of large trout from other waters. A new race of trout may to some extent for a year or two bring about a bettering of the average size, but we have no faith that such a state of matters will long continue in waters in which through their poverty of food the native trout have all along been of a small size. We believe that in many Highland waters—high-lying in bare rocky regions—the poverty of food is so great that even were the trout but half as numerous they would not be of decent size. On the other hand, there are many waters in well-sheltered highland localities in which, were the trout much fewer than they are, they would no doubt be of a better size—in fact, a good average. In our opinion it would be economical to have many of these trout removed and put into well-fed waters in which the native trout have become scarce. This would benefit both the waters thinned and the waters plenished. In the one case the trout left would have more good food and in the other there would still be sufficient food for the extra number. It stands, of course, to reason that if spared the mass of the trout will grow to a size and be of a quality in keeping with the quantity and nature of their food. To over-populate even well-fed waters would bring about, in course of time, a smaller average size of fish, while to introduce Loch Levens or the young of large fish from other lochs to waters in bleak, exposed rocky districts, where there is little fry or other good food, and in which hunger-stricken little black things of fish swarm in countless numbers, would be an experiment which we would seriously warn everyone against.

ANGLER OR POACHER—WHICH IS IT TO BE?

— By E. M. Tod. —

A short time back Dr. Brunton, who had been fishing the Deveron at Huntly, wrote about the poaching which has been going on in that district, and I during that same month was making similar notes, some fifteen to twenty miles farther up the river, finding trout marked with the net, &c.

Now Mr. C. E. Hale writes in *Fishing Gazette* on "Poaching on the Tweed," and his letter fills me with dismay.

I am now an old fisherman and have marked the downward progress of many a good Scotch river and streamlet in my day.

The Tweed and its tributaries suffer enormously the Teviot in an especial manner, where, as a Nisbet and elsewhere, it flows over a pebbly and a sandy bottom—the very best of bottoms for th net.

The Don and the Deveron and most of the Aberdeenshire rivers are now in the hands of lawless gangs of poachers, as witness Mr. Murdoch's statements from time to time; and few can know better that he, seeing that he knows so many brethren of the angle in and around Aberdeen.

The wail is getting stale, and the poacher apparently sweeps the fish into his nets, everywhere, without let or hindrance. Anglers go out daily, and curse their bad luck, their flies, their everything—but the real cause.

For some years I had the privilege of fishing a stretch of water on the Lower Deveron. The fishing was excellent, and if the kind-hearted proprietor should happen to read this, he will be able to follow me when I say that one of the very best streams was that between the ferry-boat pool and the pool by the wood, into which it flows. I used to fill my creel here, and, when I was there last, the trout were so few and far between that I soon came to sad conclusions.

When the clear-water worm came in, I could read the river like an open book, and I noted that some places in particular were apparently *nearly* tenantless. These were invariably streams and shallow pools, well suited for the rascally netsman, whereas in deep, rocky places I usually found my friends "at home." That spring just before my arrival a gang of poachers had gone over to "Plaidy" Station, and had successfully sent into Aberdeen *and disposed of to the fish salesmen* two and a-half hundredweight of fish, the produce of a *single night*. It was *then* that the police found it out, and that the hue and cry was raised; but the gang escaped—and the fish were eaten!

All kinds of remedies have been proposed, and the one which seems to have found most favour on the whole has been staking the rivers. For many a year I have known that some daring men used to go down the rivers with a crowbar, and, passing a rope around certain stakes which were most in the way, lever them up.

Mr. Hale, writing from the head waters of the Tweed, tells us that, when the river is low, this is the *modus operandi*:—

"The river has been staked by private subscriptions," he says; "but one or two men wade down in front of the net, and lift it over when they come to a stake, and so they can *net*, however well staked the river may be." Moreover, he was an eye-witness of this wholesale destruction "when he was fly-fishing the night before" he wrote this letter to the *F. G.*

I consider his information so valuable that I record my gratitude, and I am sure that angling societies who go to their beds trusting in their stakes, must *now* feel that the money thus laid out has been thrown away in a large measure. Besides all this, stakes get clogged by straws and weeds, and not unfrequently get "sanded up;" so that a net can be drawn over them, I should imagine, with comparative ease, after they have been in the river for a few years. If, then, staking a river is a costly process, and apparently as useless as it is costly, what is to be done? Are *we* to fold our hands and fall asleep whilst the poacher has "the swing of it?" It will be too late to lock the stable once the steed is stolen. This question, which should be of the greatest interest to landed proprietors, lessees of fishings, and anglers of all classes, not to speak of the proprietors of fishing hotels, cannot surely remain much longer as it is. Every man seems to say, "It's nae affair o' mine," and goes on his way; and so the question drifts helplessly down the stream of Time!

Will no man try to arrest its progress, and say, "Thus far—but no farther?" If no other will, I shall raise my feeble voice, and do my very best to stir the whole trout angling fraternity into something like the beginning of action. But oh, it is a ponderous machine to set agoing and I can do nothing ALONE—*absolutely nothing*.

Well, I am going to try to arouse interest; and I hope that angling societies will take the matter up all over the kingdom, and where there are no angling societies that they may be formed in every good *trout* fishing centre in Scotland, and indeed wherever trout fishing is to be found. So much for the disease, and the remedies which have proved inoperative—to effect a cure.

In view of Mr. Hale's letter we may point to "stake-holders," and say what Beau Brummell's valet said: but what did *he* say? A friend called, and found this confidential valet of the leader of fashion emerging from Beau Brummell's dressing-room bearing over his arm a perfect shopful of ties, all new, but all more or less crushed.

"What on earth are all these?" asks the Beau's visitor, and the stately, self-important, gentleman's gentleman answers, protentously, "Sir, these are *our* failures"! Pass that on to angling societies and others who stake rivers—and let them say—"These *were* our *mis-stakes!*"

Since we must search farther afield for the cure, or render at once our submission to the poachers, I shall offer a few suggestions. No doubt the putting on of night watchers would do a great deal, but the expense would be enormous. Besides, men could be occasionally bribed; and it is within my knowledge that men have been well plied with liquor, whilst the band in safety swept the river! And in one single night (with a low water), the damage wrought to a private fishery must be quite astounding.

I therefore can see but one method whereby

> "To spoil the spoiler as we may,
> And from the robber rend his prey."
> *Sir W. Scott.*

It is simply to make the sale of trout in certain areas defined well-nigh impossible, by rendering their purchase penal, save under certain circumstances. This has been a very old remedy with me, for "it does not go fooling around," but strikes *home*.

I will possibly be met with all kinds of objections; but the day is coming when that will *have* to be the cure, or fishing for trout will no longer be worth while, save in places where the wealth and energy of the owners or lessees of fisheries enables them to have an efficient staff of water-bailiffs.

Where, then, will the large and increasing army of anglers go for an angling holiday? Where will the weary brain-worker find that angling paradise for which so many sigh in vain even now? *Then* who would continue going to *Scotland* for a month's fishing?

Is this all a dream—all fancy? No; the dreamers are the men who go about with their hands in their pockets, quite content to say that fishing is falling off, and that there is no help for it. I say, "Collar the evil *now*, not to-morrow, or next day." Of course, I know that Acts of Parliament are not made in a moment, or passed in an hour. But will anyone point out a more *thorough* cure? Let it once find favour in the light of corporate bodies like our angling societies, and the first sod has been laid on the grave of the *poacher*—the first sod laid on that new "line" which will, one of these days, whirl the happy and contented *angler* away to his favourite stream.

But how can the sale of trout be made penal?

(1) By getting rid of a radical and utterly unjustifiable sentiment very prevalent in Scotland—namely, that the fish are common property. I have often heard this, and of course only in the mouths of those who neither own nor farm an acre of land, and who therefore have a direct and *selfish* interest in the matter. This sentiment would form a real barrier, I fear, to the passing of any such Act, as applied to "free water," till you were able to show that the poachers *alone* would be interfered with—and even the humblest of anglers would discover that it was his interest to aid the law in its efforts to suppress poaching for trout.

That it can, nay, that it will eventually be *forced* upon anglers, I have not the shadow of a doubt. Who wants to sell trout? The proprietors of *northern* rivers seldom or never do. Loch Leven trout alone command a market of any importance, and for such cases a special clause could be inserted. It might even be advisable to compel fishmongers and other buyers to make an entry of all purchases of *trout*, obtaining the signature and address of the consignee in every case, and binding them under a *heavy* penalty never to purchase from even a doubtful source.

This would still give the owners of fisheries the right of selling their fish if they chose. Of course the Act would not apply to living trout used for stocking purposes, but only to fish used as food.

Now, imagine how such an Act would dismay Mr. Poacher! Take the very case I have alluded to, where the Deveron was robbed of 2½cwts. of fish in one night. With such an Act how could they get rid of the spoil?

Well, for argument's sake, and to show how the Act would work in practice, suppose that they had sold the fish in Aberdeen, as indeed they did, to Mr. Slyfox, fish dealer. The police get wind of the transaction, and a smart inspector is sent to the fish dealer's.

"Well, Mr. Slyfox, I understand that you have purchased a consignment of trout. Show me your official books at once, as I have reason to think that you have brought yourself within the Act."

Not only would the consignee's signature and address (*even if false*) lead probably to the apprehension of *some* of the gang, but the conviction of a few fish dealers would strike such a blow at river poaching for trout, that it would very soon be on the wane—if it did not die out. It is only what is done every day in other departments of law.

So I say, direct your attention to the re-setter, if you want to stop the thief. Hamper the fish dealer by an Act of Parliament, and the poacher will find "Othello's manly occupation *gone!*"

I appeal to more influential members of the Flyfishers' Club, to which I have the honour to belong, and through it, I appeal to every fishing club in the United Kingdom, which has the interest of trout fishermen at heart, not to throw cold water upon this scheme until they can suggest a better.

I shall most gladly stand aside MYSELF, to make room for those who alone can bring about any such far-reaching reform—viz., a convocation, composed of all those whose interests are assailed from every corner of the land.

I have only thrown the stone into the calm pool, and I shall watch the ring widening and widening as it circles towards the shore. If it is to be a case of "the survival of the fittest," say, shall it be the angler—or the poacher?

PRESERVATION OF THE MEDWAY
AND THE
MEETING OF ANGLERS AT MAIDSTONE.

By EDGAR S. SHRUBSOLE.

THE Medway is a delightful river for an angling holiday. Even in its present poached and neglected state below Hartlake Bridge, it holds an abundance of coarse fish; it is wonderfully prolific, and, if properly looked after, its silent swims and weedy depths would provide magnificent sport for hundreds of anglers, and its many weirs and streams would not only continue to sing sweet songs of freedom to weary men, but would thrill their being and quicken the action of their hearts as a well-conditioned trout showed above the surface of the stream, and then made for its home with a rush that would severely test the angler's skill and tackle, or a big barbel with dogged determination fought its battle for life.

What wonder, then, that a few local anglers, grieved to know the river is so neglected, are anxious to do what they can to properly preserve it!

For many years past I have praised the Medway from an angler's point of view, and advocated its claims upon the fishing public. My experiences of English rivers are not limited to those that flow through the hop county, and when I assure anglers who do not at present know "Mother" Medway, that her sylvan shades, quiet swims, and picturesque surroundings will not only compare favourably with others of a like nature, but that they have a silent sweetness of their own, I trust they will believe it is a *bona-fide* conviction on my part; and the attractions of the river upon whose banks I was born will probably prove the truth of my assertion to ninety-nine out of a hundred who pay it a visit. When, therefore, the secretary of the Maidstone Angling Society communicated with the Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*, asking him to make public through his columns an appeal for funds they had addressed to anglers who fish the river, and if possible send a representative to a meeting they intended to hold, and the Editor asked me to attend, I without hesitation said "Yes!" Thursday, July 30, therefore, saw me at a well-attended and thoroughly business-like assembly of Maidstone anglers, who met at the Anchor and Hope, to deliberate upon what steps should be taken to more effectually preserve the Medway. Several well-known local anglers were present, and although Messrs. R. T. Tatham and D. W. Piue (who had promised to attend) did not put in an appearance, the two hours devoted to talking over the matter—in my way of thinking—were very profitably utilised. Some Maidstone anglers at last can see that if something is not very soon done, very little will remain to them of the old nces of 70lb. of roach and bream in a day. A more sensible tone pervaded the meeting than usual years back, and altogether I have t hopes of something substantial resulting n it. For several reasons I shall not touch n matters that cropped up that evening in an ial manner; it is far better that I should give own opinion and experience of what should and what has been done, especially as an eal has lately been made to the Anglers' ociation and Central Association of London lers for financial assistance, and so brought the ter within range of discussion in these columns. irst, then, let it be distinctly understood I ider the Medway, *like several such rivers*, well thy the attention of associations that have a culty in finding fresh fields and pastures new the thousands included in their membership. at is to prevent the Anglers' Association, the tral Association, and the Maidstone Associa- joining hands and forming a Medway ervation Society? Share the expense and c the sport. Appoint a proper keeper, and honorary bailiffs, same as are appointed for Lea, poaching to any extent would be simply ossible. Taking into consideration the fact many hundreds of London anglers frequent river, it is only fair they should assist ncially in preserving it. It would be quite rd to think that London anglers would pay preserving a river if a local society also fished d did not pay their share; and it's a rum rule does not work both ways, isn't it? It used ke from £70 to £80 per annum, in the days D. W. Pine had got the matter all ripe for *lete* preservation (why I say, "all ripe," and hasise *complete*, will be seen presently), to d the interests of anglers on the Medway, and could manage it now thoroughly. Surely ls should not be wanted? Then again rail- facilities are favourably extended to anglers: ilege tickets issued by either London associa- enable the holders to travel to any station he banks at greatly reduced fares.

o much for what could be done under existing umstances, *always supposing the local riparian ers continued to permit anglers to fish.* That's staggerer," isn't it? But it may be depended n that the greater part of the Medway could losed if the local riparian owners chose to w the example of the proprietors of Bray cb and exert their rights. In this connection mportant matter crops up. Some few years the Medway Preservation Society, which then in existence, obtained a power of attor- from the local riparian owners (principally ugh the influence and indefatigable exertions Ir. D. W. Pine). The whole of the owners the river had signed it, and also the Upper lway Navigation Company, on the condition the game on either bank was to be watched the society's keepers, and owners' interests rally looked after. In return, the society had absolute and entire right and control of the and fishing in the river offered them. In r words, the riparian owners (many of whom members of the society) would have handed to a *responsible* society, their rights of the ng. Now mark what happened! At a meet- called for the purpose of announcing that ters were ripe for the *complete preservation* of river, the general body of members delibe- ly refused to allow the document to be signed behalf of the society! The argument held that the general public would be debarred right of fishing in the Medway until they paid r subscription and became members of the ety!

ow, I maintain they have no right (as the law ts) to fish the river if the riparian owners se to stop them. They might have had a *legal* t, and they refused it. Moreover, I unhesita- ly assert that no angler has a *moral* right to *preserved* water unless he pays his mite towards ervation. The complete absurdity of the n of the general body of the Medway Preser- on Society will be more plainly known when orm my readers that the subscription to the ety at that time was (if my memory serves me) about five shillings per year. The promoters e scheme bound themselves to supply fishing ets *free* to any working men who could not y afford to pay; and the riparian owners nselves found a large proportion of the funds ssary to carry on the society.

Of course, the result was the influential members retired from the society in disgust; those left, who had thrown mud upon the action of men who really had their interests and the preservation of the river *at heart*, were quite incapable of carrying on the society upon its old lines, so it collapsed, and the river was—and is—unwatched and uncared for, except by the few faithful ones who still stick together and still hope for better times, and who called the meeting I lately attended. But what can they do with their £10 a year income? True, they do all they can; last year out of an income of less than £10 they spent £4 in prosecuting two poachers, *and gained their cases*. Good luck to them! and may they soon have the substantial help they are appealing for.

Now perhaps it can be seen what I am driving at. Could not the present Maidstone Society (which would soon become considerably swelled in numbers, and their income largely increased, if matters were once more started with vigour), with the Anglers' Association and the Central Association, form another Medway Preservation Society, and once more try to get that power of attorney? I don't think it would be refused by the anglers this time! especially as the following would be a great inducement for local anglers to combine with their metropolitan brethren. Any one fishing the river would have to hold a ticket from one or the other association, which would cost them not more than two shillings per year. This ticket, as we all know, entitles them to travel *from* London to many stations on the various lines at greatly reduced fares. If the South-Eastern Railway were approached they would probably see their way clear to allow local anglers on the Medway to travel *to* London at reduced fares if they held these association tickets. Thus would be opened up a splendid scheme, which could be worked upon principles I have advocated at Leeds, Nottingham, and elsewhere—*i.e.*, that anglers' tickets, available for any and every part of the United Kingdom, should be obtainable at all large central associations; and in this way an angler could go from Leeds waters to Nottingham waters, and *vice versâ*, either to London or any other waters, and so on, and any and everybody on angling bent could travel at reduced fares. I have had more than one angler fairly gasp for breath when I have mentioned this matter, and asserted that it is not only possible and probable, but is sure to be arranged some day. At any rate, it could be very simply worked in connection with the Medway.

Well, we shall see what will be done. I strongly impressed upon the meeting at the Anchor and Hope that they should depute two or three of their number to go to London, and lay their case before delegate meetings of the associations. I sincerely hope their appeal will be answered favourably, and that if matters cannot be arranged upon the broad and complete lines as laid down in this article by me, at any rate substantial help will be given them in some direction, so that the good old Medway will not go to the dogs for want of a few pounds. Should the matter be taken up in the earnest manner I trust it will be, I would advise any committee that may be formed to direct their attention to the vile manner in which poor miserable little fish are ruthlessly slaughtered in the Medway, and devise means to immediately stop such unsportsmanlike proceedings—stop it with a firm hand at once. I am not going to deliver another curtain lecture upon the increase in the standard of weighable fish here—club anglers in all parts are quite aware what my ideas on the subject are—I merely wish to draw attention to the fact that this is another river that is cruelly depleted of small fish, by anglers who know better, or at any rate should do so.

In an earlier part of this article I mentioned that trout and barbel would provide good sport at the weirs and in the streams. The latter fish could be introduced into the Medway at a very small cost, and they would be bound to thrive well and provide grand sport. Trout there are, but very few. Their number, however, could be increased, and steps should be taken to stock the river with them. The late Frank Buckland asserted that the Medway could be made a salmon river, but I can hardly agree with the assertion, great as was (aye, and is) the authority from which it emanated. But the river could and should be made to provide excellent sport with barbel and trout. Other coarse fish there are in plenty, they only want looking after, and then the Medway would be one of the best coarse fishing rivers in the country—as it used to be.

I have purposely refrained from dealing with the question of the pollution of the Medway between Tovil and Allington. There is plenty of water above. Still it is a crying shame that the river as it flows through the county town should be allowed to degenerate into nothing less than a large open sewer.

THE RIGHTS OF FISHING, SHOOTING, AND SAILING ON THE NORFOLK BROADS, CONSIDERED BY WALTER RYE.*

THE Norfolk Broads have now become such a recognised place for an outing, that what the outside holiday maker may or may not legally do is of very considerable interest, and this, with other matter, may be learned from a study of the above-named carefully-written little volume.

Mr. Rye divides the broads into three classes:—

"(1) Those which are rightly so-called, where the broad is an obvious broadening out of a navigable river which runs through it. Of this class are Barton, Salhouse, Hoveton, Wroxham, Surlingham.

"(2) Those through which—at present, at all events—no navigable river runs, though they communicate with one, as Sutton or Stalham, Hickling, Weigham Sounds, Horsey Mere, Martham, Ramworth, Rockland.

"(3) Those which are now entirely surrounded by land, and have no communication with any river, as Rollesby, Ormesby, Fibby."

The term "broads" does not, Mr. Rye considers, properly apply to the third of these classes, they "being nothing more than" private ponds, except as far as they may be crossed from staithe to staithe by a water highway. There seems no chance of establishing a right to shoot or fish over these except possibly by copyholders or "free tenants" of manors, of which they may have been waste. The author's opinions, therefore, apply "certainly to the first class of these broads only, less certainly to the second, and hardly at all to the third."

He cites many authorities, and the results of several law-suits in support of his contentions and opinion, but the results generally arrived at are "that all the visiting outsider may do is to sail to and fro from village to village, staithe to staithe, but that he may not shoot at all, and can only fish 'as he go.' As to the right of mooring, I think all, whether on pleasure or business, may make fast and lay alongside anywhere for one tide; but the bare idea that there is any right to land or light a fire on the road is, legally speaking, absurd."

To the important query as to "whether the public generally has an unlimited right of access to all portions of the broads actually covered by water?" Mr. Rye replies: "On this point it seems to me that wherever, on broads of the first and second classes, the water is sufficiently deep to float any sort of boat in the course of lawful business, and, possibly, of pleasure, there everyone has a right to go, especially where the river leads to public staithes or landing-places."

The conclusion he arrives at as to "what rights *(a)* the public and *(b)* the copyholders, &c., have to fish or shoot over the broads," he gives in the following words: "As to this, I should say the public certainly have no right to shoot, but just as certainly have a right to fish on navigable tidal rivers, although I very much doubt whether they have any right to moor fishing-boats out of which to angle. I know that a local judge held differently in a well-known running-down case; but I must own, I cannot see how anyone can justify the mooring of a pleasure-boat in a place which may impede a wherryman tackling across a river on a business journey, any more than an artist would be justified in squatting on a camp-stool in the middle of Cheapside. The river is the king's roadway—a wet one—but none the less a roadway, and originally was nothing but one as far as the public was concerned. The fish in it are the king's, unless he has granted a fishery, or appropriated it as free to his subjects. That the king did so appropriate the river to the public, at all events from Wroxham Bridge and from Potter Heigham Bridge downwards, is abundantly proved by the following extracts from the 'Hundred Rolls' for Norfolk, taken in the reign of Edward I."

Then follow the extracts referred to, and very nteresting some of these relating to the fisheries are, as showing "how persistently the juries presented and objected to the Lords' encroachments."

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* Jarrold and Sons, London and Norwich.

In an appendix the judgment in the well-known Thames case of Smith *v.* Andrews is reprinted, as "being an excellent *resumé* of the law of fishing on non-tidal rivers."

In view of the action about to be taken by certain riparian owners of the Broads, this book appears at an opportune moment. "The Norfolk Broads Protection Society" is appealing to the public for help to resist the action of these owners, and, as the question is one of very general interest, it will probably not do so in vain. Moreover, the rumoured action of these owners is similar in kind to the disposition shown in other quarters, the wish to close to the public lands and waters over which they have been able to expatiate within the memory of living man.

One of those owners has begun proceedings to prevent sailing over, fishing in, or shooting on the Hickling Broad; and the other, it is believed, desires to close Wroxham Broad to the public. We can sympathise with Mr. Rye in his detestation of "the rowdy class of visitor who shoot at everything that he sees, from a little grebe to a bullock, and who makes himself a nuisance wherever he goes," but it has become absolutely necessary that the rights of the private owners and of the public in those parts should be decided by a proper tribunal; and this would appear likely to be the case at no distant date.

THE LUCK (?) OF EDENHALL.*

OH, the rod was heavy, the rod was long,
The reel was gorgeous, the line was strong;
And down the stream flowing
A fresh breeze was blowing
When we set out fishing at Edenhall.

Oh, the salmon were leaping in every pool,
So the doctor he shouldered his ponderous tool,
And vowed he would slaughter
A fish from that water
Ere he finished fishing at Edenhall.

So the mighty rod he lustily swung,
As over the Eden his line he flung,
Till his arms were aching,
And his limbs were quaking,
And he puffed like a grampus at Edenhall.

But not a fish in the river would look
At the splendid tints of his salmon-hook;
They jumped about grinning,
And winked at the spinning
Of the doctor's minnow at Edenhall.

No matter! no matter! still on he goes,
The rod he swings and the line he throws;
The gambolling fishes
Still baffle his wishes,
And luckless he wanders at Edenhall.

Now wearied and worn the doctor sits down,
And the moisture mops from his reeking crown,
He vows 'tis provoking
To bear his friends' joking,
As thus he sits panting at Edenhall.

But short is his rest, for a mighty fish jumps
Just under his nose, as he sits in the dumps;
So quickly up-springing,
His rod he sets swinging,
In hopes he may hook it at Edenhall.

Oh, vain and delusive the hopes in his breast!
This salmon just laughs and swims off with the rest.
Still on he goes jogging,
The stream vainly flogging,
As he toils on undaunted at Edenhall.

He plies each rapid, he tries each pool,
But fish he gets none, though the stream be full;
So, greatly disgusted
To find his hopes "busted,"
He sighs, and he says at Edenhall:

"If my grand new rod, and my great big 'flee,'
Just make the fishes all laugh at me,
Then fishing for salmon
Is verily gammon,
And gone is my 'Luck of Edenhall!'"

A. MERCER-ADAM.

Notes and Queries

THE heaviest salmon which has been taken from any river this year was netted on August 5, on the Tay, at Linnie Heugh, below Perth. The fish weighed 63lb.

ON August 5 a live seal was captured in Mr. Beattie's stake-nets at Newbie, Annan, and in the evening it was despatched to London.

GRAY VERSUS BLACK.—The late weather drove a sea-gull up the Thames, and when near the Crabtree some of the crew and passengers of one of the Kew boats, belonging to the Victoria Steamboat Company, saw the gull dive into the Thames and bring up a fish—a dace or a bleak. A rook noticed the capture, and would have disputed the prize, only that the gull, spreading all "sail," left the gentleman-in-black as though in a "hack canter." —GRAY WINGS.

"A SCOTCH FISHING MATCH.—Scotchmen who are wont to sneer at the size of the fish caught by Englishmen in 'angling competitions' have got themselves slightly into disgrace. Two sportsmen of Perth, reputed to be the best anglers there, had a match to decide who should be the champion of the Fair City. They began on the Blackwater at three o'clock in the morning and ended at half-past five on the subsequent afternoon. One of them caught three hundred and five trout, weighing 29¾lb.; the other, one hundred and thirty-eight trout, weighing 11¾lb. This gives an ounce and a-half on the average. But the case is not so bad as it looks. If there had been any big trout in the Blackwater some of them would have been caught, but there are none. All the fish are about the size of sprats; and, as they never grow large, there is no harm in taking them at that size. It is not to Highland streams you should go for large trout. There are very heavy fish in the Highland lochs; but the trout in the neighbouring streams which the Hampshire angler would consider 'takable' are very few indeed."

THREE MONTHS' SPORT ON LOCH LEVEN.—Seldom has a more unfavourable season opened to the angler than the present. Week after week the wind blew from the north or east, bringing with it chilling temperatures, either from the Arctic regions or Russia, where the winter held with great severity, with an almost total lack of moisture, until towards the end of May; since then, however, some capital sport has been enjoyed. The following is the total number of trout captured during April, May, and June for the past eleven years:—

	April.	May.	June.	Total.
1881	1,594	3,554	5,638	10,786
1882	1,494	3,064	2,619	7,177
1883	335	3,838	5,301	9,474
1884	2,319	3,320	5,292	10,931
1885	1,204	3,676	5,540	10,420
1886	706	2,465	3,282	6,453
1887	1,559	3,175	3,285	8,019
1888	1,025	4,456	7,811	13,292
1889	434	2,413	2,449	5,296
1890	1,174	4,649	2,630	8,453
1891	553	4,762	5,196	10,511

The most successful private anglers were Messrs. J. H. and M. Ridley, Northumberland, who, fishing from one boat, landed in ten days four hundred and forty-two trout, 334lb. 4oz.; their best day's sport being got on 26th May, when they secured fifty-five trout, 40lb., which is the best fished boat this season. The total number of private parties who were successful in securing 20lb. of trout and upwards was thirty-five, as against twenty-two during the whole course of last season. The heaviest trout weighed 2lb. 12½oz. Fifty-eight club competitions have been held, in which eight hundred and seventy competitors engaged, and who killed four thousand and seven trout, weighing 2,750lb., or an average of 3lb. per rod. The most successful of these was the Glasgow Western Club, when eleven competitors landed one hundred and thirty-seven trout, 82¾lb. The heaviest prize basket was got by Mr. P. D. Malloch, of the Perth Club, with twenty-five trout, 16lb. 9½oz. The best prize basket secured up to June last season fell to the rod of Mr. R. T. Annan, of the Bridge of Allan Club, with nineteen trout, 15lb. 9oz.—ROBT. B. LAING.

THE CRAYFISH.—Whatever might have been tl cause of the disappearance or death of the cra fish in portions of the Upper Thames, the Ke net, &c., it must have been local. In the mid of the fatal pest, crayfish were found in the fol of the dress of an unfortunate woman four drowned just above Oxford. Crayfish brood ha been seen, it is said, during the weed-cutting i the Lamborne, and fresh stock has been turne into the Newbury borough portion of the Kenne If these interesting crustaceans can live an thrive in water east of Newbury bridge, which now sewage-laden, the crayfish have got ver strong stomachs, as strong as the coarse fis which it has been proved can thrive in "sewaged water. Daniel was hardly correct in saying tha crayfish would live in no stream that does n run towards the South. The Kennet, whic runs from the West to the Eastward, i an exception to the statement. Crayfis must almost of necessity be vegetarians du ing at least a certain portion of the year but I have found them to "run" best abou harvest into round-hoop nets, baited wit the soundest ox-liver or fresh horse flesh; an with the baits mentioned—and also with spli coarse fish—I have taken hundreds of an evening and they sometimes "come" like mad things t their hasty "feed." Crayfish should be let alon for a season or two at Windsor, and in other part which suffered depletion. They are far too easil caught "groping"; but this should be discourage yet awhile. If, however, the Editor of th *Fishing Gazette* should introduce to our inlan streams (on the quiet) the "edel crebs," or nobl crayfish, he would in course of time be inundate with questions concerning "specimens" of th alleged *lusus naturæ*, and wanting to know if th strangers came from Elephanta, and if a slice o constrictor, or a quarter of a horseshoe ba could be recommended as "bait." Dishes ar garnished with crayfish, while the crayfish forn the best relish.—W. F.

THE JURISDICTION OVER LAKE VYRNWY.—"Th question of jurisdiction over the Vyrnwy lake ha been locally settled in favour of Liverpool, an against the Severn Fishery Board, but the judgment may possibly be reversed on appeal. Meanwhile there are reports of the progress whic has been made in forming a valuable fisher Apparently there is great success of fish cultur The lake—which is four and three-quarter mile long, and has an extreme depth of eighty-fou feet—was stocked a little more than two year ago with fry, and now anglers are filling thei baskets with trout averaging nearly a pound. writer, who has recently visited the lake, say that on a particular day the show of fish in th hall of the hotel, after the baskets had bee weighed, was a sight worth seeing. The tota was sixty-eight splendid trout, weighing ove 61lb., the biggest fish being 1lb. 13oz. and 1lb. 10oz respectively, and many went over 1lb. apiece Fish have been captured, the writer understands up to about 3lb. in weight, and upwards of thre thousand magnificent fish have been taken fron the lake since March 26 this year. Everyone ha been caught with the fly, no other lure being permitted, and no fish is allowed to be retained whic measures less than 12in. in length. The rules ar excellent, and are strictly adhered to, and th place promises to be one of the finest fishin grounds which this country possesses."—*Worceste Journal.*

POISONING FISH IN IRELAND.—"The recent poisoning of some of the upper reaches of the Sullane and Lee, and the destruction of a number of salmon fry has been followed up by prompt and effective action on the part of the Fishery Conservators. Alderman Dale wrote a letter to the Inspector-General of Constabulary, calling his attention to the very mischievous and wicked practice of poisoning fish, and requesting the assistance of the constabulary in putting it down. On Saturday, at the meeting of the Fishery Conservators, a reply was read from the Inspector-General promising that the local constabulary would be put in motion on the subject. This had already been done, as shown by a communication from County Inspector Heard to Alderman Dale, and a vote of thanks was passed to the Inspector-General of Constabulary for his promptitude in dealing with the complaint of the Board.—*Cork Daily Herald.*

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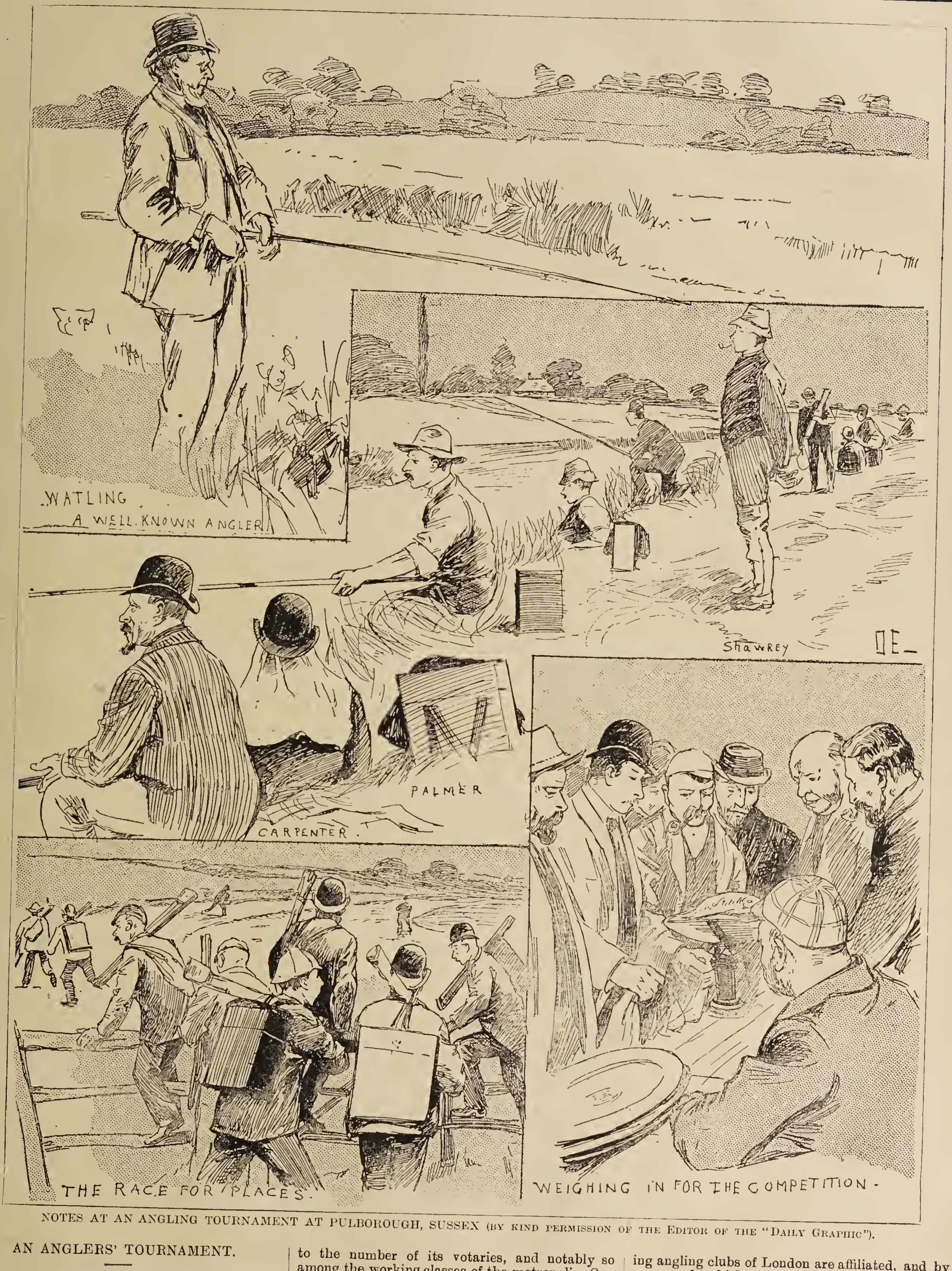
* Our readers will remember Longfellow's poem about the destruction of the fateful goblet of Edenhall.—ED.



WATLING
A WELL-KNOWN ANGLER
SHAWREY
PALMER
CARPENTER.
THE RACE FOR PLACES.
WEIGHING IN FOR THE COMPETITION.

NOTES AT AN ANGLING TOURNAMENT AT PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX (by kind permission of the Editor of the "Daily Graphic").

AN ANGLERS' TOURNAMENT.

"The art of angling, long since described, and perhaps justly so (in a double sense), as the contemplative man's recreation, is continually adding to the number of its votaries, and notably so among the working classes of the metropolis. One of the most important organizations is that known as the Central Association of London Angling Clubs, to which a considerable number of the leading angling clubs of London are affiliated, and by means of which special railway facilities are secured for the members.

"The association rents a splendid stretch of water, a portion of the Arun, in the neighbourhood of

Pulborough, Sussex, where a great fishing match has just been held. The whole proceedings, from first to last, were conducted with a business-like air, which fully betokened the serious interest attaching to it in the minds of the competitors. Mr. C. A. Medcalf (president of the association) was busy scrutinising and issuing tickets in the most solemn manner as the anglers passed the barrier, a duty in which he was aided by Messrs. W. J. Wade and J. A. Fitch, upon the former of whom, as secretary of the association, most of the arrangements devolved. The start from Pulborough Bridge, where all the competitors had to assemble, and the 'weighing in' and display at the Corn Exchange, adjoining the Swan Hotel, were the features of the day. A large number of valuable prizes were fished for, and the first was taken by Mr J. W. Biggs, of the Funny Folks Angling Society, who had a beautiful dish of fish, weighing 9lb. 13oz. in all. Mr. W. Simpkins, of the Anchor and Hope, took the second place; and Mr. J. Farmer, of the Blackfriars, made a good third."—*Daily Graphic.*

Waltoniana

A week or two ago there was published in various sporting papers the report of a take of jack at Slapton Ley which was said to "break the record." I forget the exact figures, but it was something like twenty fish in two hours. A friend who knows the Ley well, writes me, saying that there are anglers who fish that water with as many as six rods, and suggesting it was not improbable the take in question was made in that way. Perhaps the fortunate angler, or others who were at the Slapton Ley when the fish were taken, will give us some information on the subject. The history of angling is to a large extent made up of reports of fine takes of fish, and it is not desirable that some future angling author should state that the largest bag of pike ever made by one rod was so many fish, when in truth six rods were used with live bait tackle, which under those circumstances would be little better than trimmering. I am not in a position to assert anything, but the letter I have received is certainly sufficient ground for suggesting that in the interests of truth we should know a little more about the "record" take.

Anglers are advised when they buy a new line to measure it. A friend of mine recently bought a fly-line at a cost of twopence a yard, and on getting home, thinking that it looked rather smaller than a line of the length it ought to look, took the trouble to measure it, and found that the 40yds. he had paid for were non-existent, and were represented by something under 30yds. I have no doubt the retail dealers would shift the blame on to the makers, but it is certainly the duty of the retail men to occasionally take the trouble to measure a line or two. They should do this in their own interests and those of their customers. It is not necessary to undo a line to estimate its length. Simply measure round the coil, and multiply the result by the number of coils. The result will be sufficiently accurate.

I am tempted to say a word respecting the coming competition between experts in the Thames or Lea and Nottingham styles of roach fishing. Can such a competition ever be a fair one? To my mind, one style is eminently adapted for one sort of swim, while the other is by far the best for the opposite kind of swim. For a slow, deep swim close to the bank, where the angler can sit fairly far back and out of sight, I would say the Lea method is far superior to any other. With roach, which are much fished for, and which bite shyly in consequence, it is important to strike at the slightest movement, and it is beyond argument that with a tight line, and the point of the rod kept within a foot or so of the float, striking can be accomplished quicker than by any other method. But come to the shallower and faster swims which are found on the Trent. Try sitting there, immediately opposite the swim, with the rod extended over it, and what will be the result? Owing to the brightness and shallowness of the water, the roach in the swim will see the rod, and, even if not driven away, will quickly become aware that they are being fished for, and will refuse to feed. Those same roach, with the angler and rod 15yds. away from them, would very likely bite eagerly, and not require such quick striking as they would in a Lea swim, where, though they could see but little through such a depth, or rather height, of water, would have a hazy idea that they were being fished for, and bite shyly in consequence. I am speaking, of course, generally, well knowing that there are many instances when roach bite voraciously in a fairly shallow swim close to the angler, and that there are times when not a fish is to be caught in deep swims unless the angler stands at a distance and uses Nottingham tackle. Fishing from a punt on the Thames, I have often succeeded in catching roach by means of Nottingham tackle when not a fish could be caught near the punt, and that in deep water, too.

I have always vigorously preached against fishing by rule of thumb, holding that the best fishermen are those who are ever-watchful, and ready to adapt themselves to circumstances. One who acted thus succeeded in consequence in catching an 8½lb Kennet trout last week. The Kennet flows right through the centre of the town of Newbury, and the refuse which goes into the river attracts fish of all sorts. Right under the windows of the houses, and at the tails of back gardens, trout, perch, roach, chub, and very fine dace are to be caught. It is, in fact, the place for a specimen fish—that is, a specimen as to size and shape, but by no means one for the table. Larger trout are to be found here than, perhaps, in any part of the Kennet, and now and again a monster gets quite a reputation, being for years angled for in vain. Usually these large fish meet their death at the hands of a wicked miller; when he requires a fish for supper, he puts in a net and takes one out, quite regardless of the effect a sewage-fed fish may have on his health. Mr. John Dillon, who was fly-fishing one day last week right in the town, in the hope of catching some of these big trout, had his eye upon a magnificent fish, which resisted all his attempts to lure him with the fly. A little above Mr. Dillon a man was fishing for roach with paste, and Mr. Dillon noticed that now and again the trout would seize a piece of the paste which the man threw in as ground-bait. Most men would have tried that trout with a minnow and a worm, would have live-baited over him, and spun over him until all was blue; but Mr. Dillon was wiser than the majority, and begging a morsel of bait from the roach fisher, changed his fly for a small hook, which he baited with the paste. The bait was lightly cast in front of the trout, which took it boldly; and Mr. Dillon, at the end of a tremendous battle, for he was only fishing with a light fly rod, succeeded in landing the fish, which I need hardly say he is having set up. Templar.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Northwich Victoria Angling Society: The minnow has scales, and is one of the most beautiful of fish.

Attercliffe: We believe the address of Messrs. Willis and Sons, who make the patent double-eyed hooks, is Redditch.

A. Jeffreys: Yes, it is a fine minnow, probably put into the pond some time ago by some one using live minnows as bait for perch.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. Pritt.

THE DERBYSHIRE WYE.

Sir,—I think about two years ago you were kind enough to publish in your paper a report I sent to you of the damage done to the fishing in the Wye by water-mills. I am sorry to say since then matters have gone from bad to worse, and comparing the fishing with what it used to be, it is simply ruined. It amuses me to read the reports sent to papers, doubtless by persons interested in bringing anglers to the rivers. I smile sadly when I read of "the rule of the day" and "the order of the day" being from two to four brace of fish. I will venture to say that for every angler who leaves the river with four brace there shall be ten with not one brace, even if they have one fish; and considering that trout may be taken 10in. long, and grayling any size, this is not saying much.

The true state of affairs is this: there are a few good fish left not worked out of the pools, and a first-rate dry-fly fisherman *may*, by working hard all day, kill a couple of brace, and think himself fortunate in doing so; but on the streams and in those parts where most of the sport used to be had in old "wet-fly" times there is scarcely a fish to be seen.

You may go to the river in the morning and find it in fair fishing order, and half-an-hour afterwards down comes a flood of muddy grey-coloured water, making the river near bank full and fishing impossible, and this has now been the daily occurrence for years. The bed of the river is washed out, fish spawn and fish food washed away; and it seems to me that if the fish continue to decrease as they have done of late years the river will be scarcely worth visiting very shortly. Every man should have a right to do what he likes with his own as a rule; but it is marvellous to me that the chief owners of this historical trout stream should appear to care so little for its destruction.

Old Izaak Walton loved the Dove best, and wrote most about it; but he also knew the Wye; and could he come back again and see the muddy stream which too often flows down lovely Monsal Dale and under the stately walls of Haddon, I think he would have agreed with a worthy old trout-killing divine, a canon of the church too, whom I once heard say, "All millers should be drowned in their own dams."—Yours faithfully,

Old Otter.

FEATHERS FOR FLY-TYING.

Sir,—Replying to your correspondent in last week's *F. G.*, I beg to say that I hold a large and varied stock of all kinds of feathers, including natural dun, &c., hackles, as also materials of every sort for fly-dressing, and should be happy to take his commands.—Yours truly,

R. T. Williams.

Lugg Cottage, Kingsland, Herefordshire.

TROUT TAKING AN ADDER: A CORRECTION.

Dear Sir,—Will you allow me to correct a statement in your issue of August 1? The snake-eating trout at Altnacealgach was not caught by myself, but by Mr. Peter Mann, of Shrowsbury.

Is it not probable that the "adder" was a grass snake? It was, in the words of the ghillie, "partly dissolved," and was not brought up to the house. It was decided to be an adder because it was "an awful black beast." Grass snakes constantly take to the water in hot weather. The next day my boatman killed one on the shore of the same loch. It was an awful black beast, and he called it an adder. In fact, the ghillie states, as the major premiss of his syllogism: all snakes are adders.—Yours faithfully, C. F. Clay.

38, Great Ormond-street, W.C.

[Yes, we rather incline to the opinion that all snakes are adders (in the highlands).—Ed.]

DRESSING OF THE BADGER SEA TROUT FLY WANTED.

Dear Sir,—A fly for sea trout, under the name of the Badger-fly, has several times been named in the *Gazette*. I have a pretty strong collection of works on angling, but cannot find the fly in any of them. Wade and Halford give a Badger-fly, but I cannot think either of them refer to the Badger-fly of Scotland. Could you or any of the readers of the *Gazette* kindly furnish me with the dressings of the Badger-fly, or tell where they are to be got?—Yours, &c., D. W. Brearley.

Sherrington, Newport Pagnel.

FISHING NEAR SOUTHEND.

Dear Sir,—Would you kindly inform me through your valuable journal of the best place within fifteen miles from Southend where I could get some good fresh-water fishing?—I am, Sir, yours truly, A. George.

RE CAMM FUND.—APPEAL TO CLUB ANGLERS AND FRIENDS.

Sir,—I beg leave to acknowledge receipt of cheque value £1 2s. from the Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, with many thanks. The sum I wish to raise for the above sad case is £20, and out of that I have in hand £18 6s. 3d., leaving only £1 13s. 9d. to collect. I hope those clubs will each send a mite who have not yet contributed, as I want to have a list of the clubs printed who have subscribed.

Cheques and Postal Orders can be crossed "Alliance Bank and Co."—Yours truly,

B. Abrahams.

25, Silver-street, Notting Hill Gate, London, W.

THE PROPOSED ROACH FISHING CONTEST.

Sir,—Ever since the memorable contest betwixt Woodard and Bailley there has from time to time cropped up questions as to the supremacy of London anglers in that particular "fine art" known as "roaching," Northern anglers, more especially Sheffielders, who fish with light running tackle, contending that though the late W. Bailley was undoubtedly one of the best "all-round" fishermen of his day, he was *not* by any means the best exponent of the Nottingham style when exclusively confined to roach.

Though a member of the Sheffield Association, I have not, I trust, the slightest bias in this matter; but I confess to sharing the opinion so generally entertained by my fellow members, feeling assured that if a contest could be arranged betwixt either Mr. Woodard, or any other clever "tight-liner," and one of our best men, such a contest would not only settle the question of personal skill, but would assist in forming an opinion on the respective merits of two entirely different styles of angling. I know the Editor of the *F. G.*, and I dare say a good many readers of the paper, don't favour the idea of these "money matches." Sheffielders, whose love of sport has reduced speculating on even fishing contests to a science, see no objection to them so long as a match be fairly made and properly carried out. Claiming to be a true angler myself, and no gambler, I still hope to see the Sheffield challenge taken up by the best representative "long-pole" performer the Middlesex village can produce.—Yours truly,

Rotherwood.

LINE FISHING ON THE HOLY LOCH.

Sir,—Can any of your readers interested in fishing enlighten me as to the following?—Fishing with the Phantom minnow is practised every suitable evening in the Holy Loch with success, and this is a fact which, if generally known, as it deserves to be, would very materially help the villages situate on the shores of that loch. The riparian proprietor, who has but recently come into possession, not content with trawling the river Echaig with nets, to the injury of proprietors and lessees of fishings on Loch Eck, threatens through his servants, I understand, to stop the line fishing on the Holy Loch as I have described. What I wish to know is—Does the law support such despotism? If it does, then I say it is time that such an abominable law be altered. The very idea of a mortal, not content with selfishly trawling a river, but trying to stop such an innocent amusement as rod fishing in the sea, is despicable.—I am, &c.,

Corrigenda (in *North British Daily Mail*).

HARD TO CATCH.

Dear Sir,—I should be very much obliged for your opinion on the following:—Adjacent to this town is a small lake in the hills about 500ft. above the level of the sea. It is well stocked—literally swarming—with Loch Leven trout in excellent condition. The bottom is stony and of a darkish brown colour, with moderately clear water. The fish are extremely difficult to catch. The oldest and most experienced fishermen of the district fail to catch more than an average of a couple of small ones in a visit of from six to eight hours' duration. The fish rise readily to the natural fly; but although the artificial fly as closely as possible resembles the natural one indigenous to this lake, still the catch is only as above stated. The lake has been fished at all times and in all weathers, but with the same disheartening results. Again, no more prolific is the sport with worm or minnow.—Yours truly,

Red Palmer.

[Hard-fished well-fed trout are always difficult to catch, especially in still water. Has "Red Palmer" tried dry-fly fishing when the trout are taking flies on the surface?—Ed.]

SALMON LADDER: QUERY.

Sir,—Kindly inform me if it is not imperative that salmon ladders or passes are placed at weirs? Here we strictly preserve samlets, and I think all loyal fishermen return them when hooked; at the same time we are only providing sport for the Tivertonians and the other associations below. Yet, sir, if we Dulvertonians apply for a ticket for the Tiverton water we cannot obtain it, it is such a close borough.—Yours, &c.,

Iron Blue.

Dulverton.

[It is a question of expense, and perhaps the conservators think that enough fish get up as it is. We have seen the river full of salmon miles above Hawkridge, but that is only in very wet seasons.—Ed.]

IS THERE GOOD ROACH FISHING AT RINGWOOD?

Sir,—Would any of your readers be kind enough to tell me whether there be any roach fishing obtainable at Ringwood, Hants, and how to set about it? Trout or salmon not required.—Yours truly,

Gentle.

[Ringwood is one of the best spots in the kingdom for roach fishing. Write to landlord of the White Hart for his tariff and charges for fishing.—Ed.]

GOOD TROUT AND COARSE FISHING WANTED.

Dear Sir,—I shall be much obliged if you will ask in your correspondence column if any of your readers can recommend myself and friend to any place in North Wales or north of England where we can obtain good trout and coarse fishing for a fortnight from the 20th August till the end of the first week in September.—Yours truly,

Arthur E. Hodgson.

7, Clifton-avenue, Nottingham.

REPORTS OF SPORT.

Dear Sir,—Referring to your remark at the end of "Notes from Lancashire," I have been forced to adopt that style of note from absolute necessity. In our local papers we have weekly notes, written by men who have never fished at all, and who know nothing of the sport whatever; the consequence is that, owing to the publication of particulars relating to private fisheries, the owners have been so pestered for permits that place after place has been closed to all. This is a great loss, as we are cruelly situated with regard to public fisheries or rivers. I will supply the fullest information wherever I can safely do so.

Your Reporter.

[What we object to is the very vague nature of some of the reports sent. What earthly interest or value is there in the statement that "a party of anglers caught 20lb. of trout," or similar statements, which may mean anything or nothing? At any rate the names of the anglers can be given. In the interest of our reporters themselves, as well as of our readers, we must ask them to send no report at all, rather than vague generalities which fill up space to no purpose.—Ed.]

FEATHERS WANTED.

Dear Sir,—Can any angler procure for me half-a-dozen eyed-feathers from the tail of a *white* peacock?—Yours, &c.,

H. A. Simonds.

Red Rice, Andover.

[We hope some reader may be able to supply these to our friend Mr. Simonds, who is a member of the Flyfishers' Club.—Ed.]

BOXES FOR GAME AND FISH.—RECIPES WANTED.

Sir,—A long time ago an angler asked a question in the *F. G.* as to getting *folding boxes*, of which he wanted to take a number with him, with the intention of sending his captures to friends. I was sorry to see that he did not succeed in his truly benevolent and exemplary intention—for no answer appeared.

The enclosed cutting from the *Field* may, even now, be useful to him and to other anglers also.

May I suggest an idea about *whisky*—surely an important part of an angler's outfit? Some while ago you gave letters regarding the kippering of salmon, and a "Cambrian Essence" was recommended. From the context I presume this was an essence of wood smoke.

Now, thirty years ago, tramping Scotland with a knapsack, I used to come across samples of *really* peaty whisky which were, to me, delicious. A hot tumbler would almost make the room smell like a Highland bothie.

But in London I find it impossible, hard as I have tried, to get this sort, and I see one kind is advertised to be *free* from smoke.

If essence of *wood smoke* can be made, why not of *peat smoke?* With a vial of this, one could flavour the ordinary, almost flavourless, whisky to any desired degree. I do think there must be many who share my taste in this matter, so the speculation might *pay*. A good name for the liquid would be "*Scotian* Essence."

Would any kindly Scot give me a recipe for "Athole Brose"? I know there are whisky, honey, and perhaps other things in it, but am ignorant of the proportions.

Thanking you for the pleasure and profit derived from the *F. G.*, yours truly,

W. P. H.

Here is the extract from the *Field*:—

"Folding Game Boxes.—I observe in the *Field* of August 1, a reference to grouse boxes, in which you state that you do not remember the maker of any boxes made to fold. I have for the last two years used grouse boxes of stout cardboard, made by Mr. Thomas Bishop, of 44, Deritend, Birmingham, which are made to fold. When sent out they are open, and lie one upon another, and go in a very little space. I had sixty of the one-brace boxes made up in a package of the following dimensions: 14in. long, 10in. wide, and 14in. deep. This is a great convenience for sending the boxes to remote parts, as compared with the boxes that do not fold up.—T. S. (Worcester)."

TWICKENHAM FISHERMEN'S REGATTA.

Dear Sir,—It being the intention of the fishermen of Twickenham to hold a regatta on Monday, August 31, and knowing the interest you have taken in the past in anything promoting their welfare and enjoyment, they venture to ask your kind co-operation and influence in obtaining subscriptions towards the same.—I am, dear Sir, your humble servant,

R. Coxen, Fisherman.

Swan Cottage, Ferry-road, Twickenham.

[Copy of Circular.]

"Twickenham Fishermen's Regatta, Monday, August 31, 1891 (under the patronage of the Right Hon. the Earl of Dysart, Alfred Nuthall, Esq., J.P., M. H. Blamey, Esq., A. J. Little, Esq., G H. Wright, Esq.).—The committee have pleasure in announcing that the fishermen of Twickenham will this year hold a separate Regatta from that of the annual Town Regatta, and they trust they may be assisted in their endeavour to make the same a success by the gentry and inhabitants of Twickenham. Subscriptions may be forwarded to the collector, Mr. J. Coxen, jun., or the hon. treasurer, Mr. P. Brown, Swan Inn, Waterside, Twickenham.

IS DAPING LAZY WORK?

Sir,—Mr. Walbran, in his interesting and instructive article on "Summer Angling," which appeared in the *Fishing Gazette* of the 20th June, writes: "One more style of summer fishing, and I have done. I allude to dibbing, or daping, with the natural fly; it is a lazy kind of sport," &c.

On my word! If Mr. Walbran had been sitting with me at lunch time, one day last week, on the bank of a certain Staffordshire trout stream, and watched my brother do a bit of daping, he would have changed his opinion about the laziness of the sport.

While my brother and I were eating our lunch, in the shade of a fine tree a few yards from the water, a trout rose several times a little distance up-stream. During the forenoon we had both tried to put a fly over the place, but unsuccessfully, owing to a tree, some bushes, and an adverse wind.

"I must have that fellow somehow," my brother said. "I'll see if I can rig up a natural, and put it through the bushes."

He found a dilapidated old fly in his book, cut away all the feathers, and put it on his cast. There was a slight rise of May-flies at the time, so he went away into the next meadow to get one. A strong wind was blowing across the brook, and as the flies left the water they came on to our bank and started across the meadow, but flying high. It was amusing to see my brother—a man getting on towards middle age and of a stoutish build—not walking fast or trotting, but running, with arm outstretched, and chasing May-flies hither and thither. At last he secured a fly, and returned to me. He put the fly on the hook, and crouching low, with rod in hand, crept up to the bushes, and tried to get his rod and line through them. We had no small shot or bullets, or weights of any kind. He could not get his line clear of the bushes, and soon lost his fly. Still crouching, he crept back to me, laid down the rod, and started away for another fly. Another attempt, and again was the fly lost in trying to get it through the bushes. Another career over the meadow, and capture of a natural.

"I can't manage to get through those bushes," says my brother; "I will see if I can reach him from below them."

But below the bushes there was open country, and even kneeling he would have been seen; so down he went on his stomach, and got along with his elbows and knees until he reached the edge of the water. Failure again! He lost his natural, and had to retire. Another bit of exercise over the meadow, and back to me with his prize.

"I will try him from above the bushes this time," says he, and down he went full length, and worked himself through the grass. Now he was partially successful, for he got his fly in the proper place, and there was a swirl and a splash as the trout took it. But the strike was a thought late, and the fish was not touched by the hook.

After this we decided to give the fish a little time to recover himself, and my brother went off to lay in a small stock of naturals. In ten minutes or so he came back with some, and placing one on his hook had another try. He rose the fish, and missed him again. Lying motionless for a few seconds, he stirred, and pushed himself backwards away from the water.

A rest of some minutes, during which he found that some whisky was absolutely necessary as a sedative, and again he worked down to the water's edge and *caught his fish*, and a good fish it was too, for the stream—over half-a-pound.

Now, there was nothing lazy about this bit of fishing. Three-quarters of an hour of persistent effort crowned with success. To me, sitting in the shade with my pipe, it seemed very hard work, but very good sport.

As my brother stood with the rod in one hand, and the landing-net with the fish in it in the other, he cut a caper, and with unmelodious voice he trolled out—

> "If this is vanity—hip, hurrah!—
> Then vanity let it be.

—Yours, &c., Charalah.

LAKE TRAFWLL, ANGLESEY.

"No Eels Need Apply!"

Sir,—This sheet of water, one hundred acres in extent, has been lately stocked with fish by Mr. Pierce, the Hotel, Valley. Eight years ago four hundred perch were put in, and they have thriven so well that the lake is a perfect paradise for perch. Often and often forty have been taken in an afternoon, running from a ¼lb to 2lb. Last year Mr. Edwards, Holyhead, and a friend took one hundred and thirty between them. My visit there lately was under very unfavourable thundery weather, but we got some dozens of real good-sized perch, ill-prepared as we were for that mode of fishing; for at Mr. Pierce's invitation we went fly-fishing for trout, he having put in ten thousand Loch Leven fry four years ago. Under the atmospheric disturbance the trout would not rise, much as we had wished to get hold of the two-pounders and two and a-half pounders frequently caught; so we changed for worming, and between the pretty-wooded island and the north-east end of the lake, the perch took fast and furious, and we soon got as much as we cared to carry home. But what really put an end to the sport was a beastly eel of about 5lb.—more like a conger than a fresh-water eel—which took my bait.

It tugged and wriggled for a long time; and offering it to my friend, Mr. Owen, or to the boatmen—who like myself would have nothing to do with it—the gut was snapped with a scissor a foot from its snout, and the unsightly thing sank heavily to the bottom to bear the penalty of taking what was not offered it. Whoever will get hold of that eel with the protruding gut will find its weight more likely to be over 5lb. than under.

The lake is on the verge of a common, three miles from Valley; and if a man wants to realise the meaning of the word "solitude," let him go to Trafwll. It has been stocked this year with eight hundred Loch Leven yearlings; and as Mr. Pierce is preparing artificial spawning beds, there ought to be good trout fishing. Adjoining it is Lake Penrhyn, which was stocked with three thousand fry some years ago, and has not been yet fished.—Yours, &c, W. H.

Aberffraw.

[We fear the perch have been fishing for those trout fry, and if there are many eels they would not let the perch eat them all. Why the Scotch, and apparently the Welsh also, have such a prejudice against the eel we cannot imagine; and to cut adrift a five-pounder!—it makes one hungry to think of say 2½lb. of fried and 2½lb of stewed eels being wasted in this way. We might say, as Walton says of the strawberry, that though doubtless God might have made a better fish (to eat) than the eel, doubtless God never did.—Ed.]

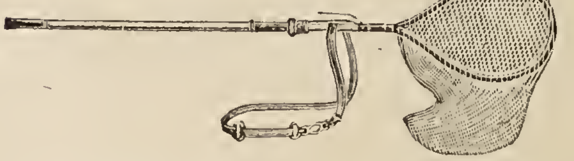
ANGLING FOR BARBEL.

Sir,—(1) I am afraid Mr. Jardine will fail convince me, because I have frequently had worms *sucked* off when legering without the least indication of a bite. (2) A *small* maiden lob, baited as stated, would enable eels, dace, and barbel to easily take off the long ends without being caught. (3) If he will send his address to "Angler," 70a, Peckham Rye, S E, I will send him what I call a medium-sized ragged bait—seen at its worst, of course.—I am, &c., Streatham.

Geo. CORDING'S
Ventilated Fishing Coats,
TROUSERS, STOCKINGS, BOOTS, BROGUES, BAGS, &c.
125, REGENT ST.; 231, STRAND

S. ALLCOCK & Co., Standard Works, REDDITCH.
Highest Awards at Fifteen International Exhibitions for Fish Hooks, Fishing Rods, Salmon and Trout Flies, and all descriptions of Fishing Tackle.

Patent Applied for.



Col Clarke's Patent L. Handle & Net.
Perfectly secured to the Strap, and can be removed in an instant.

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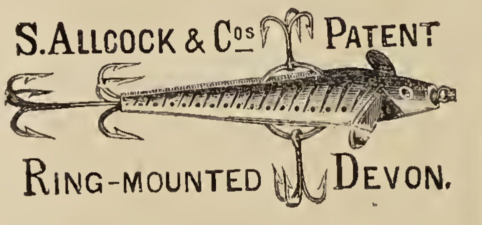

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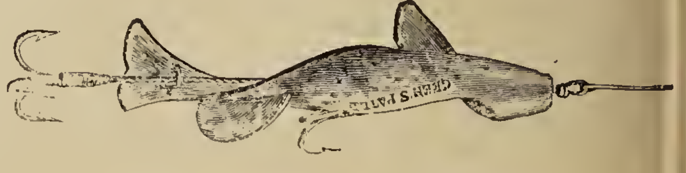
The nearest approach to nature ever yet attained. Bodies in various Patterns.



Geen's Patent Spiral Minnow.
The most Perfect Spinning Bait ever invented.
It can be drawn through the water so slowly that the laziest of fish can seize it, yet its spiral shape makes it appear to be in a terrible hurry to escape.

Makers of Pennell's pattern Up-turned Shank and Eyed Fish Hooks.

Wholesale only. Our Goods can be obtained from all respectable Tackle Dealers.
CAUTION TO SHOPKEEPERS. The Inimitable May and Trout Flies should not be exposed in the window or in the sun.
London Office: 60, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1891.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly meeting of the general committee will take place on Monday evening next, August 10, at 8.30; and the renting and preservation committee at 9.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT No. 2.—The next return visit on this List will take place at the Eustonian Angling Society, on Monday, August 17. I hope this date won't clash with any other visit.—F. THORLING.

Anglers' Association (SOUTHERN DISTRICT) VISITING LIST.—The next visit on the above list took place at the Peckham Bros. A.S., Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham. For date see their club report.—G. W. ARMSTRONG, District Officer.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The next meeting of the committee will take place on Friday evening, Aug. 14, at 8.30, when a sub-committee will be formed for carrying out the Annual Angling Competition, in aid of the funds.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—On the 2nd inst. the following members weighed in: Mr. Blyth, roach and dace; Mr. King, roach; Mr. Cooper, roach; Mr. W. Knowles, roach; Mr. J. Bell, roach, dace and gudgeon. Our next match this season will take place at Egham, from the Bell Weir to Old Windsor Lock, on August 16; all to meet at Clapham Junction at 8.15 a.m.; tow-path only; jack barred.—J. RICH, secretary.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Gt. Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 2nd inst. several of our members were out; but Mr. G. Merry only weighed in, roach, and Mr. Lambarth, bream. Members are requested to attend next Thursday evening on special business.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—A well-attended meeting of members was held on Wednesday last. Mr. Mitchell was duly elected a working member; also Messrs. W. and C. Clerke were proposed as new members, to be balloted for next meeting. On the 9th inst. a match will take place for monthly prizes (four in all) in the central fishery at Pulborough. The prize for specimen carp, 4lb. 13oz., taken from the central fishery by Bro. Bedford, was handed to him by the chairman amidst the congratulations of the members. The discussion was again renewed in reference to the sea fishing competition, which is to take place on the 30th inst. On the 2nd inst. Bro. Palmer produced a capital show of fish from the central fishery, Pulborough, bream, 17½lb.; one fish, 3¼lb., and five fish over 2¼lb.—A. G. SMITH.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, Great Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—We had our trays well filled with bream and roach on the 2nd inst. Members please note we fish our monthly prizes, at Woking, on Aug. 16th, all to start by first train. Messrs. Rowling and Bowman were elected working members; also, Mr. Baxter, of the Mitre, Fish-street Hill, where he will be pleased to see all brother anglers at any time.—J. TUCKER, hon. sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Battersea.—The members of this club fished a match on the 2nd and 3rd inst., with the following result: C. Wastell, first; G. Mumford, second; J. W. Hopkins, third; H. Higginbotham, fourth; W. Wastell, fifth; G. Searle, sixth. The six prize winners weighed in 32lb. 5oz. of fish under the new standard. The next match for four prizes will take place August 16, roving, when a special prize will be given for honorary members.—G. MUMFORD, secretary.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—Several members were out on the 2nd and 3rd inst., some of them returning with fair shows of fish, the most fortunate being Mr. Warman, 23lb. 9½oz., bream and roach; Mr. Allum, roach; J. Smith, roach and dace; Mr. Pocock, bream and roach; A. Conn, chub and roach; C. Sullivan, chub and roach. The competition for the August series of prizes will take place on the 16th inst., place and conditions to be decided at the weekly meeting on the 14th.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—Those who attended the club-house on Monday evening, expecting to see a good show, were not disappointed, as all the trays were full. The following gentlemen weighed in: Mr. Hacker, roach, perch, and bream; Mr. Wheelhouse, bream and dace; Mr. J. Barker, carp; Mr. F. Barker, carp and perch; and Mr. F. Roberts, bream and roach. We discussed the annual dinner on Wednesday, and agreed that it should take place at Pulborough, on Sept. 6.—F. ROBERTS, hon sec.

Bostonian Angling Society.—The following members have had fish during the past week: Mr. Rundell, perch, roach, and dace; Mr. Jennings, roach; Mr. Hoare, roach and dace, heaviest roach 1lb. 4½oz.; Mr. West, roach and dace; Mr. Chapman, tench. Members will oblige by attending the meeting next week.—J. H.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—We fished for five prizes at Dagenham on the 26th ult., but only three were won. Mr. Wilson, first; Mr. Mearring, second; Mr. Howell, third. The two remaining prizes will be fished for under the same conditions and at the same place on the 9th inst. The following gentlemen have weighed in: Messrs. Wilson, Mearring, Howell, Foster, Bissell, Harley, and Whatcott, bream; Wilson, Mearring, Foster, Hawkes, Watkins, and Lee, roach; Wilson and Watkins, rudd; Wilson, jack; and Hawkes, perch. Will our members kindly attend to organise a smoker in aid of our prize fund?—T. HAWKES, secretary.

Burton Piscatorials, Globe, Derby-street, King's-cross.—We were fairly represented at the distribution of prizes at the Central Association, when Mr. C. Roberts took a minor prize. On July 29, Mr. Law weighed in perch, and Mr. C. Roberts, roach, one roach tipping the beam at 1lb. 9oz. On the 2nd inst., Messrs. Sturman, Biggs, jun., Brierly, Garcker, and Richards weighed in bream, jack, roach, and gudgeon.—C. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town,—Most of our members were out on the 2nd inst., but owing to the stormy weather only the following members weighed in: Mr. King, roach; Mr. W. White, bream and roach; Mr. Fitter, Mr. Sharp, Mr. Leslie, and Mr. Critcher, roach and dace. Our next brake outing to Weybridge, on Sept. 6. Members who have not got their names down must let me know as soon as possible as we are nearly full.—E. T. WHITE, sec.

Canning Town Angling Society, Marquis of Salisbury Hermit-road, Canning Town, E.—Our members were out in full force during the holidays and had capital sport, Messrs. P. Heester, G. Hatton, and J. Heester, having some very fine bream; Mr. P. Heester weighing in several over 2lb. each, other members having nice shows but too late to weigh in. I wish to remind our members that we finally arrange on next meeting night, the 12th inst., where to compete for the prizes already announced.—O. JONES, sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—With regard to Bank Holiday sport, our trays were well filled, and the fish on view at the club house brought forth expressions of surprise and admiration from almost every person who saw them. The best show was that made by Mr. Tom Keoble and Mr. J. Deplidge, who conjointly had 50lb. of magnificent roach. the former having forty fish and the latter thirty-four. The catch included three fish of 1lb. each, and a dozen ¾lb. each. Mr. Deplidge's best fish weighed 1lb. 4oz. and has gone to the taxidermist.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

Central Association.—The usual monthly meeting of delegates, will take place on Monday next, 10th inst., at half-past eight p.m., at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.—The members of this club fish a roving match at Woking Broad Meads on the 9th inst. for four prizes. All to go by first train from Clapham Junction. Since my last the following have weighed in: Mr. Wilson, 17lb., barbel and dace; Mr. Edwards, 22lb. 14oz., barbel, roach, and dace, from Staines. Mr. Painter, 3lb. 4oz., bream; Mr. A. Bowater, 2lb. 7oz., barbel; and Mr. Tringham, junior, roach.—A. BOWATER, sec., pro. tem.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—Members will please take notice that the question of a new departure will be considered and probably decided at our meeting next Monday, and it is hoped that all who possibly can will attend.

Clarence Angling Club, Red Lion Hotel, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.—Members will be pleased to hear that the committee have successfully arranged matters respecting the one and a-half mile stretch of water, where first-class all-round fishing is to be had; full particulars can be had of the secretary. Messrs. J. Shapcott; and G. A. Boughton had a very fair bag of chub, roach, and dace; and Mr. J. F. Dawson (president) showed a full bag at the club-house, weighing 32lb., of pike, roach, dace, and grayling, amongst which were thirteen dace, weighing 10lb.; and one roach, 1¼lb. Another new member was duly elected.—ALF. E. EVANS, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 2nd and 3rd inst. Messrs. Parram, Hills, Wild, Towndrow, W. Richardson, Webber, Wright, Killick, W. Midson, Cogswell, and T. Midson had a very fine show of roach, perch, and dace. Members please attend on Tuesday next, as some important business will be brought forward.—S. MALBY, sec.

Duke of York Angling Society, Snow-hill, Dudley.—The annual contest took place on August 1, at Pershore, when thirty members sat down to fish, and the contest was of the usual two hours' duration. At the termination it was found that only nineteen had been successful in taking fish for weighing in. The first prize-taker came from quite an unexpected quarter, as it was thought that the first prize was at the mercy of the old veterans, Messrs. James Nicklin and Shaw; but they were doomed to disappointment, as the winner turned up in Mr. Harry Lane, the junior member, who never before had taken a rod in hand until the present occasion. Mr. James Nicklin was second, Mr. James Smith third, Mr. R. Ainsbury, fourth, Mr. J. Shaw fifth, Mr. W. Cannon, jun., sixth and last. The prizes are of a valuable kind, being composed of a marble timepiece, china tea service, fishing tackle, and other useful and ornamental articles. Mr. James Allen, of Birmingham, acted as referee. The weather was all that could be desired, and the whole of the members were greatly pleased with their outing. The prizes will be distributed on Monday, August 17.—W. KEIGHTLEY, hon. sec.

Earlsfield Angling Society, Half-way House, Earlsfield, S.W.—The two days' roving match fished on the 2nd and 3rd inst. was brought off successfully; every member who was out had fish. The winners are: Mr. Waterman, first, with 4lb. roach; Mr. Nazer, 2½lb., second (one perch, 1½lb.); and Mr. Fowler, 2¼lb.; Messrs. Bicknell, Thompson, Bird, Biederman and Rowsell also had fish. I am pleased to say that we have just received three additions to our prize list: Mr. Winkworth gives 10s. 6d. for the heaviest chub during the season; and Mr. Garlick, of Wimbledon Lake, gives 10s. 6d. for the gross weight during the season, jack barred; and 10s. 6d. for the heaviest jack over 6lb., both from his waters.—R. W. BIRD, hon. sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had a poor show of fish for Bank Holiday, owing to the weather being so rough; about 18lb. of roach and dace and a nice tench, taken by Messrs. Lawrence, Hall, Ellis, Riggs, Ballard, &c.—A. PAYNE, sec.

Grange Angling Society. — The majority of the members have been away fishing during the holidays to various noted fishing resorts. Among the most successful were Messrs. J. H. Rich, Tagg, Ryder, Green, W. Rich, and F. W. Croker.—W. K.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—Since my last report, the following gentlemen weighed in fish: On July 26, Mr. F. Bates, 9½lb. roach, 14oz. perch and bream; Mr. Grande, roach. On August 3, Mr. W. Burling. 1lb. 2½oz. roach; Mr. F. Bates, 5lb. 15oz. roach and 1lb. 11oz. bream. Members please to note that our match on the 16th will take place at Hatfield Peveril, and not at Cheshunt, as stated.—G. WEAVER, sec.

Great Yarmouth Piscatorials.—The fourth match was fished at Fritton on the 30th July. Twenty-two competed for the four prizes offered, with the following result: First, Mr. A. E. Bond, 21lb. 3oz.; second, Mr. W. Lowne, 19lb. 10oz.; third, Mr. W. E. Sacret, 13lb. 2oz.; and fourth, Mr. Harrison, 11lb. 11oz. The gross weight taken by thirteen competitors who weighed in amounted to 112lb. 11oz. The above is very creditable, the more so as it rained in torrents for about four hours during the day. Mr. H. R. Atkins, the umpire appointed, carried out his duties in a most satisfactory manner. The next match takes place at Acle, on the 13th inst.—WILLIAM KIRBY, hon. sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—There was no meeting last Tuesday. Next Tuesday, the 11th, there will be a paper on "Sea Fishing," by Mr. A. W. Parker, the hon. treasurer, and on Tuesday, the 18th, a sea fishing competition for prizes.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 2nd inst., a number of our members were out, nearly the whole of them being rewarded for their trouble and sport, the following bringing up their shows: Russell, roach; Ford, bream and roach; A. Fish, bream and roach; Walford, bream and roach; Pleydell, roach; Braham, jun., roach and rudd; C. Levoir, roach; Wells, roach; Bagshaw, jun., perch; Bastick, roach; and Bagshaw, sen., roach.—W. FENNER, sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—The annual dinner at the Rye House on July 26 was a great success, and gave general satisfaction. A few members were out on the 2nd inst. G. H. Wood weighed in perch and roach; F. Gardner, roach; and J. Row had a nice show of jack, one scaling over 7lb. The annual distribution of prizes will take place on Tuesday evening, August 11. Members will oblige by sending in not later than Monday.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—Several members took advantage of the holidays to go a-fishing, and the following weighed in: Messrs. Pope, bream; Pocock, roach; F. Pain, roach; Liversage, jack and rudd. Our visit on the C. D. V. L. takes place on Wednesday, the 19th inst., and I am pleased to say that Mr. Harding, who will be accompanied by "Old Izaak," will give us a reading on that occasion. I trust that anglers will rally round us in our new quarters, and show the two gentlemen how we appreciate their kindness in trying to amuse us. Mr. Sykes has to be made a member this week.—SNAP.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—The following weighed in on the 2nd and 3rd inst: W. Stretch, 5lb. 13oz. of bream, roach, dace, and one very nice perch. Mr. Holder also had some very nice roach. Other members were out, but had no sport.—J. H. HERBERT, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—There are five special prizes to be competed for on the 9th inst. Competitors may choose their own fishing waters. No competitor to leave London before five a.m. on the day of the competition. The next return visit (No. 1 Eastern District) will be to this society on Monday, the 17th inst.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—On the 2nd inst. we had a fair show of fish, consisting of bream and roach, by the Brothers Challen; perch by Mr. Onree; roach and tench, by Messrs. Beales and Ide; tench by Mr. Warner; jack and roach, by Mr. Wheeler; and roach by Mr. Tomkins. One of our members unfortunately left his overcoat and black leather bag in the train at Slough Station. As there were other anglers in the train who went farther on, perhaps they might know something about it; if so, will they kindly communicate to me at the club-house.—A. IDE, sec.

Junior Piscatorial Society, New Cross Inn, New Cross-road, S.E.—Since the opening of our season, which commenced July 1, the most notable take has been that by Mr. A. Dandridge, who fishing at Tring, had over 70lb. of roach, rudd, perch, and tench in one day, nearly all of which were returned, among those brought home were six specimens—viz.: Four tench, the heaviest weighing over 4lb.; one rudd, 2lb.; and one roach, 2lb. On Bank Holiday, Messrs. J. W. Freeman, and A. J. Slatter, had some good roach from Rudgwich; and Mr. W. W. Connerford, perch and chub, from Godalming; the heaviest chub weighing 2lb. 15oz.—W. W. C.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—At the committee meeting held on Friday, the 31st ult., three new members were elected, bringing our total numbers up to a hundred and twelve. Some grand shows of bream, barbel, roach, dace, and gudgeon have been weighed in by Messrs. Mason, Newcombe, Carter and Master.—T. SALTER.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pontonville-road.—On the 2nd inst., a good many members were out, the following showing some nice fish; Messrs. Arnell and Holmes, carp; Messrs. Nelson, Johnson, More, and White, some good roach and dace. On August 23 we fish for four half-guineas in the Central water at Pulborough, when I hope to see a good muster of members turn out.—W. WATLING, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association. — Our outing on Bank Holiday to the Vyrnwy was again spoiled by the clerk of the weather. In the morning it rained persistently for hours, and those who journeyed to Llanymynech the same morning had a thorough soaking by the time the landing stage was reached—a nice start! During the day heavy showers of rain were pretty frequent, and it was almost certain thunder was in the air. However, the day was got through somehow, and at 6.30 the weighing in was brought off. Some fair takes considering all things were shown, though blanks were much too numerous. In the trout class Mr. Jeffreys was again first, having taken seven very good trout with the artificial spiral minnow, the largest weighing 1lb. 3oz. In the coarse fish class Mr. Baker was once more first; Mr. Houghton, second; and Mr. Bennett, third. The day was brought to a close with a good dinner at the Lion, Mrs. Roberts catering well. The return journey will, I should think, never be forgotten, the G.W. Railway apparently had made no effort to keep time, and landed their passengers at one a.m. instead of 10.25 p.m. What price this?—RD. WOOLFALL.

Liverpool East End Friendly Angling Association, 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool.—We had a fair muster of members at our match, which took place at the Vyrnwy, Llanymynech, on August 4, for three prizes. First prize, won by Mr. J. Hitchcock, with 4l¼b. of fish, consisting of perch, roach, and chub; one perch was weighed in for specimen prize, which weighed 1lb. 7½oz.; second prize, won by Mr. T. C. Segar, with 1lb. 12oz.; one fish weighed in for specimen prize, a chub, 1lb. 7½oz.; third prize was won by Mr. J. Nolan, with perch. No fish in this match weighed in for prizes under 4oz. The general cry of all anglers was, too much rain, which continued almost all day. I hope members will turn up at our next meeting, as we have some particular business to go through.—T. C. SEGAR, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 2nd and 3rd inst. there were some good shows of bream, roach, chub, and dace, by

Messrs. Penfold, Taylor, W. Pearce, Milburn, Gray, A. Clark, Sansom, and J. Clark, one of the bream by Mr. Taylor weighing 4lb. 4oz. I wish to remind brother anglers that our chairman, Mr. E. Clark, has received the photos of the Langley Competition, which can be seen at the above house every Sunday and Wednesday.—W. F. PEARCE.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—The Bank Holiday fishing competition produced a fine show of fish, notwithstanding that several of the members who were known to have "gone a-fishing" did not turn up to weigh through being delayed on the railway. Mr. Newbury took the first prize (£1 1s.) with 22lb. 15oz. of barbel from the Thames; Mr. Mudd, being second, and taking 10s. 6d. with some fine roach and dace; Mr. Grimmett sent up a beautiful basket of jack, trout, roach, and dace from the pine country; whilst Messrs. Baldwin and Watts exhibited a really splendid show of eastern county dace and roach. Quite 60lb. of fish were to be seen on the trays, amongst them roach of 1¼lb. and dace of 9oz. On Wednesday Mr. Grimmett weighed in 25lb. of roach and dace, two best roach going 2¾lb. They came from the "old spot."—A. E. BALDWIN, sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 108, Westminster Bridge-road, S.E.—Several of our members were out on the 2nd and 3rd inst., but little was weighed in. Mr. E. Rowles was the fortunate winner of the dace prize for the month of July.—F. WALLIS, sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W.—July 30, Mr. Schultz, junior, roach and dace. August 2, Messrs. Baganot, dace; Goodman, a fine perch and roach; Plumpton, tench. 3rd inst., Messrs. Schultz, senior, perch: Schultz, junior, dace; Grindley, roach and bream; and Plumptons, senior and junior, also had fish but did not weigh in. Next Thursday, the 13th, is quarterly night.—G. SCHULTZ.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—Several of our members were out on the 2nd inst., and the following weighed in: Mr. T. Forster, bream, roach, dace and gudgeon; Mr. Bygrave, senr., roach; Mr. Bygrave, junr., perch. Messrs. Neville and Harrison arrived back too late to weigh in.—J. CUTHBERT, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—The next series of prizes will be fished for on August 16, open match. Members can leave town on Saturday. Mr. Luft has been duly elected a working member of this society. The Anglers' Association Southern District visit will take place on the 24th inst., when I hope we shall have a good muster of angling friends. Mr. Bonsall was elected as chairman for the remainder of the quarter in place of Mr. Parsons.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Old St., Pancras-road, N.W.—On Monday last we had a very nice show of fish. The five prizes were won, Mr. Elbourn taking first honours with 15lb. of bream; Mr. Frank Dove, second; Mr. Charles, third; Mr. Brown, fourth; Mr. Haman, fifth; all with good trays of fish. Messrs. Marcs, Reed, Heelas, Foster, and Raymond, also weighing in.—W. ELBOURN, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—Sport was very tame through the holidays. Only the following weighed in: Messrs. Crowley, F. Reed, Brett, Scott, Gibson, Hutchins, Axworthy, and Robbins. Mr. Bungey was elected a honorary member of the above. There is still a prize left to be fished for in the Slough Canal; one rod only, jack barred.—W. B.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—Since our last report we have to regret the death of one of our members, Mr. Henry Hewitt, after a long and painful illness, leaving a wife and children to deplore his loss. On the 2nd inst. several members were out, but owing to the holidays only Mr. Webber weighed in, with a handsome show of roach from the Upper Thames of 14lb. 6oz., and all fine fish. Mr. Galloway and Mr. Joseph Phillips were duly elected fishing members of the society. It was proposed and seconded that we have an outing on August 16th, at Cookham, from Cookham Bridge to Bourne End Bridge; tow-path, and one rod only.—F. C. LANGLAND, sec.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—On August 2 we had some nice shows of fish by the following members: Messrs. F. Barclay, F. Barrow, J. Yeo, A. Barclay, Denyer, E. Perry, Parsley, G. Barclay, J. Holden, J. Stanley, Henson, and Sallnow; total, 44lb. 1oz. On the 3rd inst., the following members also weighed fish: Messrs. Stanley, Cox, Henson, Parsley, J. Holden, Wells, A. Barclay, Sallnow, F. Barclay, J. Yeo, G. Yeo, and Perry; total, 35lb. 8¼oz. On August 4, Messrs. Barrow, 9lb. 6oz. roach; and Bloomfield, 2lb. 10oz., roach. Members, please note that the prize for gross weight of dace, given by Mr. F. Barclay, will be fished for on August 9; any water.—A. BARCLAY, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—On Bank Holiday, Messrs. G. Brocken and G. Ballinger had some trays of very good roach; others were out, but did not weigh in. J. Wright had some good eels, largest 1lb. 11½oz.—J. WRIGHT, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—Several members have been out during the holidays with the following result: On the 2nd Messrs. C. Holmes had four crucian carp, weighing 3lb. 5¾oz., one fish 14½oz.; E. Wright, roach and gudgeon. On the 3rd, Messrs. E. Bacon, perch; J. Petrie, roach and dace, 4lb, 12½oz. (one roach 1lb.); Mr. W. North had a very nice tray of roach, chub, and dace, 17lb. 6oz. (one roach 1lb. ¼oz.). On Tuesday last we had a very poor muster of members present. I hope members will turn up better next Tuesday for some urgent business. We have still a few vacancies for working or honorary members.—S. E. CANE, sec.

Shepherds' Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherds' Bush-green, W.—Many of our members were out during the holidays the most noteworthy take being 39½lb. of fine chub, caught by Mr. W. C. Parkhurst. Several of the fish were over 3lb., the largest going 3lb. 8oz.; good weight.—CRYSTAL HOOK.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.—On the 2nd instant, Mr. O'Callaghan weighed in between 40lb. and 50lb. of bream; Mr. Massey also had bream. On Bank Holiday, a great many of our members were out, but only one weighed in, Mr. Smales, having between 30lb. and 40lb. of bream. On Tuesday, Mr. Phillips brought up about 10lb. of fish, one tench over 2lb., one perch just on 2lb., and the remainder bream. For our outing on the 9th instant, at Hatfield Peveril (for Little Baddox), the members go down by the train leaving Liverpool-street Station at twelve o'clock Saturday night, but members can go down on the following morning. The committee will please to meet on Tuesday evening next, at eight p.m.—PELICAN.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—The members weighing in fish, on July 26, were Mr. Jones, with a nice show of bream and roach; Mr. Brown, rudd; Mr. Taylor, rudd; Mr. McQuinn, bream; H. Spenceley, roach and dace; R. Spenceley, chub and dace. We had a fine show of fish on August 2nd, by the following members:—Mr. Hooper, bream and roach, one splendid roach scaling 2lb. 1½oz.; Mr. Barbet, bream; Mr. D. Marks, roach; Mr. Polykett, roach; Mr. Brown, rudd; Mr. Taylor, rudd; Mr. Wells, roach.—R. SPENCELEY, sec.

South Belgravia Angling Society, Duke of Clarence, Horseferry-road, Westminster, S.W.—We had a nice show of fish on Monday night, Mr. Phillips weighing in some nice roach from Reading. Gentlemen wishing to join should hurry up to be in time to fish in this month's competition.—F. TAYLOR.

South London Angling Society, George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell-road.—Since last report Mr. Marsh weighed in a fine roach of 1lb. 7oz.: Mr. Frei, one day, 11lb. of good roach, and a further 6lb., largest fish 17oz. Next Wednesday we fish for three prizes, on which day subscriptions must be paid up.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on the above list will be paid to the St. George's Angling Society, held at the Prince of Wales', St. George's-road, Peckham, on the 10th inst. As this society is always represented at every visit in the south of London, I trust the other societies will return the compliment and give them a bumper. On the occasion of this visit the two prizes won in the late competition at Amberley, but not presented, will be handed over to the fortunate winners—viz., a marble timepiece, given by Mr. Renvoize, of the St. Thomas's A.S., and won by G. Mumford: and a prize, value half guinea, by Mr. G. George, of the Second Surrey, for the largest roach, won by A. Gordon.—A. CONN, sec.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Rhodeswell-road, Stepney.—On the 2nd inst. only three of our people turned up to weigh in; they were most of them stopping out for the holiday. Messrs. Ruston, roach and bream; West and Hornblower, bream.—E. N. P., hon. sec.

St. George's Angling Society, Prince of Wales, St. George's-road, Peckham.—The next visit on the S.L.U.A.V.L. takes place at the above address on Monday, August 10, when the prizes won in the late tournament at Amberley will be presented by the donors. We have a very large room and we hope to see it full on this occasion. Mr. Lang will take the chair, and Mr. Tozer, of the Peckham Brothers, the vice-chair.—G. ETHERINGTON, sec.

St. Helen's Angling Association.—A strong contingent of the members of the St. Helen's Angling Association went on August 3 to Rosset, which is seven miles beyond Chester, to hold a fishing contest at the river Allyn, close to the river Dee. The excursion train arrived at Chester at 8.15 a.m., and the members were conveyed in three waggonettes to Rosset, where, soon after 9.30, they were busily engaged in landing trout, dace, roach, &c., and when the contest closed at seven p.m., the fish were weighed in at the Red Lion Hotel, the first prize being claimed by Mr. Chatterton, with a nice basket of fish; second, Mr. W. Burrows; third, Mr. Jas. Eden, being closely followed by Mr. H. M. Greer and Mr. P. Ball. The ride back to Chester was scarcely enjoyable, rain coming down in torrents all the way; but it was a consolation to think that all the members caught fish, not one going home water-beaten. The prizes were—first prize, a splendid set of carvers, given by Mr. J. P. Morris, and 7s. 6d. added by Mr. Durie; second, a copper kettle, given by Mr. Ormandy, and 5s. added by Mr. Sturgiess; third, a splendid silk muffler, given by Mr. Jesse Saxon, and 2s. 6d. added.—JNO. WOODS, hon. sec.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above has been out during the holidays, and have had some very fair sport. On Saturday Mr. G. Fordham, chub, and H. Fordham, roach and dace. On the 2nd inst. W. Tyler, roach and bream; B. Champion, bream; H. Richards and F. Penton, roach. On Monday, F. Beak, roach and bream; B. Champion, roach and bream; F. Penton, roach; H. Richards, roach. The members of the above will fish their next match on the 16th in the Medway for several money prizes.—H. TYLER.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall-cross.—The match that was postponed will take place on the 16th, same place and conditions. Our trays were well filled on the 2nd instant, the following weighed in:—Messrs. Russ, dace; Morring, bream and roach; Skinner, dace and gudgeon; Clegg, roach. On the 4th inst., Messrs. A. Fry and Petty, jack; Ilsley, roach and dace.—H. C., hon sec.

Walworth Waltonians.—On August 5, Mr. W. J. Crisp and Mr. Combes weighed two fine shows of tench, the largest fish being 3lb. 12oz. I should be glad to see all brother members in their places at the important meeting to take place on the 12th inst.—C. HIBBLE, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 2nd inst. one of our honorary members, Mr. C. Newbury, showed 23½lb. of barbel, and Mr. W. Gordon weighed in 4lb. 15oz. of roach, R. J. Dartnall, 4lb. 12oz. roach and dace. The August competition will take place on the 9th inst., from Twickenham Ferry to Teddington Lock, towing-path only; all fish to weigh; all members to go down by eight o'clock Waterloo, 8.5 Vauxhall; show fish at the White Swan at 8.15 p.m.—R. J. DARTNALL, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—We had a fine show of fish on the 2nd inst. Messrs. C. Deccert, roach and dace, largest fish, 1lb. 8¾oz.; Parslow, roach; Casey, bream. We have a competition on the 9th at Amberley; all to go by morning train. The next return visit on the Central Association will take place at the above society on Wednesday, August 12. This being our first visit on the Central, I hope we shall have a good muster.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 2nd and 3rd inst., and the following members weighed in: Mr. J. Newton, 4lb. 3oz. of rudd; Mr. C. Brekell, 6lb. 12½oz. rudd; Mr. C. W. Maxted, one rudd, 1lb. 4½oz., being a very pretty specimen.—R. LOWTHER, sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—Mr. Gooch, one of our new members has had the fortunate capture of an extraordinary specimen dace, weighing 1lb. 4oz., measuring extreme length, 11¾in. This grand fish is now being set up for exhibition, and was taken in the Thames at Sunbury. Elsmore weighed in 54lb. bream, being one day's catch, from the river Ant navigation, Norfolk, also several rudd, roach, and perch. We have a new member for election at our next meeting.

Woolwich Brothers Angling Society, Green Man, High-street, Plumstead.—On the 1st inst. Mr. Brinbon weighed in 7lb. 12oz. of roach from private water; W. Stevenson, J. Hicks, G. Starling, and J. Howcroft also weighed in bream, roach, and dace. I beg to remind members that a meeting takes place on the 12th inst. for the purpose of making final arrangements for the general outing on 16th inst.—J. R. HOWCROFT, sec.

Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, Earl Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney.—The usual weekly meeting of this society was held on Wednesday, 5th inst. Another new member was proposed for election at the next meeting. Messrs. Hayward and Richardson had good sport among the gudgeon, at Sunbury, on Bank Holiday.—H. RICHARDSON, hon. sec.

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REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

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Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea.		Add	55 min. for Kew.	
	40 ,, ,, Putney.			75 ,, ,, Richmond.	
	45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.			80 ,, ,, Twickenham.	
	50 ,, ,, Barnes.			85 ,, ,, Teddington.	

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Aug. 8	4. 9	4.24
Sunday,	,, 9	4.40	4.56
Monday,	,, 10	5.11	5.26
Tuesday,	,, 11	5.42	6. 0
Wednesday,	,, 12	6.18	6.37
Thursday,	,, 13	6.57	7.20
Friday,	,, 14	7.47	8.16

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—It appears from the official reply of the head river-keeper of the Thames Conservancy, who is both intelligent and practical, the destruction of fish in the tideway does not arise from local causes, and is best explained in his own words: "In reply to your letter relative to the destruction of fish, I have myself made inquiry of the fishermen, and it is their opinion, as well as my own, that the water is so bad below that when the spring tides are running the fish cannot get up out of the bad water. If the storms continue, and the tides run heavy about the middle of this week, I fear we shall see the same thing again. I have been through the district every day this week at low water on the neap tides, and have not seen any dead fish. Anyone who could make it convenient to be near Charing Cross at that time, they would see the state of the water, the tide will then be flowing fast." If these sickly fish are brought up from below and die in the neighbourhood of Kew and Richmond, then the stock in the latter district would not be affected by the impurity lower down, as the filth of the water would become reduced and more free from anything like a poisonous agent. The late heavy rains should make some alteration in the river, as it has been very low and the water bright for some time, but previous to any change there has been some capital takes of barbel at Sunbury and Staines, as will be seen from the reports. Those fish came on very well at the commencement of the season at Hampton Court, and but little has been heard of them since. They are always peculiar in this respect, and I have known them to lay at the bed of the river like a parcel of stones, and nothing would move them. That excellent angler and friend of the river, Mr. A. J. Little, was always to the front in the matter of barbel catching, and I should like to hear of him amongst them again, but I am afraid he has given fishing up. There is another good name connected with piscatorial triumphs with the barbel and bream, I mean Mr. M. H. Blamey, whose name is now seldom or ever heard in connection with angling exploits.—B.

RICHMOND.—H. Mansell, in three and a-half days, 42lb. of fine roach and dace; H. Howard, in four days, twenty-eight dozen; and Job Brain, 40lb.

TWICKENHAM.—C. Annesey, in two days, 30lb. of roach and dace and one barbel; C. Brown, in one day, twelve dozen; S. Cole, in three days, thirty dozen; J. Coxen, in three and a-half days, 40lb.; R. Coxen, in two days, 16lb.; George Coxen, in two and a-half days, 33lb., and three barbel; J. Dunn, in two days, five dozen and two barbel; J. Frost, in four and a-half days, 47lb. and three bream; R. Moffatt, in four days, thirty-two dozen and two bream; J. Spong, in four days, 40lb.; F. Wiggins, in two days, 24lb.

TEDDINGTON.—Joseph Baldwin, in three days, twelve dozen of roach and dace, one jack, and three barbel; B. Stevens, during the week, twenty dozen of fine roach and dace, sixteen barbel, largest 10½lb., and three jack.

KINGSTON.—N. Bolton, in two and a-half days, fifteen dozen of roach and dace and two bream; J. Wilkes, during the week, twenty-five dozen of roach and dace, five dozen of gudgeon, two bream, three jack, and a couple of barbel; J. Knight, in three and a-half days, twenty-one dozen of roach and dace and five barbel; John Johnson, during the week, twenty-eight dozen of roach and dace and twelve barbel.

SUNBURY.—Mr. Bolt, during the week, has taken seventy barbel and a fine lot of roach and dace; E. Milbourne has landed five brace of jack and a perch of 1¾lb.; Mr. Lukyn has caught thirty barbel, the largest 6½lb.; J. Lock, in two days, has taken seventeen dozen of roach and dace and a barbel of 3½lb.; Mr. Sanders got a bream of 4½lb. The punts of Messrs. T. and A. Stroud have been doing well with barbel, roach, dace and chub. A fine trout of 5¼lb. has been caught in the back water at Hampton Court.

WEYBRIDGE.—Herbert Curr, one day with Mr. Noel, 60lb. weight of bream, the largest 5½lb., and another day six dozen of roach; with Mr. Leaf, one day, nine dozen of gudgeon, and another day three jack, which were returned, and a perch of 1¼lb.; and with Mr. Bowers, one day, nine dozen of roach and three perch, the latter together weighing 4lb.

CHERTSEY.—Mr. C. Wastell, fishing with John Poulter, has taken fifty-six dozen of roach and dace, the greater portion being put back again; and another day, with Mr. Benford, six jack and one brace of perch, five of the jack were returned.

LALEHAM.—Alfred Harris writes: "I have not been doing much fishing this season. I had two days with Mr. Birt. the first day he got twenty barbel, and the second day twenty-two; another day, with Mr. Mitchell, who caught ten barbel; and another day with Mr. Miller, who caught twenty-nine barbel."

STAINES.—John Keene, jun., has been well employed during the week; one day with Mr. Edwards and his son, who together caught 40lb. weight of roach and barbel; two days with Mr. Newbury, who on the first day secured twenty-three barbel, and on the second day nineteen, the largest 3½lb.; and another day with Mr. Forman, of Hammersmith, who got twenty barbel, the largest 3lb.

Upper Thames.—The recent rains have put a lot of go in the upper reaches of the Thames, but the water is very little heightened or coloured. Excellent sport is now being had amid roach, chub, gudgeon, and jack, and anglers fond of Thames work could not do better than take advantage of the present exceptionable condition of the river.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Windsor).—The recent terrific rain storms here have had not the slightest effect on the river as regards colouring the water, which is still bright, but, of course, not stagnated as is usually the case this time of year. Sport has been good amongst all fish; even the trout have suffered, and a very handsome one of 9lb. fell a victim to the seductive lob-worm. Mr. G. Rowles, of Egham, was the captor. Many baskets of roach, chub, and barbel have been had; of the former, the veteran expert, Mr. G. Herd, of Egham, has thinned them out in the Clewer district, having had during his short stay two hundred and twenty-six, fishing only after four p.m. I am told it was a sight to see him play and eventually land a barbel of 2¼lb. which a friend with him had fouled in the dorsal fin, the hook being a fine drawn-gut "Mackenzie." Mr. Howlett, of Eton, has kept up his early morning score, having had during the week about sixteen dozen roach and dace before eight a.m. Mr. G. Smith and son, of Park-street, Windsor, on the 4th inst., after four p.m. till 7.30 p.m., had five dozen roach and dace. Barbel have fed well. I watched the veteran, Joseph Butler, of Eton, land five in a very short time before breakfast. Messrs. Sellars and Sparrow, of London, with James Gray, on 3rd inst., had 25lb. Mr. Woodall, of the Friendly Anglers, London, in three hours had eleven barbel and one chub. Many other catches have been made amongst barbel. Chub have also fed well. Mr. T. Skelton, of Datchet, has had the best amongst these, having four weighing 9lb., largest, 4lb. Mr. Thomas, of the Christopher, Eton, also had a nice basket going 12lb. A few jack have been caught, but not very large, Mr. A. Walker, of Windsor, having a pretty fish of 3¾lb., but Mr. S. Rider, of The Limes, Church-end, Willesden, the largest, which weighed 7lb.; in addition, he had a basket of chub and gudgeon. This latter fish are to be caught now by raking, and will be found very amusing to ladies and children, though a salmon angler not long ago made the remark to me, "After salmon fishing, give me gudgeon." James Gray has brought in the handsomest barbel I have seen this season for colour and shape; it weighed 7½lb., and was caught whilst dace fishing with James Gray by Master H. Waterman, of Thames-street, Windsor, who must have displayed exceptional coolness and skill, considering the fineness and smallness of the hook used; in addition, a fine basket of some six dozen dace was secured. Cooper, of London, has the fish for preservation.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Thames (Wraysbury).—Always a favourite resort of the Thames angler, Wraysbury and district were well patronised during the holidays, and, in spite of the bad weather, fair sport was encountered, especially in the case of punt anglers, several of whom made decent hauls of barbel. Heavy storms of thunder and lightning have prevailed here, and on Sunday rain fell in sheets. Prior to the storm, Mr. Newbury, of the New Albion Piscatorial Club, made, punt fishing, a basket of eighteen barbel and one and a-half brace of chub, the latter going about a pound and a-half each. Fishing again on Bank Holiday, he took 23lb. weight of barbel. In the mouth of one of these fish was a hook and gut. Nearest the hook the gut was of double strength, and had attached to it, crossways, a piece of match, designed, no doubt, to hold on the balls of groundbait. The tackle was evidently of local make, and, as it has been presented to me, I have relegated it to my museum of things fishy, from whence it shall be forthcoming should the rightful claimant come upon the scene. In the vicinity of the Bells of Ousely, on the 2nd, a fine jack of 10lb. was captured, and I am informed that no fewer than five different flights of hooks were found in its mouth. At the time of writing, the river was in good condition for all-round angling.—GOOSEQUILL.

Ancholme District.—A goodly number of anglers have been out both on the trout streams and Ancholme, but the holidays were marred by rain. On the trout becks, Messrs. John and Albert Ford, of London, had ten fish on Saturday, and Messrs. John and T. Ford, ten and thirteen respectively, on Tuesday. Croxby Lake has been well patronised of late, but the lakes have not as a rule been heavy. Messrs. R. Strout, of Cornwall, and T. Ford, had thirty-three perch, on Saturday, fishing from the boat. The lake is now fairly free from weeds, and yields a nice day's pleasure. The sport on the Ancholme owing to thunderstorms, has fallen off a little. The takes of the past week were mainly bream, running from 1lb. to 3½lb The best catches were as follows: Messrs. F. North, 9½lb.; J. Nene, 18lb.; T. Jacks, 5½lb.; T. White, 9½lb.; and another angler, 8lb. Mr. Hawkins had also 11lb. of roach and dace. The above were taken on single occasions.—THOMAS FORD.

Ant (Stalham, Norfolk).—Anglers sojourning in the Land of the Broads should not forget to pay a visit to the river Ant, which, in the neighbourhood of Stalham, holds any quantity of good fish. As an instance of some of the baskets which are likely to be made there, I may say that on Bank Holiday, Dr. Lavell and Mr. W. H. Ellsmore, who both hail from London, landed between them thirty-four bream, weighing 76lb., besides a few decent roach, rudd, and perch. The doctor also captured a splendid tench, weighing 3lb. 1oz.—GOOSEQUILL.

Arun (Pulborough).—The holiday anglers have been pretty busy on this river, but I am sorry to have to report that, owing to the extremely changeable weather, the anticipated good sport which seemed likely when I last wrote was denied them. At different periods rain has fallen heavily, and the river has been in flood, but the water has quickly run off again, and on the 2nd inst. when I visited the river it was looking in fairly good trim. In addition to the rainy weather very high winds have been experienced, whilst the nights have been exceedingly cold. Fish have fed very badly indeed; and anglers on the Central Association's water have experienced little or no sport. This is probably one of the best spots about here, although I have been somewhat struck lately in not seeing many fish "priming" or even swimming in the weed runs. Several other anglers have been similarly mystified, and everyone seems at a loss to account for this absence of fish life. Are there poachers about? There is one thing, they would not stand much chance on the week-days and Sundays, for the Association's river keepers, honorary and otherwise, are most vigilant, I myself being twice challenged on one day for my passport which I duly produced. On the 2nd inst.. an angler near the Swan Bridge lost a bream of about 3lb. through attempting to lift it bodily out of the water, the gut giving way about an inch from the hook. During the day one or two nice roach and dace were caught, but the weedy condition of the river is still a source of much annoyance to the disciples of Old Izaak. In September we look for better times.—GOOSEQUILL.

Barle (Dulverton).—The river is still in decent order, and the Quill and small Devon minnows kill well. The glass is rising. More salmon are running up, but the fishing associations below us give fish little chance of running up to the higher waters.—IRON BLUE.

Brighton.—SEA FISHING.—Boat angling is again to the fore, with the sea as calm as a mill-pond and a gentle breeze off-shore. Anglers prefer fishing off Black Rock, where you can either fish over the rocks for bream and pout, or over the sands for plaice; which, by the way, will soon be caught close in-shore, so near indeed that I intend trying a "throw-out line," as they do off the shingle at Portsmouth.—H.

Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, and Suffolk Rivers.—Notwithstanding the heavy rains and thunder and lightning, our anglers in the eastern counties have been hard at it, and from most all the rivers fairly good takes of roach have been made; up to Monday over fifty trout have been taken from the Lark, near Mildenhall, some of them over 6lb. each. The roach are feeding very well there now, also chub and perch. Plenty of good roach, perch and dace continue to be taken from the Little Ouse at Brandon, and I intend trying there myself. My friend, Mr. Rolph, tells me anglers are well satisfied with their sport there. Several of my angling friends have been having a try at Cantley, Buckenham, and Brundall, on the river Yare, and had capital sport amongst the bream, four stone per rod. Roach are a little better on now, and if we get any sort of weather anglers should have good sport from the Ely, Littleport, and Hilgay waters. Roach are not "well on" much better at Brand Creek, three miles from Littleport Station; there are some capital good bream and perch swims there, as well as big chub. As I have always said, the Littleport water is strictly autumn and winter fishing. I saw a nice lot of perch on the 5th from Upware, on the Cam. Were it not for the pollution, this would be a famous place for good fish. I still advise anglers to try the sharper waters, as the Ouse at Brandon, or the Lark at Mildenhall; bait with boiled wheat or gentles. Weather dull, and like rain. Wind north-west and cold.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Chichester and Sussex Rivers.—Notwithstanding the quantity of rain that has fallen the canal at Chichester is low and bright, and sport not equal to the record of a month since. A few good bream have been taken, none exceeding 2½lb., and roach up to 12oz. A few small tench, and perch, and eels, taken with dead bait, weighing 2½lb., are among the list of captures. Visitors to the Rother have met with fair success among the roach and gudgeon. Reports from the Arun are not so favourable. A few bream, roach, and dace, have been taken. The lower reaches of the Ouse in East Sussex, seem deserted by the large roach this season, and it is only from the upper portions of the river that good takes have been notified, one a basket of roach and chub, taken principally with gentles weighing 12½lb., contained roach up to 1lb. 1oz., and chub 2¾lb. Dace and roach have given sport in the tidal waters of the Adur; and at Littlehampton Harbour, mullet are feeding with rag worm as bait. At Southampton Waters and in the docks, good takes of mullet have been made, some fish weighing 2¾lb. The weather has been too treacherous for coast fishing.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—The rivers for this time of year have been in better order and in worse—generally the latter. There are no sea trout up as yet, but the first spate is sure to fetch them, as they are jumping all round the bay; but they have not water to bring them up. Mr. Hindley, the hon. treasurer of the association, had a good eel last week of 3½lb.; length, 2ft. 3in.; girth, 7½in. How it was killed I will reserve for a fishing story. In any case, it was better out of our best trout water. Sea fishing could not be better with Brooks's (of Plymouth) Little Pet and Brown's (of Aberdeen) india-rubber bait; they will kill when the professional baits are at fault; of course, I mean fishing under way.—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—Water is now in good condition, but there are very few anglers on the river. Weather also is all that could be wished, cloudy and not sultry. Two good takes are reported on the Henmore brook with the Fiery Bumble and March Brown.—D. and W. H. FOSTER.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—We have had some very heavy rains during the past few days, and as a consequence the river is considerably swollen. This has enabled very large numbers of salmon and salmon trout to get up into the smaller streams from the sea. The run of fish has indeed been very great, and, on the subsidence of the water, I anticipate excellent sport. The other day Mr. R. B. Johnston landed a fine salmon of 5lb. to 6lb., and Mr. J. H. Keighley, Mr. Jackson, and a few others were equally successful. On Tuesday and Wednesday the stream got into fair trim for fishing, and the following anglers had some good sport: Mr. D. Green landed two salmon trout, weighing 3lb. and 4lb. respectively; Mr. W. Jackson, three, of 2lb., 3lb., and 3lb.; Mr. J. Mann, one of 5lb.; Mr. George Tonkiss, one of 6lb.; Mr. J. Keighley, one of 11lb.; Mr. R. B. L. Johnston, one of 10¾lb.; Mr. C. J. Keighley, two of 10lb. and 4lb.; and Mr. Ward, one of 13lb.—J. J. JACKSON.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—The visitors have only had but a showery time of it for the holidays, but, on the whole, anglers are said to have done fairly well. Many of the drains are now being freed from weeds, the cutting operations having of late made good progress. Roach are not yet biting satisfactorily, but they are improving. The best sport has been among perch, some good fish having been killed about the Billingborough district. A nice lot of bream have been caught on the border waters and are said to be in good condition.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—Angling in the upper portion of the Idle has been somewhat neglected this week, the Worksop Club and others having visited distant waters to fish an annual contest. There have been a few visitors, but the weather has been stormy and unsettled, and they have had only moderate luck. On the lower lengths and the Byearrs and other dykes there have been visitors, but some of these want the weeds cutting badly. Roach, dace, perch, and odd pike have come to hand.—L.

Lea and Stort.—The late rains have not caused anything in the shape of a flood, but have had a good effect in freshening up the rivers and making the water a much better colour than it has been for some time, consequently fishing all round has shown a marked improvement. On the Bank Holiday a great number of anglers were out, and most of them seemed to be satisfied with the sport. As I expected, many jack have been taken since the opening, but they have, as a rule, run small. On August 2 I saw some nice perch and jack that had been taken at Waltham Abbey. Mr. Summers, of the Eagle Angling Society, has had some nice perch from the Cheshunt district, his best one scaling 2lb. 3oz. At Enfield Lock, a gentleman had amongst others a nice perch of 1½lb. Ponder's End.—Chub have been fairly on the feed here. Mr. George Hollingbery, junior, of the Railway Tavern, has had some good specimens; he is always pleased to give brother anglers any information and assistance. Cook's Ferry.—Fair sport amongst the roach and dace has been had. Games's Fishery.—Some nice perch have again been taken. Ferry Boat, Tottenham.—An immense quantity of anglers have paid this fishery a visit, and sport has been fairly good. Next week when the water from the Navigation Canal is drawn off, the old river is certain to produce good sport. The most important piece of news I have to communicate is the capture of a net of about 15yds. in length. On Saturday morning, August 1, Mr. Games, of the Higham Hill Fishery, surprised two poachers very busy. The men managed to escape, but he secured the net, which to all appearance is a very likely instrument to clear out every fish, big or little, from any part of the Lea. This occurred on the unprotected length at Cook's Ferry. It appears a pity that this should be the case, as the fishery rights can be rented at a very small cost. Mr. Hadtkiss, of the Edmonton and Tottenham Angling Society, had some nice fish from the Harlow district of the river Stort. Friday, weather still unsettled, but water in good condition.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—The Bank Holiday anglers at Leicester were rather disappointed by the showers which commenced falling very early on Monday. Fortunately by midday a welcome change came o'er the scene, and one and all were thankful for small mercies. The waters near the town belonging to the local society, received a very large share of attention, some hundreds of anglers lining the banks from the north end of the town up to Aylerstone village, whilst the Abbey Park river was simply crowded. The best known resorts, reached by means of the Midland and Great Northern Railways, have this week proved very attractive, the bookings of holiday anglers being this year larger than ever. Sport has not been of a very encouraging kind. Capital baskets of roach have, however, been landed from the canal and back waters at Aylestone, a few of the more fortunate anglers being Messrs. A. Bachus, Machin, Rabbit, Manship, Tinsley, Thompson, Iliff, and J. Hobbs. The best specimens that came under my notice were a roach 1lb. 4oz., and a perch 1lb. 8oz. The weather throughout the week was very changeable.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams are now improved since the heavy fall of rain at the beginning of the week, and are in order for either fly or wasp grub fishing. There are plenty of flies on the water, but the fish come shy at them until evening, when they sport better. A good few anglers have been out, and good sport has been had with the wasp grub. The Pinsley is in fishing order. Sport quiet in it at present.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Rivers remain low and clear. On Saturday some fair sport was had. Since, the changeable, stormy weather, with more or less tempest each day, has marred all chances of making good baskets. Flies remain same as named last week. A few good grayling have been taken with the Grasshopper (sink and draw). Till the weather settles there will not be much sport.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—In spite of the enormous quantity of rain that has fallen during the last ten days, the water is in good fishing condition, but the unsettled weather has prevented many fish being taken. Some few anglers have been taking a few roach and bream. I tried them myself at Yalding and Wateringbury, but the attempt with me was in vain—I could not get the roach on. Unless we have more settled weather, the prospects are not good for the angler. The succession of thunderstorms, in my opinion, prevent sport. Trust in my next to report a more satisfactory state of things.—W. SHRUBSOLE.

Medway (Tonbridge).—Water good and fish well on the feed, especially bream and roach. Chub rise well at a fly, and altogether prospects are very favourable.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—We have had rain every day since my last report, and the river has swollen a little in consequence. Many anglers have been out along the river between Peterborough and Oundle, and some good takes are reported. An unusually fine pike was recently caught in water called the lake at Crowland. Mr. Thos. Ullyat was the lucky angler. The hook, a small one, was baited with roach, and the line was a very light one; consequently great care and judgment had to be used in landing the prize, which turned out to be a well-conditioned specimen, measuring over 3ft. in length and weighed 10lb. It is seldom I have an opportunity of recording a capture like this from the Wash waters. At Peterborough town bridge some fine bream were taken by Mr. C. Wright, several scaling 3lb. On Bank Holiday some good takes were obtained. Mr. J. Rowell got about thirty roach, largest ¾lb.; Mr. McKerrow, twenty-five eels and perch. This is the first catch of perch in the neighbourhood and were good specimens. Mr. J. Anker, a few miscellaneous fish; and a party of three obtained thirty roach and dace. Roach, as a rule, seem small, not many reaching ½lb. At Elton sport has not been up to the average this season, Mr. Head Constable Lawson, Mr. Woolfe, &c., having had rather disappointing "catches."—NENEBANK.

Ouse (Brandon, Norfolk).—Writing from Brandon, farmers are still grumbling as to the weather. I am myself waiting a full week in this neighbourhood for sport; but at time of writing no hay carting, and that means no great catches of fish. Just seen the stationmaster, lower down-stream. Two gentlemen weighed in 92lb. weight of roach, &c., the landlord of Ram Hotel has just told me. We have the swims, the fish; but he does not want to see an angler on speculation as to weather. —JOHN GEORGE.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—Both roach and bream are feeding well, and sport is good. A great quantity has been taken during the week with wheat and brandlings; and there is prospects of sport being good for some time, for the water is in the pink of condition. Bream are feeding best in the day-time, which has not been known for some years and taking a very small bait on fine tackle. Some are trying morning and evening with bad results, they not feeding very free.—H. Rout.

Ouse (St. Neots).—Fish have been feeding lately, and some capital perch, roach, chub, and bream have been taken. A short time ago two local gentlemen, in three consecutive evenings, landed over five hundred fish, principally roach and bream.—N.

Ouse, &c. (York).—We are now having rather too much of a good thing. The heavy rains are quite putting rivers and streams much out of angling tune about here. The Bank Holiday bottom fishermen have done fairly well, but up to to-day (Wednesday) heavy rains and thunder have sadly interfered with sport. In my last report I inadvertently used the word "barbel," which should have appeared "bream," in my reference to angling in the Ouse. —Ronald.

Penzance (Cornwall).—Sea fishing.—Sport in the bay is excellent just now, and boat anglers are making good catches of mackerel (chiefly by "whiffing"). The weather is all that could be desired, and there are many visitors here enjoying the sea fishing. Mr. Richard Pollard, of Church-street, Newlyn, is a first-rate man to go with, and he thoroughly understands the best fishing grounds, &c.—H.

Scarborough.—(Sea Fishing).—Excellent sport is now being had by boat anglers in the bay with whiting and garnard, which are now very abundant. Small plaice and sand-dabs are also very plentiful. Mackerel have not come in yet, but are expected daily. Pier anglers are having good sport with billet, and par continue very plentiful.—H.

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—The water in both rivers low and clear, and very few fish to be seen on he top of the water, therefore but few fish have been taken with the fly. Best killing flies have been Blue Dun, Whirling Blue, Red Palmer, and Zulu. There has been some good takes of trout and grayling made with the maggot, also chub and dace, but the roach are very shy, and but few taken. Eels are taking the Wasp Grub freely.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—The rainfalls which we have experienced almost daily of late, and which have been accompanied by heavy thunder, have made anglers rejoice, for the river and brooks are now in far better condition than they have been for months. A few trout have been caught, but none of any great weight; but rough fishing continues good, both with the fly and on the bottom. Eels have been running pretty freely, and the absence of trout from the fords has been accounted for in a great measure by their presence.—Piscator.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—With the flood water of last week more salmon have got up here. On Friday evening Mr. Robert Wandless caught two, one weighing 8½lb., the other 6¾lb.; and on Saturday Mr. Dent had a 4½lb. fish, and the writer one weighing 4¾lb. In the estuary the boats have been doing remarkably well during the week; whilst Mr. Hogg, of Wycliffe, has had excellent sport with the rod. There has been nothing done in the trout way. Eels are plentiful but run small in size. Chub are also in fair quantities. In the Greta, Mr. Austin Graham got a good dish of trout with fly. Rain has fallen plenteously and the rivers are in splendid order for fish.—J. H. R.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme is still running in good order for angling being a nice level. Heavy rain fell on Tuesday, but made little difference to the state of the water. The fish have been well on the feed, and have rose well at the August Duns, Silver Twist, Sky Blue, Red Ant, Palmer's and Red Spinner, Wasp Grub fishing is brisk, and the fish are taking it freely. Minnow fishing has accounted for some good trout. On Tuesday, in the Ludford water, Mr. Baker landed some fine trout, one scaling 1¾lb. In the Burway water, thirteen trout and grayling were caught with the Blue. In the Oakley-park water, a gentleman tried the fly and caught forty good fish. The Ony Corve and Ledwyde are all in order for fishing. On Tuesday, two gentlemen with the Wasp Grub landed ten trout, averaging ½lb. each. In the Corve, Mr. R. G. Brookes took some good trout, one scaling 1¼lb.—S. Ludlow.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this district the weather has been stormy. A heavy thunderstorm passed over this this part on Tuesday, but did not alter the water much, it being low. The rain has improved the fishing, and the fish are now feeding well, and some good sport has been had with the wasp grub and fly. The Red Glyre and Ledwyche are all in fishing order.—Worcester.

Trent (Newark).—Bank Holiday barbel fishermen generally met with but slight success in the Newark district, the exception being when a subscriber to the Muskham water, Mr. Hammond, secured eight good fish with worm, heaviest over 8lb., and three others drawing the scale at 20lb., the bag also containing a chub of 4lb., and being by far the best take of the season up to the present. The dead waters of the same fishery were fairly besieged early on Monday morning by bream fishermen, and here the best records of the day resulted, takes running from 14lb. to about double that weight, and specimens being good; Messrs. Corner and Croom having best fish, respectively weighing 4lb. 3oz. and 3lb. 5oz., and 2lb. to 3lb. fish were common. Roach anglers have fared badly, the only catch of the week being Mr. T. Lee's twenty-seven, with creed malt, from the top portion of the Rolleston water. The Piscatorial Club-room was well patronised on Monday evening, all classes open for competition, roach, dace, chub, bleak, barbel and bream being placed upon the trays, the latter species by far predominating. At time of writing (Wednesday evening), weather dull, with storms at intervals; wind south, and Trent in good order; and worms, gentles and creed malt, or wheat, should ensure success.—Trentsider.

Whitby. — Sea Fishing. — Generally speaking the weather has been a little too boisterous, and the sea too unsettled to allow of small boats leaving the harbour for the roads, so that sport has been interfered with. On the few occasions, however, when the sea has been smooth, a goodly number of pleasure parties have rowed into the roads, and invariably returned with good catches of whiting, billets, and dabs. Some excellent sport has been had off the piers and quays in the inner harbour, the fish being abundant. There was, however, one exception to the run of good sport, and that was in the case of a gentleman who sat more or less patiently for several hours without being rewarded with a single bite. On inquiring what kind of bait he was using, he was good enough to give the information that he had baited his hooks with kippered herring! He was soon put into the right way of catching a few fish.—J. J. Jackson.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—Bank Holiday is a great day for visitors to the Witham and waters in connection with it, particularly from Torksey on the Trent, to Boston in the estuary. Literally thousands have been located at the different stations since Saturday last, some coming for a single day; others for three days. Club matches have been the rage, and when these are very numerous the water gets so disturbed that few can accomplish much by independent angling. I hear of a few odd pike being caught since last writing, the best one of 6½lb. Roach and bream have been mostly sought for, and a few nice specimen fish have been weighed in in matches, and by independent angling.—Luci.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire).—Both rivers are in good order for all-round angling. The heavy rain storms of the past week has kept the water nicely discoloured, but not too much to stop the fish from rising occasionally in the shallows. The Bank Holiday was not very enjoyable at the river-side, but there were plenty of rods on both rivers. The Wye yielded fair sport, and several baskets of from two to five and a-half brace were taken here. I was afraid the Derwent about Matlock would be too thick on the above day for fly, but in the early part of the day some good sport was had. Mr. I. J. Hodson had a nice basket of five brace of trout and grayling, weighing close on 9lb. Best flies now are Ash Dun, Rod Quill, Sand-fly, and Little Chap.—Dotterel.

Yare (Norwich).—On the day I sent my last report an excellent catch was had at Buckenham Ferry, one gentleman taking one hundred and ten fish to his single rod in a few hours, and some were very fine roach. Of course the awful weather which has been experienced during the holidays has very much upset the angling chances on this river. Still at Cantley and also at Brundall they have both experienced good luck. Some good roach fishing has been reported from nearly all the stations on this stream. From some of the Broads I have heard of several good catches of bream, the best recorded being about 4st., captured during the intervals between ten or twelve thunderstorms, and the largest fish nearly 4lb. We may now reasonably expect the angling to improve from week to week, and I trust that the latter part of August and September may meet the expectations of the knowing local fishermen. An extraordinary bream of about 1½lb. was caught at Cantley on Wednesday, and I dare say your readers will like to hear particulars when I have ascertained them from Mr. Game, who has possession of the fish.—Robert Moll.

Yore, Wharfe, Swale, Nidd, &c.—Heavy rains westward had the effect of bringing down the first named of these rivers in flood on Monday last, towards the end of the day. Two Halifax anglers had fairly good baskets at Tanfield, and on a preserved length of the Yore I killed nineteen trout and grayling. Fog Black, August Brown, Poult Bloa, and Cinnamon Fly is the best cast that can be used at present. Weather very unsettled.—Francis M. Walbran.

Lake Coron (Bodorgan, Anglesey).—Very good bottom-fishing was obtained the end of last week and the beginning of this by three gentlemen from Bolton, staying at the Bodorgan Arms. Mr. Newton got seventeen one morning, eight in the evening, and ten the following morning. Mr. Southworth nineteen one day, and the same number the next. Mr. Whittle, fifteen on Saturday, twelve on Monday, and eleven on Tuesday. Bait used, dock grub. The fish are in better condition this time of the year than any angler remembers, and take more freely than they have hitherto.—W. H.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—Although during the past week we have had gales of wind followed by flat calms and thunder, yet there has been a good show of fish on the weighing table nearly every night. Monday being the best. On the whole Mr. F. W. T. Round has been the most successful with twenty-seven trout, 26½lb. Mr. Lewis Lloyd in two days, twenty-two weighing 16lb. 14oz. Mr. J. Evans has also had some good sport, taking twenty scaling 15lb. On Monday, Mr. Menzies brought in nine lovely fish 6½lb., and Mr. G. Ward in the afternoon of same day, five weighing 4½lb., one of which was a perfect picture 2lb. weight. Yesterday, Mr. Round also got a two pounder. Best flies—golden dropper, Zulu, Claret and Grouse. The recent heavy rainfall has put the water in good order.—Long Drift.

Usk (at Usk).—The heavy storms of Monday last rose the river a foot by Wednesday morning, and greatly revived angling, although on the lower reaches some excellent sport has been obtained during the past fortnight. Colonel Rooke succeeded in killing thirteen salmon and grilse last week, and he now tops the list of anglers on the association waters. Wednesday, Mr. H. E. Cole caught four, and Mr. H. W. Pride, three salmon and grilse. Thursday, Mr. Brown had three, and Mr. T. Rees three. Most anglers have had one or two every day. An enormous number of salmon have been taken out of the river by the water bailiffs. Near Newbridge, in one day's netting, one hundred and eleven salmon and grilse were had.—T.

Scotch Reports.

Altnacealgach Hotel Waters.—In last issue the sport by anglers at this hotel was erroneously headed "Altnaharra." On Monday, last week, the gale was such that no boat could face it, and on Tuesday only two ventured out —viz., Mr. Beith, Glasgow, and Mr. Millar, Musselburgh, who fished together on Loch Cama, and got twenty-seven troul, aggregating 10lb. On Wednesday, Messrs. Beith and Millar, on Loch Boarlan, thirty-seven trout, 14lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, Dollar, on Loch Cama, a basket of 14½lb.; and Messrs. F. and H. O. Ritchie, Stonehaven, on Loch Veyatie, thirty-five trout, 11lb. On Thursday, Mr. Sproat and Mr. W. Sproat, Liverpool, on Loch Veyatie, twenty-four trout, 8lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, on Loch Cama, thirty-seven trout, 12lb.; Rev. P. Whyte and Dr. Russell, London, on Loch Cama, eighteen trout, 6lb.; Messrs. Ritchie, on Loch Urigill, seventy-seven trout, 20lb.; Rev. W. Chapman and Mr. Clarke, London, on Loch Boarlan (a short time only), fourteen trout, 5lb.; and Messrs. Beith and Millar, forty-nine trout, 20lb. On Friday, Messrs. Beith and Millar, on Loch Urigill, sixty-seven trout, 20lb.; Messrs. Sproat, on Loch Cama, forty-eight trout, 14lb.; Rev. P. Whyte and Dr. Russell, on Loch Urigill, sixty-six trout, 16lb.; Rev. W. Chapman and Mr. Clarke, on Loch Cama, thirty-six trout, 10½lb.; and Mrs. Russell, on Ledbey stream, a nice basket of thirty-six trout. On Saturday, Messrs. Sproat, on Loch Boarlan, thirteen trout, 7½lb., and two *Salmo ferox*, 2lb. and 4¾lb.; Rev. W. Chapman and Mr. Clarke, on Loch Urigill, sixty trout, 18lb.; Rev. P. Whyte and Dr. Russell, on Loch Cama, twenty-five trout, 8lb.; Mr. Willie Macdonald, on same loch, forty-two trout, 16lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, on Loch Veyatie, thirty-two trout, 10½lb.; and Mr. Stewart, Liverpool, on Loch Boarlan (two hours), eight trout, 3lb.—McB.

Berriedale (Duke of Portland's).—There is at this moment only the keeper taking an occasional cast on this water; but this is a pity, as it is actually swarming with grilse, and unlike most rivers in this district they take splendidly, especially a few miles from the sea. His Grace with a large party is shortly expected, and I have no doubt they will good sport. The prospects for the 12th are not particularly bright, as it is said the birds are not very numerous or strong; but this may prove to be a fallacy, as it has often done before. The lessee of the net fishings, Mrs. Dunbar, has never had such a successful season as this one, and I am glad of it, as for some years the fishing was poor.—S.

Border Esk.—The Esk is again running a trifle low, but the recent rains have had the desired effect of clearing out the bed of the river from the filth which so long vexed the hearts of anglers, and spoiled their best efforts. The water is now in fair order, and good sport may be safely predicted. The whiting season is in full blast, and salmon promise well for September and October. Few catches worth recording are reported, probably the annual carnival (the common riding) may have diverted anglers from their favourite pastime. In the Liddle, however, Mr. J. Crozier had two salmon, 10lb. each; and Mr. J. Murray, two of 6lb.; next week I hope for a better record. The vale of the Esk has donned its most charming garb, and there is loveliness everywhere in this delightful corner of the "land of the mountain and the flood," where the air is pure, the waters unpolluted, and the woods silent, excepting the delicious murmuring of the mountain streams. There are a great many English visitors both in Canonbie and the "muckle toon" o' the Langholm, many of whom were to be seen at the tournament on the Castleholm last week, gazing in wonder on the barley bannock, the saut herrin', and the strong bearded Scotch thistle, which wagged its pow so heartily in the market place on the interesting occasion, as a welcome to the numerous strangers who found themselves in the midst of such novel surroundings. P.S.—Better reports have been received from the lower waters, between Longtown and the Metal Bridge. Last week Col. Wybergh landed one hundred and ten whiting; Mr. Atkinson had one hundred and five, and subsequently sixty-three; Mr. Mason, forty, and two sea trout; Mr. Rudd, twenty; Mr. Redmayne, twenty; whilst Messrs. Walton, Twiddle, Bell, Lamb, Graham and Storey have had fair baskets during the past week. All the largest catches were made in the vicinity of the Metal Bridge. The run of whiting is almost unprecedented.—G.

Brora (Sutherland).—Major Berkeley, driving from Lairg Hotel to Dalnessie, fished the upper reaches of the Brora and killed eight sea trout, weighing 8lb.—J. Y.

Bunessan Hotel, Mull.—On Lochaspol waters, on the 28th July, Colonel Duncaster had three sea trout and thirty-one brown trout. 30th, the same gentleman had five sea trout and twenty-seven brown; Dr. J. Macdonald, Tobermory, had thirteen sea trout, the heaviest one, 3lbs., and thirty-three brown trout; H. Vernon had five sea trout and fifteen brown trout; 31st., Colonel Duncaster had eight sea trout, the heaviest one 2½lb., and fifty-eight brown; H. Penman had seven sea trout, the heaviest one 2lb., and forty brown trout. On the 1st inst., Colonel Duncaster had one sea trout and forty-six brown; Mr. Penman and Mr. Taylor had six sea trout and thirty-two brown; Mr. Cunningham, of Glasgow, had two fine sea trout and thirty-eight brown trout. We have fine heavy showers of rain, and the weather is very suitable for angling.—John Campbell.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—On Monday, Mr. Woodroffe and party, Skibo Castle, had two fish on Invercharron water. On Tuesday, Mr. Crewdson, Balnagown Arms Hotel, caught a 7lb. grilse on the Gruinards water, and Mr. J. MacLeod one of similar weight on the hotel water. On Wednesday, Mr. Woodroffe, and Mr. Palmer and party, Skibo Castle, fished the hotel water and grassed a 9lb. salmon and a grilse of 6lb., and on the Craigs water a salmon of 8lb. Mr. Crewdson hooked two fish but lost them. On Thursday, Mr. Crewdson tried both Gruinards and hotel waters and landed two grilse, 8½lb. and 8lb., and a sea trout of 1¼lb.; Lieutenant-Colonel Cantlon, Strathkyle Lodge, hooked two fish on the hotel water, but they broke off. Mr. W. Allis Smith, of Glencalvie, fished the upper waters and caught a 9lb. salmon on Thursday, and a grilse of 4lb. on Saturday.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—For the most part the past week has been fraught with cold, ungenial, weather, accompanied by a superabundance of rain. The rivers have again been in roaring flood, and have been thoroughly scoured out. This is all the better for the autumn prospects, and from the unusual show of fish on the coast and other causes, there is every appearance of an early and prolific back-end. Autumn anglers are already putting in appearance, and in the interim between this and the Twelfth, when "King Grouse" will call them to the Moors, they are having a chance shy at the rivers. On the Clanney Lodge water, Mr. Alexander Haldame Farquharson, of the 10th Hussars, the young laird of Invercauld, accompanied by Sir Richard Edmonstone, are having some good sport. On the Kincardine O'Neil section on Tuesday, Mr. James Davidson, of Charlestown, Fife, made one of the best, if not the best basket of the season, consisting of one grilse, 3lb., six sea trout, scaling from 1½lb. to 2¼lb., and twenty-eight yellow trout, from 2¼lb. downwards. Such a magnificent record has not fallen to the lot of any one rod on this section for many a day. On the Balmoral the water, although not in splendid order, has yielded some plump grilse with an occasional salmon. On the Ballater section the river has been too unsteady for good sport. However, Captain Cook landed two fish, of 8lb. and 9lb.; Mr. Yarrow, two, of 7lb. and 9lb., and D. Morgan, gillie, three fish, one 13lb., while some sea trout and grilse were also grassed. On the Glentana waters Sir William Brooks, Bart., M.P., and friends, are having a fair share af the sport that is agoing and not unfrequently good baskets are made. On the Aboyne reaches a few grilse, with an occasional red fish, has been got lately. On the Lower Dess water, John Harper, keeper, landed a grilse of 3½lb., while Mr. W. E. Nicol and party had a salmon of 9lb., and a grilse of 4lb on the Ballogie water. On the Blackhall Castle waters Mr. G. T. Hay landed a grilse and several sea trout last week, but the sections hereabout are having but a very indifferent time of it just now. On the Inchmarlo water, however, the proprietor, Mr. Duncan Davidson has had some very good sport lately. The other week he landed nine fish, scalidg from 4½lb. to 9lb., and last week he landed a grilse of 4lb., and a salmon of 11lb., the latter on fine trout tackle, after an exciting run. On the Feugh the other day Colonel Farrel and Mr. George Blacklaws made two good baskets of trout. Sea trout are quite plentiful all over the middle reaches of the main stream, and have been affording capital sport with the worm during the recent floods. On the coast good average results continue to be got, and last week some heavy fish of 17lb. and 19lb. were netted.—Deesider.

Deveron (Banffshire).—Although the swollen condition of this river somewhat subsided during the past week, fishing did not greatly improve. To all appearance a good many fish have run since the spate commenced. One fine sea trout weighing close on 3lb. was killed on the upper water of Turriff, and several grilse averaging 4½lb. The keeper on the Mayne water had a large salmon of 13lb., and two grilse of 4lb. each. Fair baskets of trout were also got on the tributaries of the river, which were in splendid ply for fishing. The net fishing on the river improved considerably this week. The hauls of salmon and grilse were larger, and the fish were on the whole of larger size. On the coast all the stations yielded well. Grilse containing a fine crop, and not the least tincture of disease has as yet been observable. On Saturday last, there were consigned to the markets from the river and sea stations eleven boxes. On Monday of this week twenty-one boxes, and on Wednesday, fifteen boxes. At the corresponding date last season for the week only nine boxes were sent South. The Gardenstown fishings, situated on the coast, about eight miles east from here were very productive for the week also. No less than a score of boxes were despatched against four for the same week last year.

Esk (Langholm, Dumfrieshire).—St. Swithin's Day kept up its reputation by giving us a copious shower of half an inch, much to the joy of anglers, and there is every appearance as if the six weeks were to follow suit. We are now having nice dropping weather, keeping the river "juist in gran' fettle." Last week, Messrs. A. H. and F. W. Kerr of York, staying at Eskdale Hotel, finished up their stay by killing 32lb. of sea trout and whiting on one day, besides two sea trout and two herling on the previous day. Mr. T. Irving has had several baskets of sea trout and whiting, as well as Mr. A. McMillan and S. Ballantyne. We had a good wet night on Sunday, and anglers were on the alert on Monday morning and evening, and they were not disappointed. The following are a few of the catches: Mr. Molyneux, Eskdale Hotel, fourteen sea trout and whiting; Mr. F. Martin, six whiting and two sea trout; A. Knox, two sea trout, one herling; J. McLellan, one sea trout, 2½lb.; Mr. J. Archibald, two sea trout; Mr. H. St. George Tucker, Eskdale Hotel, one sea trout and two yellow trout. On Tuesday morning there was a further rise, when there was better sport: Mr. Molyneux, Eskdale Hotel, had nine sea trout and whiting; Mr. Joe Anderson, fishing tackle manufacturer, had one sea trout, one herling, and twenty-seven yellow trout before breakfast; Rev. J. Smith, Eskdale Hotel, had one sea trout on Yarrat water, with the fly, 2lb.; Mr. H. St. George Tucker, one sea trout and eighteen yellow trout; Mr. A. Irving, six whiting; Mr. J. McLellan, one sea trout, 2½lb.; Mr. Connell, Eskdale Hotel, two whiting; Mr. T. Irving, four sea trout and two whiting, all within two miles of Langholm. The river is now getting into "guid fettle," and anglers should lose no time in securing quarters, as there is now likely to be a scarcity of accommodation, owing to the increasing popularity of the district. not only for the angling, but for the beautiful scenery and surroundings of the district.—W. D.

Helmsdale (Helmsdale).—Writing last week, I mentioned that floods were the order of the day here, and that was literally true, but my prediction that with dry weather the river would fall rapidly has not been verified. We have dry weather, but the water is still high; indeed, for years past I have never seen the river keep high so long, and salmon, grilse, and trout have had exceptional opportunity of taking the river, and they have indeed taken full advantage of it. The other day I walked three miles along the bank of the section next the sea, and never before did I see as many fish leap and tumble about as on that occasion. Every stream and pool seemed alive, and, although the majority was grilse, there was also numbers of salmon, all fresh run. Of course I had my rod, and fished pool and stream, but all to no purpose; although leaping all around me, look at fly they would not. I was terribly disappointed, but the reason was plain. The atmosphere was heavily charged with the electric fluid, as later in the evening it showed in vivid flashes of lightning. On the upper reaches of the river fish are taking better, and the Suirgill party are doing fair. getting a few grilse daily and an occasional salmon. Few anglers are out unless a local, and on the lower reaches fish take badly at this season in any weather. The netsmen have almost nothing during the week, and report that not a fish is to be seen in the sea, they having all taken the river. This, however, is not the case, as there is still a later run of fish to come on late in August or early in September. Strange to say, the lochs at the head of this river are not up to much this season, and none can give even a guess at the cause, the weather being all an angler could wish; but the mild winter may have something to do with it. The herring fishing here for the last few days has done well, upwards of three thousand barrels being landed; but while that is so here, there is a very large shortcoming in this important industry over the east coast of Scotland, amounting to one hundred and seventy-five thousand barrels compared with the fishing at same date in 1890.—S. C.

Lairg, N.B.—On Monday, of last week, a gale with boisterous showers made angling almost impossible. Mr. Wordsworth killed seventeen trout, 8lb.; on on Loch Cracail; and Dr. Mathews, six, 3½lb. on Loch Nam-fuar-leachd. Tuesday was very stormy, the only parties out being Major-General Stafford (see "Shin") and Surgeon-General Colvin Smith, C.B., who fished Cracail, killed a dozen averaging ½lb. On Wednesday, Mr. John Macleod killed a grilse of 6lb. on the Sluice Pool. lower end of Loch Shin; Major.General Stafford killed a 10lb. salmon with a trout fly on Lower Loch Shin; Dr. Mathers got fourteen trout, 9lb., on Loch Cracail; Mr. Wordsworth, seventeen, 11lb.; on Loch Nam-fuar-leachd. On Thursday, Dr. Mathews fished Loch Beamroch, ten, 7lb.; Colonel Butler, Loch Shin, six, 2lb.; Major-General Stafford, and Surgeon-Genaral Colvin Smith, C.B., Loch Nam-fuar-leachd, twelve, 6lb. On Friday, on Loch Shin, Messrs. Copeland and Cumming made a basket of fourteen trout, 7½lb.; Mr. Laing (two hours' fishing), six, 3lb.; Mr. George Atkins (three hours), twelve, 4lb. On Loch Beamroch, Mr. J. Stewart killed twelve, 9lb.; and on Loch Cracail, Surgeon-General Colvin Smith, C.B., nine, 5½lb. On Saturday, Major-General Stafford fished Loch Nam-fuar-leachd, six, 3lb.; Surgeon-General Colvin Smith, C.B., Loch Beamroch, seven, 6½lb.; two local anglers, in a couple of hours, thirteen, 7lb.; and Messrs. Copeland and Cumming, a fine basket.—J. Y.

Loch Leven (Kinross).—Heavy thunderstorms at long intervals during the week, with thunder, has not improved angling here and anglers have almost invariably returned with light creels. Five clubs competed, in which thirty competitors engaged who captured a combined total of eighty-one trout, 79lb. 12½oz. The heaviest prize basket was secured by Mr. T. Wilson, of the Coatbridge Club, who had seven trout of 8lb. 2oz. The most successful of private parties was Mr. McKenzie and Mr. Lennox, Kilsyth, nineteen trout, 13lb. 8oz., while the best average was got by Mr. Hannay, from Glasgow, who had six trout, 10lb. During July the total number of trout captured was seven hundred and twenty-four weighing 707½lb. This is the lowest record since 1887, which however, can be accounted for from the "shallows" being rendered almost unfishable from the exceptional dryness of the season and consequent very low and clear water.—Robert B. Laing.

Loch Migdale (Bonarbridge, N.B.).—Mr. John MacPherson, Bridge Hotel, was out for a few hours on Thursday evening and caught eight yellow trout, which averaged ½lb. Fair baskets have been made by other anglers. —McB.

Loch Rannoch (Kinloch Rannoch).—The following is the angling report and list of takes by gentlemen from the Dimalastair Hotel, during the past few days: On Wednesday, the 29th ult., Mr. Bell, of Dundee, succeeded in capturing a very good fish; Mr. Reid, of Wigton, obtained a basket of fully 6lb.; Mr. Johnson, of Glasgow, secured a take of 5lb.; and Mr. Nash, of Liverpool, killed eight pretty heavy fish. On the following day, Mr. Bell, of Dundee, had a basket of 30lb., including a trout weighing fully 12lb.; Mr. Nash, of Liverpool, captured eighteen trout; Mr. Reid, of Wigton, had a basket of 6½lb.; and Mr. Johnson, of Glasgow, secured a take of 7lb. On the 31st ult., Mr. Bell, of Dundee, killed eighteen trout; Mr. Johnson, of Glasgow, obtained a basket of 6¾lb.: Mr. Nash, of Liverpool, captured eighteen trout; and Mr. Reid, of Wigton, had a take of 6½lb. On Saturday, Mr. Bell, of Dundee, had a basket of 7½lb.; Mr. Johnson, of Glasgow, one of 8lb.; Mr. Reid, of Wigton, secured a basket of fully 6¾lb.; and Mr. Nash, of Liverpool, one of 6½lb. On Monday, the 3rd instant, on the Loch, Mr. Nash, of Liverpool, obtained a basket of fully 10lb., including a beautiful specimen of 5½lb.; the Messrs. Hodgsons, of London, killed eighteen trout; Mr. Higson, of Oban, killed ten pretty heavy trout; and Dr. Hughes and son, of Ashton-under-Lyne, captured eight trout.—George Gow.

Loch Shiel (Salen Hotel, Ardgour, N.B.).—Mr. Stevenson caught a salmon of 8lb. on the Shiel on Monday, three grilse the following days, along with many sea trout. Mr. Stevenson killed three peal on Lochsunart on Friday, July 31; Mr. Swinton caught a salmon, 9lb., on Loch Shiel. on Friday, July 31.; Mr. Leverton caught, on Loch Shiel, four sea trout on Monday, August 3, one weighing 4lb.; Mr. Lymington, four sea trout, on Monday, August 3. Loch Shiel in good fishing order.

Loch Shin, (Lairg, N.B.)—Mr. East, London, has had the following sport:—July 9th, nine trout, 2½lb.; 11th, twenty-three, 6lb.; 13th, twenty, 5lb.; 14th, six, 2lb.; 15th, ten, 4lb.; 16th, two *Salmo ferox* of 6lb. and 2lb., and a trout of ½lb.; 17th, ten trout, 3½lb.; 18th, two, ½lb.; 23rd, three, 1½lb.—J. U.

Naver (Sutherland).—At the beginning of this week this river was in splendid ply, and good sport anticipated. On Monday last week, Mr. Darwin, Skelpick Lodge, Strathnaver, caught three salmon, weighing 16lb., 12lb., and 9lb. The same angler was out on Thursday, and got seven, the heaviest of which weighed 22lb. On Friday, Mr. Darwin grassed one salmon, and P. H. Wormald another. Several salmon and grilse have also been landed by Sir J. Edwardes-Moss, Borgia House.—McB.

Ness (Inverness).—This water is now in splendid order for fishing, and grilse and salmon are plentiful, and the sport obtained during the past fortnight has been very good. On the Ness Castle Water, Mr. F. Walker, landed twenty-three grilse, average 6½lb., and five salmon 13lb. On the Holm water, Mr. Godman landed twenty-nine grilse and salmon. On the Dochfour water, General Godman landed, since Aug. 1., six grilse. Very large takes of salmon and grilse are being daily got at the netting stations on the lower portion of the Ness.—D. Watson.

Orchy (Inveroran Hotel).—Mr. Havers, London, fishing from Inveroran Hotel on 27th July, had two salmon, 12lb.; same day, Captain Paterson and Mr. Richmond, junior, had a dozen trout, 15lb. On 28th, Captain Paterson and Mr. Richmond, junior. eight dozen trout, 20½lbs. On 29th, Captain Paterson and Mr. Richmond, junior, had twelve dozen trout, 26lb.; Mr. Havers, London, had four dozen trout, 6lb. On 30th, Baile Richmond and Captain Paterson had ten dozen trout, 23lb.: Mr. James Richmond, junior, ten dozen, 27lb. On 31st, Bailo Richmond and Captain Paterson, thirteen and a-half dozen, 34lb.; Mr. Richmond, junior, ten dozen trout. 30lb. August 1, Baile Richmond, Captain Paterson, and Mr. Richmond, junior, thirteen and a-half dozen trout, 28lb.; His Royal Highness, Comte de Paris, same day had five and a-half dozen trout, 15½lb. On Monday, August 3, the Comte de Paris had three dozen and four trout, 14lb.; Mr. Havers, London, had six trout, 2½lb.—Duncan A. Forbes.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—On Tuesday Mr. Raikes and Mr. Playfair, London, fished Loch Griam and hooked a salmon, but lost it after ten minutes' play; General Murray also hooked one but lost it; another gentleman, however, landed one of 10½lb. On Wednesday, Mr. Mackay, in one hour's fishing on Loch More landed six sea trout, averaging 2lb. each, the heaviest being 3½lb. Mr. Raikes and Mr. Playfair, on Fiag Beat, seventeen trout, 6lb.; General Murray, Worthing, and Mr. Beale. Bucknell, on Loch Shin, twenty-five trout, 8lb.; and Miss Mackay, on Upper Shin, four hours, seventeen trout, 8lb., the heaviest 1½lb. On Friday, Mr. Sturrock. on Loch Shin, nineteen trout, 7lb.; General Murray, and Mr. Beale, on Loch More, three sea trout 5½lb.; Dr. Matthews, Liverpool, and Captain Butler, on Loch Griam (a few hours only), fourteen trout, 6lb.; and Messrs. Raikes and Playfair, on Loch Shin, twenty trout, 7lb. At the beginning of this week heavy rain prevailed.—McB.

Oykel Bridge (Hotel Waters, via Lairg, N.B.).—During the month of July, Mr. Ross, Leicester, killed to his own rod, ten salmon, ranging from 7lb. to 17lb. each; fifty grilse, weighing from 4lb. to 7lb.; and forty-nine sea trout, running from 1lb. to 4lb. each. Mr. Hugh MacLeod, Benmore Lodge (on Mr. Smith Ryland's rod), fished the upper waters on Tuesday last week and caught two salmon, of 9lb. and 10lb. On Wednesday he grassed four salmon, which weighed 14lb., 9lb., 6½lb., and 6lb. On Friday he landed one grilse of 5½lb, and four salmon, weighing 12lb., 8lb., 7½lb., and 7lb. His total basket for the three days' fishing thus amounted to ten salmon and one grilse, weighing 94½lb.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.)—On Monday, last week, Mrs. Stewart Young, London, on Loch Inchard, one grilse, weighing 5lb.; Mr. Maitland, Dover, on Loch Garbet-beg, a sea trout of 1lb., and two salmon, weighing 8½lb. and 9lb.; and Mr. Atkins, Aberdeen, on river Achriskill, one grilse of 4½lb. On Tuesday, Mrs. Hassell, Oxford, on Loch Garbet-beg, one salmon, 10½lb.; Mr. Hassell, Oxford (same loch), three salmon, 6½lb., 6¼lb., 5¼lb.; Mrs. Stewart Young, also on same loch, one salmon of 6lb.; Mr. Atkins, on Achriskill river, one grilse of 6½lb.; and Rev. C. McConnell, Dorset, on Loch Garbet-more, two sea trout, 2lb. On Wednesday, Mr. Maitland, Dover, fished Loch Garbet-more and landed two salmon of 7½lb. and 7lb. On Thursday, Mr. Young, London, on Loch Garbet-beg, one sea trout, 2lb.; Mr. Wallace on river Shinary, one sea trout, 3lb.; Mr. Atkins on same water, one sea trout, 2½lb.; and Mr. Hassell, Oxford, on Loch Garbet-more, one salmon, 9lb., and a sea trout of 3½lb. On Friday, Rev. C. McConnell, Dorset, fished Loch Garbet-more and got a 7lb. salmon, and a sea trout of 1lb.—McB.

Shin.—Fishing the upper reaches from Lairg Hotel on Tuesday of last week. Major-General Stafford killed two fine salmon, weighing respectively 20lb., and 17lb. On Friday, the same angler landed a fish of 20lb. Weather much improved: excellent prospects.—J. Y.

Shin (Inveran Hotel Waters).—During the past week the sport obtained by Lord Braybrooke, Sutherland Arms Hotel, was as follows: On Monday, a 9lb. salmon on Clarag Pool; on Tuesday, two grilse, 6½lb. and 5lb., and two salmon, 13lb. and 9½lb., on Fir Dam, besides a 9lb. salmon and a 5lb. grilse on Clarag; on Wednesday, one grilse, 9lb., on Angus Pool; on Thursday, on the lower waters, three, 8lb., 6½lb., and 7lb.: and on Saturday, three grilse, 6lb., 5½lb., and 7lb. Total for the week, ten grilse, aggregating 6½lb., and four salmon, 39½lb.—McB.

South of Scotland.—Good sport has been had in the district rivers since last week. On Friday, Mr. Joseph Pollock, Cockermouth, caught twelve herling, while about a dozen others had catches ranging from two to eight herling each. On Saturday, Mr. P. A. Pasley-Dirom, of Mount Annan, killed two sea trout and twelve herling with fly (a Brown Turkey). Mr. William Wilson, Brydekirk, had one sea trout; Mr. Andrew Bell, thirteen herling and one sea trout, 1½lb. Mr. Bell has been killing a good number of herling all this week, and I hear of Mr. Dirom having good sport. On Monday the river was again in part flood with the rainfall of the early morning. Mr. James Murray, Silver Walk-road, Annan, caught seventeen herling; Mr. Henry Boyd had over two dozen herling at Newbie Mill and the Brewery water; Mr. Thomas Gibson, Bridge-place, twelve herling; Mr. Joseph Pollock, two dozen herling; Mr. James Dixon, baker, half-a-dozen; Mr. W. Dickson, Edinburgh, filled his basket at the Brewery water; Mr. Alexander, London, a small boy of eight years, killed one sea trout, 1½lb., and two herling, and got broken with a very large sea trout; Mr. Harry Hudson, Oldham, caught twelve herling, and he has had several nice baskets every day; Mr. James Scott, Lodge Cottage, landed six herling; Major Gregory, R.A., had a brace of herling, and Mrs. Gregory caught one or two herling with her own rod; Lieut. Paget, R.A., had a couple of herling; Mr. Halliday, Blackburn, had a beautiful grilse of 5lb., one sea trout, and several herling; Mr. John Irving, Bruce-street, seven herling; the Rev. Mr. Kennedy, Newington Lodge, Annan, twenty-five herling; Mr. W. Wallas, Wigton, caught eighteen herling and one sea trout, 2¼lb., on Wednesday morning with brandling worm, and to-day (Thursday) he had a like basket; Mr. W. Wright, Ednam, Annan, killed with Greenwell's Glory and a Quill and Light Snipe twenty-five herling and a trout, weight 15lb. On Thursday the same angler caught with the same fly twelve herling and one trout. In Castlo Milk water, Mr. John Rae, The Firs, Ecclefechan, killed six herling and two sea trout. In Hoddom Castle water, Mr. Hore, Kinmount House, landed twenty herling; Mr. D. Tweedie, clothier, Ecclefechan, six herling; Mr. Wardrope, ten herling and one sea trout: Mr. Stewart, Ecclefechan, six herling; Mr. Sandy Henderson had six herling in the Luce portion of Mount Annan; Mr. Charles Inglis, over a dozen herling; and the Rev. Mr. Monilaws, Middlebie Manse, a good basket. In the lower water, Mr. Frank Stoddart, Glasgow, had about a dozen herling and a sea trout; Mr. Thomas, Mr. Ormerod, Oldham, and others have been fishing the lower waters with a fair amount of sport.. A host of visitors have been having from four to eight herling each at an outing. The Kirkcudbrightshire Dee is very low and clear. In the tidal waters the herling and sea trout swarm in the pools, but there is little angling to be had in the day-time. Night fishers have been getting a few herling by fishing up to ten o'clock at night. There is little to report from the Nith, as the river is remarkably low and clear. In the immediate neighbourhood of the town of Dumfries the pools are pretty well stocked with herling and trout, but little or no angling is being had. The bailiffs are kept pretty busy watching the pools to prevent them being netted by bands of poachers which swarm in the town. In the Esk, fair sport is being had, more especially in the lower waters near Longtown and below Canonbie. The Longtown portion was in capital order last week-end. Mr. Atkinson made a remarkable basket of herling in this part of the river with small fly, killing no less than one hundred and five, and on another day he had sixty-three. Mr. Mason caught forty herling and two sea trout, and, at another outing, thirty herling and three sea trout. Mr. Wright and Mr. Reid had also good sport. Mr. Rudd caught twenty herling and three sea trout; Mr. Redmayne, twenty herling. A host of other anglers have all made splendid catches in the neighbourhood of the Metal Bridge. In the Langholm portion, Mr. W. Davidson caught a grilse of 6lb., two sea trout, and a few herling; Mr. E. Connell, two sea trout and two herling; Mr. J. Harkness, three sea trout; Mr. J. T. Preston, two sea trout; and Mr. F. Story, a brace of sea trout. A large number of fishing cases have been before the sheriff at Dumfries, and in most of the cases heavy fines were imposed.—Heatherbell.

Spey (Elgin).—The fishing on the Spey for the past week has been very good on the middle sections. On Tuesday the river was in flood, and it will be several days before anything can be done with the fly. On the Aberlour House water, five grilse were killed, weighing 5½lb., 6lb., 6lb., 6½lb., and 8lb.. On the Pitcroy Lodge waters, Mr. Burns killed a grilse; on Wednesday, Mr. Tylecote landed a splendid salmon, 16lb.; Mr. Burns, one, 8lb. On Friday, Mr. Burns, one grilse, 7lb.; and Mr. Tylecote, one, 3½lb. On the Knockando waters, Mr. Lithbridge has had splendid sport, killing a total of twenty fish for the week.—H. Logie.

Tay (Perth).—The river rose about a foot yesterday. Grilse are now beginning to make their appearance, and a good few are being got. On the Benchill water Captain Ortrechan had two on Monday, 6lb. and 6½lb. Another gentleman has had eight during the past ten days. May.—Dr. Farquharson, Newcastle, had twenty-nine trout on Monday, and twelve on Tuesday; Mr. Muirbend had twelve on Monday, and twenty-one on Tuesday; and Mr. W. Farquharson had twenty-four.—Alder.

Thurso and Lochmore (Caithness).—Mr. Part and his son arrived at Brawl Castle on Friday, 31st July, and on Saturday they fished No. 3 beat, when soon after lunch Mr. Part had two newly run salmon, one on Covner Pool, weighing 9lb., and one on Red-brae Pool, weighing 10½lb.; both fish were in prime condition and had sea lice on. More sportsmen are expected soon, and as there are ten miles of good water of which they have the exclusive right, and the whole stretch being now well stocked with newly run salmon and grilse, the prospects for the autumn are most encouraging. The weather continues very rainy so that the river is always in good fishing order. Lochmore has not been yielding good sport lately, owing to it being too high for this time of year.—A. H.

Tongue Hotel.—On July 29, Mr. Mills, on Loch Slaw, two grilse, 4lb. each; also sixteen trout, 7½lb.; Mr. Rathbone, on Loch-na-Hakel, 7lb. trout; Mr. Bolton, on Kinloch river, one salmon, 6lb.; Mr. Rathbone, on Loch Slaw, two grilse, 6lb. and 5lb. July 30, Mr. Barlow, on Loch Craggie, eight trout, 4¾lb.; Mr. Muir, on the Kyle, three sea trout, 9¼lb.; Mr. Anderson, on the Kyle, four sea trout; Mr. Muir, on he Kyle, two sea trout, 7¼lb.—A. CAMPBELL.

Tweed.—Since last week, pluvial descents have been frequent, but not to such an extent as to cause the much needed heavy rise in the river, so as to clean away the dirt and refuse in it. Nevertheless these small freshets have been of some service, as they have enabled a good many grilse and a few salmon to ascend to the upper reaches of the streams; and consequently a few captures have been recorded since my last notes on the Tweed. Mr. Collingwood, Cornhill House, angling at Coldstream Bridge, killed a very fine salmon in the Slap cast, which scaled 12lb.. The fish was beautifully proportioned, and was newly run from the sea. On one of the waters in the Kelso district, one salmon and a couple of grilse were caught, and on Monday one angler had about 15lb. trout (with worm) in the early morning, and late in the day, when the river was rather clearer, he killed a very nice grilse with fly. On the Tweed, in the Birgham district, a number of grilse have also been got, while in the Coldstream district anglers there have had a few fish of the salmon kind. Trout fishers in the Kelso district have not had very great sport, if we except the above basket, but in the Jed and Teviot, in the Jedburgh district, baskets of from 10lb. downwards have been killed, mostly with worm, one fish of about 10lb. or 12lb. was hooked with fly near to Nisbet on the Teviot, but after a good run, it broke the angler and got away. On the Tweed in the Inverleathen district, a trout of 5½lb. was killed by Mr. Robert Todd, Woodend. In the district of St. Mary's Loch some capital takes have been had, mostly from the smaller streams in the locality, the baskets ranging from 2lb. to 4lb. per day. On the loch itself, however, Mr. A. Stevenson had a trout of 2lb. (with fly), one of 1lb., and several others running to ½lb. apiece. The same gentleman on another fishing had 7lb. of good trout, all got on the loch, and with fly. The Messrs. Hall have also had more nice trout, as well as Mr. Lawrence Pilkington and others. On the Esk and Liddle some grand sport has also been had among the berling and trout. The weather is again very fine, and the rivers are getting lower once more, which is against angling prospects.—MAXWHEEL.

Ythan (Tidal, Aberdeenshire).—Satisfactory sport continues to be got daily, and average baskets are the general order of the day. Sea trout are quite plentiful, and in the pink of condition. Among others who have been fishing from the Newburgh Arms and doing good work may be mentioned Sir Algernon Borthwick, Bart., M.P., and Miss Borthwick, Invercauld, Deeside; Mr. Andrew Murray, Inverdon; Mr. W. C. H. Jopp and Mr. William McKinnon, Aberdeen; Dr. Arthur Cults, Mr. W. H. Holl, &c. The last two gentlemen bagged eight brace duck on Saturday last.—G. N.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—I regret to have to record a very bad week on this river. The weather is very good. The water is at a nice level and colour, but the trout are sulking, or as the natives put it more truly, perhaps, than grammatically "they won't ketch," and that exactly explains how matters stand. This loss of time is the more to be deplored, as the infernal flax water will be on the annual rampage next week or so, and then farewell to angling for a while. Mr. Kempton, a professional, occasionally secures a good fish in the early morning or late at night. I have remarked that almost invariably the fish taken in the semi-darkness of the summer nights are larger than the average. A few half-pounders have been killed on the Claggon and Ardtrea reaches. Mr. C. B. Irwin persistently has whipped the Coagh sections, but his baskets are light. Better reports came from the Burmouth reaches, and trouting is reported to be very good on the Moneymore or Littlebridge streams, and also on the Kildross tributary, its small brown trout being good risers and full of fight. Sport is bad on the Blackwater, Tenew, and rod-fishing on the Tyrone shores of Lough, Neagh, is not worth recording. Next week will see a portion of our best anglers on the moors, and for the sake and encouragement of amateur anglers, we hope they may remain there for a lengthened period.—EAST TYRONE.

Blackadder.—Ballynahinch fishery, since my last reply we had a slight fall of rain, but sport still very poor for this season of the year. This morning (Friday) the wind has gone more west, also a heavy mist coming off the sea which may improve the rise in trout, but nothing really good will be done till we have a fall of rain.—TOOMBEOLA.

Lough Currane (Waterville, Co. Kerry).—Sport has been very unsatisfactory. Though the fish must be numerous, they are either daily rising badly, or "rising short." Thirteen white and five brown trout (by Mr. J. T. Judd) was the best basket for the week. Lord Bandon, Mr. Pike, and Mr. G. Eades had baskets of a dozen white and four brown trout in a day or two. Other anglers who had fair baskets on odd days were Major Cresswell, Major Hegan, Colonel Rogers, Surgeon-Major Rahilly and a few others. The white trout averaged about 1lb., and the heaviest that I heard of for the week was one of 3lb., taken by Major Hegan. Weather unsettled with prospects of rain.—THOMAS J. DEMEHY.

Moy and Lakes (Ballina).—Since last report sport on the river has only been of a moderate kind, owing to low water and absence of wind. Still a few nice fresh run grilse has been caught daily by the anglers out: Mr. W. Brougham on Monday accounting for three nice fish to his own rod, 6lb., 7½lb., 8lb. The nets on the non-tidal portion of the river, and the weirs are now done for the season since the 1st inst., and the nets on the tidal portion will be off for the season. On the 12th, salmon, grilse, and sea trout will then have a free run, and anglers will stand a splendid chance. Trout fishing in Lough Conn has improved very much this last week. Some nice baskets of trout averaging about 1lb. apiece has been got by the Messrs. Grey, Mr. G. Yeo, Mr. Meyer, the Rev. John Thornton and his two sons, and Mr. H. C. Robinson. I will be pleased to give any information respecting the fishing in this neighbourhood to any readers of the *Fishing Gazette*.—FRANK HEARNS, Ballina, Co. Mayo.

Shannon and Lough Derg (Killaloe).—The old river has got a great knocking about this past week. We have had storms, thunder and lightning, followed by a perfect deluge of rain. The latter we do not object to in the least; indeed, it was just the very thing we wanted for the autumn fishing. Sport has already improved, and I expect before the week is out to see a fresh supply of salmon, grilse, and sea trout, waltzing round the different beats. As it is, there is any quantity of fish in the pools and rapids. This morning they were rising in all directions. For all the wild weather and all the atmospheric influences Mr. F. S. Jackson (Trinity College, Cambridge), who with his brother, Mr. G. H. Jackson, Allerton Hall, Leeds, arrived here on Friday last, has been very successful. Considering that until Friday, the first day he went out on the river, he had never before handled a salmon or rod. Well, he has already accounted for one salmon 10½lb., and two grilse, 7lb., and 6¾lb. I congratulate the dashing young captain of the Cambridge Cricket Eleven on his success. In addition to his sport among the salmon, he has also killed a splendid lot of brown trout on Mr. Young's preserves, several up to 1½lb. and 1lb. Mr. G. H. Jackson has likewise killed some good baskets of trout. I fully expect that the fishing, both salmon and trout, will be good during August. Pike fishers may also expect upon this ground to have very average sport in Lough Derg. It is a glorious sheet of water, and holds vast quantities of huge trout, pike, and perch.—S. J. HURLEY.

West Kerry.—Sport for the last fortnight has been poor in all parts of West Kerry. The weather has been favourable enough, but the rivers are reduced to a very low ebb. In fact some of them hardly could afford as much water that would turn a mill race. On Waterville lake several boats are out daily, with English gentlemen principally. The baskets obtained were varying, and none could be designated as good when the advanced state of the season is taken into account. All the hotels at Waterville are full and other anglers have to wait until some of the gentlemen here at present take their departure. On the Inny nothing has been doing as the water is too low. Salmon are numerous in the tidal waters and come up with every tide as far as the first bridge, but they go back with the retreating tide not being able to ascend higher from want of water. Poaching is very prevalent on this river. Last week a net—evidently a fixed or standing one—was taken by a water bailiff on the middle reaches. The owners escaped. On the mountain lakes, of Cummeravaning Loughnabricdarrig and Coomavoher sport at brown trout has been first class. As many as eight dozen have been had on one day by one angler, but the average weight of the fish was small—few of them reaching 1lb. Sea fishing is also very good at present, and in Portmagee the fishermen are reaping a good harvest. Herrings are being caught in large numbers and, pollack, ling and cod are also very numerous. Trawlers have done well at Ballinskellings at plaice, turbot and soles.—T. J. D.

Westmeath Lakes (Mullingar).—A great improvement has taken place in the fishing upon these Lakes, and a very nice second rise of Green Drake has appeared, but these are nearly all eaten by the myriads of swallows about, before they can reach the land, and, anglers are obliged to content themselves with dapping Harries and other flies. Amongst those who have arrived at Lough Ennell I noticed Mr. William Armstrong, Mr. Malcolmson, Mr. Quain and party (four), Mr. Walker, &c., and with each your correspondent has seen very nice baskets of fish, averaging four trout per rod, and 2¼lb. per fish per day. The Berne Brothers are also having excellent sport. Strong expectations are formed of sport during the ensuing fortnight, which is generally the best time of the year. The fish are now in excellent condition, and play gamely.—T. J. W.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

THE MARSTON CHALLENGE CUP COMPETITION.—The above competition, which has excited a great amount of interest not only in the Birmingham District, but throughout the whole of the associations connected with the Provincial Angling Association, came to an exceedingly satisfactory termination, on Monday, Aug. 3, at Tewkesbury. The Provincial Association, in order to make the competition a success, decided at their last committee meeting at Bristol, to add three prizes in the form of medals, to be competed for with the cup. This was done in order to give a zest to the contest, and also to give some compensation to the first three successful competitors, as, according to the rules framed for the governing of the contest, the cup goes to the club sending the representative, and not to the individual who should meet with the good fortune of winning it. With this in view, the Provincial Association, with their usual generosity, decided upon purchasing a gold medal for the winner; a silver medal with a gold centre for the second; and a silver medal for the third. The medals were of a very artistic design, and bore the monogram of the association in the centre, with the word Tewkesbury on the top, and the date on the relief work at the bottom.

At half-past ten the competitors began to assemble on Mythe Bridge, where the following gentlemen answered to their names, and represented their respective associations: Bristol: Mr. King, Spotted Trout; Mr. R. Frost, Clifton; Mr. Harris, Bristol United; and Mr. Lloyd, West End. Gloucester: Mr. Marriot, Malvern; Mr. Hailstone, Cardiff; Mr. Johnson, Kidderminster Excelsior; Mr. A. Curtiss, Good Intent: Mr. W. Mounds Royal Oak; Mr. T. Birch, United Brothers; Mr. G. Robinson, Willis Bund Society. Birmingham: Mr. Peatman, Aston Britannia; Mr. Lambert, Good Intent; Mr. Saunders, Hillyfields; Mr. Goode, Vine Unity; Mr. Kirk, Sparkbrook; Mr. Hiley, Bordesley Waltonians; Mr. Strasmore, Brookfields; Mr. Barlow, Manor; Mr. Aldhouse, Oak; Mr. G. Swain, Anglers' Pride; Mr. Bodycote, Severn-street; Hearts of Oak, Mr. J. Attwood; Garrison, Mr. Trevor; Belmont, Mr. Chambers; Highgate Park, Mr. J. Billington; Ashted, Mr. J. Turner; Birmingham Heath, Mr. C. Kirby; Deritend, Mr. Johnson; Prospect, Mr. W. Garrett; City, W. Bird; Beehive, Mr. Rollason; Balsall Heath Britannia, Mr. Froggatt; Leopold, Mr. H. Clarke; Bird-in-Hand, Mr. J. Hobbs; St. Paul's, Mr. Hughes; Ladywood, Mr. Peters; St. John's, Mr. Jukes; Ring of Bells, Mr. Elkington; Plume, Mr. Pears; Brothers Well Met, Mr. T. Kimberley; Highgate, Mr. W. Waite; Queen's Arms, Mr. F. Jolly; Rose and Crown, Mr. Mann; Convivial, Mr. Brian; Victoria, Mr. Shuttleworth; Bellbarn, Mr. H. Garner; St. George's, Mr. Moore; Highland Laddie, Mr. H. Chambers; West End, Mr. Wainwright; Tenby, Mr. C. Cottrell; Camden, Mr. A. Howe; Spring Hill, Mr. Beeston; St. Thomas's, Mr. Jackson; Dudderstone, Mr. Douglas; and Small Heath, Mr. Hollings. Worcester: United Anglers, Mr. Gardner; City Club, Mr. Warner; Izaac Walton, Mr. Wall; St. John's, Mr. Stanton. The work of taking the names and making out the tickets was soon got over, when a move was made up the river in the direction of Bushley Bay. After going up the river for about two and a-half miles, the referees called a halt, when the conditions of the contest were read and explained, after which the whole of the baskets were searched and the contestants were allowed to put their tackle together and proceed to the river. All being ready, the signal was given at 11.40, to commence the contest, when the picked members of the Provincial Association tried all they knew to obtain the great honour of winning the first contest held under the auspices of the association. The water was in splendid condition as far as colour and height was concerned, but the wind considerably interfered with the sport. One or two heavy showers fell during the contest, the worst coming on at about 12.30, which lasted for about twenty minutes. This helped to make matters very uncomfortable for a time, but the sun came forth again and made things more pleasant. At last the whistles sounded, at ten minutes to three o'clock, to cease fishing; a few minutes later the weighing in commenced. This was done on the ground before the competitors, who expressed great satisfaction with the fair and impartial way in which this important duty was fulfilled by Mr. T. Coles. This important business was soon transacted, as only thirteen of the competitors had fish over the stipulated quarter of a pound to weigh. The result of the weighing in was as follows: Mr. J. Jukes, St. John's Society, Birmingham, who had two perch which weighed 10½oz.; second, Mr. J. Turner, junr., of the Ashted Society, Birmingham, 8½oz.; third, Mr. T. Billington, Highgate Park Society, Birmingham, 8¼oz. The largest fish caught was a perch of 8oz.; this was caught by Mr. Hailstone, of Malvern. After the completion of the weighing in, Mr. T. Coles, the President of the Provincial Angling Association, presented the cup and medals to the winners, after which he proposed a vote of thanks to the Editor of the *Fishing Gazette* for his kindness in presenting the cup for competition and bringing the various anglers of the different associations more closely together. This was seconded by Mr. T. W. Cundalo, and supported Mr. R. Wingfield, and the vote put to the competitors and friends was carried with great acclamation. The competitors and their friends were arranged in a group after the business was concluded, and photographed by Mr. Flamank, after which the members separated, one and all speaking in high terms of the way in which the contest had been carried out.

THE Small Heath Society held their contest on Monday last, at Wyre, near Pershore, on the River Avon. Nearly the whole of the members took part in the contest, which ended in Mr. G. Kemp securing first honours; Mr. J. Tolladay, second; and Mr. H. Hunt, third. The weight of fish taken by the winner was 1lb. 9oz.

THE Deritend Society fished their annual contest on Monday last at Wyre Piddle, Pershore, sixty-eight members competing. The contest was of three hours duration. The fish taken in this contest were a little above the average, as the winner, Mr. J. Munday, succeeded in capturing 2lb. 9oz.; Mr. G. Jukes was second; and Mr. J. Pratt and Mr. J. Simson tie for third honours.

THE Highgate Park Society held their contest also at Pershore, on Tuesday last, Aug. 4, in which Mr. C. Hall proved the winner; Mr. C. Osborne, second; and Mr. J. Hatton, third. The weights of fish caught were very low, which may be accounted for by the changeable weather, a severe hailstorm having passed over the district on the Monday previous to the contest.

A GENERAL meeting of the Birmingham Angling Association will be held on Thursday evening next, August 13, at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield. The work transacted by the committee for the annual excursion and contest will be brought forward for confirmation.

WESTMEATH LAKES AND RIVERS INNY AND BROSNA FISH PRESERVATION SOCIETY.—A general meeting of this society, summoned by special circular, was held at the Greville Arms Hotel, Mullingar, on Thursday, 30th ult., Colonel J. R. Malone (chairman) presiding. Amongst those present were Charles Tottenham J.P. (vice-chairman), R. Macbeth (manager of Bank of Ireland), treasurer; Major Grant, and W. J. Thomas, hon. secretary; H. W. Lloyd, R.L., W. B. Gordon, James Doyne, J.P., &c., &c. The hon. assistant secretary, Mr. W. J. Thomas, read his report for the season of 1890 and '91, and also laid before the meeting an abstract of the receipts and expenditure of the society for the season, with list of subscribers, &c. On the motion of Mr. Doyne, seconded by Mr. Tottenham, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the hon. secretaries, for their exertions on behalf of fish preservation in the Westmeath lakes and rivers. Major Grant replied, and said that all the credit was due to Mr. Thomas. The assistant secretary apprised the meeting that he had caught two men otter fishing upon Lough Owel at nine o'clock on the previous Wednesday, and had seized one of the illegal implements. The parties were ordered to be prosecuted. After the transaction of the ordinary routine business, the meeting adjourned.

FISHING EXCURSIONS.—The cheap Pulborough and Amberley railway trips for anglers and their friends are now being well recognised and appreciated. Some hundreds of people went down on the 2nd inst.; many more, judging from the tickets sold, are likely to go down to-morrow. Mr. Eldridge (late Clouts), of the Rose and Crown, gives them every facility by the fishing privilege tickets, which cost only sixpence through an angler to any person who wants them. There is a ride of one hundred and ten miles for half-a-crown to a lovely country, giving nine and a-half hours' stay in beautiful scenery.—RAMBLER.

"ILLUSTRATIONS," still under the editorship of Mr. Francis George Heath, will commence an entirely new series as a sixpenny monthly, on August 15, and continue thereafter as a mid-monthly; comprehending recreation, art, biography, literature, invention, science, economy, and fiction, profusely illustrated.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—For bad legs, bad breasts, scorbutic and scrofulous sores this is a genuine specific. The grateful and earnest gratitude of thousands who have experienced its unrivalled power over these complaints, and who have been raised from prostrate helplessness and a condition loathsome to themselves and others, renders it quite unnecessary to enlarge in this place upon its extraordinary virtues. The parts affected should be bathed with lukewarm water, and when the pores are thereby opened the Ointment should be well rubbed in, at least twice a day. It is always advisable to take Holloway's Pills in these disorders, as this much assists the Ointment action. The Pills check the fever, purify the blood, and eject all morbid matter engendered by these diseases.

NOTES FROM THE LAKE DISTRICT.

BANK Holiday has come and gone, with its expectations and disappointments, mainly the latter, and to many it has proved a blank holiday. Visitors have abounded in the Lake District, but the weather on Monday was wretched—cold and dull, with hail and rain showers. Considering the lowness of many rivers, the latter might have been welcome to anglers, but came in quantity only sufficient to make matters uncomfortable, without adding much to the volume of water. Sport has been poor as a rule. During the past month Mr. J. B. Wright has taken in the Sprutt some nice panniers, numbering together one hundred and nine fish; this in the evenings only and with the Red Ant. Another angler in the same stream had one night last week fifty-nine trout. The drought has afforded tempting opportunities to lads and others, who don't stick to legal methods, to take large numbers of trout from the rivers. I heard of a lad on the Mint who caught by hand over seventy good trout in his spare time in two days. Netting for salmon began on the Kent at Nether Levens on Monday. Between thirty and forty fine morts were drawn out of the deeps at Low Levens, but no grilse or salmon were captured.

POLLUTION and its effects on fish life, &c., continues to occupy the public mind. At a meeting of the Kendal Rural Sanitary Authority on Saturday, the condition of Lake Windermere was under discussion. The Medical Officer of Health (Dr. Craven) had done a bit of detective work as an ordinary passenger on one of the steamers, and reported what he had seen as to the throwing overboard of ashes, &c., into the lake, which it is alleged has continued for some time. This and the house-boat question was gone into, and eventually the inspector was ordered to keep a watch and report further to the board. The General Purposes Committee of the Cumberland County Council also reported that they had held an inquiry with regard to the alleged pollution of the Greta and the Derwent at Keswick. They found that the sewage of the town of Keswick was discharged by a close sewer into the river Greta, about a quarter of a mile below the town of Keswick, and that the water was thereby very seriously polluted; that the Greta flowed into the river Derwent, from which the water used for both drinking and all other purposes by the inhabitants of the town of Maryport was drawn. They also found that fish were destroyed by deleterious matter discharged into the Greta from the Threlkeld lead mines, and were unanimously of opinion that the pollution of the river Greta, and also of the Derwent, both by the sewage of the town of Keswick and by the Threlkeld lead mines had been conclusively proved, and recommended that steps be at once taken by the council, either by arrangement with the Lead Mining Company and the Keswick Local Board, that they will forthwith abate the nuisance, or else by proceedings under the powers given by the Rivers Pollution Act, 1876, and the Local Government Act, 1888, to compel those bodies to do so.

SALMON are now showing in some of the pools of the Derwent, though there is hardly sufficient water to fish these places properly and no salmon have yet been taken, although Mr. J. Pollock hooked one in the Cradles on Wednesday, and lost it after playing it for ten minutes. The most successful anglers have been Mr. S. Benson, grilse, 5lb.; Mr. W. Rook, three sea trout; Mr. J. Pollock, two; Mr. J. Troughear, one; Messrs. J. Douglas, T. J. Graham, Papcastle, one each.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

SATISFACTORY reports are still coming to hand of the sport in this district. The recent holidays have been taken advantage of to the fullest extent by local anglers, who have distributed themselves over every available fishing resort. Club contests are in full swing, but the results show no improvement on those already noticed. The securing of a prize appears of vastly more importance than the capture of the fish, and until this kind of fishing is relegated to a back seat, no elevation of the sport amongst minor clubs can be expected. In looking over the minute-book of a Lancashire club, we find the account of an excursion to a well-known lake, concluding in these words: "The members participating derived much benefit from the exercise obtained in rowing on the lake." What can this mean? We also hear that another club has changed its quarters owing to the quality of the beer not being to the taste of the members. What next? Amongst the local reports from Manchester, is that of the capture of a trout in private water, at Birch Vale, weighing 4lb. 2oz., 22in. long, and 12in. in girth, this fish was taken by Mr. Branthwaite, solicitor, of Manchester, and is probably one of the original stock put in by the late Mr. Bennett. Mr. Sam Brooks, of Ardwick, took 7lb. of fish in the Dane a few days since. Mr. Hodson has lately taken in two days' on the Wye and Derwent seven brace of fine trout. Fishing in preserved water, a local rod captured about seventy perch, weighing from just under 1lb. downwards.

MESSRS. WHITTAKER AND HARWOOD, of Blackley, who possess some very good coarse fishing, are now granting a limited number of season passes, no doubt they will be freely applied for, although the price of ten shillings is rather high. Still good fish are in the waters and are frequently taken. Wasp bait is a scarce commodity, and small quantities are fetching high prices.

THE following is the report of two members of the Bisketto Club, who have paid a visit to Ireland. River fishing generally very disappointing, except the Erne, where two days' splendid sport was obtained. Loch Rath produced two good days fishing, ten trout averaging three quarters of a pound. There are about twelve lochs simply full of fish, and entirely free. About the end of August there will be a good run of white trout and salmon up the rivers east of Donegal. In the vicinity of Donegal there is any quantity of brown and white trout, salmon and grilse, and permission to fish is freely given to Englishmen. The excursion, taken as a whole, has been most satisfactory.

SOME very good minnows have lately been taken in the Weaver and Dane. They were exceedingly fine, and in a few cases measured 6in. in length. The Dane gudgeon has long been noted for its size, and those captured during the past week have maintained the reputation of this river for this kind of fish. The Bollin is reported to be getting freer of pollution, and the fishing is much improved.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—EAST LONDON RUBBER Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

HEAVY thunderstorms and constant rainfalls have made the hearts of Shropshire anglers glad during the past fortnight, for the river and brooks, which have been low for some time past have therefrom become swollen and turbid, giving ample promise of better sport when they clear. Anglers will do well to take advantage of the first suitable opportunity of fishing the river, as after this fresh some good fish should be on the move.

A CORRESPONDENT to the *Fishing Gazette* in "Notes from Lancashire" last week chronicles the capture at Llanymynech of a 15lb. pike, by an Oldham angler. The Severn and Vyrnwy are, unfortunately for trout and trout anglers, too well stocked with these voracious fish and the more of them that Lancashire and other county anglers can succeed in capturing in the Severn, the better will Shrophire anglers be pleased. Pike seem to be on the increase in the river, in the neighbourhood of Shrewsbury, and now that the local angling society is annually turning in thousands of trout fry, it would be well if they could obtain the permission of the Severn Board of Conservators to exterminate these fish. Pike anglers would scarcely complain, as the increased number of trout would more than compensate "the brotherhood" for the loss of piking, more especially as splendid pike fishing may be obtained in the many lakes and pools in the neighbourhood in which permission to fish is readily given by the county gentry, the more readily if obtained through the Angling Society.

"TEMPLAR," in his interesting and practical notes in last week's *Fishing Gazette*, in regard to the growth of Loch Leven and other breeds of trout in foreign waters, calls attention to the importance of ascertaining whether one variety of trout grows quicker than another if placed in the same river; whether Loch Leven trout, if put into a stream, thrive and rise as well or better than the local fish; and whether they stay or wander away. He says nothing can be said with certainty on these points, because in many cases, when strange fish are turned into a river, they soon resemble the local fish in appearance, so that it is almost impossible to identify them; but he mentions a case at the same time where they preserve their characteristics. Now, thousands of fry have been turned into the Severn in the neighbourhood of Shrewsbury for some years by the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society, and their experience is that the Loch Levens, crossed with the common brown trout—which, by-the-by, are getting few and far between in this locality—thrive remarkably well. It has not been ascertained to what extent they "wander," although they almost entirely preserve their characteristics. Ample evidence is forthcoming of this, for many unmistakable Loch Leven trout have been captured in the river near the town, weighing up to 5lb. It is surmised that the fish do wander to some extent, or get destroyed by the more voracious fish, for the returns do not show anything like a proportionate increase in the number of fish to the number imported. That those which do domesticate themselves in the locality and escape their many enemies, thrive and grow fat, there is abundant evidence; never in the old days did such fine fellows as have been recently captured fall victims to the angler's skill. Still the imported fish have not thriven and increased and multiplied in anything like the same manner as those which have been turned into Lake Vyrnwy, although the water is practically the same. To account for this, however, it is only necessary to reflect for a moment on the superior advantages of Lake Vyrnwy as a "nursery." This large lake having only just been constructed, contains none of the monstrous trout and pike which inhabit the depths of old lakes and meres, no rough fish, plenty of natural food, and no pollution—verily, a trout's paradise.

NOTES FROM WORCESTER AND DISTRICT.

SPORT in this district during the week has been much below the average, particularly among the game fish. The water everywhere low and fine, yet the fly-fisherman's sport has been almost *nil*. With the maggot, anglers have been more successful, one sportsman, Mr. Martin Perks, taking seven brace of trout, weighing 10¼lb.; others, a few good fish; and at Martley, on the Teme, baskets of grayling of from six to ten brace have also been taken with the maggot, and a good few dace and chub have been caught with the same bait.

THE great event of the week has been the competition between the Worcester clubs for the Works on Angling, presented by the Editor of the *Fishing Gazette* (R. B. Marston, Esq.). There were five members from each club selected to compete, and all were present with one exception. The contest took place at Lulsley, on the Teme, on Mr. Greswolde Williams's water. Time, from three to eight p.m. The weather was most unfavourable, there being a thunderstorm during the early part of the contest and a drizzling cold rain afterwards, therefore, the take was but small. Weighing in took place after the contest, at Knightwick Station, the St. John's Club winning the prize with 6lb. 10½oz. of fish, beating the Izaak Walton Club by 9½oz., their catch being 6lb. 1oz., the other clubs being over 3½lb. behind. There were a great many fish caught that could not be weighed in, no coarse fish under 3oz., and no game fish under 4oz. being weighable; the majority rejected being within a ¼oz. of the requisite weight. Altogether the competition was much enjoyed, and the books much admired, and with a very hearty vote of thanks to R. B. Marston for his valuable gift, and success to the *Fishing Gazette*, the party dispersed.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

A MISERABLE morn was Monday, Bank Holiday, for the angler. Rain poured down intermittingly throughout the day, and it was only the hardier few who braved the elements. The day had been looked forward to with no little interest, and many angling matches and parties had been arranged, several having to be postponed. Nevertheless, the more ardent few faced the discouraging situation, many being well repaid. Principal amongst the fixtures was the annual match of the York Angling Association, which, by the kind permission of Capt. Knight, took place in the Derwent, at Buttercrambe, on the Bank Farm, tenanted by Mr. Dale. The weather was not only unfavourable, but the river was also in flood, its surface being covered with floating grass. The water, too, was very muddy, and against successful angling. Some twenty-nine competitors, however, journeyed by omnibus and engaged in the match, and, indeed, considering the conditions, the catch was by no means a bad one. Mr. R. Broadley took the lead with 4lb. 13oz.; and Mr. J. Wood came second with 2lb. 7¼oz. Mr. H. Dacre had 1lb. 14¾oz.; and Mr. T. Laverach, 1lb. 10¼oz. There were also several smaller takes. Subsequently refreshments were partaken of in the farm buildings of Mr. Dale, who received the cordial thanks of the company for his kindness. Messrs. J. Ankers and E. A. Robinson carried out the arrangements with commendable promptness.

ANOTHER important and very popular fixture also came off in the river Swale, at Skipton Bridge, near Thirsk, on Monday. This was the Leeds and North Yorkshire's Twenty-fourth Annual All-England Angling Match. This competition, as will be seen when I say that no less than 266 competed, is yearly growing more popular in the angling world. Substantial awards, amounting in all to £25 were given, doubtless having much to answer for in the assemblage of so large a company. The water was favourable, and a large quantity of fish was taken, although individually the catch was not exceptionally large. Amongst the numerous prize-winners, the following were the chief: Messrs. L. Adams, Holbeck, first, 3lb. 1oz.; J. Hardy, Bramley, second, 3lb. ¾oz.; W. Neale, York, third, 2lb. 11oz.; T. Crowther, Leeds, fourth, 2lb. 10oz.; W. Henderson, York, fifth, 2lb. 10oz.; T. Singleton, Sheffield, sixth, 2lb. 10oz.; C. Hebden, Hunslet, seven, 2lb. 8oz.; A. Allen, Bobwith, eighth, 2lb. 7oz.; J. Wright, Stockton, ninth, 2lb. 5½oz.; W. Wright, Kelvington, tenth, 2lb. 4½oz.; J. W. Mason, Knaresboro', eleventh, 2lb. 4oz.; R. Cartman, Thirsk, twelfth, 2lb. 4oz., and others. It should be added that the required permission to fish was granted by the Viscountess Downe, Major I'Anson, Messrs. J. T. Rob, J. Hall, H. Smith, and J. Durham.

THE present season in the Codbeck, so far at least, is considered to have been one of the greatest success, more especially since the fall of recent showers. It is many years since so many nice trout have been secured, especially with the worm and brandling. Some good panniers were taken the other day north of Thirsk, and down-stream towards Sowerby, while near the North Eastern Railway Codbeck water tank some fine catches of grayling have been made, although this useful winter fish is scarcely in season as yet. Some fair specimens of the eel have been had south of the town, more particularly while the recent thunderstorms were in vogue, several captures ranging up to 1½lb. in weight. With the water being preserved, the quantity of fish of all kinds has vastly increased, and angling materially improved during the past two years.

NORFOLK BROADS PROTECTION SOCIETY.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.—Walter Rye, Esq., £100; C. H. Parkes, Esq., £100; London Anglers' Association, £21; Sir Reginald Hanson, Bart., M.P., £10 10s.; A. J. Baker, Esq., L.A.C., £10 10s.; Gresham Angling Society Meeting (collection), £10 10s.; W. Y. Winthrop, Esq., C.U.A.C., £5 5s.; P. H. Stenning, Esq., L.A.C., £5 5s.; J. Butcher, Esq., £5 5s.; A. Fasola, Esq., £5 5s.; C. F. Howell, Esq., Stock Exchange, £5; Dr. J. A. Voelcker, £5; J. W. Clayton, Esq., £3 3s.; R. Symonds Butcher, Esq., £2 2s.; J. W. Trist, Esq., £2 2s.; E. R. Burtt, Esq., £2 2s.; W. N. Bennett, Stock Exchange, £2 2s.; W. M. Chinnery, Esq., L.A.C., £2 2s.; C. H. Mason, Esq., L.A.C., £2 2s.; E. M. Beloe, Esq., Norfolk, C.C., £2 2s.; Dr. Emerson, Cambridge, £2 2s.; T. J. Woodrow, Esq., £2 2s.; J. C. Chubb, Esq., C.C., £2 2s.; G. C. T. Bartley, Esq., M.P., £2; J. Brook Little, Esq., O.U.B.C., £2; A. E. Street, Esq., £2; J. Powell, Esq., £1 1s.; Neville Turner, Esq., Stock Exchange, £1 1s.; Rev. A. L. Michell, O.U.B.C., £1 1s.; J. Shearman, Esq., L.A.C.; £1 1s.; A. C. Rackham, Esq., £1 1s.; A. F. Willoughby Esq., £1 1s.; P. M. Evans, Esq., L.A.C., £1 1s.; H. Mossop, Esq., £1 1s.; G. F. Berney, Esq., £1 1s.; W. H. Eyre, Esq., T.R.C., £1 1s.; Dr. Grun, £1 1s.; E. T. Sachs, Esq., L.A.C., £1 1s.; W. W. Ball, Esq., L.A.C., £1 1s.; J. Coleman, Esq., £1 1s.; Archibald B. Ingram, Esq., £1 1s.; J. B. Williams, Esq., £1 1s.; George Mason, Esq., Oulton, £1 1s.; J. T. Pearce, Esq., £1 1s.; J. W. Tyler, Esq., £1 1s.; Messrs. T. M. Fairclough and Sons, £1 1s.; Professor Unwin, £1 1s.; Mr. Deputy Hughes, £1 1s.; C. H. Hutchens, Esq., £1 1s.; G. E. Wood, Esq., C.C., £1 1s.; R. B. Warrick, Esq., C.C., £1 1s.; J. W. Lacey, Esq., £1 1s.; Dr. F. Osborne Smith, £1 1s.; George Corble, Esq., £1 1s.; J. L. Sayer, Esq., C.C., £1 1s.; Thomas Chew, Esq., £1 1s.; W. Langley, Esq., £1 1s.; E. W. Southwood, Esq., £1 1s.; Bostonian Angling Society, *per* J. Jennings, Esq., £1 1s.; J. Glass, Esq., £1 1s.; J. T. Middleton, Esq., £1 1s.; H. R. Downes, Esq., £1 1s.; Captain Andrews, £1; George T. Ingram, Esq., £1; W. M. M., £1; C. H. Atkin, Esq., 10s. 6d.; J. Plaskitt, Esq., L.R.C., 10s. 6d.; Rev. G. W. W. Minns, 10s. 6d.; Howard Hardy, Esq., L.R.C., 10s. 6d.; Carlton Roberts, Esq., 10s. 6d.; N. Gibson, Esq., 10s. 6d.; F. Last, Esq., 10s. 6d.; G. F. Holmes, Esq., 10s. 6d.; A. Pickering, Esq., C.C., 10s. 6d.; G. J. Toynbee, Esq., 10s. 6d.; A. Jefferys, Esq., 10s. 6d.; P. Berney Ficklin, Esq., 10s.; Dr. F. G. Furnivall, 10s.; H. Chaston, Esq., Thorpe-gardens, 10s.; D. M. Roberts, Esq., 5s.; C. J. Layton, Esq., 5s.; Wm. Rule, Esq., 5s.; J. Green, Esq., 2s. 6d.

In addition the following amounts have been contributed locally to the Hickling Broad Defence Fund:—Public Meeting on February 19, 1891, in Robert Harvey's Barn, £5 6s.; Small amounts and Postal Orders, £2 3s. 6d.; Rev. A. A. T. Cross, Hickling, £2 2s.; Mr. J. Prickett, 10s.; Dr. Gordon, Ludham, 10s.; Mr. Hudson Barber, Palling, 10s.; Mr. Rawlinson, London, £2; Mr. Bell, Birmingham, 5s.; Mr. E. F. Shreeve, 5s.; Mr. W. Sacrett, 5s.; Mr. H. J. Waters, 5s.; Mr. W. Price, 5s.; Dr. Emerson, £1 1s.; T. A. Cotton, Esq., London, £5; Mr. Martin, London, 6s.; Mr. Benwill, London, 5s.; Collected by H. Palmer, Esq., £32 15s.; Sir J. Ramsden, £2; Collected by Mr. A. Nichols, of Stalham, £7; Collected by Mr. G. Beales, 15s.; Collected by Mr. Leonard Whittleton, £3 3s. 6d.; Collected by Mr. W. Trory, £1; Mr. Welden, 2s. 6d.; Mr. E. T. Gill, London, 19s.; Mr. H. Hacon, 5s.; Mr. Welsh, £1 1s.; Mr. B. Redwin, £2 2s.; H. Wilmer, Esq., £3 3s.; Mr. Robinson, £1 1s.; N. U. Norwich, £1 13s.; Robert J. Price, Sloane-street, London, £10; E. P. Livock, Esq., Norwich, 10s.; Smudge, 2s. 6d.; A. Slipper, Esq., Braydston Hall, 10s.

Cheques should be made payable to the Norfolk Broads Protection Society, and crossed "Lloyd's Bank."

NOTE.—The Norfolk Broads Protection Society specially desires to acknowledge also the kind assistance afforded by J. J. Colman, Esq., M.P., in allowing access to his most valuable library. Thanks are also due to Dr. Emerson, Mr. Lucas Hunt, and Mr. Hubert Palmer for the active help they have been so good as to give.

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MAZAWATTEE TEA

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— NOTICE. —

The Fishing Gazette is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. Marston, the Editor of the Fishing Gazette, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

Terms of Subscription.

The Gazette can be had by sending Postal Order or Stamps to Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Co., Limited, the Proprietors, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London, to whom all money payments should be made.

For One Year, post free, to any part of Great Britain and Ireland			10s. 6d.
,, Six Months	ditto	ditto	5s. 4d.
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To America and the Continent, the annual subscription, including postage			12s. 3d.

Advertisements.

Applications respecting advertisements should be addressed to the Manager of the Fishing Gazette, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.

Telegraphic Address—"RIVSAM, London."
TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15th, 1891.

ON THE BEAULY.

By Devonia.

"Here we are again!"—favourite words of that celebrated clown, Joe Grimaldi, and of every later day clown worthy of the title—were the words that occurred to me on finding myself once again "on the water," though for the first time this season. Tired of the scenes of former holiday-fishing and of water flogged and flailed to excess, I had gone to Inverness-shire to fish *new* water, and recruit exhausted energies with that most potent and pleasant of all medicines—a thorough change of scene and air. I knocked about enjoying the freedom and romance of not having anything fixed, and as chance would have it, I dropped for my first day on the Beauly. For the benefit of the stranger to this part of the country, I may preface my fishy remarks with a few facts relative to the geography of this noble river. The Beauly is formed by the junction of two considerable streams—the Glass and Farrar which, fed by other streams, drain their cognominal straths or glens (Strath Glass and Glen Farrar) and unite near Struy, where used to be an inn, with good river fishing attached. Lovat and the Chisholm (the chieftains respectively of the Frasers and the Chisholms) are the proprietors. From the junction the river, now the Beauly proper, has a course of ten miles to the Beauly Firth, a sort of small inland sea, which is an offshoot from the oray Firth.

The Beauly is a spacious highland river, *naturally* first-class for salmon, grilse, and sea trout, and to many of my readers it will be known, if only by the great achievements accomplished on it years ago by the late Lord Lovat and the now-venerable Colonel Duff. It is useless to recapitulate these "doings," suffice it to say that ten salmon to fall to a single rod in a day was then not uncommon. But what will better please and prove more interesting to sportsmen will be to learn that, notwithstanding the harassing netting, the river still, in good years, maintains its reputation as one of the "first-classers" of the North, as is evident from the information communicated to me by a local gentleman, that in recent years a score of thirty-four fish in a day was obtained by a man, under conditions same as those that existed when Lovat and Colonel Duff did so famously. But such a score I firmly believe was "just a mere chance," and I have no hesitation in saying that the Beauly, like most severely net-punished rivers, *is not what it was.*

The best angling for large fish is in June and the earlier part of July, *but water is needed.* A year when, at the time mentioned, the river is kept well up by heavy falls of rain once or so a week, is always—when fish are plentiful—a good fishing year. Constant "jumpings" of the river, from frequent plashes of rain or thunder showers on the hills, bring not with them such sport as the falling waters after a great saturation. They keep the fish moving upward or unsettled, and so not in the mood to take readily. The best chance for a strong head of fish pushing on past the netters arises with a clearing or but middling flood, during the weekly close time. At other times there is scarcely a chance at all, save during a tremendously heavy flood; but here as elsewhere grilse (for we speak of summer) are not very keen on facing the tumult, rushing, and force of "mighty waters." Although the period named is undoubtedly the choicest time for salmon and grilse fishing, being the grilse season, when these fish are usually plentiful, yet both earlier and later, indeed, from the commencement of April, all through the season, till near its close, sport of some kind may be depended on when there is water enough, and the weather is anywise favourable. A very favourite fact for the local authorities to impress upon the angler—one which they have always handy when sport is not forthcoming—is that on their river you cannot catch fish on account of the weather, albeit there are plenty of fish up. From personal experience I can testify to the truth of this, and I am afraid many other rivers may with truth have the same said about them. Still the inhabitants of this part of the country have especial reason to be aware of the fact, since cold easterly winds are notoriously prevalent with them during the spring months, greatly interfering both with the sport and the comfort of the angler.

The reach of river that I fished is just above the rather pretty and "tiny" town of Beauly, or in the *river* phrase of the "locals" from wast a bit of Beauly Bridge down to below the railway bridge—a fair length of water. It is rented by two gentlemen, each of whom has the fishing right for three days in the week, and it was through the courtesy of one of them (Mr. James Fraser, of the Priory Hotel) that I had permission to fish. Mr. Fraser is himself a keen and veteran angler, and leases the water more for his own pleasure than for other motives, such as the delectation of tourists or stray anglers. He is, however, I understand, intending to give up the hotel and the fishing; and should an enterprising man who is himself a sportsman, and knows how to cater to sportsmen—to their taste, comfort, and convenience—succeed him as landlord and secure exclusive right to the fishing, I have every reason to believe that the "Priory" would be well patronised during the seasons good for fishing. As anglers are increasing rapidly and vastly in numbers while free or nominally free fishing is in most parts getting curtailed, or becoming worse from year to year, I personally say that any addition such as this which those who cannot rent fishings or have more than a short holiday annually to fish could avail themselves of ought by all parties so circumstanced to be gladly welcomed. Anyhow should the present tenancy end, I trust that the water, by whomsoever secured or for what purpose, may fall into the hands of as good a sportsman as Mr. Fraser, whose record of sport for last year of five hundred fish, mostly sea trout, I should minimise if I did not call it splendid. One day he was almost up to breaking the record, having in just under two hours the good fortune to secure no fewer than forty-six sea trout. Often he does particularly well with a fly designed by himself, which consists of a small-sized salmon hook, having dark body and wings, with, underneath from the head, a piece of ribbed silver tinsel, which hangs loosely down. In the water this looks like a very bright needle extending along below the fly, and I fancy the fish take it for a small sand-eel, of which, in tideways more particularly, they are known to be especially fond. Mr. Fraser discovered his "patent deception" by accident. One day, some years ago, he had very good sport with a much-worn fly which had little left of it save the body; the tinsel was unwound and hanging down. "After filling his basket he went home and thought nothing about it," as he puts it himself, but the very next time he was out he found that the trout, although rising to the most approved flies, were yet not hooking at all well. Having tried everything without much avail, he at last put on the old worn bare broken-tinsel fly; when, lo and behold! at the very second cast it was greedily taken. Fishing on with it success continued to attend him until, when he had well-nigh filled his basket, up came a grilse and carried it away triumphantly! He had then "no ho" but to march home without further additions to his basket.

As the whole of this fishery is under tidal influence, not a single bit of it is any good when the tide is full. The angler consequently has to time his fishing to circumstances. The approved method of fishing such water is to advance fishing the water close behind the outgoing tide, and to retire fishing the water close in front of the incoming tide. But as often as not it may be found necessary to reverse the order—to fish "up" and fish "down"—for the purpose of taking full advantage, *whilst daylight lasts*, of both "settings" of the tide.

TWO DAYS' FLY FISHING ON THE TEST.

As we were contented with our morning's sport, and had a short time to spare, we seated ourselves on the bank of the river to enjoy the animated scene before us. As the day advanced the flies became more numerous, until at last the space about us was thickened with them to a degree which I had never witnessed before, except on the banks of the Colne, at Denham. The history of this beautiful insect is not yet sufficiently known, nor am I sure that I can throw much light upon it. The May-fly—or, as they are sometimes called, the day-fly—take their name from the shortness of their life. Some live several days; others do not take flight till the setting of the sun, and seldom live till morning, some exist an hour, others half that time. Mr. Barbut observes, with respect to those that live some days, that they have to cast off one slough more—an operation which sometimes takes twenty-four hours to complete. The ephemera before they fly have been decidedly aquatic insects up to that time; they remain in the states of larva and chrysalis for one, two, or three years. The chrysalis differs from the larva by having on its back cases containing the rudimentary wings. Both have on their sides small fringes of hair, which, when put into motion, serve them as fins. It is very curious to see them plying their little oars in the water. These larvæ scoop themselves dwellings in the banks of rivers, and they are small tubes made like syphons, the one serving for an entrance, the other for an outlet. The banks of rivers are often perforated with them. When the waters decrease they dig fresh holes in order to enjoy the water. The season and hour when the chrysalides of the different species of the ephemera turn into flies maintain a kind of regularity, being accelerated or postponed by the temperature, or the rise and fall of the waters.

The ephemeræ of the Rhine appear in the air two hours before sunset; these flies are hatched at the same instant in such numbers as to darken the air.

The females, by the help of the threads of their tail and the flapping of their wings, support themselves on the surface of the water, and drop their eggs into it.

Perhaps the most curious circumstance in the history of these ephemeræ is the fact that, after they have quitted the water and taken flight, often to some distance, they have to disengage themselves from a thin skin which covers every part of them. The exuviæ are generally found on bushes, so that some support seems necessary to enable the insect to detach itself from this skin. When the beautiful and delicate formation of the fly is examined, it is difficult to conjecture how the slough can be cast off from such fragile textures.

After having amused ourselves a short time in watching the movements of these interesting insects we returned towards our inn. On our way there I will give my reader a short account of my companion, Henry Warner. He was one of the friends of my early youth, and our friendship had remained unimpaired. His good-natured, cheerful, and social manners rendered him a delightful companion, and these were habitual to him. He resided at a small rectory in Suffolk, and there he was perfectly adored by his parishioners, whose welfare he studied, and whose wants he relieved to the utmost extent of his power. His feeling for distress amounted almost to a degree of weakness; for, to his money and his personal exertions, his tears were often added, when a case of misery presented itself to him. His moral character was pure, and his information various and extensive, to which was added a taste for poetry, in which he now and then indulged himself. It was in his own village, however, that he was always seen to the greatest advantage: here he seemed the friend and guardian of his parishioners, partaking with them in their innocent country amusements, instructing the ignorant, endeavouring to reclaim the vicious, and relieving the wants of all. His house was fitted up with comfort, and even elegance; and his library particularly was a proof of his classic taste. He took great delight in his flower garden, which sloped down gently to a pretty stream, which watered the roots of some magnificent tulip trees that flourished on the lawn. Here he had what Horace wished for—

> Hortus ubi et tecto vicinus fugis aquæ fons
> Et paulum sylvæ super his foret.—*Sat. 6, Lib. II.*

Warner was, like myself, fond of fishing, or rather, as I said before, of the enjoyment to be derived from strolling along the banks of a beautiful trout stream. It was in one of our annual excursions that he composed the following song. We were then, as at present, by the side of our favourite river "old Test."

MAY MORN; OR, THE ANGLER'S REVELRY.

'Tis the birthday of May! Up, brothers, I say;
Your tackle out-look, and let us away.
There's a cloudy sky, and a breeze from the west;
Oh! we shall have "killing" to-day in old Test.
CHORUS.
Sing trollillee, sing trollilloe!
Where the trout streams flow,
And the breezes blow,
A fishing, a fishing, a fishing we go.

What son of the angle would bear to lie sleeping,
While grayling and trout are all wagging and leaping?
With our flies and our skill our panniers we'll fill,
And friendship shall feast on the spoil that we kill.
Sing, &c.

March Brown, and oak-fly, and green grannam we'll try,
With the Caperer, Coachman, and Cowlady fly,
The red hackled Palmer, and gnats dun and blue.
Art and Nature shall smile as our sports we pursue.
Sing, &c.

Look, Hal! There's a thumper! He's mine for a bumper!
Look, Jack! Here's another! Good luck, what a jumper!
Our panniers are filling, and still we are killing.
Oh! we are the lads that are able and willing!
Sing, &c.

Hold! let us give o'er. See! we've killed a good store;
Not Izaak or Charley could ever do more.
Give the tribes of old Test a day or two's rest,
And give us a good song and a cup of the best.
Sing, &c.

Fill high to the joys of the rod, line, and hook!
Good luck to each brother, by river or brook!
May he fish all his life without trouble or strife,
And ne'er want a bottle, a friend, or a wife.
Sing, &c.

The two first of these wishes we enjoyed together at our snug little inn, in addition to the fish we had caught and our landlady's roasted chickens. We talked over our morning's amusement, and adjourned towards the evening to the banks of the river, accompanied by our attendant, who had been regaling himself in his usual situation in the chimney corner. I delight in the tranquillity of a walk by the side of a beautiful stream in the stillness of an evening. The song of birds has ceased, with the exception only of the sedge-bird, one of the prettiest of our warblers; the corn-crake also now and then interrupts the silence, and the chattering of starlings is heard as they settle for the night amid some neighbouring alders. Something disturbs a bittern from the sedges, and his *boom* seems to sound from afar as he takes his sullen flight. The beetle hums as it rapidly passes; and little white moths hover about the willows in every direction (trout appear to *suck* them in as they fall upon the gently-moving water, while others are caught by the bats as they leave their haunts in some old tree, and hawk about with a movement as silent as it is rapid and various). A bright star appears in the "ample sky"—

> "Eve's first star thro' fleecy cloudlet peeping";

and the moon, soon after the glowing red streaks of the setting sun have disappeared, emerges from a passing cloud, and adds to the beauty of the scene. Not a breath of air rustles among the reeds, but all is calm and tranquil.

"It was an evening bright and still
As ever blush'd on wave or bower,
Smiling from heaven, as if nought ill
Could happen in so sweet an hour."—*Moore.*

Although our success in fishing was tolerably good, it did not afford us so much gratification as the enjoyment of the beautiful evening I have attempted to describe. Having landed between us two brace of good trout, and returned some smaller ones to their native stream, we were proceeding to put up our tackle, when we were joined by Mr. Peebles, the proprietor of the water where we had been fishing and of a small landed estate in the neighbourhood. I had known Mr. Peebles in London, and had obtained his permission to fish in his part of the river whenever I pleased. He had been duly informed of our arrival, and now came to see what success we had had. He was one of those unfortunate men who, having sufficient to live upon, have nothing to do. He had been some years seeking for happiness in the metropolis, and not having been able to find it had purchased an estate in the country in the hope of finding it there. He was a good-natured man, fond of talking of himself, and never so happy as when he could get anyone to listen to his prosings. His great amusement—perhaps his only one—was fishing; and he might be seen almost daily sauntering along the banks of the river with his rod in his hand, and attended by a country lad. He could hardly, however, be called a fisherman, as he made more use of a worm than a fly in taking trout. He was, in short, anything but a disciple of Izaak Walton. Mr. Peebles had one great disadvantage—that of extreme ugliness. His eyes were large and far between, and almost seemed as if they were placed in his temples; his nose was wide and flat; and he had a multitudinous assortment of teeth; so many, indeed, to appearance, that he might be thought to have double the number which falls to the lot of most people; whether this was owing to his total want of a chin, or to some peculiar formation of his jaws, I know not. His figure was short and dumpy, but he tried to improve it by a smart waistcoat and a knowing sort of jacket.—*From Jessie's "Angler's Rambles."*

SOME SEA-FISHING STATIONS IN CORNWALL.

THE best time for the amateur is from the middle of July to the end of September, and this applies throughout the county, so that nothing more need be said as to the time. Fishermen from a distance visiting Cornwall would have to pass through Plymouth, and should make time to call on Mr. Hearder, or Messrs. Brooks, Plymouth, who would I am sure be pleased to give them information, and supply them with the necessary tackle and appliances as well as the best of advice. Plymouth itself is a capital centre for sea-fishing, and a little guide published by Mr. Hearder gives full information as to the sport. Generations of Hearders have made the subject a speciality, so there is a reputation to maintain.

The fishing in Mount's Bay was fully described in an article, "Where and How to Fish in Cornwall," which appeared in the *Fishing Gazette* of June 6 last. The information as to Mount's Bay fishing contained in that paper was given by an amateur, who has made sea-fishing a particular study for over twenty years; and gentlemen who require any further information could not do better than write to Mr. Kinsman, bookseller, Penzance, and I am quite sure he would courteously, promptly, and fully reply. The methods described in the paper referred to above will, of course, apply to all the stations with little variation. The whiffing for pollack and mackerel is very good with both natural and artificial baits—the former including the rock lug and strips of mackerel and pilchards, and the latter the various spinners and artificial sand-eel supplied by Mr. Hearder. Good sport may be obtained from Penzance and Newlyn piers, angling with rod and line for small pollack. The ground fishing is also very good with the usual baits, those chiefly used here being pilchard and mackerel. Large pollack, bream, chad, pouting, cod, ling, John Dory (only occasionally), gurnards are taken; and, by night, in addition, conger and hake. The charges for man and boat would be about five shillings a day, or sixpence an hour without a man; and hotel and private lodging charges at Penzance and Newlyn West—about a mile from Penzance—are moderate. The police-constable at Newlyn can recommend a steady and trustworthy boatman.

For the fishing in and about Falmouth Harbour the visitor might put up at Falmouth itself, or better, perhaps, at St. Mawes, three miles distant by steamer. And there is the pretty little village of Portscatho, five and a-half miles from Falmouth. The charges for hotel accommodation and for private apartments are moderate, and a boat and man may be secured at from £1 a week. Whiffing may be had with natural and artificial baits, and ground fishing with the usual lures—pilchard, cuttle, &c; and bass may be taken from the shore, at three hours' flood up to high water, and are also taken with the fly. The seine fishing is very interesting.

Sennen or St. Just might be taken as a station for the fishing in Whitesand Bay, quite close to the Land's End. Private lodgings can be had, and the charges are moderate as to boat hire. The most usual course appears to be to take fishing with the professionals and tip them.

At Mevagissey the accommodation for visitors is limited, and is all taken up to the end of August; Mr. Blight, Alma-terrace, will then have an opening. Whiffing for pollack and mackerel is practised, and fly-fishing for bass. Edwin Mills, Meadow-street, Mevagissey, St. Austell, fisherman, might be written to for information, and he supplies patent worms for pollack. The charges for man and boat are six shillings per day, or thirty-five shillings per week. Mevagissey is six miles from St. Austell (G.W.R.), and public conveyances run at nine a.m. and five p.m.

Some fishing may be had by the amateur in Par Bay, by staying at Par or Tywardreath. The cost of boat and man is about six shillings per day, and charges for board and lodging are moderate.

Polperro is eleven miles from the nearest railway stations—Liskeard or Menheniot—and is a quaint village, a capital station for one fond of quiet (there are only about eleven hundred inhabitants), and the fishing is capital. Whiffing and ground-fishing are indulged in by visitors with the customary baits, and boat and man may be engaged for from six shillings a day to thirty shillings a week. Hotel charges are moderate (there are four licenced houses), being thirty shillings a week for a single gentleman, and twenty-five shillings each for two or more. In private apartments the charge for a single person for sitting and bedrooms and attendance is fourteen shillings a week.

The population of Looe (East and West) on the banks of the river Looe, where it enters the English Channel, are supported almost entirely by fishing and by shipping granite and ore from the Caradon district, but in the season (now) it has a fair number of visitors. Amateurs can and do fish for mackerel, pollack, bass, &c., with lance and lug-worms, and other baits, natural and artificial; but fly-fishing is not attempted. The cost for boat and man is about five shillings per day, and hotel charges range from £2 to £2 10s. a week, whilst in private lodgings they range from twenty-five shillings a week upwards. The scenery is very interesting, the rivers being richly wooded, and the coast-view commanding several miles of the English Channel, including Rame Head, Eddystone, Downderry (also a capital station), &c. East and West Looe are connected by a handsome, but narrow, old bridge, 384ft. long, of fourteen arches; date 1,400. Tregellas says: "The narrow, irregularly-built, steep streets, and hanging gardens of East Looe, where myrtles and fuchsias luxuriate in the open air, give a foreign aspect to the place." At the mouth of the harbour is St. George's Island (called also S. Nicholas's and St. Michael's). There are two trains to Liskeard, and 'buses run to Menheniot, distant four miles.

St. Ives is beautifully situated, is an improving town, and is the principal place for the pilchard fishing, half the pilchards exported being from St. Ives. Whiffing and ground fishing are both practised with the usual baits. The charge for boat is sixpence per hour, and for boat and man from £1 to £1 5s. per week. The cost of living (bed and board) varies from £1 5s. per week at the Temperance Hotel, to from two guineas at the Queen's Hotel, and private lodgings can be had by arrangement.

Few amateurs visit St. Agnes on the north coast, four miles from Chacewater station, and the fishing station cannot be called a good one, the drawback being the same as at Bude—namely, the prevalence of ground-sea. Mackerel, bass, pollack, whiting, &c., are taken both by whiffing and ground fishing. Charges are moderate all round. Perran Porth, in Perran Bay, with a fine extent of beach, is four miles distant.

At the charming resort of Newquay, sea-fishing is very little affected by the visitors, though the usual pollack, bass, and mackerel may be had. Boat and man cost five shillings a day, and James Clemens, George-terrace, is an old fisherman, a steady man and well recommended. At the hotel the cost is about six shillings and sixpence a day. Private apartments are now nearly all full, and all are engaged for August. Besides the train service, the North Cornwall coach arrives from Launceston, at a quarter-past ten p.m., on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, returning alternate days.

Not much fishing is done by amateurs at Padstow and Port Isaac. Bass and plaice may be got in Padstow Harbour, and whiffing for pollack and mackerel outside the harbour. The charges for boat and man are strictly moderate—one shilling per hour, four shillings per day, or eighteen shillings a week. Mr. Hickey, a naval pensioner, of North Quay, Padstow, might be applied to for the supply of boat, &c. Hotel charges and private lodgings are also moderate. The nearest station is at Wadebridge, eight miles distant, and public conveyances meet the trains.

At Bude, fishing for bass may be had, with ground-bait from the rocks; and from the breakwater up to the loch gates with the fly when the tide is flowing. Boating is found next to impracticable, and it is very rare that a boating party ventures off. Prawning may be had in the weedy pools at Widemouth (within walking distance of Bude), and affords capital amusement. There are coaches twice a day from Holsworthy on the L. and S.W.R., ten miles distant, and on alternate days from Launceston (G.W.R.). Mr. Brendon, who probably does more miles of coaching than any other man in England, also sends a coach daily to Clovelly, and another to meet the North Cornwall coach at Tintagal, passing through Boscastle.

DEATH OF DONALD GUNN.—We regret to hear from Mr. Murdoch that our old correspondent, Donald Gunn, who used to send us such quaint epistles now and then, is dead. Mr. Murdoch has promised to send us his photograph and a brief biographical notice, which will interest many of our readers who knew Old Donald, and many who did not also.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—If all town councils, county councils, local authorities, &c., were as exact in demanding their full rights with regard to river pollution as the town council of the city of Aberdeen is in regard to the Dee, and would back up their demands with the same force of will and persistency till they attain their ends, the results to anglers in the first place—and with which class we are wholly concerned—would be incalculable, and so far reaching as to be almost incredible. Disease would vanish, and the stock of the trout and salmon increase with such prodigious strides that the wail of the empty creel would be heard in the land no more.

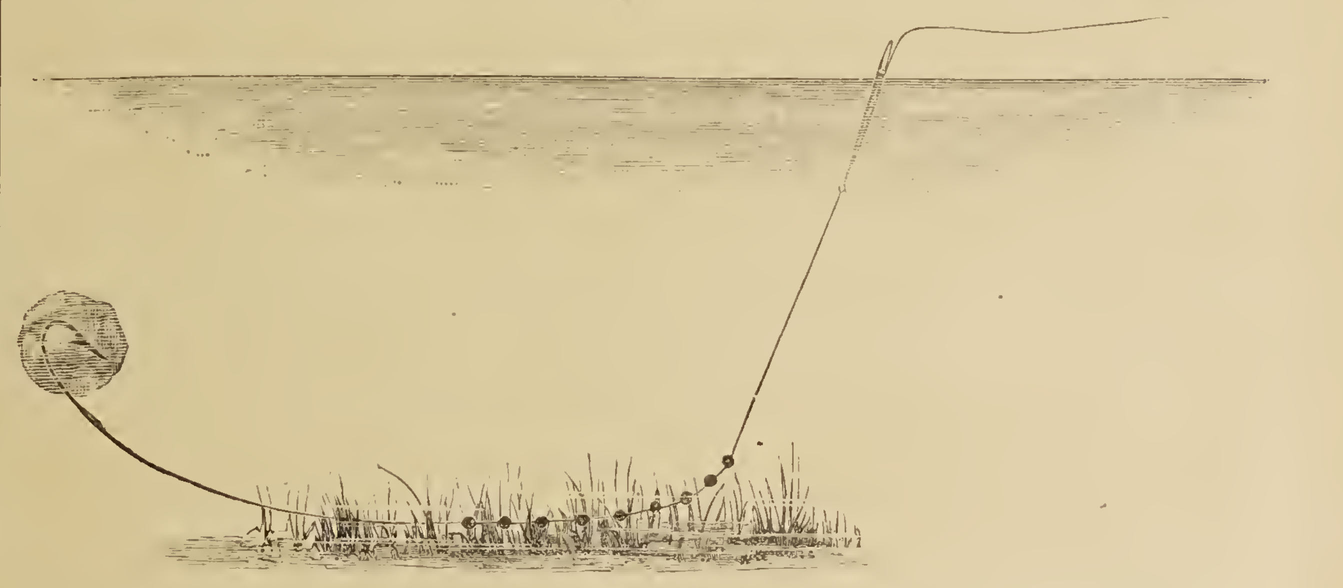
Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—EAST LONDON RUBBER Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

ANGLING FOR ROACH WITH AND WITHOUT A CHAIN OF SHOTS, &c.

BY THE O. O. D.

I WONDER how many times I have seen anglers (especially tyros) legering for roach with a float in *very gentle streams*, with a chain of shots, averaging five or six to the inch, attached to the gut some twelve or fifteen inches from the hook. I should be very sorry to say how many, and it would take too long to state the different reasons advanced for using these (to me) obnoxious chains. Of course the idea is to keep the bait well on the bottom, but I am perfectly certain that a similar chain of shots would keep the bait well on the bottom in much stronger and swifter streams than those to which I allude. It very often happens that a roach will rise after taking the bait, and when I say rise, I mean rise to a considerable distance, and in this case the entire chain must be displaced to communicate a movement to the float. For instance, if a fish only raised, say, five out of ten shots, the remaining five shots would rest motionless on the bottom, and the probability is that with such a resistance the bait would be ejected.

A tench, for instance, cannot very well open its mouth and take (say a worm) off the soft bottom of an old pond, &c., without taking a portion of mud in with the bait any more than I could, and this must be got rid of before placing and finally swallowing the bait. At all events, I have every reason to believe that it *is* got rid of. A fish rising thus with the lure may enable him to perform this operation with greater ease and comfort to himself—I say *may*, for I have no positive proof; but I have frequently seen several species of fish gently rise and blow all sorts of things out of their mouths, including silt, sand, tiny stones, dead insects, and other material. When a fish is thus rising, after taking the bait with a chain of shots resting on the bottom, the result is likely to be disappointing, for the angler only strikes at the chain, and I should think he would miss three fish out of four. It appears to me that no matter what shape the chain of shots assumes or change it undergoes, from the moment the fish attacks the bait until the angler finally strikes, everything is in favour of the fish, and the sharper and quicker the stroke the better for the quarry. Again, there would necessarily be considerable resistance before the whole of the chain was lifted, and the probability is the roach, &c., would become alarmed, and eject the lure without the angler being a bit the wiser; fish are caught sometimes by pure accident without the angler perceiving the slightest indication of a bite—I have seen it done repeatedly; but even in the act of a roach blowing out the bait, a slight movement was communicated to the tell-tale, and if the angler struck he would be too late and strike in vain, for the heavier the weight (dead in this case) the heavier, of course, the resistance, and not a single shot more than is necessary should be used to suit the force or run of the stream.



On the other hand, when light legering with a float in a gentle stream, with all the shots resting on the ground (say four moderate-sized shots) I place them wide apart for the simple reason that it is so much easier for a fish to lift one or two shots, than if he had to lift a chain of eight or ten shots. When thus fishing with the shots placed wide apart, the first shot being moved on the light tackle, the angler quickly receives notice that a fish is there, and the moment this occurs he should lift his rod gently, and if the fish has got it or means business, the float is soon sneaked under, and during this operation several of the shots are being lifted off the bottom, and consequently the stroke is directly on the roach, and not, as in the former case, directly on the chain; for when a roach raises the first shot nearest the hook there is such a slight resistance with the shots placed wide apart, the stream naturally affects the remaining shots; but in case of a number placed close together, the resistance in a gentle stream must be very considerable.

This to the Novice.—The moment a bite is perceived, and the float displays an uneasy motion—twitch, twitch, twitching—raise the rod-top gently as the float is disappearing, which will instantly bring the tackle in a line with the fish; or, in other words, always endeavour to strike with the run of the line, and not in the least against it, the rod-top going with it as it were. If possible, to be more explicit, at the first onset there is a sort of uneasy, jerking motion of the float (very similar to the bites obtained when floating with the bait off the bottom): this erratic behaviour on the part of the "tell-tale" gives the angler warning; then, after waiting until the float is being sneaked under, he should lift his rod-top before striking, and this action prevents the angler striking the shots, but the whole thing is almost done as quickly as striking when following the float down with the point of the rod in the ordinary way; yet an angler striking in the ordinary way would most certainly hit the shots and consequently miss his fish if the shots were placed close together, as previously explained. On the other hand, I should say that using a bullet would be fatal to success in legering for roach in the quiet gentle swims to be found on many portions of both the Thames and Lea; for unless the fish were mad on, many a bite would never be detected in the comparatively streamless water, and thus it is that light legering with a float, when using three or four shots, has gradually grown into what may be termed a perfect science. This method may be adopted when fishing either with paste, a pellet of *bread and bran*, or a small bunch of gentles, &c., and the very best fish in the swim are often captured by this method when every other fails.*

(To be continued.)

"DANESFORD."†

THE plot of "Danesford" can hardly be described as very original, but Mr. Carter Harrison has succeeded in making a sufficiently interesting story out of it. There is the rustic beauty inevitable to such a tale, gifted with surpassing personal attractions and extremely provincial English, her decidedly jealous and hot-tempered Yorkshire lover, and the wicked admirer, who, of course, hails from London, and whose club would seem to be the Isthmian. Apparently they are dreadful gamblers at that establishment, as well as enthusiastic admirers of rustic beauty. Then there is, of course, the race meeting, where the wicked Londoner, thinking to get back some of the coin he has dropped in Piccadilly at whist, backs a "dark 'un" at a long price, which loses by a long nose or some such nominal distance. The young lady aforesaid has even a third admirer (also a Londoner), on whom the rural and legitimate one is about to execute summary vengeance, when the former, fortunately for himself, tumbles gracefully (see the cover) into the Kelpie's Hole.

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* The fish is supposed to be rising with the bait.

† "Danesford: A Novel," by Carter Harrison. Messrs. Ward and Downey, London.

Mr. Harrison's angling incidents are pleasanter than those of the race-course, and a very delightful trout stream must that Yorkshire one have been, by whose banks the *dramatis personæ* of "Danesford" fished and flirted and quarrelled. Fancy a piece of water where a couple of rods can kill eighteen brace of fine fish in a short day; it makes one's mouth water to read about.

One of the Londoners elicits the approval of the old local expert by the capture of a trout at a distance of more than twenty yards. The performance is thus described :—

"'Noo, sur ; noo's yur time to prove yourself,' he said to Sinclair, with a touch of derision in his voice. 'Catch that theer fish, and I'll haud yo' a good fisherman.'

"'All very well, Thompson ; but it is a long throw, and the fish will dash into the weeds as soon as he is pricked. I should have no control over his first rush at that distance.'

"But he determined to try, nevertheless. At the worst, it could only mean a loss of tackle. So he removed the top fly from the cast, lest that should catch in the weeds, and destroy from the first any chance of success ; and then, carefully letting out line with experimental throws, he at last cast directly to the fish. The line fell short and rested on the weeds ; but with a dexterous touch he freed it, and then, drawing more from the winch, he essayed again. It fell right over the trout, almost on his nose. Sinclair feared that it was too near, that he had frightened it. But no ; with a sudden plunge, as if he were anxious not to miss this dainty morsel, which seemed to alight so unsuspiciously near him, the trout gulped down the fly. A sharp stroke from the wrist, harder than he would have ventured upon in an ordinary way, which put the tackle to a severe test, and the trout, in sheer amaze, leaped fairly out of the water and on to the weeds.

"Sinclair at once put a strong, steady pressure upon the line, and so prevented the fish from getting his head down. Flopping, floundering on the weeds, out of his element, unable to put in force his instincts of safety, which prompted him to dive, the trout, helplessly rolling, was drawn over the weeds, and fell into the swift deep water on the near side. And then he dashed to the bottom—here, there, up-stream, and down, now making a determined effort to reach the weeds again, and now in despair throwing himself into the air, only to fall upon the water more spent than before. A gallant struggle he made for life, but too late ; the strength which would have saved him on the far side of the weeds was of no avail here. His struggles and rushes grew weaker, and yet more weak ; and at last, with a gasp—one could imagine a gasp of despair—he turned upon his side, and, drawn gently yet firmly, to the bank, the landing-net encircled him, and in triumph he was borne to the bank."

An hour or two may be very pleasantly spent either by the angler or the novel reader among the pages of "Danesford."

Notes and Queries

A friend who is fishing in Ireland writes: "Dear Mr. Marston,—Your correspondent, 'Old Otter,' quotes the saying, 'All millers should be drowned in their own dams.' I quite agree with your correspondent. Had the prayers of dry-fly fishers been of any use, not a miller now would be in existence. Talking of strong language, you should just see those Moy grilse—splashing everywhere, and not a fish will take. They beat Hampshire dry-fly trout 'hands down.' You probably are fishing somewhere, and I wish you better luck than has fallen to the lot of yours ever, Red Gauntlet." Millers are very aggravating at times, no doubt, but we confess we have, as a rule, found them very civil and obliging. Anglers cannot expect millers to regulate the river just to suit them. Of course, there are curmudgeons—perhaps stirmudgeon would be a more appropriate name for them !—in every business. We should be as sorry to see the last of our jolly millers as we should be to hear the teetotallers had succeeded in shutting up all the country inns, and anglers had to lodge at their temperance hotels.

Mr. Charles Lowe, New-street, Birmingham, advertises "a magnificent copy" of the 1836 Edition of Walton, for £21 10s. and another copy of the same edition for £19 10s. Both editions are "Pickering's."

Mr. W. Garden, 122½, Union-street, Aberdeen, is advertising some salmon fishing to let, in our columns this week.

Whales Captured in the Thames.—On Thursday last week a whale was caught in the Thames, within a few yards of the lower Powder Magazine at Creeksmouth, Barking. The monster got stranded on the mud about 50yds. from the shore, and, although the tide was up, it was not able to extricate itself. It struggled violently upon the captain and mate of a barge piercing it with a boathook, but its struggles were soon over, and it was hauled up some distance on to the shore and fastened to the bridge head of the magazine. It appears to be a sperm whale, a Physeter, from which spermaceti is obtained. It is of a very light colour, and measures 25ft. from the tip of its nose to the centre of the back fin. It is 18ft. in girth, and 6ft. 6in. across the tail. On Friday evening, as a number of Leigh men were fishing off the Nore Lightship, they saw a large whale disporting itself in shallow water. Messrs. John Johnson, E. Johnson, J. Harvey, N. Partridge, F. Rand, J. Noakes, E. Druse, Jack Johnson, J. Cotgrove, and S. Cotgrove immediately made for the fish in small boats. It was seen to be stranded, and, to effect its capture, a kedge anchor, attached to which were twenty fathoms of rope, was thrown overboard. A running noose was then skilfully thrown over the tail of the whale, and the kedge was taken to its extreme length. John Johnson, armed with two knives, jumped into the water and hacked a hole under the whale's left fin. A boathook was then inserted and pushed by five men about 3ft. into the whale's head, after which the leviathan gave up the ghost. The tide soon floated the whale off, and it was towed by five fishing smacks to Leigh swatch. On Saturday morning it was conveyed to Mr. Tomlin's wharf, where it has since been exhibited. About twelve hundred people paid to see it. Dr. J. Murie, of Leigh, who is an authority on whales, says that the creature is a male adult of the bottle-nosed species. He says that the whale at Barking is of the same species, and is almost identical in size and dimensions. The length of the whale under notice is 26ft., girth, 16ft., and breadth from tip to tip of the tail, 7ft.

The Fly-rod adn Line.—"This is a subject on which much might be written with advantage to the angler and a corresponding disadvantage to the fish, but at the moment it is only proposed to offer some suggestions on the importance of a proper proportion between the rod and line. Every angler is supposed to know that the reel should be of such a weight as to properly balance the rod, but not one in ten is aware how still more important it is to have a line of proportionate weight or thickness and strength. With regard to strength, the weakest part of the line is usually the gut cast, and it is in trout fishing especially that care should be taken to avoid using a very stiff rod with a fine cast. If the rod is stiff, the cast must be fairly strong, or when a trout seizes the fly and dashes off suddenly, as trout often do, especially in swift waters, there is as likely as not to be a break. In the slow-flowing streams of the south, where the trout are corpulent, and a trifle more stately in their behaviour, a short, stiff rod is sometimes used in skilful hands in combination with a fine cast, but it is a dangerous practice. It may be stated as a general rule that the stronger the stream, the more limber within certain limits must be the rod. The whippy Castleconnell rods used on the Shannon above Limerick are the result of the experience of ages. In those rapid waters where, in trout fishing, at any rate, it is not the custom to play the fish down-stream, but to bring him up to the boat against the current, and that, too, on fairly fine tackle, a rod which is whippy and at the same time fairly powerful is an absolute necessity. The Castleconnell rods have these two merits, and on them is based, to a great extent, the modern greenheart fly-rod. The English fly-rod of Francis Francis's early days was tapered gradually and evenly from the butt, which was in consequence exceedingly thick. The rod of to-day, a modified Castleconnell, is fined down considerably immediately above the handle, while a good weight of wood is left not far from the top, so as to give what is termed lifting power. It is probably as good a weapon for fly-fishing as will ever be made, combining, as it does, a number of good qualities which were not found in the hickory poles used by our ancestors. The value of a heavy line for accurate casting is better understood down south than in the north, where to cast a fly to the fraction of a foot is of less importance than in the chalk streams. In considering this matter, it should be understood at the outset that every rod has a weight of line which suits it best, and that, practically, the rod is more or less whippy according to the weight of line it is given to cast. Thus, if a man has to fish principally in narrow streams where long casting is unnecessary, he may safely use a stout line, even if his rod is inclined to be whippy, for such a short length of line will be used that the rod will not be overweighted. But should he, with that same rod and line, go to wider streams, where casts of 15yds. to 20yds. are necessary, he will find on getting out that length of line that the rod will be overweighted. Fly-fishers cannot, of course, always fish casts of the same length, so they have to find the line which is generally most suitable to their rods. If a rod is inclined to be too stiff, the fault can almost invariably be cured by means of a heavy line. Some north-country and Scottish anglers may object to stout casting lines on the ground that they scare the fish, but we refer, of course, to lines which are tapered at the end next the cast (but for not more than 5yds.), so that the stouter portions are never visible to the fish unless the water is flogged over in the most careless manner. Generally speaking, we would say abjure weak, whippy rods which will only carry light lines, and are therefore useless for casting against the wind; but rather choose a modified Castleconnell, which will carry a heavy-tapered line, and with which, in anything short of half a gale, the fly can be placed with considerable accuracy. English built cane-rods, it may be mentioned, will carry heavier lines than rods made of wood."—*The Field.*

The Colouring of Fishes.—Various explanations have been suggested for the fact that most flat fish have the dorsal or upper surface coloured, and the ventral or lower surface white. It has been said that the white ventral surface protects the fish, for the surrounding water with the light shining through it has about the same tint, and so an enemy floating below and looking up could not distinguish him. Recent interesting experiments to discover the influence of sunlight on the colour of flat fish are noted in the *Revue Scientifique*. Having placed a few young fish in a glass vessel, the experimenter covered the sides and top of the vessel, placed it on a support, and beneath it so arranged a mirror that the sunlight was reflected into the water, and illuminated the ventral faces of the fish, while the dorsal faces were in darkness. The natural conditions were thus reversed. The water was frequently changed, and the fish were well fed. At the same time similar fish were placed in a glass vessel, and exposed to the light in the usual way. The result was that out of thirty fish exposed to the sunlight from below, only three remained like those in the ordinary glass vessel, and the others developed greater or less quantities of pigment cells on the ventral face. This indicates that light has an important influence on the colour of animals, but it evidently is not the only influence to be considered, since some animals whose habitat is dark have colour.

⁂ **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. H. W., Leeds: Mr. Walbran, New Station-street, Leeds, could doubtless procure the glass minnow trap, which is made, we believe, by Messrs. Alfred and Son, Moorgate-street, London.

G. H., Harwich: The copy you have of "Walton's Angler" is worth about 10s. 6d., if it is in good condition. It is not a scarce edition.

F. R. Windsor: Write to Mr. King, station-master, Grove Ferry; he will be able to inform you about the fishing there.

Correspondence

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

A DACE WEIGHING 1LB. 4OZ.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Mark Gooch, of Hammersmith, a member of our club, has been fortunate enough to capture a dace weighing 1lb. 4oz., taken from the Thames at Sunbury, measuring the extreme length of $11\frac{3}{4}$in. We shall be pleased to hear your opinion as regards this extraordinary specimen. Not having heard of a larger dace being taken from tidal water, I believe this to be the champion. I may mention that the specimen is now being set up for exhibition.—Yours faithfully,

J. J. Hunter,
Hon. Sec. West London Angling Club.

[We should have liked to have seen this big dace—certainly a most unusual size.—Ed.]

ANOTHER "RED PALMER" IN THE FIELD.

Dear Sir,—In last week's *Fishing Gazette* some angler writes under this *nom de plume*, asking how to catch trout, and you, with your usual courtesy, recommend a dry fly. Having been a dry-fly fisher for about fifty years, twenty years of which I have written frequently to the sporting papers as "Red Palmer," and having published a book on fly fishing with that title, I can imagine some of my angling friends opening their eyes with astonishment that I should want to be told how to catch trout. I presume your last week's correspondent was not aware of the above facts.—Yours truly,

James Tayler,
Sec. Gresham Angling Society.

[It is impossible for any Editor—year in, year out—to keep a constant look-out to see a *nom de plume* is not appropriated by some other writer; but we have constantly changed a *nom de plume* when we have noticed it was one already in use.—Ed.]

SULKY TROUT.

Sir,—Would "Red Palmer" mind trying on that hill lake of his, when he gets a nice breeze, a cast of the very smallest flies, as *unlike* the natural insect on the spot as possible?—Yours, &c.,

Mona.

FISHING NEAR SOUTHEND.

Dear Sir,—If your correspondent, A. George, will communicate with me, I may be able to give him information as to above.—Yours, &c.,

Herbert Frost.
24, Stanley-road, Balls Pond.

THE DUKE HAS SHUT HIS GATES.

Sir,—Arundel Park is to be opened no longer to London anglers to see and admire, and any tenant on the Duke's estate caught taking in London anglers *will be dismissed.* So I hear. What a dreadful lot these London anglers must be!

I recollect on one occasion I wanted to make a narrow cut across a field—it was my first visit—and a dozen or two of these dreadful fellows bawled out, "Come out of that!" "Hi, hi! you have no business there, sir!" I wonder if a *native* would have taken the trouble. Not he. Hundreds of pounds are annually spent by London anglers in the town of Arundel and the surrounding villages in the season; and if these excursions are stopped, many a widow will go short of her rent money, and many a poor man of a good meal. I don't know how many dozens of eggs were consumed by London anglers only last Sunday. This means food to the cottagers, &c.; and money spent like this is a better investment than that spent in London pubs. on bad gin and worse beer.

Yes! the Duke has shut his gates. But the Duke, thank goodness! cannot shut up the noble river or the lovely scenery to be found in this part of the country, nor prevent pent-up, jaded, and hard-working London anglers from breathing the pure fresh air of heaven once in a way.—I am, &c.,

M. A.

MARKING FISH.

Sir,—In your issue of the 1st instant I notice that your correspondent "Templar" suggests the marking of fresh-water fish with a tablet, as is usually done with respect to salmon and other salt-water fish. I quite agree with him as to the importance of the course he suggests, but I think he will find many objections to scratching the weight of the fish and other particulars on the tablet before returning it to the water. A far more convenient course, in my opinion, is to have merely a number on the tablet, and for all particulars to be entered in a register book kept for that purpose. By this means all particulars respecting any tablet can be at all times ascertained, whether the tablet itself is recovered or not. Of the importance of this I will give you a short instance.

In a local paper, dated April 20 of the present year, a notice appeared of a "pike" having been shot in the river Itchen on the Saturday preceding, to one of the fins of which was attached a label bearing the No. 132.

My attention was shortly afterwards called to the paragraph by a gentleman who thought it might refer to a salmon marked by me, as the supposed pike was shot in salt-water, where a fish of that description would not be found. As, however, I had no labels with numbers exceeding one hundred for any river, I thought at first that it could not relate to any fish so marked; but it afterwards occurred to me that the number might be "32," and the initial letter "I," for Itchen, might be mistaken for a figure, and thus make the number "132."

I accordingly referred to my register of facts, and found that No. 32 had with other labels been sent to a gentleman who resided on the Itchen a short distance below Bishopstoke, and who had kindly promised to mark certain kelts for me. I therefore wrote to him to know what he had done with the labels sent to him, and in reply he informed me that label No. 32 had on the 11th of April been affixed to a salmon in the river Itchen, not far below Bishopstoke. I then made inquiries from a gentleman who had seen the label attached to the supposed pike, and showed him a label precisely similar with the exception of the number, and he at once stated that the two were identical. I afterwards caused the man who had shot the fish to be seen, and he promised to send me the label; but he failed to do so, probably knowing that the shooting of a kelt salmon was illegal.

There can, however, be no doubt that, by means of the label and register I, was enabled to prove to absolute certainty that the fish marked below Bishopstoke on the 11th of April, and the one shot near Northam in the salt-water on the 18th of April, were one and the same.

In case "Templar" should like to see one of the labels and a sheet of the register of facts used by me, I enclose them for his inspection.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Henry G. Green.
Laverton House, Hill, Southampton.

[We have sent the label on to "Templar." Mr. Green's letter is interesting and useful.—Ed.]

BADGER FLY FOR SEA TROUT.

Sir,—In reply to D. W. Brearley, for dressing of Badger Fly, I have enclosed pattern of a good one. He can get them from Hardy Bros., of Alnwick, made sea trout size, with yellow tag, or three turns of flat gold tinsel at tail.—Yours truly,

44, Liberia-road, Highbury, N.
Liberia.

Dear Sir,—In answer to Mr. D. W. Brearley, in last week's issue, this fly is tied in the following various manners. Hook, from 4 to 8 Adlington sneck-bend size; a small *tail*, tuft of crimson or red wool; body, yellow tying silk (waxed) and closely ribbed with gold wire, like Greenwell's Glory; legs, a badger hackle—that is, a hackle with black centre and tips, and creamy yellow the other portion of feather; and the wings from either the quill of the woodcock or jay. This body in the other patterns is altered for either a bronze peacock, or a party-coloured body of yellow or red, and blue and black. These are of course for sea trout in streams or rivers, and the Badger fly for lochs should be tied, as a large Palmer, that is without wings, with peacock body, silver tinsel and red tail tuft. If Mr. Brearley or others require these flies, or any other trout, sea trout, or grayling flies, the best dresser of them for the north country that I have ever seen is "The Old Angler," 13, East Register-street, Edinburgh, N.B.

I do not know his name, but that is his sign, and will find him.—Yours faithfully,

Badger.

BUSH-FISHING IN WEST CORNWALL.

Dear Sir,—Finding myself emancipated from London smoke for a brief period, the inevitable rod has come to the front. Sunday was my first clear day in the west, but that, of course, to any true Cornishman, as a fishing day, is a *dies non.*

On Sunday morning the rain poured in torrents, but, the weather subsequently clearing, the day was most enjoyable. Monday morning, after a fisherman's breakfast, found your servant on the way to what, under ordinary circumstances, is a considerable stream. I expected to find a very fair volume of water, but, to my astonishment, I found scarcely any at all. I had stupidly made no inquiries, and was basing my calculations on the rainfall we have had in and around London, but here it appears there has been almost a drought for the last two or three months.

I commenced operations at an old favourite spot—a stone bridge—that in times gone by always yielded a brace, and heartened me for my work, but I waited in vain for the welcome tug, and was already beginning to augur a very poor result to my first day's fishing. However, I knew there were plenty of trout somewhere, and the first duty was to locate them.

I fished another usually good stretch of water, and then only a single, and, I must confess, rather diminutive trout, rewarded my exertions. But, jumping a hedge, I came on a stretch of water I shall always gratefully remember, and before I had left this single field my basket was the heavier for twenty trout—the good specimens averaging the size of a fat pilchard—about six to the pound, and being extremely edible fish. I got three especially fine ones in succession under the shade of some tall trees. I then proceeded farther a-field, as I wished to test a good portion of the stream, but with little or any result, as at the close of the day the spoils only numbered twelve brace. Had I remained on the really good piece of water I could easily have filled my basket.

I find the "Angler's Diary" a great boon, and hope to add considerably to the number of the slain by the aid of its pages.—Yours truly,

F. S. L.

THIRTEEN DACE WEIGHING TEN POUNDS.

Sir,—In reading the *F. G.* of 8th inst. I notice that the president of the Clarence Angling Club (in their report) had thirteen dace, total weight 10lb. I would be glad to know the size they measured, as it really wants a good dace to scale even $\frac{3}{4}$lb., and it is over that weight.—I am, dear Sir, faithfully yours,

B. Abrahams

[It was certainly an extraordinary take.—Ed.]

A WATERPROOFING QUERY.

Dear Sir,—I should be much obliged if any of your readers could advise me how to make a pair of porpoise hide wading boots waterproof. I have tried most of the advertised materials, but without effect—the boots are not even rain-proof. It should be something which will not make the leather hard. At present they are quite useless; but as they cost me eight guineas, I don't care to throw them away without further trial.—Yours truly,

Glenfintaig.

[It looks a hopeless case, at least as far as dressing the boots with any outside preparation goes. We imagine the best plan would be to get a good waterproof house, like Messrs. Anderson or Messrs. Cording, to line the boots with a waterproof lining. Anyway, we are sure Messrs. Anderson would advise our correspondent.—Ed.]

PEAT-FLAVOURED WHISKY AND ATHOLE BROSE.

Dear Sir,—It is more than likely that the peat-flavoured whisky "W. H. P." refers to was an entire whisky—that is, unblended—which, thirty years ago, it was more the fashion to drink. High-flavoured whiskies are still to be had, and if "W. H. P." will try any of the following, he will get what he wants. First, Old Jura; second, Cambleton; third, Burntisland. Old Jura is, perhaps, the highest-flavoured, and is used only for blending with and flavouring other fine whiskies. He will get what he wants in that way to perfection from Messrs. William Shiels and Co., Constitution-street, Leith, at prices varying from seventeen shillings to twenty-five shillings per gallon, according to age; but none of them will be less than five years old.

Athole Brose: Two large tablespoonsful heather honey, a good half gill of whisky put into a tumbler and stirred till the honey is dissolved. Then drink.—Yours, &c., Badger.

THE HOLY LOCH, LOCH LEVEN, ATHOLE BROSE, &c.

Sir,—A letter signed "Corrigenda," extracted from the *North British Daily Mail*, appears in your issue of the 8th inst. I am quite aware that trolling with phantom for salmon is regularly practised in the Holy Loch (one of the Clyde lochs), into which the river Echaig from Loch Eck flows, as I know several anglers who have at different times killed fish therein the way "Corrigenda" describes. If the proprietor in the right of the salmon fishing towards the mouth of the Echaig chooses to exercise his right to the full, he is at liberty to do so, so long as he uses legal means, and the question in any case is one between the upper and lower proprietors in the right and one with which the public has nothing to do. "Corrigenda" overlooks a very simple point in the law relating to salmon fishing. The right to fish salmon is vested in the Crown, and must be the subject of an express grant, &c., or must be obtained by some of those various means well-known to all lawyers, and which need not be here stated, as outside the question. In a case like the present, three points arise:—

(1) If the grant of salmon fishing in the Echaig be a grant of fishings in the river merely, the holder of that grant has no right to interfere *quâ* holder with anyone fishing in the adjacent sea with rod and line.

(2) If it be a grant of the salmon fishing in the Echaig "*et in ostio fluminis*," the question as between the holder of the right, or his lessee and the public, becomes simply a question of interpretation; and according to the House of Lords the boundary is fixed—namely, the right extends over the whole space between the lowest ebb and the highest flood-mark (Duke of Gordon *v.* Earl of Moray and Paton's App. p. 78). In the Holy Loch the tide goes *very* "*far out.*"

(3) Even if the grant ceases and determines at the mouth of the river, the public have no right to angle for salmon, or to take salmon in any kind of way in the adjacent sea. The Crown's right extends for three miles seaward, and is limited to prohibiting "such modes of fishing as are carried on in connection with the land." The meaning of the latter phrase, of course, being that if by any chance anyone fishing for herring with a net, or trolling for saithe caught a salmon, such a person must return it to the sea. It is curious but trite law that though a salmon is *resmullins* until *occupatio* has occurred, the *occupatio*, however temporary, is that of the Crown, not of the captor. The reason for this—the original principle being kept in mind—will at once strike any person who gives the question a moment's consideration: the salmon is not the Crown's fish, not a royal fish, but the right to take it is the Crown's. The salmon is *resmullins*, but *occupatio* can only be by the Crown, or someone with a grant from the Crown. Such a question could only be asked by a very ignorant Radical. To put it concisely, the salmon fishing belongs either to the Crown or a grantee, and either can prevent the public from fishing. (*Vide* the important case—a justiciary one—cf Anderson *v.* Anderson, S. L. R, vol. 5, p. 58). If the fishing be still in the hands of the Crown it is foolish on the part of a member of the public to draw the attention of the Crown to this invasion of its rights.

Loch Leven Fishing.—In an editorial note there is some reference to the most successful anglers this season, and I would call your attention and that of the angling community generally to the curious difference that always exists between the most successful *private* anglers and those fishing in competitions confined to the fly. The reason for this difference is not extra skill on the part of the most successful private anglers, but the different methods adopted. One regular Loch Leven angler, whose baskets were always good *per se*, and much better than others, fishing like the famous Smith, of Perth, "for their own hand," by legitimate casting, always had his two boatmen working hard casting, while when rowing up to windward as many rods as the stern would hold were put out. Yet Mr. ——, of —— was one of the successful men of the year. Another absurd custom prevailing on Loch Leven is that of allowing in certain cases competitors to troll with the minnow. What could be more absurd? What test of skill is trolling a minnow through a loch full of fish? The answer is obvious. The sooner the Loch Leven authorities adopt the Vyrnwy* plan, the better will it be for the loch, apart from the question of the absurdity of its use in competitions.

Athole Brose.—The following is the veritable mixture given by the landlady of the Athol Arms to the Queen on the occasion of her first visit to Dunkeld, and if it pleased (as it did) Her Most Gracious Majesty, it ought to satisfy any loyal subject. The ingredients are *dripped honey*, whisky (good), and fine rich cream. Of honey, take three tablespoonfuls; of whisky, one glass; and of cream, one medium-sized teacupful. Put the honey in first and the whisky on top, and stir *gradually* until the two are thoroughly mixed, then add the cream slowly, and stir well until the whole is homogenous; then invite your friend. It can be made in any quantity; but, like a "cocktail," each dose is best made separately, and should (though this goes without saying) be drunk at once.—Yours truly, Duine Môr.

FISHING IN THE MURRAY RIVER, AUSTRALIA.

Dear Sir,—I should be greatly obliged if you or any of your readers could inform me what fishing is to be had on the Murray river, Australia? I start for Australia on the 28th of this month.—Yours truly, F. Eaton.

Bingham.

[We advise F. Eaton to buy a copy of the "Anglers' Diary" (post free for 1s. 8d. from our office), from page 181 of which we take the following information, which will be found correct we believe.—Ed.]

"General Information.—There are plenty of various kinds of fish in all the rivers and water holes. The Murray cod is a large fish, running up to 100lb. They are very good eating. The bream are something like the English bream, but much better eating. They afford capital sport. At Seymour, five hundred miles above the junction of the Goulburn with the Murray, the fishing is very good. Large-sized Limerick hooks are the best to take out, which answer well for yellow perch, bream, cod, and large eels. In the upper part of the Hunter, dapping for perch with a grasshopper is good. Quantities of little fish, the size of bleak, may be taken with an artificial fly. In almost every one of the rivers on the Australasian continent, which flow southward and eastward from the great chain of hills which run more or less parallel to the coast, very good sport may be had with the artificial fly from October to April. The fish is the Australasian grayling (*Noto-thymallus Australis*, M'Coy), which swarms in all the running streams wherever there are rocks and gravel—certainly from the Glenelg, on the borders of South Australia, around the coast as far east and north as the Hunter in New South Wales. It breeds in the winter months on the long flat banks of sand and gravel, and in summer is found in shallow broken water, in localities precisely similar to those in which one would look for a grayling in an English river. In weight the Australian grayling averages from ½lb. to 1lb. when in season. They will take almost any fly that kills grayling in England, showing a preference for the Duns, the Black and Red Ant, and the Midge. The hooks should be of the Nos. 12 or 13, and the tackle of the finest description. At Anderson's Creek, on the Yarra, about thirty miles above Melbourne, is a good spot. In the Gippsland rivers the sport is better, and the fish larger. The upper waters of the Mitchell, the Macalister, the Dargo, &c., swarm with grayling. In the pools a fish called here the "perch" (a species of the genus *Lastes*), going up to 8lb. or 10lb. in weight, with golden scales, and is found excellent eating. A small frog, trolled as if for pike, is a good bait for him. The English salmon and trout are now fully established in the colony. In a few years Tasmania promises to afford the finest angling in the world, if the colonists will only take care of the fish."

FISHING IN CANADA.

Dear Sir,—I notice in your issue of July 11, a letter from "Rux," in which he says that I "called him over the coals" for saying there were plenty of fish in Canada. If he will take the trouble to read my letter again he will find that I never said there were no fish, or even that the fishing was poor; but that I simply corrected some of the glaring errors in his letter, which would lead the unwary to believe that the very best of salmon and trout fishing could be got by any stranger in any part of New Brunswick. I suppose "Rux" considered it opportune to throw a doubt on my statements, for I thought the subject was done with long since. In his last letter of the series "Rux" so completely took my breath away with the statements about weight of mountain trout that I forbore from criticising, hoping that the end had come. Apologising for troubling you with such a small affair,—I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

Montreal. Canadian Silver Doctor.

GOOD SPORT AMONG THE BREAM.

Sir,—On the morning of Tuesday, the 4th inst., myself and Dr. Ladell had a turn on the river Ant navigation, near Stalham, Norfolk, when we made a show of over 7st. weight of fish, nearly all bream; curiously enough no fish was under 1lb., yet the heaviest did not exceed 2½lb. We had a rare job with the tackle, as the morning being quite dark we were continually coming to grief, getting entangled, and losing the gut bottoms and floats.

Our attendant was A. Nichols, of Stalham, and no doubt he earned his money this time. I can strongly recommend him. At his house can be obtained good apartments, good cooking and civility. He is also a real practical angler, up to every little move likely to circumvent the fish.

I may as well say that Dr. Ladell caught a splendid tench, weight 3lb. 1oz., just as we were leaving off.—I am, yours faithfully,

Castelnau, Barnes, S.W. W. H. Elsmore.

A QUERY FOR FISHCULTURISTS.

Sir,—I have a lake on my property covering about twenty-two acres; depth in a good many places about 30ft.; bottom mostly gravel, with some large stones; water clear, with few weeds in any part of it, and two small streams coming into it. There are a fair number of trout, some, I believe, of large size; but it has been poached for a number of years by persons fishing with otter boards, which I have put a stop to lately.

I have heard from old residents that formerly it used to be a celebrated lake to fish, but about forty years ago there was a stream opened out of it to supply a mill which is still working; and now in the spawning season numbers of trout go down the stream and never return, as they are poached. Could you give me any information as to the kind of wire grating I would require to fix permanently at the mouth of the stream, the size of the mesh and where to obtain it, so as not to keep back any of the water from the mill, as the latter does not belong to me? Also to keep small trout from leaving the lake. Would it be worth while to stock with Loch Leven or other trout? Please give me all information as to number of fry I would require; also would the vessel with automatic bellows to hold them be charged for, or would it be allowed for on returning? What would the price of yearlings per hundred be, and what would carriage to Ireland cost? Address Dunmanway, co. Cork, Ireland.—Yours truly,

Ardgroom, Ireland. W. H. Fitzmaurice.

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* Pronounce *Verenuic.* I believe only fly-fishing, as most people know, is allowed in Loch Vyrnwy.

RE DERBYSHIRE WYE.

Sir,—I am delighted to see in the columns of your paper of August 8 the very able letter by "Old Otter" in reference to the above river. As a fisherman of some experience on that once delightful stream, I beg to say that he has in no manner whatsoever overrated the true aspect of affairs.

This spring I had about nine days' fishing between Fulliford and Bakewell, and although in that time I managed to capture forty-six sizeable fish, I found that which two or three years ago was a pleasure pure and simple turned into downright hard work. I generally contrived to get down to the water about eleven a.m.; from this time until close on one o'clock the water was everything to be desired, the fish coming on well between twelve and one. I take say three nice fish, just enough to make a man feel that by dint of a little exertion he will be able to show a good creel in the evening. I chuckle to myself at the idea, and take another cast on the strength of it. The flies alight on the opposite bank, when, with an almost imperceptible movement of the top joint, the duns fall lightly on the water. Something stops the line—it is no fish, for I can feel a grating sensation. I wind up to find a large piece of stick, weed, bramble, or some other abomination of iniquity at the end of it. I clear it off and make another cast, with precisely the same result, and so *ad infinitum.* The colour of the water too changes; instead of the lovely clear stream of a few minutes before, the water has been transmogrified into a muddy rushing torrent, carrying with it branches of trees and large portions of the bank, which have become detached. This means all up for about four hours. I spike my rod, use parliamentary language, pull out a certain small flask, and drown my sorrows in ham sandwich and tobacco smoke. Some of my brother fishers (who I notice are always of a gregarious disposition about lunch time) join me. We talk it over, and agree unanimously that some kind friend higher up has, as usual, charitably opened a dam. This sort of thing occurs at least four times per week. Some of us are of opinion that the riparian owners should be consulted; others say, tell Mr. Marston all about it. I have taken the latter method of expressing my feeling in the matter, as it really goes to my heart to see the dear old Wye so harshly dealt with, wherefore I know not.

I will conclude by saying that at about five o'clock in the evening, when the flood has subsided, a careful man may kill his brace and a-half; but, of course, in the earlier months of the season the evenings are cold: in that case the only thing to do is to go home. What I have here stated can be confirmed by several of my friends, members of the Flyfishers' Club, who have fished the old river many years, and are as sorry as myself to see so palpable a falling-off.—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully, Saracen.

TRAILING FOR PIKE, &c.

Sir,—Recognising the great estimation in which the *F. G.* is held by its large circle of supporters, who are true sportsmen, I shall feel favoured if you will, through the medium of your correspondence, allow me to bring before their notice the fact that the method of fishing for pike, &c., sometimes called "spinning" by those who practise it, but which is properly designated by sportsmen, "trailing," and is but few points above "poaching," is greatly on the increase on many reaches of the Thames. Cannot some means be taken by those in authority to entirely prevent this unsportsmanlike practice being continued?

It is well known that Thames pike are slowly but surely decreasing in number, and also in size, for the capture of a pike of 15lb. or upwards is a most rare occurrence in many portions of the river.

These conditions cannot be materially improved until (1) steps are taken to prevent trailing, and (2) to raise the standard of takeable fish from 18in. to 20in. or 22in. Hundreds of small pike are taken and retained during the summer and autumn months by "trailers," who, if they attempted to practise any method requiring skill and patience, would invariably return home minus fish. This subject being of great interest to a large number of Thames pike anglers, they would, I feel sure, heartily support any measure which would bring about the entire eradication of trailing, and tend to raise the standard of takeable fish, and ultimately result in the general improvement of pike fishing in our grand old river.—I am, yours faithfully, Esox Lucius.

[This question of trailing for pike in the Thames has very often been referred to in our columns, and has also frequently received consideration from the committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society; but the difficulty is that it is not illegal, and there would be great opposition to its being illegal. We have heard anglers who declaim against trailing a spinning bait behind a boat in the Thames praise to the skies the "glorious sport" they have had when trailing a spinning bait for salmon behind a boat on the river Tay or Loch Tay or Loch Naver, or other Scotch or Irish rivers and lochs. What is "glorious sport" in Scotland becomes "rank poaching" on the Thames. Why? We confess we are at a loss to reply. If it is said salmon and *ferox* are more sporting fish, then it would seem more unsportsmanlike still to take them by a poaching method. It seems to be a case of straining at the small pike and swallowing the big salmon. As it appears to be true that pike are decreasing in the Thames, if their increase is desired, the only practical plan we can suggest is to raise the standard of size. It would be most difficult to obtain convictions for trailing, and as it generally happens that only small jack are taken in this way, if the size were increased the harm done would be very much reduced. For our part, we confess we do not think the young lady who holds a rod in the stern of the boat while her sweetheart rows her up the river is a person we want to prosecute; or that if she takes the oars and her lover the rod that he is much worse. They probably do not know how to fish in any other way, and may be encouraged by a little success to become anglers. —Ed.]

PERCH CAUGHT WITH FLY IN THE THAMES.

Dear Sir,—I read in last week's *Field* that several fine perch had been caught with a fly above Sunbury. I suppose the fly would be a large Red Palmer, used under water; but should be very much obliged if you could let me know.—Yours truly, J. S

[We read the *Field* religiously, but missed the note referred to. Perhaps someone who knows how the perch were taken with the fly will reply. Perch will at times dash at anything which has the least appearance of life. A small, tough, well-scoured red-worm on a Red Palmer, cast with a light fly-rod lightly among perch, when they are hunting on the shallows, is often irresistible, but it requires more skill than casting without the worm.—Ed.]

FIRST-RATE DRY-FLY FISHING WANTED.

Sir,—I am a subscriber now for some years past to your paper, living on the continent, where my leisure has been devoted to fly-fishing, and being about to return and settle down in England, with a view to indulging in the same pursuit, should be glad if you would suggest to me some locality where I should be likely to find a small house in a pretty situation near to some subscription water, where really *first-rate dry fly fishing* could be obtained, for which I should be willing to subscribe handsomely. I have an idea that if I only knew the precise spot I could find what I required in Derbyshire; but perhaps you will be good enough to advise me in the matter, and oblige, faithfully yours, Enthusiast.

Berne.

["Enthusiast" has omitted to send us his address, but as his letter is evidently genuine we insert it. If he will send his address we shall be happy to advise him; in the meantime we should like to have particulars *(not for publication)* of any waters answering the description of what he requires. "First-rate dry-fly fishing" is rather sought after.—Ed.]

FISHING IN THE TOWEY.

Sir,—Your correspondent "Greenheart" can get fair salmon and sewin fishing on the river Towey, at Llandilo by paying a guinea subscription to the local fishing association. Mr. Hopkins, proprietor of the Cawdor Arms, would give him every information. Leave can be got for a few places on the Coshi, but at very out-of-the way places, difficult to get at. Dr. Lloyd, at Llandilo, a very good sportsman, knows all the fishings in the neighbourhood, and is at all times happy to extend his knowledge to strangers visiting the neighbourhood.—Yours, &c.,

Flyfishers' Club. J. Allison.

RE CAMM FUND.—APPEAL TO CLUB ANGLERS AND FRIENDS.

Dear Sir,—Since my last report, I beg to acknowledge receipt of half guinea from the Hoxton Brothers Angling Society. Total amount in hand, £18 16s. 9d.—I am, yours truly, B. Abrahams.

25, Silver-street, Notting Hill Gate, W.

Cheques and Postal Orders can be crossed "Alliance Bank."

The Carrier Pigeon as a Fish Messenger.—The West Highland fishermen have adopted a capital plan for communicating with the fish merchants of the City in reference to their daily "hauls." The homing pigeon has been pressed into the service of this useful industry, and after every day's fishing a pigeon is despatched with a message relating to the "catch," and thus the merchants know in advance what they will have at their disposal.

Salmon and Trout Fishing in the Bundrowes River, Donegal, Ireland.—All those who have fished the Bundrowes river will be interested in some excellent illustrations by Mr. James Temple, the well-known artistic angler, which appear in the *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News* of August 8. The following short account of the fishery is given:—"The Bundrowes river (Donegal), for the most part a slow-flowing, canal-like stream, comes out of Lough Melvin. It is only about three miles in length. The part nearest the sea is tame-looking for a salmon river, but is nevertheless a very good salmon water; and since it was staked, about a year ago, the sport has sometimes been first-rate. For a considerable portion of its course the Bundrowes flows through bogs, and the angler who cannot jump well to clear the many dykes, which are cut at right angles to the stream, will often have to walk a long distance before he can get round. The scenery is very beautiful. The mountains form the background, the curves of which retire in waves of bog and pasture, with here and there a cottage picturesquely peeping out, while at one's back over a ridge of sand the grand Atlantic roars everlastingly. A good breeze from the sea straight up the river making big waves on it is the time to fish for salmon on Bundrowes. It is tiresome casting, however, as it is all in the teeth of the wind. When the wind does not favour, the boiled shrimp is the bait most used. Large lake trout, gillaroe, and brown trout are very plentiful in the river, and splendid sport may generally be had with them. Angling on this river opens on January 1, and May and June are good months; in the middle of June the grilse fishing is often very good. Mr. Dickson is the owner of this fishery. He is a very genial man, and generally grants a stranger a few days' salmon fishing. Bundoran, one of the healthiest seaside towns in the three kingdoms, is within half-a-mile of the river, and a drive from Sligo to Bundoran, about sixteen miles, cannot be surpassed for loveliness. There is good accommodation in the town. Hamilton's Hotel is an excellent place, and Mr. Ball has comfortable apartments."

Le Page's Liquid Glue.—The Best Glue we Know.—It is unnecessary to dilate on the manifest advantages of having in the house always ready for use a liquid glue which will stick anything together, from a scrap in an album to joints which will endure a testing strain of over 1,600lb. to the square inch. Le Page's Liquid Glue has been used by us for many years, and it gives us much pleasure to recommend such a really useful and valuable article.

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—Dyspepsia, Jaundice.—These complaints are the results of a disordered liver, which secretes bile in quality or quantity incapable of digesting food. Digestion requires a free flow of healthy bile, to insure which Holloway's Pills and Ointment have long been famous, far eclipsing every other medicine. Food, irregularity of living, climates, and other causes, are constantly throwing the liver into disorder, but that important organ can, under all circumstances, soon be regulated and healthily adjusted by Holloway's Pills and Ointment, which act directly upon its vital secretion. The Ointment rubbed on the skin penetates immediately to the liver, whose blood and nerves it rectifies. One trial is all that is needed; a cure will soon follow.

Waltoniana

Considerable changes are taking place in the constitution of the Henley and District Fishery Preservation Association. Mr. Knight, the hon. sec., has resigned, and, at any rate for the present, his place has been taken by Mr. C. H. Cook, the founder of the society and first hon. sec. The private water on the Loddon and St. Patrick's stream will be carried on as hitherto, and Mr. A. Breakspeare, the hon. treasurer, Henley-on-Thames, will no doubt be glad to receive the subscriptions of those interested in Thames fishery preservation.

August is "soolky," or the reverse, according to the rainfall. With scorching hot weather and low water, fish of almost all sorts appear to lose their appetites, and if they feed at all do so about sunrise and during the night. But what a difference a few rain-storms make to the angler. How those merry sea trout dance up the rivers with not a few salmon in seasonable streams! How well the barbel take, and what nice dishes of perch may be artfully caught by judicious fishing among the weeds. But, assuming that these rain-storms, which bring joy to the angler and sorrow to the farmer, are absent, even then there are left gudgeon and chub for those who have the chance of fishing for them, at once the most delicate and most coarse of the fish which are found in our more gently-flowing rivers. No day is too hot for the gudgeon to feed, and the very sunshine which sends other fish into the shade among impregnable masses of weeds, brings the chub to the surface, to bask with mouth open, ready for the angler's Marlow Buzz, Black Frog, slug, frog, piece of greaves, or other tempting bait to drop into it.

In August, salmon are apt to rise shyly and short, so it is the time of times to try the long-shanked, small-bend, double hooks which were brought out last year by Warners, of Redditch, for the express purpose of hooking short rising salmon. So far as I was able to try them last season I found them answer admirably, especially in the small sizes. Ordinary double hooks I do not like, but these are made with small bends and long shanks, the two desiderata of easy penetration. The scale of sizes has been worked out very carefully, and instead of enlarging the bend with the lengthened shank, the bend is kept almost the same size after a sufficient size has been attained to hold a fish. When one comes to think of it, there is really no necessity to go on enlarging the size of the bend; all that is wanted being a longer shank to carry the larger sizes of flies. The smaller the bend, the less there is to frighten the fish, and, as I said before, the greater the penetration. We are so used to see a large bend on a large fly, that these new double hooks look awkward and ugly, but a little consideration will show that in principle they are right, and from my own experience they both hook and hold fish. Any one who thinks of trying them should get the makers to dress a fly or two on them, as a dresser who had no instructions on the subject would probably make the body too long. But of course the fly can be dressed with the body, covering as much of the shank as is usual. The idea of the inventor of the hooks was, however, to let the bend of the hook project well beyond the body, so as to lay hold of short rising fish. I have caught lake trout on these hooks as well as salmon.

The recent wet weather has kept the roach on the feed in many waters, but large roach are not easy to catch at this time of year. I am inclined to think that we often use too small a bait for large roach. Ask a London bank angler the best bait for roach, and he is as likely as not to say, "a large dollop of paste." Certainly I have caught fine roach with a fragment of paste no larger than a No. 1 shot, placed on the point of a hook, when they would look at nothing larger; but generally speaking the large bait is the thing, that is, of course, presuming there are any large roach to be caught. But, my roach-fishing friends, let me warn you against a large "dollop of paste" on a small hook. If you act contrary to that advice you may have many bites, but you will hook few fish, for the paste will simply act as a guard to the hook, and allow the latter to be drawn out of the fish's mouth.

A large bait for roach is particularly necessary where there is a mixed company of fish scrambling over the ground-bait. By "mixed" I mean mixed as to sizes. In the swim are perhaps a hundred or two small fish, varying from three to five ounces in weight. With these are, perhaps, a couple of dozen fathers of the flock, whom it should be your especial aim and object to catch. Well, put on a small bait and see the result. A little fish has it at once, and is hauled up kicking right in the face of the aforesaid fathers. Then another little fish is caught, and another and another, and perhaps one or two more are pricked. "Oh, hang it," say the fathers, "we'll take a swim round and leave the youngsters to enjoy themselves," and off they go fin-in-fin. You catch a few more small fish, and go home and say the poachers have netted all the large ones. Suppose, now, you had put on a "dollop of paste," might not the result have been different? Those little fish might have rubbed their noses against it, but would not have attempted to swallow this much-too-large morsel for their mouths. Then, slowly might swim up one of the fathers, and with deliberation and after duly inspecting the bait, suck it into his mouth and then stay still a moment while he studied the flavour. You, may be, have so far seen no sign on the float, but the large roach, which has been drifting down with the stream, makes a gentle movement with his tail which carries him a little towards the ground-bait. Your float stops, and would have been depressed a little, but you are too good a fisherman to wait for the depression, and having struck at the stoppage find yourself in a good fish. You may ask how I know all about it, and my reply is that I have many a time fished where I could see the fish take the bait, and so have had many opportunities of seeing the way they bite. What I have ascertained without doubt is, that roach can time after time take the bait in their mouths and hold it there a second, and then send it out again without the slightest movement being seen on the float. Possibly the reason of this is that when a fish takes a bait he often ceases to swim for a second or two, and is carried down by the stream; he thus keeps his position under the float, which is not in consequence moved. Templar.

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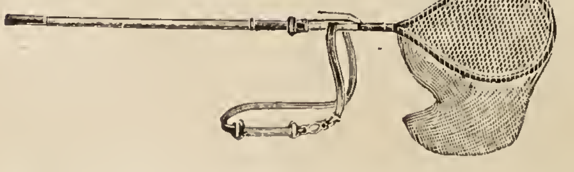

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SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 1891.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The General Committee met on Monday evening, Mr. R. Murphy in the chair. An application from the Maidstone Angling Society for a grant of money was considered, and it was unanimously agreed to advise the delegates to award it the sum of five five guineas, as it was shown that many London anglers availed themselves of the opportunity of fishing the long stretch of water preserved by this society. Several other matters of interest to the association were then discussed, and it was resolved to take active measures with regard to various stretches of the Lea next week. The meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman. —HON. REPORTER.

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly delegate meeting will take place on Monday evening next, August 17, at 8.30. —R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT No. 1.—The next return visit will be to the Izaak Walton Angling Society, Old King John's Head, Mansfield-street, Kingsland-road, on Monday next, August 17.—G. MANNING.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT No. 2.—The next return visit on this list will take place at the Eustonian Angling Society on Monday next, August 17, when I hope to see all the clubs on the list represented.—F. THORLING.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of half-a-crown donation from Dr. Leapingwell, Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—We fish for three prizes at the Langley association water, one rod only. All to start fishing on the morning only, not Saturday. Messrs. J. and E. Gibbs weighed in gudgeon, dace, and bream. Members are requested to attend next Wednesday at 9.15. The photos of the competition at Slough on the 26th ult., can be seen at the Marylebone Angling Club, Pineapple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W. —B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—On the 9th, Messrs. W. Hopping and J. Scott weighed in roach, dace, and gudgeon. On Tuesday we had a good muster of members present, when it was settled that we fish our quarterly prizes on August 30, at Monkey Island, Taplow; pegged-down; jack barred; all to go down on the morning of competition; one rod only.—J. PAILES, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—The following members weighed in on the 9th: Messrs. Medcalf, Moir and Harding showing roach, bream and dace. We have decided to fish a batch of prizes off on September 13.—W. H. POTTER, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Several of our members were out on the 9th inst., and the following weighed in: Mr. King, chub and roach; Mr. Lovett, roach and dace; Mr. J. Bell, roach, dace, and a very nice show of gudgeon; Mr. Cooper, roach and dace; Mr. Bond, roach and dace; Mr. J. Rich, roach. Intending competitors for our Egham outing, on the 16th, are requested to all meet at Clapham Junction not later than 8.15 a.m.—J. RICH, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 9th inst. our members were out in good force, and a very fine show of fish was put on the trays, contributed by the following members: Mr. Embleton, jun., having a very nice show of bream and roach; Mr. Whitebread having a fine show of roach, dace, bream, and perch; Mr. Nunn, sen., some good roach, dace, and bream; Mr. W. Hake, roach, dace, and gudgeon; Mr. G. Merry, some good roach and bream; and Mr. C. Irwin having a fine show of roach and bream. On the 23rd, our annual dinner takes place at the Black Dog and Duck Inn, Bury, near Pulborough. All members are requested to attend next Thursday, the 20th, on important business. We enrolled two new working members last meeting night, and are still open for a few more.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—Mr. Palmer had a good tray of fish from the Central Association's waters at Pulborough on the 9th—bream, 14lb. 10oz. The members were out also for the August series of prizes, but they were not taken, so they are still open for the 16th inst.—A. G. SMITH, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Battersea.—The members of this club will fish a match on the 16th for four prizes. Roving; all fish to weigh; bank or punt. A special prize of half-a-guinea will also be given for an honorary members' match, same day and conditions. Members are requested to attend next Tuesday, to arrange next outing.—GEORGE MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—Only three members weighed in on the 9th, being the smallest show of fish this season. Mr. Reynard, perch, one fish 1lb. 9oz.; Mr. J. Smith, roach; Mr. Warman, perch, one fish 1lb. 3oz. The competition for the August series of prizes will take place on the 16th. Place and conditions to be decided at the meeting on the 14th.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—On Wednesday evening Mr. G. Howard was unanimously elected an honorary member. During the evening a warm discussion arose on the subject of a fish preservation fund, which was finally adjourned till next week. On the 9th the following gentlemen weighed in: Mr. Farmer, perch, amongst which was a nice fish of 1lb. 9oz.; Mr. F. Barker, carp; whilst Messrs. Hooker, Foster, and Wheelhouse contributed to a good show.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the 9th, Mr. Rich was the only member to weigh in, he having a good show of jack, perch, roach, and dace. On the 29th of July, Mr. C. Davis was proposed and seconded as a working member of this society, which was carried. Our quarterly pegged-down match will take place at Ware, from the cottage up to the engine-house. The prize list for the season will be forwarded and finished and printed by Wednesday, August 19.—D. WARREN, sec.

Bomore Angling Society, the Britannia, Clarendon-road, Notting-hill, W.—Our general outing will take place on September 13, to King's Langley, by brake. Friends of members are invited. Fare three shillings. A general meeting will be held next Monday, August 17, to decide on prizes to be fished for. All members are requested to attend.—F. STEVENS, sec.

Bostonian Angling Society.—The following members have taken fish during the past week: Mr. Ward, bream and roach; Mr. Rundle, bream and roach; Mr. Jennings, roach and dace; heaviest dace, 9oz. Mr. West, bream from the tidal waters Twickenham, heaviest bream 2lb. 5¼oz.; Mr. Brown, perch and dace; heaviest perch, 1lb. 4oz.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On the 9th Mr. Aitchison saved us a blank with a show of chub. On Wednesday Mr. Avis brought up a very nice lot of bream and roach.—H. ROACH, sec.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—We fished for two prizes on the 9th, and notwithstanding the skill shown by the two gentlemen who pegged out the swims, no one took the required weight of fish to win. The following have weighed in: Messrs. Whatcott, Wilson, and Bissell, bream; Mr. Wilson, roach. The two prizes will be fished for on the 23rd of August, at Dagenham, pegged-down, one rod.—T. HAWKES, sec.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road. — A few of our members went out on the 9th inst. and brought home some good fish. Mr. D. Flint had 3lb. ¼oz. of roach and dace; Mr. Green, bream, 2lb. 6¾oz.; Mr. Sparks, roach, 1lb. 7½oz.; and Mr. Antill, roach and dace, 2lb. 4oz. We go out for prizes on August 30, from Burnt Mill Loch down to Royon. Members to sign at club house on Saturday, August 29.—J. PETHER, sec.

Buxton Brothers' Angling Society, Walthamstow, Liberal and Radical Club, 4 and 6, Buxton-road.—On the 9th we fished our first competition, with the following result; Mr. C. James, finest specimen fish, a perch; Mr. Davis, first prize, roach; Mr. James, second prize, perch; Mr. Goullee, third prize, roach. On Wednesday, the 12th, there was a large attendance of members, when a second competition was arranged for prizes, to take place on the 30th. Members are particularly requested to be present at the next meeting, on August 26, as we have some important business to transact.—A. SHUKER, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 9th only three members weighed in, Mr. W. White, bream and roach; Mr. Sharp, roach; and Mr. Fitter, roach and dace. Members are reminded that Wednesday next is clearing night, per Rule 4. —E. T. WHITE, sec.

Campbell United Angling Society, Sir Colin Campbell, High-road, Kilburn.—We have had some good shows during the holidays, members weighing in as follows: Mr. Hall, perch, tench, roach and bream; Mr. Hiscock, jack and roach; Mr. J. Tanner, jack and roach; Messrs. J. Smith, Pope, R. Smith, Farnie and C. Lake, bream, tench and roach; Messrs. Wood, E. T. Lake, Neall, Huntly, Pickett and others, roach. We have had the pleasure of making two more new members this week.—E. W. WOOD, hon. sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—On Monday last, three honorary members were enrolled. The chairman opened up an interesting discussion on "Dace Fishing," which was supplemented by excellent singing, and we spent, as usual, a very enjoyable evening. Mr. H. W. Sharp was the accompanist. We have had a few good fish from the Thames and elsewhere during the week. Mr. Tom Keeble has been busy among the rudd; Mr. J. Deplidge with the bream—his largest, 3¼lb.; Mr. Harry Dunn, roach; while Messrs. C. E. Williams, A. Sowerbutts, Guest, Pulsford, Smith, Eliston, Coleman, and Spanswick were "well up." Professor Chris. Green will read a paper on "Roach Fishing" here on Monday, August 24.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—Very few of our members were out in the holidays, Mr. H. Gates was successful among the bream in the Chelmer, and Mr. Macdonnell weighed roach and bream from Amberley. On the 9th, Mr. Castell weighed a few fish from the Roding.—CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.—On the 9th inst., the members of the above fished a roving match at Broad Mead, Woking, with the following result: First, Mr. T. Jameson; second, F. T. Tringham, jun.; third, A. Heyman; fourth, Mr. Willgoss.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—An ordinary weekly meeting of this society was held on Monday last, Mr. H. Affleck in the chair; but in the unavoidable absence of the secretary (Mr. Howse), the principal business of the evening was postponed until the next meeting. A very nice catch of roach was exhibited by Mr. Affleck, from the society's water at Rammey Marsh, the largest of which scaled 1¾lb.—A. W. OLIVER, assistant secretary.

Clarence Angling Club, Red Lion Hotel, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.—Several members have been out, Messrs. G. A. Boughton and G. Holloway taking some very handsome roach from our new water. —ALF. E. EVANS, sec.

Clerkenwell and District United.—The next visit on the above will be to the Independent Brothers, held at the Three Doves, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, on Wednesday evening next, August 19.—F. CASTLE.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We had a fair show of fish on the 9th, weighed in by the following members: Mr. E. Baxter, roach and dace; Mr. W. Hutchings, roach and tench; Mr. H. Underwood, jack; Mr. F. Stone, tench and jack; Mr. F. Hannabur, jack. A match for private prizes was proposed on our last meeting, conditions to be made on August 18, when I hope all members will attend.—A. SMITH, sec.

Corinthian Angling Club, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, W.—Fair bags of roach, dace, &c., have been had by our members during the past week, Mr. P. Brown having, amongst other fish, a grand roach, weighing 2lb. 4oz., and one tench, 3¼lb.; Mr. E. J. Sidney, from Thames, baiting with greaves for barbel, a few nice roach.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 9th inst. several of our members were out, but owing to the unsettled weather the only gentlemen who had any sport were Messrs. Wild, Parram, Cogswell, Killick, Legge, and Barrat, who had a fine show of roach, perch, and jack. Next Tuesday two new members will be elected.—S. MALBY, sec.

East London Piscatorial Society, London Hospital Tavern, Whitechapel-road, E.—At the committee meeting held August 6, Mr. Myers in the chair, Messrs. Pringle, Stammers and Foggio were elected on the committee, and another new member was proposed. It was decided to have a fishing outing on Thursday, August 20, at Nayland; seven o'clock train from Liverpool-street to Colchester, thence by trap; we go at special fares. The prizes to be fished for are: 1st, £1 11s. 6d.; 2nd, £1 1s.; 3rd, 10s. 6d.; and 5s. for the largest fish of any kind, bar jack, caught during the day; not less than 3lb. of fish to take a prize. During the holidays, our president and treasurer were at Staines, and had C. Hone for their pilot. Although the water was gin bright, they weighed between them 40lb. of roach, chub and dace; amongst them were some very good specimen fish, as they returned all roach under 8in., and dace under 7in., they being our club sizes.—FRANK WOODS, secretary.

Eustonian Angling Society, King's Head, Swinton-street, King's-cross.—The next return visit on the Clerkenwell Visiting List, will take place at the above club, on Monday, August 24, when we hope to see as many anglers and friends as can make it convenient to attend. During Bank Holiday our members fished at Enfield for the club prizes left from last season, when two were taken, Mr. Barrett being first, and Mr. Bayley second. On the 9th inst., we had a very good show, several members weighing in jack, perch, bream and roach; on the 2nd inst., one of our members, Mr. Laybur, in mistake, took the wrong tackle from the rack of the railway carriage. He will be very pleased to exchange them for his own on any night during the week.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—Since my last the following have weighed in: On the 2nd, Mr. S. Hill, bream and dace; and Mr. Vanhegan, roach. On the 9th, Messrs. Vanhegan, roach; Biggs, bream; and S. Hill, roach. Our worthy host and treasurer, Mr. A. A. Eldridge, with the assistance of a few friends, intends organising angling competitions on the following dates: Pulborough, September 6; Amberley, October 4; Pulborough, October 25. All further particulars in due course.—J. W. BIGGS, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had a moderate show of fish on the 9th inst. (16lb. 8oz. of roach, dace, and bream), taken by Messrs. F. Lawrence, W. Lawrence, Hall, Ellis, Ballard, and Riggs. Other members out, but not successful.—A. P., sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road.—On the 9th the following members weighed in: Messrs. Crow and Bowring, bream; Green, roach and dace: Bailey, roach and gudgeon. Mr. Bishop made an excellent show of roach and bream on Tuesday. Members are requested to take notice that Tuesday, 5th inst., was quarterly night, and they will oblige by clearing the books as early as possible.—A. STOKES.

Good Intent Angling Society.—Our annual dinner will take place on Monday next, at the Rye House. I expect a large attendance of members and friends. Mr. H. J. Tibbatts will preside. A four-horse brake will start from the club-house at 9.30 on the morning. The members will fish for ten prizes at Cheshunt on the 23rd inst.; start by first train.—R. MURPHY.

Grantham Angling Association. — The eighteenth annual match was held on Monday last, when seventy-one members journeyed down the Canal in two boats, as far as Casthorpe Bridge, where the ground was already staked out by three of the committee, who had gone down a few hours previously, the draw for places taking place in the boats on the journey. During the afternoon a very severe thunderstorm came on. When time was called and the catches weighed, it was found that Mr. J. Welbourn had the heaviest, his fish (bream), weighing 4lb. ½oz., thus securing the first prize of £2 given by the president of the association, Earl Brownlow. There were only five competitors failed to catch a fish. The prizes were distributed on the following night at the Blue Man, by Mr. T. Scothern.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—The members of the above club were out on the 9th inst., when Mr. G. F. Weaver weighed in jack, perch and roach, 6lb.; J. Grande and G. Johnson also weighed fish. I wish to remind members that the pegged-down match at Hatfield-Peverel takes place on the 16th, when five prizes will be fished for.—G. F. WEAVER.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Robin Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville, N.—Since my last report the following takes have been shown: July 26th, J. Hewitt, bream and tench, 12lb. 6oz.; W. Barnes, tench, 5lb. 10oz.; C. Watling, jun., 1lb. 12oz., and F. Watling, 2lb. 13oz. of roach from Thames; J. Birch, roach, 5lb. 11lb.; Messrs. J. K. Fitch, J. A. Fitch, W. Parkin, G. Snell, and C. Large had smaller takes, total 35lb. 10oz. Aug. 2, Messrs. F. and C. Watling, C. Large, and J. A. Fitch had roach from the Thames. Aug. 3rd, Bank Holiday, F. Watling, a few roach from the Thames, heaviest 1lb. 1½oz.: A. Hambridge, 12lb. 10oz.; W. Barnes, 7lb. 5oz.; and J. Hewitt, 7lb. 1oz., consisting of bream, roach and tench, total 29lb. 7oz. Aug. 9th, J. Hewett, 2lb. 3oz.; and W. Barnes, 3lb. 14oz. of rudd; H. Brooke, one nice bream, 2lb. 12oz. The following members weighed in roach: C. Watling, 4lb. 14oz.; J. Birch, 8lb.; C. Large and H. Watling—total 22lb. 4oz.—J. A. FITCH, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting was held last Tuesday, Mr. F. R. Ohlson in the chair. Several members had been fishing and reported as follows: Mr. Rasen, fishing at Potter Heigham, five days, caught two hundred and thirty-two roach, fifty-five bream, seventeen perch, and twenty-three rudd. Mr. Braumley had been having good sport in Fritton Broads; Mr. Mason from the society's water, one roach over 1lb., two of three-quarters of a pound, and five of half-pound. Mr. Parker, flounders, from Southend: and the secretary three good trout, with a Wickham's Fancy fly. Mr. A. W. Parker, hon. treasurer, read a paper on sea fishing, which contained a large amount of valuable information, on what is now becoming a very important branch of angling, and a unanimous vote of thanks was accorded him. Members will kindly note that the sea competition will take place on Monday next instead of Tuesday, as previously announced. Train leaves Holborn Viaduct for Sheerness at 7 a.m., and returns same day at 7.22 p.m., arriving at Holborn Viaduct at 10.5 p.m. The train will be met at Sheerness by P.—A. W. PARKER.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 9th inst. several of our members were again fortunate, Mr. Muller bringing dace and gudgeon; Mr. Brink, dace, perch, roach, and gudgeon; Mr. Saalfield, perch; Mr. Braham, jun., roach and bream; Mr. A. Fish, roach and bream; Mr. Ford, bream. I am asked to state that Mr. A. Fish for the last three weeks has been fishing the waters at Dagenham Gulf: his average takings being 15lb. roach and bream.—W. Fenner, sec.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—Since the commencement of the present month a goodly number of our members have had capital sport among the fish. The most successful were as follows: Mr. Frank Temple, a splendid tray of dace, barbel, and chub from the Thames; Mr. Rutherford and friend, a grand assortment of tench (several over 3lb. each), bream, roach (two scaling 1lb. 15oz., and 1lb. 13½oz.), perch, trout, and a handsome grayling of 1lb. 8½lb., from the Hampshire Avon; and Mr. J. K. Devonshire, with tench, weighing nearly 10lb. gross. We have enrolled several new members lately, and others are in course of nomination and for election.—J. T. Griffiths, secretary.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 21, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—On the 9th inst. Mr. Pope saved us from a blank, weighing in dace and gudgeon. We fish a match on the 16th inst. for four prizes, from Rye House to St. Margaret's; all to go by the first train from Liverpool-street, at eight o'clock; usual conditions. Our return visit on the C.D.U.V. List takes place next Wednesday, the 19th inst., when Mr. Harding, assisted by "Old Izaak," will read us a paper. I hope all our friends will not forsake us on this occasion, but give us a good visit, and I am sure they will be amply repaid.—Snap.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—The following weighed in on the 9th inst.: Mr. Willsher, roach, 1lb. 2oz.; W. Stretch, dace and gudgeon, 1lb. 3oz.; Mr. Croker, dace, 3lb. 3¼oz. We have room for a few more members.—J. H. Herbert, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members competed for five special prizes on the 9th inst. Mr. H. Butt secured first honour; Mr. T. Harris, second; Mr. G. Washington, third; and Mr. J. R. Charters, fourth. Messrs. J. McDermott and J. Elliott had equal weights. The fifth prize will no doubt be fished for again by these gentlemen. There are a series of prizes to be fished for on the 23rd inst., particulars to be had at the club-house. Mr. H. C. Wheatley had a tray of nice roach on Wednesday, the 12th inst., which scaled 8lb. 15oz. The next return visit (No. 1, Eastern District) will be to this society, on Monday evening next, 17th inst., on which occasion the members would be glad to welcome as many of their angling friends as can possibly attend.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—On the 9th inst., Messrs. Beales and Tomkins had tench and roach; other members were out, but did not weigh in. Two new members were proposed at our last meeting, and a match arranged for on the 23rd inst., particulars of which will appear next week.—A. Ide, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—At the committee meeting on the 2nd inst., two punt competitions were arranged to be held, the first on the 23rd, and the second on 27th. Prizes of £1 1s. and 10s. 6d. for each competition. Members are at liberty to go to any part of the Thames. The following members weighed in during the week: Messrs. Wilmot, Master, Newcombe, Carter, and Mason.—T. Salter, hon. secretary.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road.—On the 9th inst., a good many members were out, but did not have much sport, the following weighing in fish: Mr. White, barbel, dace, and roach; Mr. Holmes, carp; and Mr. Watling, roach and dace. I hope to see a good muster of members on Wednesday next, for important business.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—At our meeting last week two more nominations for membership were made. Arrangements were completed for the outing on the 13th inst., cards of which members will duly receive. The St. Helen's Angling Association wrote asking us to join them in a friendly contest. This was agreed to on the condition that it be a home and home affair, we naming for our side the Knowsley water, and the St. Helens' people to name theirs, which must be a water which they rent or over which they have control.—R. Woolfall.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 9th our members fished their first match at Boxmoor, when only three prizes were won. Mr. W. Fisher, first; Mr. A. Fisher, second; Mr. W. Pearce, third. From other waters we had some good shows by Messrs. Mellish, A. Clark, and J. Sansom.—W. F. Pearce.

Newark Piscatorial Association.—The half-yearly dinner in connection with this association was held at the club-room, Horse and Gears Inn, Portland-street, Newark, on Thursday evening, the 6th inst., the chair being taken by Mr. James Neal, a member of the Trent Conservancy Board, and the vice-chair by Mr. J. Longdon, president of the association. About forty members and friends sat down to an excellent repast provided by Host Wilson, in his well-known happy style. The usual loyal and other toasts having been duly honoured, Mr. Edgar Hall, secretary, read the balance-sheet and prize list for the past half year, which were considered very satisfactory, the permanent fund account showing that a step in the right direction was taken when it was first initiated.—The chairman, in proposing "success to the Newark Piscatorials," congratulated the members on the position their society had attained. He claimed for fishing societies that they embraced the most industrious class of people; they went long journeys and laboured hard at their swims, and were very contented and cheerful, and satisfied if they only got the benefit of the fresh air and exercise. People talked of teetotal societies, but he thought that societies like this did a great deal to spread temperance. He had no doubt that his position there that night was due in a great measure to his being a Trent Conservator, and he felt extremely gratified when the Piscatorials sent a deputation to ask him to bring certain points before the Board. For a long time anglers had thought they had not received the assistance they would like from the Board in reference to coarse fish. Anglers, on the other hand, had done very little for the Board, but he hoped the day was not far distant when they would be more closely connected. One of the points laid before him by the deputation was that they should try to get coarse fish protected, but the difficulty of providing funds for such a purpose arose, and it was suggested a small sum be levied on each rod, for if it was left to voluntary subscriptions, some would contribute but others would not. The deputation told him that they were quite prepared to pay a small sum, and he believed no gentleman or true angler would hesitate to give a shilling a year in return for the protection of coarse fish—and perhaps sixpence would suffice. Some had questioned the action he took, but he was glad he had the approval of the Piscatorials. All real anglers were generous and he thought the investment would be a good one; and when the day came that they might need a petition from Newark on the question he believed the Piscatorials would stand to the front and get up a memorial for the Act to be altered. He asked them to drink "Success to the Newark Piscatorial Association." Might it ever flourish.—Mr. Longdon (president), in responding, said, with regard to the proposed rod-tax, when the deputation waited on Mr. Neal the idea in the first instance was to stop netting, that great bug-bear to fishermen. They advocated the entire abolition of netting of all kinds of coarse fish. He did not know whether the Conservators could legally stop salmon netting—salmon draws he meant—or if they could, whether they would do it without some recompense. It was not likely. Where were the funds to come from? Would fishermen be willing to subscribe? He thought they would, if they could see a sufficient return, but that needed thoroughly ventilating before anything could be done. It had been asked if they consented to a rod licence, would the charge stop at a shilling? That must be definitely decided. Again, with respect to boys, they should be exempt until a certain age, say fourteen, for if they stopped boys, where were our future fishermen to come from? It had been computed that a shilling rod-tax would realise throughout the Trent Fishery District something like £2,000 per year, if that were so, coarse fishermen should be represented on the Conservancy, or at least have a voice in the election of the representatives. With these funds the Conservators could build a hatchery, and systematically re-stock all the reaches of the Trent, and it would be to their interest to do so. Before the law was altered, he thought the Conservators should invite representatives of fishing clubs in the district to meet and discuss these questions in an amicable way. No true angler, he thought, would grumble at a rod-tax of a shilling if he saw the way to a proper return for it.—Other toasts followed, and some excellent songs contributed greatly to a most harmonious evening. W. M. Ball.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 108, Westminster Bridge-road, S.E.—Several of our members were out on the 9th inst., but nothing was weighed in, the scarcity of fish being easily accounted for in consequence of our increased standard. Members are informed that the following prizes will be fished for until the end of September. Two perch prizes, one dace, one jack, one rudd, one tench. All specimens. Full particulars of—F. Wallis, sec.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway-road, Highbury.—We met as usual on Wednesday, when Mr. Hoyle gave a tackle-book and winder as a prize. On the 9th several members were out, but returned too late to weigh in. On the 16th we fish for five prizes at Harlow. All members to go down by the 8.10 train from Hackney Downs.—H. Stretch, hon. sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W.—We had a nice show of roach by Mr. Raganot on the 6th inst. I wish to remind members that last Thursday, the 13th, was quarterly night.—G. S.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—The next visit on the Anglers' Association List will be to the above club, on the 24th inst., when we hope to see a good muster of anglers and friends. The next series of prizes will be fished for on the 16th inst.; open match. Members can leave town on Saturday. Members are requested to attend next Wednesday next to settle important business.—A. G. Duke, secretary.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Old St. Pancras-road, N.W.—On the 9th, Messrs. Carr, Brown, Heelas, Homan, Elbourn, and Mares, managed to capture a few roach, perch, and bream. All members please attend on Tuesday next.—W. Elbourn, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—During the holidays several members weighed in some nice fish. Mr. Rodber, two barbel, one 3lb. 11oz., gross, 6lb. 10½oz.; Mr. J. Isaacs, tench and roach, 5lb. 8½oz.; Mr. Morris, tench and roach, 2lb. 5oz. A match has been arranged to take place on Sept. 6, from the Swan and Bottle Bridge to Denham Lock, all fish to weigh according to club rules; one rod; no live bait. To meet at Westbourne Park, at 8.30, on the morning of the match; yet members can come down by later trains, but must report themselves before fishing; and all must cease fishing at seven o'clock. I hope members will attend on Wednesday next to make themselves eligible to compete. We had the pleasure of making another new member on Wednesday. J. W. Harris, sec.

Queen's Angling Society, the Latimer Arms, Walmer-road, Notting-hill.—During the holidays we had several good trays roach and dace, by Messrs. Bradshaw, Pearce, Drake, Pratt, Wrench, T. Morgan, Cook and Messenger, sen. On the 9th inst., roach, dace and bream, by Messrs. Sellars; Fathers, Pearce, Waterfield, and Drake. Members please note September outing takes place at Harefield, on the 6th September.—F. S. Pearce.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—The usual weekly meeting of this society was held on Monday last when Mr. T. Byworth was proposed as an honorary member and Mr. Cope as a working member. Mr. Cornley saved the club from a blank on the 9th with a show of roach.—J. Skinner, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—On the 9th, only two members weighed in, Mr. Webber with 11lb. of roach from the Upper Thames; and Mr. Gibbons with dace and barbel. Our outing to Cookham will take place on the 16th inst., for several prizes. Bank only; one rod.—F. C. Longland.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—On August 9 we had a fair show of fish, the following members weighing in: Messrs. Barrow, A. Barclay, F. Barclay, Bloomfield, G. Barclay, J. Holden, J. Stanley, J. Yeo, E. Perry, Parsley, and G. Yeo. Mr. G. Barclay was the fortunate winner of the dace prize. Mr. Barrow showed a nice roach from the Lea on Friday last, which turned the scale at 1lb. 8oz., and now is being preserved.—A. Barclay, s. c.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—On the 9th we had the trays fairly well filled with fish. Mr. J. Wright, 11lb. ½oz., roach and dace; Mr. Stone, chub and dace; Mr. Forrester, bream, largest 3lb. 11½oz. Mr. J. T. Wright, whilst tight line roach fishing, hooked and landed a nice-conditioned barbel of 3lb. 13oz. On Wednesday, two gentlemen were proposed as working members, and will be balloted for next meeting night. On the 16th inst. the members fish for eight good prizes at Amberley, roving, between Houghton and Timberley Bridges, when I hope to see all the members there. Go by first train from London Bridge, and return by the 6.10 p.m. train.—J. Wright, secretary.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 9th we had some very nice fish weighed in by the following members: C. Smith, sen., roach and gudgeon; J. Arrigoni, carp; W. North, roach; 7lb. 2oz. (one fish 1lb. 1½oz.); G. Saunders, bream (4lb. 2oz.); C. Holmes, crucian carp; J. Petrie, roach and dace, 5lb. 10¾oz.; J. Barnes, roach and dace, 3lb. 15oz. (one dace 7½oz., one roach 1lb. 1¼oz.). On Tuesday we had a fair muster of members present, when some important business was gone through. On Sept. 6 an outing will take place at Pulborough, when six prizes will be fished for in the Central Association waters; only two rods allowed. All members wishing to take part in the same are requested to give in their names before the day to the secretary.—S. E. Cane.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—We had again a good show on our trays last Wednesday, Mr. W. C. Parkhurst weighing in 20lb. of fine chub, two well-conditioned Thames trout, dace, and some nice roach, the largest 1lb. Mr. A. W. Jones has been successful in securing a handsome specimen of Thames dace 9¼oz.—Crystal Hook.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.—A number of our members were out on the 9th inst., but only the following weighed in:—Mr. O'Callaghan, 15lb. of bream; Mr Smales won the third prize left from the last outing with bream; Mr. Cherry, two nice tench, between 4lb. and 5lb.; Mr. Massey, roach and dace (one dace 7¼oz.); and Mr. Pettit, dace. A special meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 25, for financial and other business, all members interested are requested to attend. Our next outing will take place on September 5, at our society water; all to start fishing on the arrival of the first train. Mr. G. Rutsen was unanimously elected a member of our society, and another gentleman was proposed. Mr. Crumplen has kindly promised to read another paper and the date will shortly be announced.—Pelican.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—We have had some nice trays of fish by the following members: Messrs. Jones, a splendid show of roach and bream; Hooper, bream (a fine fish weighing 3lb. 3oz.); D. Marks, roach; Taylor, rudd; Brown, rudd; R. Spenceley, roach. We fish for prizes on Aug. 15, the place being Dagenham Lake.—R. Spenceley, sec.

South Belgravia Angling Society, Duke of Clarence, Horseferry-road, Westminster, S.W.—We were saved from a blank on the 9th inst. by Messrs. Wheeler and Barrett weighing in some good roach from Enfield. We meet to arrange a match next Thursday for the 23rd. Gentlemen joining on the Thursday can fish in the match.—F. Taylor.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The return visit to the St. Georges A.S. took place on the 10th inst., Mr. E. S. Sbrubsole occupying the chair, and who presented the marble time-piece won in the late competition to the fortunate winner, Mr. G. Mumford. Mr. Gordon, of the Wellington A.S. not being present to receive the ten shillings given by Mr. G. George for the largest roach, it was decided that it should be presented to him on the occasion of the visit on the Anglers Association list, to the Peckham Brothers A.S. as none of the officers of the list were present, Mr. James Smith kindly officiated by calling the roll, when twelve clubs responded. The next visit will be to the Clapham Junction A.S., held at the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, on Tuesday, September 1, when I hope they will be well supported.—A. Conn, hon. sec.

St. Andrew's Piscatorial Society, Turk's Head, East-street, W.C.—On the 9th instant, Messrs. Harris and A. Long had good shows of bream on the trays; Mr. H. King, roach.—B. Chevalier, sec.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Rhodeswell-road, Stepney.—On the 9th inst. our members again showed up well with roach and bream, although only eight of them weighed in—viz., Messrs. Nash, West, Woodford, Ruston, Jolly, Willsher, Hornblower, and Bounds. We fish a match on the 23rd inst., locality, &c., to be settled next meeting night. I trust all members will show up or write to secretary for information respecting same.—E. N. P., hon. secretary.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—A special meeting was held at the above club last Wednesday evening to rescind a previous minute—viz., from a pegged-down match to a roving match for the club prizes, and which was carried unanimously, and the members have decided to fish roving, from Houghton Bridge, Amberley, to Park Gates, on the 15th, for the said prizes.—George Morton, sec.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—Most of our members took advantage of the two days' fishing on the 2nd and 3rd inst.; the majority of them had good shows of fish, but no specimens. On the 9th, Mr. Carpenter weighed in a nice tench, besides other fish; Mr. Neal, roach; Mr. C. Boreham, perch; Messrs. Lewis, Taylor, G. Boreham, and Reeves, roach and dace. Members in arrears intending to compete in the match on the 23rd must bring themselves within limits by the Tuesday previous. New rule-books are now ready.—H. R.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above club were out on the 9th inst., with the following result: Mr. W. Windred, bream and roach; H. Tyler, bream and roach. The members of the above club will fish a pegged-down match on the 16th inst. in the Medway, for several money prizes.—H. Tyler.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall-cross.—We had some grand shows of roach and bream on the 9th, Mr. Bird, sen., being top weight with 16lb. of bream; the following also weighed in: Mr. Ilsley, Mr. Petty, Mr. Morring, Mr. Bird, jun. We had a good muster on the 11th, Mr. Morring in the chair, faced by Mr. Smith. Some very important business was got through. I hope to see a good muster on Saturday next; all to go by the last train.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walham Green and Fulham Angling Society, Stansford Arms, Fulham-road, S.W.—At the usual weekly meeting Mr. Maslin was duly elected a member, and Mr. Callow was proposed to become a member. Since my last several of our members have been out, with the following result: Mr. Warner, roach, dace, and bream; Mr. Simpleman, roach, dace, and barbel; and Mr. Achong, jack. The two prizes left over from last season will be fished for on September 6, on the same conditions and waters as heretofore.—E. Sutehall, sec.

Walworth Waltonians.—On Wednesday last, it was carried that the competition on the 16th, be open, punt or bank, public or private, three prizes:—(1) Mr. C. Beale, hat value, £1 1s.; (2), value 10s. 6d., given by Mr. R. Baily, (3), Lapzed prize from last competition given by Mr. Risdon, value 10s. 6d. Mr. J. Risdon and Mr. Brancher weighed in two fine shows of roach from the Thames.—C. HIBBLE, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—The competition on the 9th was a failure, only two prizes being taken—Mr. Barnes, first, with dace, 2lb. 4oz., and Mr. W. Gordon, second, with dace, 1lb. 1oz. The remaining prizes will be fished for on the 16th, go where you like outside the thirty-mile radius of London. On the 9th, Mr. Cooper weighed in three good bream, 4lb. 9oz., 3lb. 15oz., and 3lb. 12oz., and two chub, 2lb. 12oz. and 2lb. 6oz., and Mr. J. Dartnall, 5lb. 1oz. roach. There will be a special meeting held on September 2 regarding the alteration of a rule. As this concerns all members, I hope they will show up in force.—R. J. DARTNALL, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—The competition at Amberley took place on 9th inst., when the following members weighed in: Parslow, first; Anderson, second; Smith, third; also, Sullivan, roach and dace; Dessert, roach and dace; Casey, dace; Maples, bream; Kertland, roach and dace from Lea. The return visit on Central Association took place at the above society on Wednesday, the 12th inst.; there were nineteen clubs represented. I beg to thank those gentlemen for kindly responding to my notice and making the visit a success.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 9th, and the following weighed in: Mr. F. Humfrys, 11lb. 10oz. of bream, one fish weighing 3lb. 7oz.; Mr. Hunt, 1lb. 10oz. of carp; and R. Lowther, 1lb. 10½oz. of roach. I hope our members will not forget our monthly meeting on Wednesday next, August 19, and attend well.—R. LOWTHER, secretary.

Woolwich Brothers Angling Society, Green Man, High-street, Plumstead.—Very few of our members booked out last week. Only two weighed in fish on the 8th inst., the majority of them resting after the holidays. J. Howcroft, roach, 10½lb., largest 1lb. 2½oz.; W. Brinton, roach, 6lb. 7oz. The last-named deserves honourable mention for the prompt manner in which he aided to rescue a child from drowning that had fallen into the water close to where he was fishing.—J. R. HOWCROFT, sec.

Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, Earl Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney.—The usual weekly meeting was held on the 12th inst., Mr. King in the chair, when routine business was transacted. One new member was elected, and another proposed for election at our next meeting. As the renting of some new water will be considered next week, all members are particularly asked to attend and discuss this important matter.—HY. RICHARDSON, hon. sec.

AFTER A DAY'S FISHING,
Call on TIBBATTS,
AT "THE CITIZEN," 70, HOUNDSDITCH
(OPPOSITE BISHOPSGATE CHURCH),
Two minutes walk from Liverpool-street and Broad-street Stations.

THE DECREASE OF SEVERN SALMON.

AT a quarterly meeting of the Shropshire County Council, on Saturday, Mr. Jeffrey Poole moved the following resolution: "That a committee of this council be appointed to work with the committee of the Montgomeryshire County Council for the purpose of bringing about a different state of things as regards the supply of salmon in the river Severn and its tributaries in those counties, and that a communication be sent to the Board of Trade, calling attention to the disgraceful injustice under which we suffer in not being permitted to receive something like a fair proportion of fish on those waters." Mr. Poole was of opinion that the efforts of the Board of Conservators to increase the stock of salmon had been worse than useless, and said that this state of affairs had brought about continual bickerings between the upper and lower interests. From correspondence with some of the oldest fishermen in the county, he was persuaded that the supply of salmon in the upper waters could be easily increased, if only the weirs near the mouth of the river were by Act of Parliament or other means swept away, and the fish given a free passage. It was, he contended, a monstrous injustice that ninety-two per cent. of the salmon should be taken in the lower waters, and only eight per cent. in the middle and upper waters. A fisherman of fifty-five years' experience had stated to him that at one time lampreys, shad and flounders used to ascend to the upper waters, but now they were never seen in them. It appeared to be a matter that the county of Salop should consider and call the attention of Government to, through the Board of Trade, as it was a serious loss to the community to be deprived of the fishing.

The Rev. F. Burd seconded the resolution.

Sir C. H. Rouse-Boughton asked whether Mr. Poole—for the reasons that he would give—could not see his way to withdraw his resolution, or at any rate the latter portion of it. These reasons were that the Board of Conservators having received an application at their meeting at Birmingham on the 16th, from the representatives of the upper waters to extend the close time for salmon, were now giving considerable attention to the matter. The close time had been extended to April 1. The question of pollution was being considered and the inspector of fisheries was about to examine the weirs on the river with a view to providing more efficient passes; and under these circumstances he would ask Mr. Poole if he could not either modify or withdraw his resolution. The Board, he said, were under the difficulty of having to consider rival interests, and for years that had been the great difficulty under which they laboured. The Board, too, were anxious to secure the co-operation of Shropshire and other county councils with a view to preventing river pollution by exercising their joint legal powers. The weirs were difficult to deal with, for the reason that they were necessary for turning mills and other purposes, and being among the oldest property in the country, nothing short of Act of Parliament could remove them. Having referred to river pollution from lead works, flannel mills, and sewerage, as accounting, in his opinion, in a great measure, for the diminution in the number of salmon. Sir Charles said he saw no objection to the first part of Mr. Poole's resolution, seeking to co-operate with the Montgomeryshire County Council in the matter, but strongly deprecated any communication with the Board of Trade and the use of such strong language as the words "disgraceful injustice," contained in the resolution.

Mr. Southam said that the Corporation of Shrewsbury had been anxious for years to remove the sewage of the town from the river, but were awaiting the results of the experiments of other towns before proceeding with what would be a very difficult and expensive work. He maintained that very little harm was done to the river by the sewerage, for the reason that it was poured in small quantities in different parts of the river, and not in one volume; and raised a laugh by saying that the salmon captured near the town were of far better flavour than those taken elsewhere. He agreed that the words "disgraceful injustice" stretched the point rather too far, and thought that "great injustice" would suffice.

Mr. Poole was quite willing to substitute the word "great" for "disgraceful."

Ultimately, after some further discussion, Mr. Poole fell in with a suggestion of the chairman, to withdraw his resolution, and refer the matter to the Executive Committee, which has powers in connection with the fishing of the Severn, for consideration. He expressed a hope that the discussion which had taken place would have some effect, for people complained very much, and things had been going from bad to worse.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add 30 min. for Chelsea.
Add 40 " " Putney.
Add 45 " " Hammersmith.
Add 50 " " Barnes.
Add 55 min. for Kew.
Add 75 " " Richmond.
Add 80 " " Twickenham.
Add 85 " " Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Evening
Saturday,	Aug.	15	8.51	9.32
Sunday,	"	16	10.13	10.53
Monday,	"	17	11.33	—
Tuesday,	"	18	0. 8	0.39
Wednesday,	"	19	1. 6	1.32
Thursday,	"	20	1.56	2.20
Friday,	"	21	2.44	3. 5

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—There is one good thing to be found now amongst the anglers of the Thames, and increasing in extent, that is, after a day's fishing, to return either the whole or a portion of the fish taken back again into the river. If this was even more generally carried out—the sizes of the fish legally increased—and gross weights, unless for specimen fish only, abolished—then the stock of fish in the river would not only be substantially maintained, but considerably increased. It has been the custom for a long time amongst anglers who I could name at the end of each day, to select three or four of the largest fish, which for many reasons are best out of the water, and to return the remainder to their native element again, and have always felt well satisfied. I have noticed recently in the reports I have had from Staines, Chertsey, Weybridge, and Shepperton, that in numbers of instances the greater portion of the fish caught have been put back again, and it struck me forcibly from the fisherman putting a line underneath he was also satisfied with it as such a mark of pointing always denotes italics and emphasises the remark. I am sorry to notice one thing in connection with the river in the changes that have taken place in the river-side hostelries the new comers do not as a rule support the protection of the river, and the number of houses that used to subscribe have considerably diminished. I do not think this is wise on the part of the proprietors, as their absence from the List in the Society's "Blue Book" must tell against them especially in the case of anglers who must naturally feel where no symyathy is shown in that direction there can be no real pleasure in giving them their patronage. The only addition of recent date has been that of "The Cricketers," at Chertsey, and there is little doubt the proprietor who is an old and well known Thames angler is heart and soul in the welfare of the fishery of the Thames. The loss of Mr. Jones, "the only" at Staines, and Mr. I. P. Wheeldon, at Walton, is much to be regretted in two important portions of the river.—B.

RICHMOND.—Job Brain, sen., during the week 18lb. of roach and dace, one carp, and nine barbel, the largest 4½lb.; Henry Howard fifteen dozen of roach and dace; and H. Mansell, 40lb. of roach and dace.

TWICKENHAM.—C. Brown, fifteen dozen of roach and dace, two barbel, and on rudd of 1¼lb.; S. Cole, in three days, 30lb. of roach and dace; John Coxen, in two days, 20lb.; George Coxen, in four days, 38lb., two bream and five barbel; Richard Coxen, in one day, seventeen barbel, another day, in a couple of hours, twenty-five barbel, and another day with Mr. Tarrant, seven dozen of roach and dace. John Frost, one day, 20lb. of roach and dace, and one barbel, and another day with Mr. Smith, 11lb., and one bream. R. Moffatt, during the week, thirty-six dozen of roach and dace, and three barbel, the largest 4½lb. F. Wiggins, in four and a-half days, 75lb. of roach and dace and a couple of barbel; and John Spong, in six days, 70lb. of roach and dace, four bream and two barbel.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, during the week, eleven barbel, and sixteen dozen of roach and dace; J. Wilkes, four bream, and twenty-six dozen of roach and dace; N. Bolton, in three days, twenty-three dozen of roach and dace, three of the largest roach weighing together 3lb., and one brace of jack.

SUNBURY.—Messrs. Edward Clarke and Son, 20lb. of roach and dace and ten barbel; I. and A. Stroud, during the week, fifty-two barbel, and some fine roach and dace. A gentleman in one of Stroud's boats caught six bream the largest 4½lb.; Snowball, during the week, eighteen jack.

WALTON.—Mr. T. V. Savage, sen., has taken a fine carp of 9lb., in the reach, on a No. 9 hook and light tackle.

CHERTSEY.—John Poulter, one day with Mr. C. Wastell, three dozen of roach, and a few dace, and in two other days, six dozen of roach. L. Hackett, seven and a-half dozen of roach and seven barbel.

HAMPTON COURT.—William Melbourne, in four days, twenty-five dozen of roach and eleven barbel; John Smith, during the week, fifty barbel, the largest, 7lb.; Mr. Monro, fishing at the back bay, has taken two trout, weighing respectively, 5lb. 14oz. and 3lb. 9oz.

Upper Thames.—From Bray, Cookham, Marlow, Hambleden, and other frequented stations on the Upper Thames I hear of good all-round work being done among barbel, roach, perch, and jack. The water is in prime fettle, and of late not too worried with pleasure-boats, the result telling in the angler's basket. At Marlow, Mr. Ashby, fishing in the Mill Pool, in two days accounted for 130lb. of barbel, and Mr. Sydney Wright, jun., has been busy among trout, barbel, and roach, one of the latter class scaling just a pound. In the Hurley waters Mr. Ford is credited with two jack, 15lb. of roach, and three perch, ½lb., ¾lb., and 1lb. respectively, and Mr. Sell, two perch, 1¼lb. and 1¾lb. each. Perch of quality and condition are certainly in the ascendant of late. Weather settled fine, with wind from south-west.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Windsor).—Sport in this district has not been quite so good as last week, but still many baskets have been made. A fine specimen of that now scarce fish in the Thames, the perch, was caught by Mr. E. Donner, of Priest-hill, Englefield-green, on the 10th instant, while spinning for jack off Magna Charta Island. It weighed just 1½lb. A trout of 4lb. has been taken near Monkey Island, and a fine barbel, on roach tackle, close to Windsor Bridge, by Mr. C. Clarke, of Windsor. It weighed 5lb. 3oz. The best roach this week was one of 15½oz., by Mr. Suttle, jun., of Windsor, and the best basket one of 25lb., before breakfast, by Mr. G. Harbard, of Windsor, his brother, Mr A. E. Harbard, before breakfast one morning having twelve, weighing 5¼lb. In showery weather a few members of the Royal Windsor and District Piscatorial Society and friends journeyed by the launch, *My Queen*, on the 10th instant, as far as Marlow. A most enjoyable day was spent, the lovely Thames Valley being just now at its best. With the worthy secretary's (Mr. Howlett's) wife at the piano, two violins, and several voices, not a dull minute was spent from start to finish, Windsor Bridge being reached about nine p.m, all on board having thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Water still in excellent order for all round angling.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—Owing to the generally disturbed state of the weather, fewer anglers than usual have been out. Two or three small catches of trout on the beck have taken place, and the second hatchings of some flies which appear in the spring are now rife. Amongst these may be mentioned the Freckled Dun (Moor Game and Red Hackle), the Dark Drake (Orange and Waterhen), and the Checkwing (Hare's Ear and Yellow). These flies may be used with advantage to the end of the season, as they are real leaders and favourites with the fish. Very little has been done on the Ancholme or Crosby Lake this week amongst the coarse fish. Trout are now at their very best. One young gentleman, who rises early, has caught about eighty on a small brook this season, weighing well on to an average of 1lb. each.—THOMAS FORD.

Barle (Dulverton).—The river is in good order after the rain. Salmon passing up. Warmer. Good baskets are being killed by fly and minnow. Useful flies, male and female Uprights.—IRON BLUE.

Brighton.—SEA FISHING.—We have had high winds from the west, and a rough sea this week, so that boat angling has been in abeyance. A few anglers have been trying for bass from the groins at the east end of the town. The sea is now calming down and a good prospect of more settled weather.—H.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—We have had a quantity of rain in this district during the week, yet rivers are in many places low and bright, and in sluggish waters covered with scum and weed. A few good bream and roach are notified from the upper waters of the Arun, and from the lower reaches in the tidal water several good mullet have been taken with rag-worm. Mr. S. Young, one of, if not the best roach angler in this quarter, has taken some excellent roach from the Rother, near Midhurst, and at Chichester Canal, some of the finest bream of the season. Tench are increasing here; some fish up to 3lb. have been taken and a perch of 3¼lb. Dace and roach have given sport on the Adur in the Steyning district, and from the upper waters of the Ouse, roach of 1½lb., and chub weighing 3½lb. have been taken; blow line fishing with natural fly has been most successful among the chub. A fine pike was taken in July from the hammer ponds, Horsham, with a fly rod and spinning minnow; the fish weighed 30lb., was 4ft. in length, and in girth 22in. It has been well set up by Mr. Barnes, the naturalist, of Midhurst.—GEORGE F. SALTER

Douglas (Isle of Man).—The rivers continued in good order all last week; but not until Saturday was there enough water to bring up the sea trout, of which both Douglas and Ramsey bays have been full. Twenty-four hours' rain has, however, made a great difference, and as the sea trout have had sufficient water to surmount the weirs and dam-heads, sport with them is sure to be good. I think a small Alexandra, tied with jungle cock in the wings, or a Royal Charlie (always a good autumn fly here), ought to kill. Sea fishing all round our coasts is (and promises to be for the next month) at its best. With adequate tackle and a superficial knowledge of the locality an tides, an amateur can hardly go wrong afloat or ashore.—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—Weather dull, and water in prime order. Sport good on the whole. Mr. W. Bullock has had two good baskets with the Golden Dun from the Birdsgrove water this last week—one of five and the other of six brace. Mr. T. Wilson has had good sport on the same water, taking five brace under the hour at twilight with the Turkey Brown. Messrs. Matthews (two brothers) bagged ten brace as a joint catch on the Upper Manifold one day last week, besides doing fairly well the rest of the week.—D. AND W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourne.

Eden (Carlisle).—The flood of last week-end brought out the worm fishers in strong force, but sport was poor. Some think that the sewage deposit, being stirred up from the bottom, has driven the herlings back to the sea to find their way up the Esk. There was another great run of salmon and grilse, and both the river proprietors and the Solway fishermen had good takes. Some of the latter gave way to temptation, and I hear that about a dozen of them have received invitations to come up to Carlisle, and explain to the magistrates why their nets happened to be in the sea instead of on dry land during the weekly close-time. It is a great pity that the Scotch and English close-time is not made simultaneous. The present state of things is a constant source of poaching. The Eden is now in fine order for fly-fishing, but the unsettled weather makes it uncertain from day to day.—SILVER GREY.

Eden (Kent).—The fishing on this pretty little Kentish river has not been at all bad lately as several of the

London anglers who have paid it a visit can testify. The river holds fine roach and perch. There is also a fair stock of chub, but they run rather small. Gudgeon are extraordinary prolific in the water, but not large. There are a few good jack roaming about, too, although when I tried to introduce myself to them a few days ago, they were not in the mood to receive callers. A friend of mine has, nevertheless, taken, a 12lb. fish from Edenbridge. Just now roach are feeding well at maggots and paste, and on 9th inst I encountered several anglers with good shows. A Mr. Godley had eleven roach and twenty-seven gudgeon —one of the former fish weighed 11oz.—and a friend who accompanied him had eighteen roach and twenty gudgeon Roach have been taken out of the river up to 1lb. and 1¼lb. this season by the local anglers.—GOOSEQUILL.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—ANGLING.—As I anticipated last week, there has been excellent sport in the river Esk during the last week. The water has been in good fishable order, and though in some respects the weather has not been so favourable as could be desired, some good catches have been made and most anglers have had decent sport. The river is yet in fair order, and there is good reason to believe that should the weather be favourable, some first class sport may be obtained. The following is a record of the past few days: Mr. John W. Nicholson, Whitby, five salmon, weighing respectively, 5lb., 5lb., 6lb., 10lb., and 4lb.; Mr. George W. Elliot, M.P., one of 6lb.; Mr. William Harland, Egton Bridge, eight, 5lb., 8lb., 4lb., 7lb., 5lb., 8b, 7lb., and 4lb.; Mr. J. R. Ansdell, Hull, one of 16lb.; Mr. J. W. Wheldon, Pickering, one of 5lb.; Mr. J. H. Keighley, Whitby, three, of 11lb. 2lb., and 5lb.; Mrs. Keighley, two, of 14lb. and 4lb.; Mr. C. J. Keighley, two, of 11lb. and 5lb.; Mr. R. B. L. Johnston, one, 14lb. Mr. J. H. Lang, Whitby, one, 4lb.; Mr. Linton, Sandsend, one, 6lb.; Mr. John Dixon, Glaisdale, one, 4lb.; Mr. J. Marsden, Scarboro', one, 2lb.; and Mr. D. Green, one, 6lb. Many of the salmon net fishermen have done well outside the harbour, but there are others who, so far, find the season a comparative failure. It is generally conceded, however, that the fish is plentiful, thanks to the culture and pains of the local conservators, whose efforts of the past are bearing good fruit despite the many difficulties with which they had to contend at the earlier periods of the establishment of the Esk as a salmon river.—J. J. JACKSON.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—Nothwithstanding the unsettled weather, there seems to have been a fair quantity of sport on the different drains, and there have been a number of visitors. Again the coming week has its "specials" arranged for, and doubtless a goodly number will be brought on Saturday and Monday. The waters are in good condition. Perch are affording in some places best sport; but now there is more colour roach are fairly well on. Some good takes are reported from the Welland and along the Fortyfoot. A splendid perch was caught last week in the Fortyfoot by Mr. Miller. The fish scaled 2lb., and was landed with a worm. Among the more fortunate local experts are Messrs. Fancourt, Johnson, and Nelson. Some few have tried spinning for pike, but as yet not much has been done with them.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—Anglers are now doing very well in the North Notts district, both on the river and the canal. The rains have freshened up the streams and cleared a good deal of the weeds away, so that the swims are more easily fished. They have also brought down some nice trout from the preserved waters. Last week an angler at Broom House, below Retford, caught two brace, which scaled 6½lb., they were in good condition, and were taken with gentles scoured in sand and bran. The same angler hooked another good fish, probably 3lb., and with spinning tackle caught a 4lb. jack. Roach and dace are also biting well below Retford, though evening is best time for the sport. Trolling is beginning on some of the dykes in the lower district, but fish met with have been only small.—L.

Lake District.—Heavy rain has fallen since Saturday last throughout the whole of Cumberland and Westmoreland. Most of the rivers were in flood on Sunday, and are now in the best fishing condition they have been during the present remarkable season. Reports of good takes and fine sport reach me from the Lune, the Esk, Kent, mint, and sprint, though only in few cases, mostly from the Esk, are sea fish mentioned. Trolling and angling for coarse fish has been successful with those endowed with courage to brave the elements on tarn or lake. Mr. F. Pollitt and friend in a basket of seven pike, had four of about 8lb. each from Killington Tarn on Monday. Messrs. Tucker, visitors from London to Eskdale, are reported to have done well amongst the herling and sea trout. Messrs. Armstrong, Irving, Macmillan, and others, in the same river, taking on an average three or four sea trout, and half a dozen herling at a fishing. Char fishing has been poor of late on Windermere, a fact to be regretted, when so many visitors are in the district. One of the water bailiffs last week seized an illegal mesh net, but could not find an owner. The net was confiscated.—WESTMERIA.

Lea and Stort.—Both rivers have been much improved in condition by the recent rains, it would only have required another downfall or two to have brought down a much-needed flush, as the low-lying grounds are pretty well saturated, and the ditches are partially filled again. However, fishing has in many places much improved, and some very decent baskets have been made; portions of the navigation water have been drawn off for necessary repairs to the lock gates. During a long walk to-day (Thursday), I was pleased to notice that the Anglers' Association have taken every possible precaution for protecting the river where it is necessary, employing both policemen and their own water-bailiffs. It is only a week since that I gave particulars of the capture of a net at Cook's Ferry. Now I hear from very good authority that the same men have got another net, but they are being looked out for, and it is to be hoped that the next capture will include the poachers themselves. Roach have commenced to feed better than they have done for some time. Jack and perch have been fairly well on, also chub and bream, and some very good specimens have been taken. Eels have not been running at all well. Waltham Abbey.—Some very nice takes of perch and a few small jack have been had. Ponders End.—A gentleman fishing in the mill stream on Wednesday, had two splendid bream, of 6½lb. and 1lb. respectively, besides some smaller fish; another gentleman had five chub, which scaled 9lb. Some good dace and roach have also been taken. At Flanders Weir some very nice baskets of roach and a bream or two have been taken. Cook's Ferry.—A few roach and dace have been caught. Games's Fishery, Higham Hill.—Perch have been biting and fair takes have been made. A gentleman fishing here for perch took a jack of about 3lb., but returned it, as the pike fishing does not commence until the first of September. Ferrie Boat, Tottenham.—On the 9th and 10th roach were biting well, and few, if any, anglers went away empty handed; a few perch were also caught. During my walk I saw vast quantities of small fish in the low water. It struck me that anglers might now spot many likely swims, as there are plenty of places almost devoid of weeds which might be noted. The water will be running in again on Saturday, and should be in good fishing order the next day. —SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—After the turmoil and excitement of the holiday week, angling has become comparatively slow. In the Leicester Society's preserves a decent amount of fishing has been done both at Leicester and Aylestone, but takes have been below the usual standard, a fact which may be easily accounted for owing to some of the best swims being very much overbaited last week. The best results were obtained from the Canal above the town and among the more fortunate anglers were, A. Bacchus, H. Barrows, H. Prime, L. Tyler, and E. King. Pike have been more generally sought after the last few days and plenty of specimens between 3lb. and 4lb. have been landed. Amongst a fine lot of fish, in a basket by Mr. E. King, were some perch up to 1lb. Fishing resorts a good distance from the town have not received quite so much attention. Rivers and brooks alike are bank full and clear, rendering it difficult to obtain good lots. From the Wreake encouraging takes of bream and roach have come to hand, and the doings at Blaby and Narboro' have not been amiss among the roach. Several Leicester anglers fishing the waters at Welford caught nice lots of roach and pike. Mr. H. Painter having about 12lb. of the former specie.

Loddon (Earley).—Since my last report we have had some very heavy storms, which has greatly improved the fishing of this water. Good takes roach and chub have been had; also jack, one very nice fish of 10lb. in good condition. Water in capital order.—J. R. GOULD.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams were refreshed after the rain, but quickly lowered. They are in order for either fly or bottom fishing; but the weather has been so unsettled that sport has been limited. The grayling have moved well in the evening, and some nice fish have been taken with the fly. Wasp grub fishing has been successful for those who have been able to get grubs. On Tuesday a nice lot of fish were taken in the Arrow. The Pinsley is running low and clear.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Rivers still low and bright—their beds very foul. Sport has been varied, on some stretches good; others, nothing scarcely doing. The best flies: August Dun, Silver Dun, Blue Gnat, Spinners, and Ginger Moth. Trout have taken the minnow more freely, whilst some fine grayling have been accounted for with the grasshopper (Silk and Dun). Wasp grubs are very scarce in this neighbourhood, and not much doing with it.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—Water in good condition, but weather has been too unsettled, and only the experts have met with success. A gentleman from London was fishing last week; he had some good baskets of roach. I saw his catch on Saturday. He had then some fine roach, one of 1¼lb., all taken with the boiled wheat. There has been some good jack taken up to 12lb. Generally the anglers have not had good sport, the weather has been too unsettled, and, as I before said, only the experts have succeeded in obtaining sport by very fine angling. If present weather continues the angler is bound to get sport. This applies to Maidstone, Farleugh, Wateringbury, and Yalding.—W. SHRUBSOLE.

Medway (Tonbridge).—The water is settling down nicely, and the weather to-night (Thursday) looks better than for some weeks, yet still there are clouds about. The bream are well on the bite at a worm, if swims are judiciously baited, and roach are taking paste or boiled wheat, but are somewhat shy. Chub are rising well, but other fish will not bite freely till later on. We want some dull, hot weather, and then sport will be fast and furious.—YE MEDWAY WATER-RAT.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Rivers.—In all our Norfolk waters roach are feeding well, and I have seen some excellent trays from the Yare and several of the broads. The baits mostly used are gentles, worms, and caddis; where you can get them on creed wheat is very good. Fishing at Brandon on Monday last I experienced the most terrific thunderstorm I ever remember in the eastern counties. Great trees were split into atoms, and no end of damage done to the crops. Up to the commencement of the storm, fish were feeding well, and I took a nice lot of roach and dace in a very short time. The river rose nearly a foot, and off went the fish. I must say I think the swims in this river might be, for the comfort of anglers, kept a little better cut out. I found the report of 92lb. of roach taken last week was made by two gentlemen from Thetford, and a splendid lot they were. I have also seen a lot of over 60lb., taken from the grand creek on the 13th. At Littleport, Ely, and the branch, some very good lots were taken on the 12th, and in prime order. Mr. Percy Holland and brother took from the river Lark, at Mildenhall and Barton Mills, on the 13th, twenty-five roach, that weighed 27lb., a most beautiful take. I am sure anglers may with safety now try any of our streams.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Ouse (Brandon, Norfolk).—During the week, since my last report, up to last Wednesday, the extreme wet weather put a stop to fishing as a general rule. Visited the headquarters, Ram Hotel, twice; found nothing doing; in fact, the elements of nature have put a damper on to everything, whether outdoor work or sport. There are plenty of good swims which Host Rolph has in readiness, with plenty of fish. I believe a visit will reward the angler. Although this is a quick stream and weedy in places, from what I have seen in other waters here there is no duckweed, and the fish are more lively and in better condition. I find anglers, from conversation with them as to many other places, are grumbling fearfully. Time of writing, a change for the better. Wind, south; windy.—JOHN O. GEORGE.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—Most anglers have been busy with roach and bream, and some good takes have been made, especially bream, they feeding well. One local fisherman had a good take of bream on the 10th, landing nineteen good fish with brandlings, and wheat is the bait used for roach. Some other local fishermen have had good sport. The water being in good condition, affords good sport for bottom fishing.—H. ROUT.

Ouse (St. Neots).—Fish are still feeding fairly well and good sport has been had. Mr. W. H. Ekins, one evening lately, caught thirty roach, averaging ¾lb. each. Several jack have been taken and also some good perch, bream, and rudd.—N.

Penzance (Cornwall).—SEA FISHING.—Sport in the bay continues excellent, for besides whiting, mackerel, &c., pollack are now becoming numerous. Pier anglers are also doing well.—H.

Plymouth.—On the Dart.—Princetown is a town that within the last few years has made considerable strides. From it you can fish several streams, namely, Blackabrook, Cowsick river, East and West Dart, and Wallabrook, therefore the Duchy Hotel, kept by host Rowe, a relic of the famous Rowe, who wrote the "Dartmoor" is a good centre, close to the railway station on the Launceston Branch of the G. W. R., you change at Yelverton for Princetown. On the 9th inst., three gentlemen were out and had some nice trout as the river is in very good order, they were taken with the Maxwell Red and Blue Upright. I hope to have a day this week below Dartment, where the secretary of the board tells me there are plenty of salmon. The Dart is one of our rivers that is well looked after.—W. HEARDER.

Scarborough.—(SEA FISHING).—Silver whiting, gurnet, and dabs, continue plentiful in the bay, and good sport with mackerel daily expected. When fishing from a boat at anchor by all means use strong single gut tackle and let your mackerel stripbait drift with the tide, and if you use a sinker, a small perforated bullet will suffice.—H

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—Both rivers low, but in good order for fishing, and some good basket, of grayling, trout, and coarse fish have been taken with fly maggot and worm, one angler taking sixteen brace grayling with the fly, and another eight brace. The Red Palmer, Zulu, Red and Little Green Insect killing well. In the coming week the club members will be out in force, and will no doubt register some good catches.—R. WINGFIELD.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—There is a good deal of Vyrnwy water in the river, and as anglers in this locality well know, under these circumstances sport has not been of the best quality, but one or two good trout have been captured. One, I hear, weighing 4½lb., was taken at the Isle duy Fiast, and Perkins has also had a few fish, averaging 1lb. each. Thursday brought more rain, and anglers have been waiting for the river to clear before using the fly. Eels have been running pretty well, and one or two good ones have been taken near the quarry by Mr. Williams, the hon. sec. of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society.—PISCATOR.

Taw (North Devon).—Rivers have risen considerable, and some days trout take well, and others just touch the fly. I heard of one catch, seventy-two; another forty-five; but the majority is just six brace. Peal are up, but not taking. One gent on the Torridge tells me he has not heard of many being taken. Net-men catch a few, and I heard a estuary man say he has had the best season this for years. Salmon and peal, with the rod-men, are taken with the minnow; but the great raker has not yet taken as many as years before.—RUSTY GAME.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—Since my last the almost continuous rainfall has flooded this river to such an extent that fishing has been almost out of the question. The only salmon I have heard of being caught was by Mr. C. West, near Gainford. His fish weighed 10¾lb. On Monday night, the writer saw six fish go over the Lendings dam in a quarter of an hour, showing that they are running up. River now falling, and with a cessation of rain good sport may be looked for in the next few days.—J. H. R.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme is still running in capital order for angling, being clear and a nice level. At the beginning of the week heavy rain fell and the water was stained. The fish moved well and rose freely at the Green Insect, Blue Dun, Pale Blue, Black Gnat, and Red Spinner. Bottom fishing has been good. Wasp grub has been most successful. Minnow fishing has been good in the morning. In the Ashford water some good trout have been landed with the wasp grub. Under Whitcliffe a nice lot of grayling were landed with the Green Insect and Pale Blue. In the Castle pond a few good trout have been caught. Mr. Foster's otter hounds were at Leintwardine on Tuesday, and killed an otter, and hunted another for three hours and lost him. The Ony, Corve, Clun, and Ledwyche, are all in fishing order. Sport in the Corve good with wasp grub.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).—The water in this district is now running in order for angling, being clear, but low, and a good flush of water is wanting before any good sport can be expected. The weather has been changeable, but the fish have rose in the evening, and have taken the wasp grub well, and one or two very nice lots of fish have been landed. The Rea, Kyre, and Ledwyche are all clear, and very low. Sport in them quiet.—WORCESTER.

Whitby.—AMATEUR SEA FISHING.—Some excellent sport is to be had in the roads off Whitby. The sea abounds with fish of all kinds—mackerel, whiting, codling, haddocks, dabs, and billets, and few who go off in the little pleasure boats or dingheys, for the purpose of fishing, return without having made a good account of themselves. Even novices manage to make good hauls. To the ordinary experts, the sport is most attractive and enjoyable.—J. J. JACKSON.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—The waters in this district are rather quieter this week, after the holidays; but still every week-end sees hundreds of fresh faces eager for sport. The streams are now of good height, and, as anglers put it, coloured to perfection; but takes have rather been noted for specimen fish than their number and weight in gross. About Lincoln there were some good takes. Mr. Jackson, a visitor, got nearly two stones of roach in the neighbourhood of Bardney, and there were other visitors who had picked up 20lb. to 25lb. of fish for their pains. A fine brace of tench were got at Southery, scaling 5lb., and at Tattershall, bream up to 4lb. were landed. On the Fossdyke there were some splendid roach taken. At the Lincoln end two anglers picked out from a fine lot taken, five roach, which scaled 6½lb. In a competion at Saxilby, a number of fish of this class were taken, which scaled over 1lb. each. Trout and chub of good size have been taken from the Barlings river.—LUCI.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire).—Anglers continue to have good sport here, and the condition of the streams is good. Sport on the Wye has averaged from two to six brace per rod, some very large fish being amongst the number. The Derwent during this week has been nicely flushed, owing to the heavy storms of rain we have had. This has given the bottom fishermen an opportunity of trying their hands, and some really good baskets of trout have been killed on both the Matlock and Darley club waters by the aid of wasp grub and maggots. Amongst the most successful are Messrs. Brooker, Buxton, Ogden, and Pearson. The Derwent is now running down nicely, and should be good for fly fishing by the week end. Best flies are Sand Fly, Ash Dun, Silver Dun, Throstle Wing, and Bumbles.—DOTTEREL.

Yare (Norwich).—The club matches are now in full swing, both on this river and also on the Bure, Horning Ferry, being the spot most often chosen, whilst on this stream, Brundall, Buckenham Ferry, and Cantley, are all coming in for a fair share, and as there are about seventy clubs in Norwich, the riverside inns of both rivers ought to benefit. It strikes me on reading the accounts published from time to time that the angling part of the business forms a very small portion of the day's annual outing with majority of clubs as the portrayal of the journey, the breakfast and splendid dinner so fully described testifies, still the like luckily does not apply to all cases. Sport has not been at all first-rate at any of these competitions, else we should have heard more about it. Several individual catches are reported from Cantley and Buckenham, but nothing up to what was to be expected, as the weather has very much improved, and with it ought to come first-rate sport. Professor Day has been very busy with the bream, and landed some good fish. I believe he is now disengaged, should any visitors to the Yare require his services. Letters addressed to him at the Champion Inn, Chapel Fields-road, Norwich, will receive attention. The Champion Club caught between 5st. and 6st. of roach, &c., on Tuesday last, at Buckenham Ferry. Particulars of match next week. The river clear as gin.—ROBERT MOLL.

Yore, Wharfe, Swale, Nidd, &c.—These rivers have been kept in a rising and falling condition during the past week, owing to frequent heavy thunder showers. Sport has consequently been very uncertain, and no good catches have been made to my knowledge. Mr. F. M. Halford and myself had a day together on Monday, but atmospheric influences prevented us from having much much sport. We got a few, however, and managed to enjoy ourselves, although the fates were against us. Brown Owl, Cinnamon Fly, Knotted Midge and Poult Bloa, best flies at present.—THOMAS M. WALBRAN.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire).—With the recent heavy rainfall the rivers remain in capital condition for fishing. Morning and evening fishing is the best just now. Trout are well on the rise and several sewin have been taken.—H.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—Although we have had a continuance of strong W. and S.W. gales since my last report, yet several anglers have made good baskets, Wednesday being the best day, when Mr. F. W. T. Round got his "limit," fifteen lovely trout, 10lb. 2oz. Mr. A. Price also had a nice basket. On Monday, Captain Stevenson had capital sport with ten fish, weighing 8¾lb.; and again on Tuesday with eleven, weighing 7lb. 10oz. On the same day Mr. W. H. Flint brought in six very plump fish, scaling 6½lb., heaviest 1lb. 9oz. Best flies: Alder, for rough water; Golden Dropper, for heaviest fish; Zulu and March Brown. There is more fresh water in the lake at present than at any time since commencement of season.—LONG DRIFT.

Tenby (South Wales).—SEA FISHING.—Mackerel are now abundant in the bay and large numbers are being caught by "whiffing." Only a few bass taken as yet, and only small catches of gurnard, plaice, and conger, indeed until just now, the weather has been too rough for boat anglers to venture out.—H.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—With the exception of a salmon and sewin, only small takes of trout have been made during the past fortnight, either on the Towy or its chief tributary, the Cothy. The Hon. Hugh Campbell and Miss Cronen, of Tregib, appear to have had the best of the otherwise indifferent sport. We have, however, just had a heavy rainfall, and on Sunday and Monday last the river overflowed its banks, so there is now a prospect of a renewal of good sport, more especially as there are a lot of salmon up.—H.

Usk (Abergavenny).—The river is now in first-class condition. It rose 4ft. on the 9th. Since then some fine salmon have been caught with the fly by Messrs. F. de vie Beamish, R. W. Bigg, J. Lumm, J. Lamont, J. Pritchard, and H. Clare. A great many trout have also been caught. A great many salmon in good condition are now in the river, and good sport may be expected for some time to come.—J. CLARE.

Usk (at Usk).—Sport continues most brilliant on the river Usk and large numbers of salmon are daily caught with the fly. On Saturday last, General Sir C. L. Barnard made a record day by catching seven salmon, averaging 11lb. each fish; Major-General Dunn, caught five; A. W. Brown, five, on Friday last; Mr. Barker, on Wednesday, caught four; and Mr. T. Rees, on Thursday caught four. The catches are abounding with salmon, and the water is in magnificent order for the fly.—T.

Scotch Reports.

Altnacealgach Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—On Monday week, Rev. W. Chapman and Mr. Clark, London, fished Loch Veyatie, and got forty-seven trout, 12½lb.; Rev. P. Whyte and Dr. Russell, London, on Loch Urigill, thirty-five, 10lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, Dollar, on Loch Cama, twenty-six, 10lb.; and Mr. Stewart, Liverpool, on same loch, twenty, 6½lb. On Tuesday, Messrs. Sproat, Liverpool, on Loch Cama, twenty-seven, 10lb.; Rev. W. Chapman and Mr. Clark, on same loch, thirty-one, 10lb.; Rev. P. Whyte and Dr. Russell, on Loch Boarlan, forty, 12lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, on Loch Urigill, forty-two, 11½lb.; and Mr. Stewart, thirty-one, 9lb. On Wednesday, Messrs. Sproat, on Urigill, fifty, 13lb.; Rev. W. Chapman and Mr. Clark, same loch, seventy-seven, 18½lb.; Messrs. Sanderson and Roberts, Selkirk, on Cama, twenty-one, 7lb.; Rev. P. Whyte and Dr. Russell, on Cama, thirteen, 4½lb.; Mr. G. Clark, Bedford, on Boarlan, twenty, 7½lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, Dollar, on Boarlan, twenty-four, 7lb.; Mr. Stewart, Liverpool, on Veyatie, forty-three, 10lb.; and Mrs. Russell, on Ledmore stream, eight. On Thursday, Messrs. Sanderson and J. Roberts, on Veyatie, thirty-one, 8lb.; Mr. Stewart, on Cama, fifteen, 4½lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, on same loch, twenty-three, 6lb.; Rev. P. Whyte and Dr. Russell, on Urigill, thirty-six, 9lb.; Mr. A. Roberts, thirty-eight, 9lb.; Mr. Couper, Edinburgh, thirty-four, 7lb.; and Mr. G. Clark, on Boarlan, blown off, eleven, 4lb. On Friday, Mr. A. Roberts and Mr. Shannen, on Cama, forty-two, 11½lb.; Messrs. J. Roberts and Sanderson, on Urigill, thirty, 9lb.; Mr. Couper, on Veyatie, thirty-one, 7lb.; Rev. W. Chapman and Mr. Clark, on Cama, fifty-one, 11lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, on Urigill, thirty, 8lb.; and Mr. Stewart, on Mheallain, thirty-six, 9½lb. On Saturday, Messrs. Sproat, on Urigill, fifty-six, 15½lb.; Messrs. Roberts and Shannen, seventy, 20lb.; Rev. W. Chapman and Mr. Clark, forty, 10lb.; Mr. G. Clark, on Cama, forty-three, 10½lb.; Mr. Couper, on Cama, twenty-three, 7lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, on Veyatie, thirty-two, 9½lb.; Messrs. Roberts and Sanderson, on Boarlan, thirty-five, 10lb.; and Mr. Stewart, twelve, 4lb. —McB.

Ayrshire Lochs and Streams.—Some very fair sport has been had of late in the Ayrshire lochs. On Friday, Mr. Jenkins and friend, of Glasgow, out from the Eglington Hotel, Dalmellington, killed thirty beautiful yellow trout, averaging nearly ½lb. each. Mr. Burgess and son, Leeds, on the same day, had forty-two yellow trout on Loch Finlas. On the neighbouring loch (Doon) some capital angling is being had on suitable days. On the Ayr, Mr. John Auld and friend, of Catrine, Ayrshire, landed six dozen yellow trout with fly. The fish were in prime condition. On the Garnock, on Saturday, Mr. Robert Crawford, Kilbirnie, Ayrshire, had some very nice sport the other day, killing twenty-one yellow trout, and the same gentleman landed twenty-four on Monday on Rye water—beautiful little fish. Mr. James Crawford, of the High School, Glasgow, killed forty-eight yellow trout on the same day on Garnock water and neighbouring hill streams, all with fly. Rivers in Ayrshire have been very low of late, but a heavy rainfall on Sunday has now put the streams in better order.—HEATHERBELL.

Border Esk.—I have a batch of cheering news from several of the most prominent fishing resorts on the Esk, from Langholm, Canonbie, Longtown, and Metal Bridge. Rain has been sadly wanted since the commencement of the season. A small instalment, a kind of sample of the bulk, fell during the last week in July, and a bantle o' fish were taken principally by visitors to the district. On Sunday, however, there was fifteen hours continuous rain, and the river rushed down in flood between bank and brae until "Auld *Esk* was just one lengthened tumbling sea." There has not been anything like such a deluge for over six months, consequently the bed of the river is thoroughly well cleaned out, and in order to clench the matter and make assurance doubly sure, the tap was again turned on during the early part of Tuesday morning and a pouring wet day was the result. Mr. William Douglas, of the Temperance Hotel, Langholm, informs me that "the water is fairly "down" or "up," which everyone likes to call it, a good bit, and the ground is well soaked thereby ensuring a continuance of water." In the Langholm waters, Mr. T. Irving had seven sea trout; Mr. A. Irving had seven whiting, two sea trout, and 2lb. of yellow trout; Mr. Thos. Morison, had twelve whiting, one sea trout, and some yellow trout; Mr. J. I. E. Houram had a grand run with a good-sized sea trout, but lost it at an awkward landing place among the craigs, five sea trout, however, fell to Mr. Hourani's rod; Mr. W. Sauders had a 2½lb. sea trout, with several whiting at Skippers Bridge; Mr. J. Anderson had a sea trout, two whiting, and some yellow trout; Mr. A. Knox had two sea trout; Messrs. A. H. and F. W. Kerr, Eskdale, Temperance Hotel, had ten sea trout, four whiting, and twelve yellow trout at two fishings, and on a subsequent occasion 32lb. of sea trout and whiting; Mr. Molyneaux, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, had two sea trout, and four whiting, at another fishing fourteen sea trout and whiting, and at a third fishing nine sea trout, and some yellow trout: at night, Mr. A. McMillan had seven whiting, and three sea trout; Rev. E. Smith, Hexham, had a sea trout of 3lb., and several baskets of yellow trout in the Tarras, and a sea trout of 2lb. in the Todholes; Dr. Knowles, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, had four sea trout and three whiting; and Mr. St. George Tucker, staying at the same hotel had some good takes of yellow trout. In the Canonbie water, Mr. J. H. Park, Marchbank, had a salmon of 9lb. from the Cauldron pool, and Mr. Craig, Cross Keys Hotel, had a salmon 15lb. from the same pool, Mr. C. Johnstone, Maitland Cottage, had a grilse of 7lb.; Mr. Shand, Cross Keys Hotel, had a grilse and seven whiting; Mr. Todrig had seven sea trout and nineteen whiting; Mr. Craig, thirty-five whiting; Colonel Elliot, Hawick, had four sea trout and a good basket of whiting; Mr. Scott, Holmfoot, had four sea trout and four whiting; Mr. I. M. Little, Carlesgill, had a grilse of 5½lb., a sea trout, and six whiting from the Cauldron Pool, while numerous other anglers have had good takes of sea trout and whiting. Good sport has also been had in the Broomholm reserved water, by Mr. Connell, of St. Thorwalds, and the Rev. David Maxwell. I now come to the lower waters from Longton to the Metal Bridge. By the way, I have a characteristic letter Miss Cartner, the genial landlady of the Metal Brig Hotel. Miss Cartner, who is "guide, philosopher, and friend," to all the anglers who enter her hospitable abode, tells me that the fishing has been very good this season, but the water nearly up to the time of writing, had been low. However, fish were plentiful, and now that they had had a flood she anticipated the best back end on record. A letter also reaches me from Mr. Jos. Bell, of Longtown, who goes on to relate "how very successful he and Mr. Lamb had been during the spring salmon fishing, but owing to the many small rises in the river, which sent the sea trout up to the higher waters, fewer of these fish were taken than had been anticipated, after the numerous big runs they'd had. Whiting are in full swing, but the new moon is wanted for night fishing. Mr. Rosenviney, Newcastle, had a salmon of 10lb. with the worm; and Mr. Bell himself caught one of 7lb with a small trout-fly. When Colonel Whyburgh made his big haul of one hundred and eight whiting, he lost as many more on account of the very small flies he used. Both Mr. J. B. Slater, of Carlisle, and Mr. Mason, of Rockliffe, have done well in the Metal Bridge water, and Mr. Burke, of Croydon, filled his creel at the first go off, but failed at night on account of the darkness and the strong wind that was blowing." Mr. Bell says: "The Longtown anglers had a grand take a few days ago with the worm, when the river was flooded. Some as far as three baskets. Good salmon fishing is expected in September and October, one good reason is, that fishing used to take place up to the mouth of the river with nets. They are all cleared out now for fifteen miles back, therefore the salmon have a good play-ground before they take the fresh water.—GILNOCKIE.

Bunessan Hotel, Mull.—Anglers from Bunessan Hotel, fishing Loch Assapol and Loch Pottu, are meeting with very good sport. From 3rd to 8th of August there were two grilse, fifty-nine sea trout, and seven hundred and forty-six brown trout caught among those anglers staying at Bunessan Hotel. Pringle Taylor had one grilse, 3½lb.; Rev. Mr. Thomson had grilse, 4lb.; H. Penman, a sea trout, 4lb.; Mr. Brown, a sea trout, 3lb.; Mr. Cunningham, one sea trout, 3lb. August 8, Dr. Dugall, Glasgow, a sea trout, 4lb. The weather has taken a change in favour of anglers here. The 7th and 8th was pouring with rain, and causing speed in the river to Loch Assapol, and let up fresh-run sea trout and salmon.—JOHN CAMPBELL.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—On Wednesday last, Mr. Hartley, Braelangwell Lodge, caught an 8lb. salmon on Garden Pool. A few days previously, the same angler landed two salmon on Braelangwell Pool. Owing to frequent floods, the river is in anything but fishing order, and up to Wednesday this week the weather had no appearance of settling. On Tuesday, this week, Mr. John MacLeod landed a clean-run grilse, weighing 6lb., on the waters connected with the Balnagown Arms Hotel.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—The past week has been one of floods. This will have its due effect shortly in bringing on an early and encouraging autumn run. Already autumn fish of 20lb. are being got in the nets on the coast, but it is yet too early to look for them in the river. The Dee has had a thorough scour out, and is now getting into fair fishing trim. On the Invercauld Arms' water, Morgan (keeper), Mr. Yarrow, Mr. McGregor, and others, had some good sport last week, chiefly with red fish. On the Glen Tana reaches the spring and summer fishing has been the most prolific enjoyed for many years back. On the Aboyne water Mr. Sandison landed a nice fish of 9lb. on Tuesday last, while several good baskets of trout have also been got, Scott (gillie to Mrs. Pickering) having one of 3lb. on the Huntly Lodge water. On the Upper Dess water, Mr. Harry Davidson (Harrow) landed two fine fish, scaling respectively 6lb. and 12lb. each; while Mr. Lamond had one of 9lb. on the Kincardine Lodge water. On the Lower reaches some nice baskets of grilse and sea trout were made, chiefly with the worm. The netting stations on the coast have been doing a "roaring trade" lately, and are now far above their average. The river stations have not done so well, and on many of those farther inland operations have closed for the season some time ago.—DEESIDER.

Deveron (Banffshire).—Sport with the rod continues almost at a standstill on this river. In most of the upper and lower waters fish are more in abundance than for several years back, but the water has never resumed its natural colour, owing to the continued rains, which take place more or less daily. Sportsmen are also bent on the 12th, and until the height of the grouse season is over there will be little done by the rod. Except a few grilse taken on the Huntly water, and a number of trout on the tidal water, there is nothing to report. There has been a splendid run of grilse and salmon on the river lately, and the net fishermen have had capital hauls daily. At the coast stations the catch has not been so heavy since the spate on the river commenced to fall, which allowed the fish to ascend. Notwithstanding, the nets nearest the river's mouth yielded well, and on Saturday last the number of boxes despatched to the markets from both the river and sea was sixteen, on Monday of this week nineteen, on Tuesday nine, and on Wednesday eleven. For the corresponding week last year, from all sources, only sixteen boxes were consigned for the week. On the Gardenstour coast the fishing was fairly remunerative this week; on Monday four boxes were sent to the markets, and on Tuesday seven. The fish are beginning to be of heavier weight, and the quality continues good. —H. W.

Helmsdale (Helmsdale).—Here, I am sorry to say, I have again to report great lack of sport, but certainly no lack of fish. Pool and stream are teeming with grilse, and not a few salmon, but they wont take. No matter what fly you try, they come—if they come at all—short. The other evening an angler hooked seven grilse, and failed to land one. This was no fault of the angler, who is a master of the art; the fish all came short, and the slight hold soon gave way. During the day, however, even this kind of sport is not obtainable, as they will not rise at all. The lessees of the shootings are now arriving daily, and grouse prospects are not particularly bright; there will be numbers of anglers out, and things may change. One thing is clear, the great number of fish on this river at this time must produce a grand spawning season, that is if the poacher does not come on the ground. But here there is little fear of that, as among the natives such a thing is almost unknown; but occasionally they do come from distant parts, and, in spite of faithful watchers, make a raid. The netsmen are again getting a few fish, indeed, more than they expected. The herring fishing since my last has also done fairly well, but the fishing is still considerably behind last season. At Wick, on Saturday and to-day, immense catches have been got, many thousand barrels having been landed. Cod are very numerous—so numerous, indeed, that fishermen say that they are destroying their nets, tearing them to pieces.

Inchnadamph Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—July 28, General Ranken, London, fished Loch Assynt for a few hours, and caught one grilse, 6lb.; Mr. Fry also fished same loch for a few hours, and caught a *Salmo ferox*, 4lb. July 29, General Ranken, on Loch Assynt, one salmon, 8lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Leatham, on Mid Assynt, fifty-one trout, 20lb. August 4, General Ranken and General Smith fished Mid Assynt, and caught twenty-five trout, 9½lb.; Mr. Fry, on Loch Assynt, caught two salmon, each weighing 8lb., and two grilse, each weighing 6lb. Aug. 5, Mr. Tarver, Newcastle, on Loch Assynt, caught one salmon, 13lb., and another 8lb.; General Ranken, London, on the same loch, caught one grilse, 6lb.—JOHN SUTHERLAND.

Kyle of Sutherland (Station Hotel, Invershin, N.B).—On the 29th ult., General Shannesy landed two sea trout, which weighed 4lb.; and on Thursday last, Mr. Tracey, Wimbledon, caught one weighing 3lb., and two of 2lb. each. Other anglers have also been more or less successful with the rod. The net fishings are rapidly falling off in productiveness. As compared with the previous week the total catch of salmon and grilse on Mr. Anderson's, Scalp, Rivermouth, and South Bonar fishings during the past week was less by almost one-half. There was also a considerable decrease on Mr. Smith's, Inverchurron, and Craggandubh fishings; but on Messrs. Powrie and Pitcaithley's Skibo fishings at the head of the Dornoch Firth, the difference was hardly perceptible. From all the above nettings combined the estimated weight of salmon and grilse despatched to Billingsgate and other markets in the course of the week would hardly aggregate 25 cwt., being the poorest record of any week since beginning of June. —McB.

Lairg, N.B.—Monday, of last week, was most unfavourable for angling, being thundery with heavy rain at intervals. Messrs. Copeland and Cummings killed twelve trout, 6½lb. Another angler got four trout on the same loch, and on Loch Beannoch Major-General Stafford caught three fine trout, 2½lb. On Tuesday, Mr. Cummings caught six trout, 6lb., on Loch Beannoch; Mr. Copeland had fourteen trout, 5lb., on Loch Shin; and another angler, on the same loch, nineteen trout, 6¾lb. On Wednesday, Major-General Stafford killed one trout of 1½lb. on Loch Beannoch; and Mr. Cochrane, nineteen, 6¾lb., on Loch Shin. On Thursday, Mr. Cummings fished Loch Beannoch, and made a basket of eight fine trout, weighing 6lb. Friday was so excessively stormy that no anglers ventured out. Saturday the weather had improved somewhat. Mr. Copeland killed three trout on Loch Shin; Mr. Young, five trout, heaviest 1½lb.; Sergeant Ray, three trout, and another angler three.—J. Y.

Loch Cracail (Sutherland, N.B.).—On the 27th ult., Gen. Shannesy, Station Hotel, Invershin, landed thirty-two trout, aggregating 32lb. On Saturday last, Mr. Walter Scott-Brock, Achinduich House, and Mr. R. Cunningham, Edinburgh, made a basket of fourteen, which average 1½lb. each.—McB.

Loch Laro (Sutherland, N.B.).—On Wednesday last, Mr. R. Cunningham, Edinburgh, and Mr. W. Scott-Brock, Achinduich, Invershin, landed one dozen trout, weighing 5lb. in all. On Monday, this week, they made a basket of sixteen, aggregating 7½—McB.

Loch Leven (Kinross).—After a drought extending over five weeks, the weather has at last become very moist, and baskets are better filled than they have been for some time. A strong blustering wind from the south west has been a decided drawback to what might have othorwise been a full average week's sport for the season. The Stirling Club on Tuesday was the most successful of four clubs out during tho week, when ten rods captured with fly, fifty-seven trout, 51lb. 11oz.; prize-takers (1), Mr. Miller, ten trout, 10lb.; (2), Mr. Melvin, thirteen trout. 9lb. 2½oz.; (3). Mr. Mackie, six trout, 7lb. 6oz.; heaviest trout, Mr. Mackie, 2lb. 12½oz. Several of the most successful private parties wero Master John Taylor, Edinburgh, twenty trout, 17lb.: Mr. Martin and Mr. Young, Edinburgh, seventeen trout, 17lb.; Mr. Drysdale, Melbourne, Australia, thirteen trout, 14lb. 4oz.; Mr. Watson, Ayton House, soven trout, 9lb. 8oz.; Mr. Malcolm and Mr. Lamond, Glasgow, fifteen trout, 15lb. 4oz.—ROBERT B. LAING.

Naver (Strathnaver, N.B.).—In the course of last week, Mr. P. H. Wormald and friend, Skelpick Lodge, landed twelve fish in all, including salmon and grilse, and an angler from Syon Lodge caught five. On Monday, Mr. Tom Scott, Rhifail, landed two salmon, which weighed 15lb. and 19lb. respectively, and on Tuesday, one of 12lb. Major E. A. Burnett fished Loch Rumsdale on Saturday last, and made a basket of two dozen beautiful trout. Mr. John Stuart, Bettyhill Hotel, is out regularly on the tidal waters, and making pretty fair baskets of trout.—McB.

Ness (Inverness).—During the past week angling on this water has been very good. The following are the catches for the week: On Dochfour water, General Godman, five grilse; on the Ness Castle water, Mr. F. Walker landod twenty-one grilse; on the Holm water, Mr. Godman landed twenty-seven grilse; on the Lower Holm, Sir George Boswell killed five grilse. On the 6th inst., Mr. Jas. Scott killed three grilse; on the 7th (free day) local anglers out killed seven grilse and one salmon. The water continues in first-rate order. Very good takes are being daily got with the nets.—D. WATSON.

Orchy (Inveroran Hotel).—The Comte de Paris, fishing from Inveroran Hotel, on August 4, had six dozen and five trout, 18lb; Mr. Havers, London, one salmon, 17lb.; Mr. Lamond, Glasgow, one trout, 3lb. On the 6th, the Comte de Paris had five dozen and four trout, 14lb.; Mr. Lamond, Glasgow, two dozen trout. On the 7th, the Comte de Paris had three dozen and eight trout, 10lb.; Mr. McDonald, London, had one salmon, 16lb. On Saturday, August 8, Mr. Forbes, Glasgow, had one beautiful salmon, 19lb. River in splendid condition; plenty of fish.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—On Wednesday Mr. Raikes and Mr. Playfair, London, fished Fiag beat, and landed fourteen trout, averaging ½lb. each; General Murray, Worthington, and Mr. Beale, Bucknell, on same beat, twenty trout, 8lb.; Colonel and Mrs. Butler, London, on Loch Shin, twenty trout, 7½lb., and a *Salmo ferox*, weighing 4½lb.; Dr. and Mrs. Matthews, Liverpool, on Loch Shin, ten trout, 4½lb.; and Captain Ross, along with Mr. Ross, on Loch More, two sea trout, 4½lb. On Friday, Mr. A. Ross fished Loch Grium, and caught a fine *Salmoferox*, which weighed 6lb.; Messrs. Ross and Brown, on same loch, had fourteen trout, averaging ½lb. each: and Colonel Butler, on Loch Shin (a few hours only), nine trout, 4lb. On Monday this week Captain Ross and Mr. Ross, London, fished Loch More, and landed one dozen sea trout, the heaviest of which weighed 4lb.; and the whole 23lb. Dr. Matthews and Colonel Butler tried Loch Gorm, and got forty trout, aggregating 13lb.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—Although the lochs have been too flooded for successful angling, the following good baskets have been made, and still better sport is expected this week as the waters settle: On Monday, Mr. Liddle, London, fished Loch Garbetbeg, and landed two salmon, weighing 8lb. and 7lb.; Mr. and Mrs. S. Young, London, on Loch Inchard, six lythe, 36lb.; Mr. Sampson, Brighton, on Loch-na-Blarloch, thirty-seven trout, 10lb.; and Mr. F. Maitland, Dover, on mountain streams, thirty-four trout, 6¾lb. On Tuesday, Mr. Liddle, on Loch Garbetmore, two sea trout, 2lb.; and Mr. and Mrs. Young, on Loch Inchard, one sea trout, 1½lb., and twelve lythe, 53lb. On Wednesday, Mr. Green, Surrey, on Loch-na-Blarloch, twenty-four trout, 6lb.; and Mr. Sampson, on Loch-na-Caillich, twelve trout, 4½lb., and a sea trout of 1½lb. On Thursday Mr. Liddle fished Loch Garbetbeg, and landed a salmon, weighing 9lb.; and Mr. Sampson, on river Achriskill, a sea trout of 1lb. On Friday, Mr. Liddle, on Loch Garbetbeg, had a salmon, weighing 9½lb., and a grilse of 1½lb. On Saturday, Mr. Maitland, Dover, on Loch Garbetbeg, one salmon, 6½lb.; Mr. F. Maitland, on mountain streams, fourteen trout, 8lb.; and Mr. Green, on Loch Tarvie, four trout, 3lb.—McB.

Shin.—The upper reaches of the Shin, although well stocked, yielded poor sport last week, only one fish—an eleven-poundor—being captured by Captain Berkeley on Wednesday. Mr. Vernon Watney, Tressady Lodge, Rogart, fished the principal pools on Tuesday. Lord and Lady Fitzhardinge and party, Berkeley Castle, arrived at Lairg Lodge for the season on Wednesday, the 12th inst.—J. Y.

Shin (Inveran Hotel Waters).—During the past week the following sport was obtained by anglers from Sutherland Arms Hotel: Captain Miles fished tho lower beats on Monday, and landed two grilse, 6lb. and 7½lb., on Clarag Pool. On Tuesday, the same angler had a grilse of 6½lb., on Fir Dam; and one of 4lb., on Clarag. On Wednesday, Mr. Seller caught one of 6lb., on Cromarty. On Thursday, Captain Miles landed a salmon of 8½lb., and a grilse of 6½lb., both on Big Fall Pool. On Saturday, the same angler landed a grilse of 6½lb., on Big Fall Pool; and Mr. Seller, a yellow trout of 1½lb.—McB.

South of Scotland.—Rain fell heavily all over the South of Scotland, on Saturday, and only the very keenest of anglers faced the elements and were moderately successful. By the evening the rivers were rising, and, on Sunday morning, the waters were in roaring floods, which gladdened the hearts of every angler. At day light on Monday morning, a goodly number of anglers had taken up their positions on the best casts, and with worm as a lure heavy baskets were secured on the Annan. Ex-dean of Guild, London, an expert minnow fisher, has been making some capital kills with his favourite lure, in the lower waters near Annan. In three days of two hours each, he has killed the following. On Monday, forty-eight herling; Tuesday, twenty-four; Wednesday, thirteen; and he has had one or two sea trout as well. Mr. Joseph Pollock, Cockermouth, has also been one of the most successful of anglers on the Annan, and comes next on the list for numbers and weight. On Monday, he had thirty herling and about two dozen yellow trout; and on the following day, he had a heavy basket of herling with fly. Mr. Peter London, Annan, caught twenty herling, and a number of yellow trout, and Mr. James London, killed eighteen herling. Mr. Peet, Wigton, landed eighteen herling above Northfield, and the Brewery waters. Mr. Halliday, Blackburn, had a good basket of herling, and a few yellow trout above Northfield with worm. Mr. Wm. Millar, Glasgow, caught ten herling—fine ones—with the worm above the Fish House pool. Mr. Thomas Tweedie, Moat House, Annan, had thirty herling, besides a dozen yellow trout. Mr. George Carrick had over twenty in the water above Milnbie Caul. Mr. McGiverin, post-master, Annan, and Mr. Munro, photographer, filled their baskets with herling in two hours at the stream below Warmanbie. Mr. W. Wright, Annan, killed seventeen herling and one sea trout 1¾lb. Mr. James Henry had eight herling, and one sea trout at Galabank. Mr. John Lawrie, Bank-street, had a very fine basket of herling. Mr. John Irving, fish merchant, had six herling; Mr. Mackay, Brydekirk, caught sixteen herling, and one dozen yellow trout in Blacketlees water; Mr. Steel, eight herling; Mr. John Rae, Bridge-street, eleven herling, and one sea trout; Mr. John Iveson, Wigton, two sea trout; and five herling in two hours; Mr. Willie McLean, Port-street, three herling, and a number of brown trout, one of which weighed 1¼lb.; Mr. F. H. Wilson, Annan, landed four trout. Good catches were made in Hoddom Castle water, and also in Sir Robert Jardine's water, near Castle Milk. Mr. Lawson had eight herling; Mr. Rutherford, Hawick, one sea trout on Wednesday, and his friend had two fine herling with fly. In the Blackpool, Mr. William Wright; Ednam, Annan, killed ten herling, and one sea trout in two hours on Wednesday forenoon. Mr. Wright then hooked a large salmon over 20lb. with trout-fly and tackle and a 10ft. rod. As the fish was being landed at the end of the hour and ten minutes, the rod gave way under the strain, and the angler rushed to the side of the pool and landed his fish, which. however, struggled out of his hand, and the cast becoming entangled about his legs, broke. The fish rolled over the rock into the pool. Three Hawick anglers were on the opposite side of the river unable to render assistance, owing to the heaviness of the river, and Mr. Wright had to attempt to land his fish single-handed at the side of a steep bank and under trees. Mr. F. B. Johnston, Lord-street, Liverpool, killed two sea trout and fifteen herling in Hoddom Castle water, and his friend, Mr. Fletcher, Liverpool, caught two sea trout and ten herling, all with fly. To-day (Thursday), Mr. W. Wright killed sixteen herling and one sea trout, 1½lb., with small fly. The Annan is in splendid order to-day (Thursday), and is likely to remain so until the end of the week. Some good sport has been had in the Esk, which was in flood on Sunday. Although the flood had subsided, a good deal by the following morning bait fishers were out before daylight on Monday morning, and many splendid creels of sea trout and herling were obtained on all the different stretches of the river. The tributaries fished very well, more especially the Liddle and the Tarris waters. Towards the end of last week the river was exceedingly low, and little could be done by angling through the day. At a night's fishing, Mr. Alexander McMillan, Langholm, had three sea trout and seven herling in the water below the town of Langholm. Mr. Thomas Irving, Langholm, caught six herling and one sea trout; Mr. A. Irving grassed three sea trout. An angler out from the Temperance Hotel, had some nice sport. Messrs. Tucker, London, caught several sea trout, besides baskets of yellow trout; Mr. George Armstrong, Langholm, killed a sea trout of 2lb. and three herling at a night's fishing; Mr. Andrew Beattie, Langholm, two sea trout and a few herling; Mr. W. Davidson, St. Thorwald's, three sea trout, Broomholm water; Rev. E. J. Smith, Hexham, killed a sea trout, weighing 3lb.; and he had some nice catches of yellow trout in the Tarras water. In the Kirkcudbrightshire Dee some better sport has been had since the fall of rain, and the river is now in much better order for angling. In the Urr some good sport has been had at night, but little or nothing has fallen to the rods through the day. The Dee was 3ft. up on Monday; but it would require to have another 18in. to place it in good ply for salmon fishing. Anglers have been moderately successful on this river since my last notes. In the Fleet, capital angling has been had of late, despite the low waters. Three Dumfries anglers (Messrs. McKill, Brown, and Thomson) had a splennid combination catch on Saturday afternoon. In three hours they had on exhibition at the Murray Arms, fifty-one herling and sea trout, all of good size. On Monday the river was in flood, and anglers were out early and had good baskets. All the rivers are in the very best order now after the floods.—HEATHERBELL.

Thurso and Lochmore (Brawl Castle).—The river has been in good ply during the past week, a good deal of rain having fallen. I never remember so many newly-run fish in the river at this time of year, but the takes have not been up to the expectations. Two rods were out on the Brawl Castle water, with the following results: On the 3rd, Mr. Part's rod, on No. 3 beat, had two salmon; on the 4th, one of 8½lb.; on the 5th, on No. 3 beat, one of 7lb. On the 6th, Pipe-Major Grant, fishing No. 3 beat, got a fresh-run salmon of 7½lb.; Mr. Part, on the same beat, got one of 7¾lb.; on the 7th, on No. 3 beat, two, one a grilse of 4lb. and a salmon of 7¾lb.; Pipe-Major J. Grant got two, on No. 2 beat, 7½lb. and 9lb.; on the 8th, Pipe-Major Grant, on No. 2 beat, got two salmon, 7½lb. and 9lb.; on the 10th, on the same beat, one of 9½lb., and one on No. 3 beat, of 9lb. The prospects are excellent. The best flies are Jock Scott, Popham, and Childers.—A. H.

Tongue Hotel.—On August 4, Mr. Wordsworth, on Loch Loyal, 15lb. of trout; Mr. Muir, on Loch Slamm, 7lb. of trout. On August 5, Mr. Wordsworth, on Loch Loyal, 10lb. of trout; Mr. Muir, on the Kyle, six sea trout, 10lb.: Mr. Durrant, on the Kyle, three sea trout, 7lb. On August 6, Mr. Wordsworth, on Loch Loyal, 7lb. of trout; Mr. Muir, on Loch Craggie, ten trout, 4½lb.; Mr. Durrant, on Loch Craggie, fourteen trout, 5½lb. On August 7, Mr. Muir, on Loch Craggie, thirteen trout, 4lb.; Mr. Wordsworth, on Loch Slamm, one salmon, 8½lb., also ten trout, 5½lb. On August 8, Mr. Wordsworth and Miss Turing, on tho Kyle, four sea trout, 8½lb., heaviest fish 4lb.—A. CAMPBELL.

Whitadder (Ellemford).—The river is in better size for angling at this time than it has been during the whole fishing season. On Monday, tho 10th, Mr. Stobart, of Biddick Hall, had twenty-one trout, and Mr. Hugh Pattinson, twenty-five trout. There is every prospect of more rain.—R. J. F.

Ythan (Udny Arms, Newburgh, Aberdeenshire).—Sea trout are exceptionally plentiful, and baskets of 9lb., 13lb., and 16lb. per rod are quite common. The Devonshire tube and fly are proving equally successful lures, both from bank and boat. Among others fishing during the past week from the Undy Arms Hotel, which is meantime chock-full, may be mentioned Messrs. Hodkinson, Wolverhampton; Dr. Meston, Aberdeen; G. Davidson, Wellwood; J. C. Wordie, Banchory; Dr. Orton, Newcastle; and Captain Gauld, London, Kent.—K. O. N.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—There is another bad week for me to record in the Ballinderry. Trout continue to sulk, and still refuse to rise to the angler's lures, so that fishing is confined to perch, pike, and bream. The only basket I have to record is one of four trout made by Mr. C. B. Irwin, on Monday, on the Coagh reaches. I hear that plenty of trout and salmon are lying off the Burnmouth, waiting for a flood to ascend. If this comes, we shall have an improvement in sport much to be desired. Tho greater part of the "aristocrats" are off to do battle on tho moors.—EAST TYRONE.

Blackadder.—At Ballynahinch fishery, since my last report, angling has greatly improved, and we have a splendid flood. Can now advise anyone to try it, and am certain they won't be disappointed. The most successful rods these last three days were General Beresford, twelve salmon; Col. Garrett, thirteen; the Earl of Tyrone, nine; Mr. Pike, fourteen; Mr. Garnett, two; also a great quantity of sea trout by other rods.—TOOMBEOLA.

Erne and Lough Melvin.—All through the past week the weather was very much against angling, still some fair sport was obtained by the following anglers: Messrs. J. Hone, Jameson, General Dickens, Mr. S. F. Staples, Captain Greer, and General Beresford. Trout fishing on Melvin has also improved, and capital baskets are being made.—M. ROGAN AND SONS.

Lough Currane, Waterville (County Kerry).—Sport on favourable days has been fair. Colonel Rogers has had two salmon and a grilse, weighing respectively, 7lb. and 6½lb., and 6lb., in addition to, from three to nine white trout daily; Mr. Judd had one salmon, 6lb., and some good baskets of white trout. The other gentlemen who did pretty well at white and brown trout on odd days were Surgeon-Major Rahilly (who had a fine dish of large white trout on Friday), Major Cresswell, Mr. Eades, Mr. F. L. Gordon-Farrar, Colonel Kirkwood, Mr. Merriweather, Dr. Coats, Rev. Mr. Walters, Mr. Brock, Mr. Baker, and a few others. Surgeon-Major Rahilly caught two salmon, 5½lb. and 3½lb. (and lost a third when ready for the gaff. On the Inny, on the 9th, John Sullivan, a professional, got one 9lb. On Monday the latter angler caught two 15lb., and Dr. Coats and Mr. Fernell, three, 10lb., 5lb., and 4lb.—THOMAS J. DENNEHY.

Lough Mask.—The fishing for the past week has been much improved owing to the change of wind and a heavy fall of rain. Mr. Butler, of Bristol, and Mr. and Mrs. Allgood, of London, and Mr. Rothwell, of Navan, have had excellent fishing, from 10lb. to 20lb. of trout each, with some pike each day. Tho fishing on Lough Corrib is bad owing to the lowness of the water on the lake.—SCYMAN SUMMERLY.

Lough Neagh (Ulster).—At the mouths of the different rivers entering Lough Neagh on the Tyrone, Derry, and Armagh shores, salmon and trout netting is prime, as at this time of the year the fish are lying in these localities waiting for floods to ascend the rivers. Lake trout are not rising, the weather being calm and close. At this period of the season there is generally a great falling off in the takes of pollen intended for the Scotch and English markets, from a rather curious circumstance which, as far as I am aware, has escaped the notice of all writers on that mysterious and little known fish. In the latter week of July and the first week of August, a kind of black fly rises on the Lough in certain localities. These flies are in countless myriads on water and in air, and the pollen gorge themselves with them, the result being that the fish netted in those localities are worthless for exportation, as they turn green and decompose rapidly. I am informed that the flies move about according to the change of wind. This year it seems not to be so plentiful as other seasons. The eel, perch, pike, and bream fishing continue good.

Moy and Lakes (Ballina).—This river has risen over one foot within the last few days, and as I write rain is falling heavily, which will cause a further rise in the water. All nets are now off, and as soon as the water clears anglers should do very well with salmon, grilse, and sea trout. During the past week some nice fresh-run salmon and grilse were killed by Mr. W. Brougham and friend and Major Helly, the latter killing one day a salmon weighing 12½lb., and a grilse, 7lb. Trout fishing in the loughs is slowly improving, and nice baskets of fish are brought in by the Messrs Grey and the Rev. John Thornton and sons. The best creel that I have seen this week was one with Messrs. Meyer and Thornton, twenty-four fish, 21½lb., and tho largest trout for the week was one of 3½lb., and several two-pounders.—FRANK HEARNS.

Strule and Mourne (Newtoun Stewart, Co. Tyrone).—If the weather remains as at present we shall have good fishing here till the end of the season, October 10. The flax water will not do any harm I expect, as we apparently shall have enough fresh water to keep the river clean, and the keepers are exerting themselves much better than formerly in looking after and preventing the farmers from letting their flax dams go free. In less than two weeks it will all be away in any case.—JOHN J. MOORE.

Westmeath Lakes (Mullingar).—The fishing has improved wonderfully during the past fortnight, especially upon Lough Ennell, and with a little extra trouble, sufficient supplies of Green Drake can be obtained. "Harries" are very plentiful, and sometimes the fish rise as freely as in May and June. Nearly all the visitors had left when the sport became good. Tho brothers Berne (four) had some capital fishing during the week ending 11th August, getting on an average five trout per day, ranging from 1lb. to 3lb. each. Many others had similar success. Your correspondent tried for a couple of hours this evening (the early part of the day being very wet), and landed three trout, weighing respectively 5¼lb., 1¾lb., and 1lb. To-morrow I turn my steps towards the moors.—T. J. W.

DEATH OF THE OLDEST THAMES FISHERMAN. — The veteran Tom Davis, of East Moulsey, has been removed from the now limited list of Old Thames Fishermen—he has been ailing for a long time with no hope of his recovery, and on Thursday week he breathed his last. He had many good friends who cheered as far as they could his declining years and on Tuesday last his funeral was attended by the river keepers of the T.A.P.S., and the fishermen of the place.

A SOMEWHAT new though welcome innovation took place at the Tanfield Agricultural Show the other day. The exhibition was held in a field on the banks of the Swale, and Mrs. Hammond, tho owner, gave the visitors, who might so choose, permission to fish in the river, within a mile of the village. A large number of rod-holders took the opportunity offered, and somo fair sport resulted. The incident is well worthy of imitation.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

A MEETING of the committee of the Birmingham Angling Association was held on August 6 at the head-quarters, when the chief business appertaining to the great forthcoming contest was brought forward. The selection of three gentlemen being required to visit Pershore to make the final arrangements, resulted in Messrs. Coles, White, and Gumbley being appointed. A committee being required to form the prize purchasing committee, eight gentlemen were nominated, but five only being required, independent of the ex-officio officers, the vote was taken on the nominations, and the following gentlemen were duly elected: Messrs. Allen, Hall, Hughes, Gumbley, and Attwood. Nothing will be wanting to make the excursion and contest one of the best on record.

THE Birmingham Anglers' Benevolent Society is making great progress. At the last meeting of the society some very favourable reports were given in by the visiting committees. Four societies had been visited, and at three of them nearly the whole of the members had consented to join the society. The reports were received with great satisfaction, and a hearty vote of thanks were accorded to the divisional committees for their services. Messrs. White and Fitter were elected as auditors for the ensuing year, after which the business was directed to the forthcoming contest on behalf of the funds of the society. The question of who should act as referees was decided by Messrs. Coles and White, being elected from Birmingham, and the secretary was instructed to write to Mr. R. Wingfield, of Worcester, and Mr. T. Wright, of Kidderminster, asking them if they would kindly officiate. Nearly the whole of the committee promised to give a prize or a donation to the prize fund.

THE city society, held at the Shire Vaults, Worcester-street, Birmingham, held their first annual contest on the 9th inst. at Wyre Piddle, near Pershore. A more miserable day for a contest could scarcely be imagined. The river was very low owing to the water being drawn off for the purpose of repairing the locks in the higher reaches. The contest was fished on the off side of the river, under great disadvantage to some of the contestants, as the water in places was quite 7ft. below the bank, and it was impossible to use the landing-net in some places; but the members made the best of the circumstances, and the contest commenced in a steady downpour of rain at thirteen minutes past one o'clock. Twenty-six members took part in the contest, and manfully braved the storm till thirteen minutes past three, when the fish bags were collected by the umpire and referee. The competitors were conveyed across the river again by the punt to the Anchor Inn, where the weighing of the fish commenced, the result of which was that Mr. W. Bird, sen., obtained first honours, Mr. Matthouse, second, Mr. Markley, third, &c. After the weighing in had been completed, the members sat down to dinner. The remainder of the afternoon turned out fine, and some good sport was had with the perch.

ON the Avon the anglers have had very little to complain of, as the fish have been biting freely. The bait that has done the most execution has been stewed wheat. The malt has also been successful in the neighbourhood of Binton. With the latter bait some very good bream have been taken, the largest being close on 6lb. The perch have been biting freely at the worm and minnow, but the fish have run rather small.

THE Trent in the neighbourhood of Alrewas is reported to be in grand trim for all kinds of angling. The roach are not on the feed, and those that have been taken have been taken with the small red worm. In the Birmingham Piscatorial waters at Barton and Walton the members have been having some good sport amongst the chub and dace.

ON the Anker, the St. George's members have been very active, and some decent roach have been secured from up the river, near to Amington, the largest weighing, 1lb. 9½oz. This was taken by Mr. T. Bayliss, who took several more fish over a pound each. The bream in the river have not commenced to bite yet, but the members are on the look-out for them, and I hope to report some decent catches again this year from this noted bream river.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

NOW that we know more of the doings of those anglers who have been away during the past holidays, a far better opinion of the results of their expeditions can be formed. Lancashire anglers are very reticent of their movements, but if they could only be induced to emerge from their shell, a great amount of interesting items could be given.

MR. ELLERBY, Manchester, has been having tight lines during the past week in Lincolnshire, when it comes to returning ¼lb. fish to the water sport must have been very good. Mr. Thorpe, fishing in Cheshire, landed a pike nearly 4lb.; Mr. Longe, one close on 3lb.; and Mr. Matthews, a perch, 1lb.; these being the heaviest fish amongst many others. The public sweepstakes promoted by the Pendleton clubs, promises to be a most successful affair. Mr. Matthews is the chief organiser. One prominent Manchester angler, whose extreme modesty prevents the publication of his name, fishing in private waters on the 8th inst., secured six trout weighing 8½lb.

IN Lancashire we have been smitten with the championship epidemic, and it is a matter of extreme congratulation that the interested parties cannot agree, and the craze is likely to die a welcome death.

AT Northwich, a splendid trout weighing 3lb. 4oz., has been captured by a local rod. Why this district is not liberally supported by Lancashire, and the waters well stocked from year to year, is amazing, as there is fishing enough for thousands of rods, for in addition to the trout, which are plentiful, coarse fish are to be had at any time, as they exist in the different waters there in large quantities.

MR. SAM BROOKS, Ardwick, has had two good days' fishing in the Churnell. One day he took five and a-half brace of trout, weighing 8lb., the heaviest 1lb. 9oz., and the second day he took seven brace of trout, weighing 12lb. These returns do not include the numerous coarse fish taken at the same time.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

OF late there has not been much angling news of which to write. Anglers themselves have been numerous enough, but barbel—our chief sporting fish—cannot be persuaded to feed with any sort of freedom. At Colwick Weir-head Mr. H. Green has been taking five or six most nights, and at Wilford a fine specimen of 6¼lb. has fallen to the rod of Mr. H. Morley, who, in addition, has bagged some remarkably fine dace, including one of 9½oz. At King's Mills, Mr. J. Greaves has scored heavily amongst the roach with creed wheat, and at Shardlow, Mr. S. Pogson, of the Bowling Green Angling Society, has been landing a large quantity of remarkably fine chub. Bank Holiday was, of course, a "great day," but a most boisterous wind prevailed, and this naturally upset calculations. Swims innumerable had been baited, with a view to get amongst the barbel, but most of those who were out returned with comparatively light baskets. In fly-fishing the best takes have been made by Mr. Anthony Eaton, of Nottingham, on the Wilford Shallows.

AT the close of Bank Holiday week heavy rain set in, and on Monday and Tuesday last the river rose above eighteen inches. The rise was heartily welcomed, although for a time the loose weed poured downwards in almost unknown quantities. But the change of water set all fish, excepting barbel, freely on the feed, and on Tuesday evening many splendid bags of bream, roach, dace and perch were shown at the various local clubs.

AN interesting correspondence has recently been published in the *F. G.*, bearing on the question of roach fishing, and who may be regarded as its most clever exponents. Matches are talked of, and for my part I should much like to see one arranged between the champions of South and North. Anglers on the Trent do not profess to be *roachests* in the strict sense of the word. As a rule they are all-round fishermen, using the best of fine lines and tackle, and the leading lights are well able to hold their own against their kindred of the Thames. To mention names would be invidious. A general excellence prevails not only amongst professionals, but amongst amateurs, and in the clubs no such thing is known as gross weight competitions. Specimen fish are alone recognised, and it is to capture these that much strong rivalry exists on the banks of the river. When the late Mr. Wm. Bailey tried conclusions with Mr. Woodard, of the Hoxton Brothers (London) society, he was very sanguine of lowering the colours of the leading roach angler of the Lea. At the same time it was a well-known fact here that Mr. Bailey held very peculiar notions as to the London style of angling. As an all-round weilder of the rod he stood in his day, unrivalled, and his extraordinary takes of barbel, dace, bream, and the like cannot readily be forgotten by those who saw his baskets on his return from a piscatorial excursion. His first heat with Mr. Woodard took place in the Lea at Ponder's End, and as an eye-witness of it I must confess that I was greatly impressed with the two styles of angling adopted. Mr. Bailey triumphed over his redoubtable opponent, and there is, I think, little doubt he would have beaten him a second time on the Trent had the water been in anything like fishable condition. The contest took place at Weston-on-Trent, a place which Mr. Bailey had frequented for years, and one, which it is fair to presume, he possessed considerably more knowledge of the water and its swims than the Londoner. On the morning of fishing the river presented the appearance of a clay-pit, and Mr. Woodard, winning the toss for choice of stations, selected the inside of the celebrated "sand hole" swim. This he never deserted, and finally, by marked perseverance, pulled his backers triumphantly out of the ordeal. The thickness of the water prevented Mr. Bailey from following his favourite method of swimming the worm or maggot, and knowing this he never really seemed to exert himself. Of course, his indifference was eagerly discussed in fishing circles at the time, and when the last heat came on the *tapis*, many of his friends averred that he would be defeated; and defeated he was, though if I mistake not, he killed a greater weight of fish than Mr. Woodard. Some few days succeeding the match Mr. Bailey confessed to me that the Lea style of roaching was most deadly, and that, in respect of the use of the "long pole," Trent anglers knew absolutely nothing.

THE recently formed society at the Shoulder of Mutton Inn, Smithy-row, Nottingham, continues to make steady progress. On Thursday evening, Aug. 6, a special meeting of the executive was held, when there were present: Messrs. G. Beals, J. Truman, E. Derrick, J. Derrick, R. Higginson (host), C. F. Walker, G. Clarke, C. Jackson, and Coteald (secretary). Business of importance was brought forward, and after discussion it unanimously resolved to hold a pegged-down competition in the Trent on the 8th of next month. No water was agreed upon, but I have good reasons for believing that the competition will take place, either in the Rolleston fishery, or at Farndon. The members are anxious to secure a piece of water on the river for their own use, and with this view the secretary was requested to communicate with the Hon. G. N. Curzon, M.P., who owns the fishery on the south side of the Trent above Trent Lock. At present a portion of the water is in the hands of Mr. Price, of the Navigation Inn, Trent Loch, who lets out tickets at the low figure of threepence per rod, per day. The field above the fence to which the tickets extend is connected with the farm of Mr. J. Potter, and it is really this field that the executive of the society would like to secure. The river here contains any quantity of heavy bream, roach, dace, and chub, with a few barbel, and is regarded as one of the best meadows for autumn and winter fishing in the district. I trust the negotiations with the hon. member may succeed, but I must say that I have grave doubts upon the subject.

THE society connected with the Nottingham Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Services have just held their annual fishing competition in the waters of Sir Henry Bromley at Stoke-by-Newark. The society numbers upwards of a hundred members, and there is no doubt that it is doing an immense deal of good sociably amongst the artizan fishermen of Nottingham and the district. Unfortunately for all concerned this year's outing was, in a great measure spoilt by rainy weather. As a consequence the takes were of a poor description, and do not call for special comment.

THE doings of the Nottingham Wellington Angling Society, which takes the lead in piscatorial matters in the town and district, have of late been of a quiet character. So far not many specimen fish appear to have been weighed in. The other day, however, one of the members had booked to his credit a really magnificent dace weighing 15oz. The fish, which was seen and examined by a number of gentlemen, members of the society, was killed, I understand, in a private lake in Lincolnshire. Dace of even 1lb. weight were caught some few years ago in Oxton dam, in Nottinghamshire. One that I saw weighed exactly 1lb., whilst a second was only ½oz. less. This dam, at the time referred to, teemed with perch, weighing on an average about 7oz. each, and it was on very rare occasions that the dace could be persuaded to feed. I believe that Mr. David Slater, the well-known fishing-tackle manufacturer of Newark, has occasionally taken some extraordinary specimens of the same fish from the same dam with the artificial fly.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

THE soldiers in camp at Lythwood, near Shrewsbury, the seat of W. E. M. Hulton Harrop, had a very enjoyable day on Wednesday, the 5th inst., and chief among the sports which took place in the afternoon was a fishing contest. The scene of action was a large but somewhat weedy pool in front of the hall, a sheet of water which contains a large number of perch and a quantity of bream. Some hundred and fifty trout were about six years ago turned in, and nothing has been seen of them since, but the probability is that they are "born to blush unseen," for the pool is seldom disturbed. At the time that the trout were turned in a large number of heavy bream and carp were given notice to quit, some of these being as we were informed by the old keeper—"as large as a hand-saw—never saw such fish." The competitors on Wednesday numbered ten, all soldiers and armed with bran balls, formidable tackle and bottom rods, they waged war on the fish from a small island at the end of the pool, each being pegged down to a station determined by ballot. Bushes and trees around the stations and weeds in plenty made angling no easy task, and there was a good deal of entanglement of lines, and consequently loss of practice time and reputation among the piscators. Mr. J. Williams, the hon. secretary of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society, acted as judge, and started the soldiers on the war-path on their hours fishing. A prize was given for the greatest number of fish, and one for the heaviest. Ten competitors took part in the contest, which was witnessed by a large number of soldiers as well as visitors to the camp. Hardly had the word "Go" been given when Walferd, the camp cook, who ultimately proved the winner of the prize for the greatest number caught—well not exactly a fish but a very fine green bough at the water's edge, a mishap which caused him to use a good many cursory remarks appropriate to the occasion. Then Sergeant Young amid great excitement and encouragement from the spectators—who were very liberal in their advice to "drown him," "take time," "play him," and with other phrases well-known to the angler's vocabulary—drew first blood and opened the ball with a small perch—such a poor little victim. Then it seemed as though small perch made a simultaneous attack on the baits, for they were taken prisoners in all directions by the soldier anglers. Business became somewhat more slack at the end of about a quarter-of-an-hour, and then in order to keep up the interest and excitement, one of the competitors who had been less fortunate than his fellows, whilst reaching a likely spot of water, suddenly lost his balance and with a splash that must have startled all the fish in the vicinity out of a weeks growth, ascertained the depth to be about three feet, at the side, a knowledge that might have been useful to him in his piscatorial pursuits, had he gained it at the expense of disturbing the water and getting a wetting above the knees. At the end of the hour it was found that Walferd had taken the largest number of fish—all small perch. Private Tudor came next with seven; Private Andrew Davies having five; Corporal E. Jones, five; Lance-Corporal Phillips, three; Corporal Ives, two; Sergeant Hilliam, two; Sergeant Young, two; Quartermaster Piper, one bite; Sergeant Gotobed, nothing. The heaviest fish was taken by Corporal Jones, and Private Walferd came next.

ALTHOUGH coming somewhat late in the day, and perhaps at a rather inopportune time, the action taken by the County Council of Shropshire, consequent upon a resolution brought forward by Mr. Jeffrey Poole, in reference to the decrease of salmon in the upper waters of the Severn, will probably have some good effect, and will strengthen the cause of those who are now endeavouring to obtain a fair proportion of the fish. Many will doubtless consider, and perhaps rightly so, that in desiring to take such sudden and energetic action by calling the attention of the Board of Trade to the "disgraceful injustice" under which those interested in the fishing in the upper waters, the mover of the resolution was hardly justified, or, at any rate, if justified, the means he proposed to adopt to secure the end in view was hardly calculated to bring about the desired improvement, or to conduce to good feeling and amicable co-operation among the representatives of the upper and lower interests. This was undoubtedly the view of the Council, who were quite content, after the very temperate and practical speech of Sir Charles Rouse Boughton, to leave the matter in the hands of their Executive Committee for consideration. Now, the Board has been aroused to action by the growing dissatisfaction of those interested in the fishing and by the energy of their representatives, and has, or is now, dealing with weir-passes, pollution, close-time, and other questions which it is urged must be at once taken in hand to effect the desired object. Therefore, at the present time, any such strong action as that proposed is uncalled for, and is only likely to irritate and hamper the movements of the Board, who, as a body, is, we are convinced, only desirous of acting fairly between the conflicting interests that they have to study. The aim of the Shropshire and neighbouring County Councils should be not to add fuel to the flames of dissent which have sprung up between the upper and lower water fishermen, but, on the other hand, to assist in their councils, and to co-operate and take joint legal action to cleanse the river from pollution, which, whatever other causes may be at work decreasing the supply of salmon, must obviously have a good deal to do with the question. The Board has shown an anxiety to settle the matter in the common good by lengthening the close-time and tackling the questions of pollution and the weirs, so that all that now can be done by the upper water proprietors and representatives is to give every assistance, and await the results of their experiments.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

FISHING in the York district during the past few days, and up to the despatch of my weekly notes, has not been particularly brisk at all. The state of the Ouse has not been favourable to good angling, insomuch as it has been swollen and discoloured the greater part of the week. Strong winds, too, have latterly prevailed. A few bottom fishermen, however, have been out trying their luck, with but unfortunately only moderate remuneration for their trouble. Better things are, however, forthcoming from the Derwent, which last week was in flood, but towards the beginning of this week the water was running down nicely, and both at Malton and Hackness, sport has been good. At the former place some good baskets have been made by several Leeds anglers. The Yore and the Wharfe have afforded nice sport, the Brown Owl being reported as the best killing fly on the former river. The Foss, at York, has been tried by a goodly number of bottomers, and has yielded fair returns.

THE members of the Fulford Friendly Angling Society have arranged to hold their third angling contest of the present season in the river Derwent at Catton, on Wednesday next. With the water favourable and the elements friendly, the match should be both successful and enjoyable.

WHILE alluding to the subject of the Derwent, I may mention that it is at present the quarter from which rather unpleasant news has emanated. It appears that a new tenant has come into possession of the land through which the water flows, between Buttercrambe and Stamford Bridge, and, according to report, has determined to put a stop to angling. Every angler seen on the land, which by-the-by a towing-path runs through, is to be informed that fishing has been suspended, and, should he again persist in following his avocation on the same ground, proceedings will be instituted. This is anything but pleasing, and, considering that one or two others have previously withdrawn their permission to fish in the river, it is about high time that some remedying steps should be taken in the matter. Perhaps the York branch of the Northern Anglers' Association will take it in hand.

AT a meeting of the Tees Salmon Fishery Board, held at Darlington Police-court, on Monday, attention was called to the pollution of the river Skerne, and it was recommended to draw the attention of the County Council to the matter. The chairman, dealing with the expenditure of the board, said as there did not appear to be much chance of increasing the revenue, the committee had under consideration the reducing of the watching expenses, by doing away with some of the water bailiffs, if the riparian owners would help the board in guarding the interests of fishing. The committee thereby hoped to diminish the costs. Both the recommendations were adopted.

WITH the disposal of Inspector Mabon and his assistants, and in their places to appoint gamekeepers and servants of riparian owners, local anglers are naturally very much opposed. Just as they were about to congratulate themselves upon the slight improvement of the fishing, their hopes are on the verge of being wrecked. One correspondent goes so far as to darkly hint that in out-of-the-way places the gamekeepers fully licensed by the Board would "take any kind of fish they choose," and, further says the gentleman, "these poachers have a wholesale fear of Inspector Mabon; but when Monday's recommendation becomes law, who or what will restrain them from clearing the river?" Another important question also presents itself as to what will become of the hatcheries attended to by the inspector, which contributed not a little to keep up the supply of fish in the river. The proposition of the Board is certainly not in the best interests of the angler, and perhaps, after further consideration, the expenses might be more beneficially reduced, especially when it is taken into account that one thousand and eighty-five trout licences at one shilling each have been issued this year by the Board.

RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

THE members of this society have been occupied during the last few meetings in revising the rules relating to prizes, and on Friday last the business was brought to a close.

In the regretted absence through illness of Mr. Montagu Davenport, Mr. E. V. Powell occupied the chair.

For some few years the society has offered no prizes for fishing except occasionally when a day competition was arranged; consequently, at the ordinary weekly meetings there were seldom any fish to be seen upon the table, and it was to induce the members to bring their sport into the room that Mr. Emery proposed, and, after discussion and amendment, the society approved, a series of resolutions, whereby gold and silver medals can be won by those members who take the largest number of specimens during the season.

In accordance with the best traditions of the society, the sizes of such specimens has been fixed very high, so that no fish smaller than named in the following standard will be eligible for these prizes: Pike, 6lb.; barbel, 4lb.; bream, 3lb.; chub, 3lb.; carp, 4lb.; perch, 1lb.; roach, 1lb.; dace, 6oz. For trout there is a handsome silver challenge cup.

At the conclusion of the business the members congratulated and wished good luck to Mr. Philip Geen and Mr. Emery, who leave next week for a spell of fishing in Ireland; also to Mr. Jeffery, just off to the Broads. The hon. sec., in looking through the old minutes of the society, came upon the following, which is worthy of being framed and hung up in every club-room in London and in every hotel on the river: "Resolved—That trailing a spinning-bait behind a boat or punt is not recognised by this society as fair fishing on the Thames."

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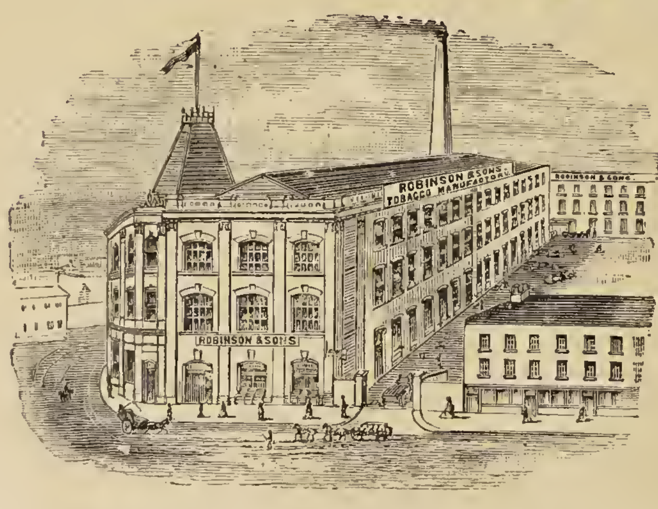

Extract from the "FISHING GAZETTE" of February 21st, 1891:—

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HE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

ommunications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

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ne GAZETTE can be had by sending Postal Order or Stamps to Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Co., Limited, the Proprietors, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London, to whom all money payments should be made.

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TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The —
The Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, AUGUST 22ND, 1891.

THE SUMMER FISHING IN SCOTLAND.

By MAC.

WITH the heather in its purple glow, the mass well-to-do sportsmen on moor and mountain, d August far advanced, the time has arrived hich tells us, in the ever shortening day, that e glory of summer is past, and the summer gling season proper in Scotland once again has me to an end. But while this is so, hosts of llowers of the gentle art still continue to pour rthward to ply with zest the rod on river, loch, d tarn; and though doubtless many find that ort proves less good than they could wish, still eir favourite pastime with all its charms and ductive influences is none the less delightful at for a time it is overshadowed as a fashionable ort by that of the followers of Nimrod which companies the crack of the gun on the moors d of the rifle in the forest. Yes, even so. The e class of sportsmen do not grudge the other eir sport—their days of feats and of triumph. hey envy not, for their own recreation is satis- ing. Nay, if true sportsmen, they delight to ear the one of the other's success. "Every dog s his day," a trite and a true saying, and so has ery sportsman who inclines and can afford it. he present is the great season for the fashion- le "shootist," just as spring, summer, and later tumn are the primo seasons, in the districts hich suit, for a battle royal with the king o esh water fishes.

The "dead season"—that season of really little good salmon and grilse angling—in most districts being now upon us, and many almost constant wielders of the rod, having for a while forsaken fish for fur and feather, this we think is a most fitting time to take the opportunity of giving our seasonal review of the fishing. Well-nigh three months ago, when ended the spring angling season proper, than which, nearly everywhere, not a better we can safely say has been experienced for many a year, neither grilse nor sea trout (the former though seemingly very forward for the time of the year) had commenced to run in any number. Accordingly for a considerable time afterwards nearly all the sport that was had was with salmon which, in some of the long-run and later spring rivers, kept fairly well on the take until the second or beginning of the third week in June. But these being all spring fish the sport with them although obtained in the early summer would be mis-named if called real summer angling.

In consequence of the fishing during the spring proving so remarkably good on most early rivers many anglers were strongly of the belief, indeed pretty cock-sure that with water in abundance the summer season would follow on with fish in galore and results to the rod especially gratifying. Netsmen also owing to the notably early appearance of grilse (two or three of these fish well grown having even got at sea about the end of March), which by them is held to be an augury of an early if not a splendid crop were sanguine of a grand paying season, for early fish fetch good profits to the seller consequent on prices running much higher in proportion to the supply than later on. Now, however, when all is known, when results place matters wholly beyond a doubt, it is seen that nothing very special either in the way of angling or netting has been experienced for the summer season *as a whole*, although latterly immensely heavy hauls of fish, both salmon and grilse, have been obtained in many districts at sea. Generally—by which we mean pretty much all-round—salmon have been somewhat more plentiful than usual; grilse scarcer until very recently when they became more abundant than is usual for August; and sea trout all along, and even yet, so scarce comparatively as to be reckoned little better than a perfect failure. Those, whether anglers or netsmen, who can satisfactorily account either for this prevailing scarcity during the height of summer of the true summer season fish—grilse and adult sea trout; or for the sea trout crop (itself alone) being such a failure; or the run of grilse (since the first of the year's grilse appeared on the coast so remarkably early) not reaching its flush or greatest strength until a fortnight to three weeks after the usual time (in most waters) know, we frankly admit, much more about the *Salmonidæ*—their nature and habits, the influences operating upon them and the effects—than we do. Heat, aver the netsmen, quickly develops and matures the fish and when matured (for the season) they come to the coast desiring to ascend the rivers; but can this "notion" be proved in its entirety? The latter portion is admitted since constantly evident, but what proof, certain indisputable, can be given of the former?

Many rivers having a natural and pronounced run of salmon in spring have no such run in autumn, and *vice versa;* but all salmon rivers, whether "early" or "late," long or short-seasoned, have coming to their mouths, and ascending when practicable, a run of grilse in summer. This is the great run of the year (because everywhere, and including sea trout and *summer* salmon), and what brings down the prices for a supply of salmon keeps pouring into the market from all quarters. The greater bulk of the north-west coast, west coast, and western isles' rivers are particularly short-seasoned—summer rivers pure and simple, without in almost a single case any approach to a natural migration of salmon, either in spring or autumn. Accordingly the summer is their proper angling season—really the only season they are much worth "looking at"—and so it is that those intimately acquainted with them know perfectly well, to *then* resort to them for the cream of the year's angling, which, with weather and water both right, is undoubtedly obtained. Regarding such rivers, however, apart from the conditions indicated, there is a variability and difference in the best time or flush of the season; but this comes about in the case of each and everyone of them some time or other during the six weeks between the 20th of June and the early days of August. On the bulk of them, July is the prime angling month, as then the first really great "shows" of grilse, adult sea trout, and (probably) small salmon, fresh from the feeding grounds, reach the coast, and straightway, when they can, push on inland. No one needs to be told that the quality of the sport is to a very great extent regulated by the weather, the water and the quantity of fish. Still, a fact which ought by this time of day to be well known to salmon anglers, seems either to be not known, or but little regarded by many. This fact is the effect which, it is obvious, delayed ascent has upon the angling results. When fish come to the coast and at once head for the rivers, it is proof that they desire to ascend—that the natural time for their inland journey commencing has arrived. Should they succeed, they prove at once—be weather and water alike suitable—the freest of free takers. The proportion of them that falls to the rod is far greater than is the case when they have to hang in the bays and estuaries, coast about, or keep moving out to sea and back again, until the natural angling season for their rivers is past before their ascent is effected. Let them be thus delayed through want of sufficient water, and no matter how great a strength of them ascend afterwards, the sport obtained in proportion to the number fished over is at the best but very poor, comparatively, even with weather and water both as right apparently as could be. This fact has been only too apparent in the case of east-coast rivers, such as Spey, Dee, and Deveron, this summer. The very few fish that ascended early—in the natural angling season—took well, even though the water was low and the channel all algæ-coated; the great many that have ascended since have not taken well, proportionate to their number, even though the water has been ample and the channel thoroughly *scoured*.

(To be continued.)

KEEPERS AND MANNERS.

By COTSWOLD ISYS.

OUR art is very significantly styled "the gentle art," and it is but congruous that all those who are connected with it should be gentlemen. If this be not possible in the conventional sense—and in this sense it were a pity that it should be—there is no reason whatever why it should not be so as regards those good manners which usually distinguish the gentleman.

There is, however, one class intimately connected with the "gentle art," whose manners seem to be characterised too often by a roughness and a coarseness that is as inharmonious with it as anything can possibly be. I allude to those of the keepers employed by our fishing clubs. I should be very sorry to lay a general charge of this kind against a very useful and generally very respectable class of men, without admitting that there are among its members many exceptions. We found amongst them many very civil and obliging men, and whose manners, even in the discharge of their sterner duties, were respectful and even polite. But we must say, especially in regard to such duties, that such cases *are* the exception, and not, as they ought to be, the rule.

As respects their manners to the gentlemen who employ them and their friends, they are generally polite and respectful enough; and we must say, too, that they generally keep their place, and do not presume upon that democracy of fellowship, if I may so term it, to which they are naturally tempted by the confidential freedom with which gentlemen regard them by the river side. Yet, after all, there is no great virtue in this, since it is obviously directly to their interest to be civil and polite to such.

But I have now especially in view the character of their manners towards gentlemen who are not their employers, and who sometimes unwittingly play the *rôle* of trespassers on the rivers that the keepers watch. I have often most innocently performed in this character myself, and have suffered a rudeness at their hands—or to speak more correctly, their mouths—that has proved most trying to a gentleman to suffer, and that the members of their clubs would not only not sanction, but be extremely annoyed at, were they aware of it. I will cite in illustration a case which came under my cognizance during this May-fly season.

I know a clergyman who was recently called suddenly on a Saturday to go from London to assist a clerical brother in a distant county, who through sudden illness, was in a great emergency. Being a lover of angling, and knowing that a good trout stream or two were in the neighbourhood, he took his rod with him in the hope of being able to get permission for a day or two's fishing. He, immediately on his arrival, wrote to a lady who belonged to the congregation to which he ministered to ask her kindly to give him permission to fish the stream on her property. She politely replied saying that she had no power over the fishing, but she had obtained from a friend the card of permit she enclosed. It was, "Permit the Rev. —— to fish the Thrushwood water. J. Johnson." Now it so happened that, some two or three years before, this clergyman had had, one September, a transferable ticket from a member of the club to fish that very water for six days, so that he knew the length of the Thrushwood water well; and accordingly on the Monday evening betook himself to it, having previously called at the shop of the best tacklemaker, and obtained the necessary "Licence." He had not, however, made many casts when he beheld Master Keeper circumventing him; and he very soon came to his point.

"Has anyone given you permission to fish here, sir?"

"Yes; here is the card."

"Oh, this won't do! You've got no right here. This says 'Johnson's water.'"

"It says no such thing; it is signed Johnson, but it says 'Thrushwood water.'"

"Yes, but Johnson's got nothin' to do with this water; his water is a mile or two down, and you ought to know that."

"How could I, a stranger, possibly know that? I only came here Saturday evening. It says 'the Thrushwood water,' and I know *this* is the Thrushwood water, for I fished it two or three years ago by invitation of one of the club."

"Well, if y' did, y' ought to have knowed that this ain't Johnson's water, and y' have got no right here. No, this won't do at all. We shall have to summons yer."

"Summons me, then; here's my card—name and address. You have no right to be insolent! Do you think I should attempt to fish if I knew I was trespassing? Now, you tell me I am mistaken, although it is perfectly plain how easily anyone could be mistaken with a card giving me such directions. Of course I will put up my rod directly and go away."

I need not occupy space in giving all the dialogue, but this was the gist of it. But he kept on rudely clamouring, "Y' ought to have known; y' ought to have asked somebody as knowed." It was in vain that the angler reasoned with the man that he supposed Mr. Johnson ought to have known the proper description of his own water, and any stranger would naturally have fallen into such an error. The man went on blustering in the rudest manner, "Y' ought to have known, and you've got no right here," making the clergyman feel something like a detected poacher.

Now, this is really unbearable, for a gentleman to be so spoken to and treated by a man in that position, and I do think that members of clubs ought to give their keepers some little coaching in regard to manners in such cases. They might teach them to make their inquiries in a polite instead of a suspicious manner. They might teach them to use a little discrimination between a gentleman under a probable mistake, and one whom there was reason to suspect was a wilful trespasser; and in all cases, they might teach them, at least, not to be rude and offensive.

But it is very strange that such men do not see how greatly it is against their own interest to be so rude. Had this man only been civil, I have little doubt that this clergyman would have given him a little tip, and said, "Well, I like a man to do his duty. Yours has been an unpleasant one, but you, at least, have been civil and respectful."

But, foolish man, he lost by it in another way, for it so happened that when some of the gentlemen of the club heard his report, they next day expressed (as was to be expected of gentlemen) their regret at what had occurred; took the clergyman into their club room at the inn; explained rules and regulations thoroughly, and kindly offered, if he could stay, to have a special meeting of their club to rescind, in *his* case, one of their rules to the effect that in the May-fly season the tickets of the club were "not transferable."

It was very polite—just what might be expected of gentlemen anglers. However, though the clergyman could not stay to avail himself of such kindness, he appreciated it very highly.

Master Keeper got to hear of this somehow, and next morning, when the clergyman went to have a few hours on "Johnson's water with Limited Liability," he followed him, evidently desiring to be more civil, and said "Good morning, sir." The clergyman, however, thought he would teach him a lesson, and he said quietly, "Good morning," and passed on quickly, to show him that he had rather be without his company. Had he been civil he certainly would have had a tip; as it was, he did not get a sou.

Let any keeper that may read this be sure that it always *pays* best to be civil and polite to gentlemen. Let him be sure, too, that there is not the slightest necessity to be rude even when dealing with those who are found trespassing. Let him especially exercise common sense, and be sure that no gentleman would *willingly* trespass on any preserve, and that he would immediately desist from his angling upon his mistake being civilly pointed out. A rude keeper may greatly hurt the feelings of a gentleman, but he may be very sure that he inflicts a much more real injury upon himself.

ANGLING FOR ROACH WITH AND WITHOUT A CHAIN OF SHOTS, &c.*

BY THE O. O. D.

(Continued from page 101.)

A FAVOURITE style of angling for roach with the bait one or two inches off the bottom, is with a small piece of white paste on the hook, and a pellet of bread and bran on the lowest shot, which is usually attached to the gut 3in. or 3½in. from the hook. Supposing a crafty, careful experienced roacher was adopting this method and missed several fish, I have no doubt that he would know the reason and very quickly put the white paste upon the *shot*, and a pellet of bread and bran upon the hook. Whether he knew the cause or not, three times out of four when this occurs the roach are feeding upon the bread and bran, and not upon the hook bait. This fancy for appropriating the ground-bait may only last for a short time, and mainly during the hot summer months; but when it takes complete possession of aldermanic roach they prefer it to any other bait, and on no account should such golden opportunities be lost. Very early and very late are the best periods for this lure. On warm evenings, just as most other anglers are "lapping" up, is the time to begin. As darkness approaches, then one may dispense with a float and strike from the feel, using a light leger. Roach, bream, chub, &c., will feed much nearer the bank at this time than in broad daylight. Choose a swim that has been disturbed as little as possible. If a few fish are taken in the first hour or two, and they refuse to take the bread and bran, try paste and other baits. I cannot help thinking roach "egg" on one another to eat the stuff. If this is not the case, how is it that such capital takes are sometimes had in a comparatively short space of time? It is just possible that the fish may think that the supply is limited, and so go for it. On the other hand, these bran and bread eating roach may be heartily sick of the everlasting paste bait (I think it is quite possible) and prefer a nice clean sweet pellet of bread and bran. The aroma that pervades an old flour mill pervades the bait, and no doubt attracts the fish. What a contrast to fusty, musty and sour ground-bait. For this reason it should be made fresh every day, because if a roach has not the sense of taste, as some anglers assert, how comes it that they eject or blow so many things out after retaining them in their mouths for a short time? Simply because they dislike them, or if they do not dislike some of them, instinct teaches them that they are not good for *food*, and must be got rid of, and they are got rid of accordingly; and I think this habit of constantly ejecting so many things is a strong proof that their sense of taste is not only highly developed, but singularly FASTIDIOUS. "Your barbel," says dear old Izaak, "is also curious for his baits; that is to say, that they be clean and sweet, and not kept in sour and musty moss." What is more abominable than *sour* and musty moss? But the odour when sweet and clean is very pleasant—at least, so I think. Your roach is quite as *curious*, and when they are taking bread and bran, or in other words the *ground-bait*, it is quite possible for a novice or even an old hand not in the know to fish repeatedly without having the remotest idea of his non-success; for although I have actually seen anglers pull up after striking, with small portions of slime (tiny dabs) clinging to their gut, or scales on the points of their hooks, yet they never dreamt of the why or wherefore on these occasions. I say on these occasions in particular, because it is possible for a similar occurrence to take place from quite a different cause, and no doubt often does.

To resume. As a rule, most Lea men fish close upon the bottom, but if the swim is in the least foul then the float is allowed to travel down with the bait a little distance off and is not allowed to drag, in order to steer clear of any light obstruction on its downward course. This is one reason why you will often see a careful angler about to operate on a strange swim take such pains to test it, more especially in that portion where he intends his float to travel down.

In July, August, and the first part of September (especially in very warm weather) good roach may be taken in a clear water with bread and bran, with very light and fine tackle from 3in. to 12in. off the ground, and even in mid-water in *lively* swims (livelier than usual). But after the hot weather has passed, nights become chilly, and deeper swims are frequented, by far the better plan is to fish as close to the bottom as possible—in short, dead on—discarding the bread and bran bait for gentles, or paste, or worms, as the case may be. I do not mean to say that roach will not take bread and bran in the winter, but I do not recommend it. If one is using a float carrying four or five medium-sized shots, it must be a very small light pellet of bread and bran for the *hook* bait. For ground-bait some anglers use a piece of stuff lightly made, with plenty of bran or pollard, and shake it off by giving the rod a sharp tap, and this is often an admirable plan when fishing with a 20ft. or 22ft. rod, tight line and float in a dead still water; but if the pellet of bread and bran, or bread and pollard, is made up slightly squashy, and the angler lowers his line carefully, it should gradually break up and drop off by the time it reaches the bottom, or very shortly afterwards.

There is no occasion to make it so stiff that it must be jerked off, as insisted upon by some anglers, because the bran gradually flaking off, I fancy has more power to attract the fish; but after this operation should the float still keep under, then quietly raise the rod top once or twice, and this action should be sufficient to disperse the pellet and allow the float to rise, but the novice should not forget that ground-bait of this description is only intended for rivers such as the Lea, Cam, and Ouse, for the most part with very gentle lazy streams. In a river with a rather rapid, sharp, strong current, where one is compelled to make the pellet very stiff and adhesive, such a proceeding would only defeat the object the angler has in view—viz., to keep the fish together as much as possible.

I have repeatedly seen this occur, and in all such cases the more bread and bran, either thrown in or used on the shot to attract the fish, the less likely is the *paste* on the *hook* to be taken; for on certain occasions the fish eagerly gorge themselves on the ground-bait, and so either way the angler spoils his own game. The pellet of bread and bran, when about to be used on the hook, should be much smaller than when used on the shot as ground-bait. For instance, with a piece the size of a walnut on the shot, the float generally in use is bound to go under when first sneaked in; but if the pellet is made properly—

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* NOTE.—In the illustration last week the bait is supposed to be in the position of being lifted off the bottom by a fish; this is made clear by the context.

.e., lightly, and not in the least stiff and adhesive t should easily break up and drop off as stated, ınd prove a most attractive ground-bait.

Striking.—When floating in the Lea style, the stroke should be instantaneous; but when using a single hair, it should be a delicate, light, yet quick stroke, or one risks a smash up; in short, it is an art that can only be acquired by constant prac- ice, and the angler should strike at the least hing, even a stoppage of the float, not waiting for t to go under generally the same as in legering, or loss of fish is almost certain to be the result. Very clever anglers will strike a fish at an almost mperceptible bob, or rather dip, of the float, at a lepression that anglers unaccustomed to this style f fishing would probably never notice, more specially in a slight ripple.

General.—Sometimes these dips are so subtle hey do not exceed the twelfth of an inch. This s caused by the singularly cautious manner in which good roach take the bait, being quite ifferent from dace, trout, gudgeon, &c. One great dvantage in using a pellet of lightly-made bread nd bran: the angler not only insures the ground-ait being in close proximity to his hook (and hat on occasions when throwing in the ground-ait often reaches the bottom two or three feet o much above, below, or out of the "wad" of is float), but he also keeps the fish well in the eart of his swim. If bites are few, and only odd sh are taken occasionally, ground-bait should be sed most judiciously, as it is a strong proof that e fish are not numerous. It is a great mistake, many anglers seem to imagine, that one has ly to throw enough ground-bait in to get all (or early all) the fish within a certain sphere into s swim, because it is as plain as daylight that, the ground-bait light or heavy, it does not llect large numbers of fish into one spot when ver fishing, unless the baiting is continued for ur or five days in succession; but, as previously ated, when using a small pellet of white paste the hook, and the fish for the time being are rging themselves on the ground-bait, as little of should be thrown in as possible; in short, oner none than too much.

[CONCLUDED.]

PROLIFIC SALMON FISHING.—The salmon fishing the Foyle this season is the most prolific expe- nced for a number of years. The lough and er are literally swarming with salmon, and ormous catches are being made by the employés the Foyle and Bann Fishery Company. The mon are in fine condition and of large size. A narkable feature of the presence of an usually large number of salmon has been the raordinary leaping of the fish in the river. ey are constantly seen rising over the surface l leaping to a considerable height. Evidently salmon do not observe the precept to look ore they leap, as numbers have fallen into ts and been captured. One of 7lbs. landed in of the steam ferry-boats on Saturday, much to astonishment of a passenger whom the fish on the head. Six salmon also landed in four Mr. M'Keever's pleasure-boats which were ed by parties for the regatta.

N connection with the recent decision of the preme Council of Hygiene in Austria, respect- the advantages of erect as compared with iting writing, it is interesting to note that ny of our leading educationists have long been ing the desirability of teaching the vertical e of writing—in fact, a system invented by a tleman, named Johnson, has long been adopted the London and other School Boards through- this kingdom.

PAWKY ABERDEEN TACKLE-MAKER.—One day dy entered the shop of Brown, the inventor of Phantom Minnow, in Aberdeen, and said, "I t a pair of waterproof leggings for wading." wn looked over his spectacles at her, rose from tackle-making seat, and produced several pairs inspection. "But," said the lady, "I don't w if any of these will fit me." "Weel, mem," Brown, "I have nae convenience for leddies ng on sic things here, so ye mon just tak' them e and try them on there!"—"*Sixty-Three s' Angling*," *by John MacVine.*

R. GODFREY CHARLES COOPER.—We regret to that Mr. Cooper's wife has died after a long painful illness.

Notes and Queries

MR. FRANK HEARNS, the well-known professional fisherman of Ballina, informs us that he is going to devote some time this autumn to the big pike of Loughs Conn and Cullen, and will be glad to have the address of any who would like to have a pike over 20lb. to set up.

WE regret much to hear that our correspondent, Mr. James Wilkie, of Dunedin, Otago, New Zealand, died after a short illness. Mr. Wilkie was a keen angler, and took the greatest interest in the Otago Acclimatisation Society, and its members keenly feel the loss of such a friend.

VISITORS to the Horse Show, Dublin, will have an opportunity of seeing a good collection of fishing tackle at Stand 5, where Messrs. John Enright and Son, of Castleconnell, intend to exhibit some of their far-famed Castleconnell rods, together with flies, lines, &c. Some of the rods to be exhibited are made from wood at least twenty years old.

THE first autumn salmon of the season was landed to the rod on the Park water on the Dee, on Friday last, by Mr. Hugh McDonald, and scaled 17lb. This speaks well for the coming back-end.

THE trouting season in the north of Scotland is now over. It has been a very poor one on such rivers as the Don and Deveron, where fish come early into condition, but an excellent one on the Dee and its numerous tributaries, which fish best during June and July. There was an almost total absence of fly on the water during April and May.

THE JOLLY MILLER.—The jolly miller is one of the happiest figures in country life; but what is this change which has come over him? Here is an enthusiastic angler laying down the maxim —"All millers should be drowned in their own dams." The fault laid against them is that they do not always regulate the river just to suit the flyfishers who may be whipping it, that sometimes they stir up the water and spoil all prospect of fishing, and that they are not always civil and obliging. On this last count the indictment might perhaps be preferred by the miller himself. Thus the *Fishing Gazette* speaks up for the class: "We should be as sorry to see the last of our jolly millers as we should be to hear the teetotallers had succeeded in shutting up all the country inns, and anglers had to lodge at their temperance hotels." —*Liverpool Mercury.*

UPPER THAMES FISHERY PRESERVATION.—Considerable changes are taking place in the constitution of the Henley-on-Thames and District Fishery Preservation Association. Mr. J. W. Knight, J.P., has been forced to resign the secretaryship by ill-health, and his place will probably be taken by Mr. C. H. Cook, who founded the society, and was its first honorary secretary. Dr. Jeston, of Henley, has also kindly promised to assist with the secretarial work, and with an energetic committee there is every probability of the society continuing its career of usefulness for many years to come. A meeting of the members will shortly be called to confirm these arrangements, and we are asked to say that in the meantime it would lessen the work of the officers of the association if subscriptions were sent as usual to the honorary secretary, Mr. A. Breakspear, Honley-on-Thames. The Henley Association, in conjunction with the Reading Angling Association, preserves several miles of the Loddon and St. Patrick's stream, and this excellent water, which it is believed will in time become well stocked with grayling, is open to the members of either association on payment of a small additional subscription to cover the rent and other expenses. —*Field.*

THE announcement in last week's issue that Donald Gunn had passed over to the great majority will have been read with unfeigned regret by all who have perused the amusing epistles which occasionally proceeded from his pen. I have one letter in front of me now, written about Christmas time, I think, as he wishes the Editor and readers of the *Fishing Gazette* "A Merry Christmas an' a Happy New Year." It is a perfect masterpiece. The old man winds up by saying "If Mr. Murdoch or anybody else thinks o' sendin' him a keg o' whuskey to hold the New Year wi', he'll hae nae scruple aboot takin' it if only tae show there's nae bad feelin'." Speaking, too, of the inn at Forsinard, he says: "The inn was perfectly crammed, and though it waz moderation in trinkin' at aw times the number o' barrells o' whuskey consumed waz quite astonishin'. There waz a tarrible lot o' thirsty throats, an' among the rest Donald Gunn's." His claim, too, to the chieftainship o' the clan Gunn is a bright thought, and how the martial spirit of his forefathers used to strike terror to the hearts o' the Dooks o' Sutherland, the Rosses an' the men o' Strathnaver! How red night-caps would like to weave ye a flashy checket tweet suit to gang throu Sutherland wi'. How he was offended that nane o' the shentlemans had ever asked him to don the Gunn tartan, an' in that picturesque garb accompany them to the lochs! How old Joe's swallow-tail wi' the brass buttons still hung on old Joe's back! These and other pleasantries of a similar kind are almost inimitable. Whether he was the undivided author of his own epistles matters not, his familiar and welcome auld fist will be missed in the pages of the *Fishing Gazette.* I did not know the old man personally, but, while I feel assured that Mr. Murdoch will do full justice to his many striking characteristics, I yet could not refrain from adding this poor mite of a stone to the cairn which is sure to be raised to the memory of Donald Gunn.—GILNOCKIE.

THE SPOILS OF POACHERS.—You cannot very well make a law—you cannot even bring about a sense of moral wrong in the minds of some fish dealers giving less than the wholesale market price for poached salmon or trout, or even coarse fish, because the most powerful of human motives—self-interest—bars the way. A fellow wires a hare, or nets a few rabbits. He goes to the back door of a probable purchaser who is no sportsman, and he buys poor puss for a couple of shillings and "a pot of ale," and the rabbits at a cheap rate of sixpence or eightpence each. It is not your practised fish-netters, or your sly wirers of hares who permit themselves to be met by the County Peeler, and be searched. Oh! no. It is your occasional offender—the jack wirer in spring, the trout "groper"—and some clodhopping sapient who goes to a rabbit "bury" with a ferret and net, and is collared by the keeper. Of course, old poachers sometimes get nabbed. In Hampshire one fellow openly boasted that he would very soon make up the money and costs he had paid, by "nailing" more hares. In one portion of that game-preserving county there was a poachers' club, out of the funds of which fines were paid. Another thing encourages trout netting and game poaching. Many people think it is really no offence—no crime. The Americans thought little, years ago, of their splendid "fur" and "feathers," wealth in the woods and on the prairies. Deer got shot for the mere pelt; the buffalo was almost exterminated. But now, the game laws of the States are stricter than our own! Besides, fish poachers especially are wholly animated by the coin the salmon or trout or other fish will bring them. They are utterly destitute of that love of sport which sometimes induces countrymen to cast a line in prohibited waters, or a young fellow having "marked" a covey of birds drop on common ground, fetches his gun, and bags a bird. Cannot however, some more effectual foils be placed in the salmon and trout rivers in Scotland which would render netting almost impossible? Big stones, with tenter-hooks cemented in them; old field-gates; an old punt well peppered with wire and nails, to hurdles sunk with weights—these foils coupled with thoroughly *honest* watchers, would save a portion of a river from being depleted of its fish. After harvest, the fields are "bushed," or "stubbed," to foil the trammellers from catching whole coveys of partridges. Taffy will, however, still spear the gravid salmon by torch or lantern-light. And self-interest renders some dealers oblivious to the fact that fish and game offered for sale by certain persons must have been poached, otherwise *stolen.*—RUSTICUS.

A BAD START, BUT A GOOD FINISH.

By Duine Môr.

A more hopelessly bad angling day could hardly be conceived. Grey, cold, cheerless skies, coupled with a rude and blustering south-east wind, that seemed in its cold indifference to delight in the disappointment it was inflicting, were hardly climatic conditions calculated to make one yearn for the storm-tossed waters of the loch, or the unyielding brackish tidal pools below it, which were far too full of salt-water for good sport. After hesitating for some time, I finally made up my mind to endure the long cold drive over the wind-swept moors, for it was my last day on this excellent little loch and river, and I have killed so many good fish in both that I could well afford to forgive them for one thoroughly bad day. As a matter of fact, on the twenty-four occasions on which I have fished this water—some *very bad* days included—I have killed (entirely with trout flies) four hundred and fifty-eight sea trout, weighing 573¾lb., and three hundred and sixty-nine brown trout (mere "chance-comers"), weighing 116lb.: or, in all, eight hundred and twenty-seven trout, 689¾lb.—an average of thirty-four fish, 28¾lb., speaking roughly. What twenty-four good days would have yielded to a *patient* angler like myself may be left to the imagination, for I am quite convinced that in fishing for sea trout in lochs the untiring angler who keeps always casting will invariably beat the more skilful angler if his efforts be merely spasmodic.

To resume, however, my tale.

Reaching our destination, I at once abandoned all idea of the river, and determined to risk the stormy loch. My single-handed rod being already up (I had left it in a house by the loch side), I put on a cast of flies one size larger than those I generally use under ordinary conditions for sea trout (a size larger than Loch Leven flies), and prepared to brave the yeasty waves. We had some difficulty in getting the little cockle-shell of a boat afloat (this was about half-past eleven o'clock), but at last we got clear from the shore and fairly out in the loch. It was all my gillie could do to keep her head to the waves, and fishing, therefore, was by no means an easy task; but luckily the loch is fishable all over, and there was more or less of a chance anywhere if favourite places could not be thoroughly searched. Not a rise or sign of a rise, however, rewarded my efforts; and after two hours of vain casting, I took pity on my gillie and on myself, and went ashore. It was now past half-past one o'clock, and, as we were nearly frozen with the cold, lunch and a little something to warm us were very welcome.

About twenty minutes past two, the wind having somewhat abated in its violence, one of those peculiar and inexplicable weather changes occurred, and all over (to use a colloquialism) "it felt more like fishing." Rowing as fast as the wind permitted to a favourite point, I almost immediately got one or two small, but bright, sea trout, fresh run and full of sport—quite beyond what one would expect from fish of their size. Drifting inside the point I saw a yellowish gleam in the water. I surmised it was a fish moving; and casting over the place, was at once fast in a game and strong fish, in apparently not very good condition (a surmise subsequently verified), but his first rush in half-gale was a splendid one. He was full of life, and I found it no easy task to land him in the big wind, especially after he was quite done, because, as it so happened, he had finished his fight between the oar and the bow. However, I got the net under him at last. He was an anomalous fish of 4¼lb. I say "anomalous," because, though I have him in my log as a sea trout, my own opinion is that he is a brown trout. He can be easily recognised in the accompanying photograph from his length of body and breadth of tail. "Anomalies" many be my lot to catch when fishing if they are all as game as this one of their kind!

Drifting across the loch, I picked up a few small fish; and when at the mouth of the bay, where the river goes out of the loch, I had a wonderful run of luck, considering the inauspicious start. I got a bright and game fish at once of 3½lb., whose chief characteristic seemed to be a desire to display his silvery charms by way of contrast to the peaty waters; but, like all wild fish, he was speedily done. Next cast I rose, hooked, and got broken by a 2lb. or so fish, without the slightest reason for the same, unless it be that the fly (being an old one) was worn at the neck. Mounting a new one, I rose a fine fish very wildly five times, hooking at the fifth attempt—a very unusual experience, not only because good sea trout (or, indeed, any sea trout) rarely rise so often, but also because the fish seemed quite incapable of taking the fly without, so to speak, four sighting shots—and away he went with a grand and dangerous burst to windward, ending with a leap and two or three somersaults. However, I had felt the fly go well home, and therefore had little or no fear as to the ultimate end of the fight. A game and strong sea trout of 5lb. or so in a strong breeze of wind, whether one fishes from a boat o from the shore, gives on trouting gear as goo sport as any salmon.

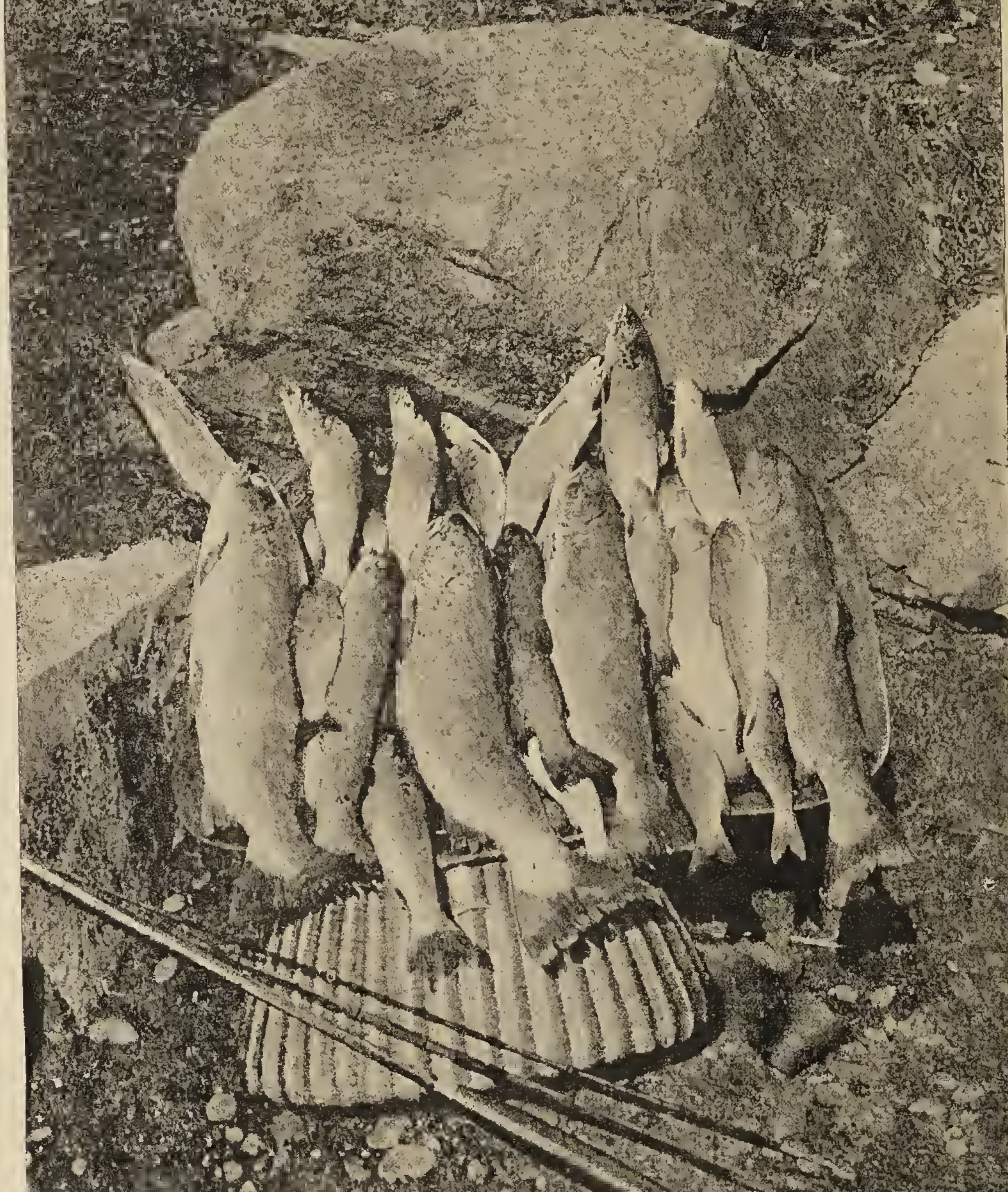
On a calm day one can easily follow a fish wit the boat; but on a wild, stormy day it is almos impossible to do so, especially in a small boat while the constant pitching of the little craft add considerably to the difficulties of the situation An ordinary deal board, running from gunwale t gunwale, will at all times be found most usefu when casting, and also when playing a fish, as th angler finds himself *on it*—if he has cut a partia "voluntary"—and not on his back on the top o his gillie should he lose his balance and fall backwards and "forrard" (to use an apparent contra diction in terms). How much this board (whic can, of course, be easily carried) adds to the con fort of the angler, only thos who have used one can sa Personally I never fish wit out one.

To resume, however.

This fish which I ha hooked soon exhausted hin self, as fish generally do in big wave, and 5¼lb. was adde to my basket. This fish is c the left of the photograp and is a fine specimen of h race. I got another nice fis of some 3lb. immediatel after, and some smaller one but as the wind died aw altogether about half-past fiv the fish went off the mov and we landed at ten minut to six o'clock, with a fair good spring basket, conside ing the inauspicious start viz., nineteen trout (25¼l and six brown trout (3lb.)

The lesson which this d taught me was the same that of many another day fish early, often, and lat fish until there is some chan in the weather; if a cal until there is a breeze; and a gale, until it moderat Then, fish your hardest; *any change* will bring sea tro or loch trout on the wave. believe that this is a ca gorial imperative in lo angling. A warm flush the heather; a gentler or fiercer blast; a pelting h shower; the first drops rain after the depression its impending fall; the n approach of high or low t —because sea trout being fish as much as fresh-wa fish have memories of sea in waters far distant fr it, and in tidal lochs are course directly influenced it—all these are predispos causes towards a change humour, and their occurre may at once change a bad into a good one, so that angler, instead of being un the feet of Fortune, may f himself the "very button on her cap."

Whether true universally or not that successful man is he who waits, in the spher angling the *dictum* is a veritable *cogito ergo su*



A HEBRIDEAN BASKET OF BROWN AND SEA TROUT.

BREAM, CARP, TENCH: AND ANGLING FOR THEM.

By Alfred Jardine.

(Continued from page 52.)

Before taking leave of *Abramis Brama*, commencing on carp, tench and other member the *Cyprinidæ* family, I may mention that bre thirty or forty years ago were somewhat sca in the Lea—*i.e.*, they were not plentiful excep the deeps below Edmonton and Totten About the year 1863, the first bream caught in "Pike and Anchor" water, at Ponder's End, a fine specimen of 5¼lb., and, as may be imagined, it caused quite a sensation at the time. The fortunate angler was my friend Mr. J. W. Gant, who on the same day, in the same water, caught a trout of 5½lb; and a little lower down stream, at the pool known as "Metcalfe's," finished up a splendid day's fishing by the capture of six barbel, weighing together 30lb. The bream and the trout were preserved by Mr. S. F. Sanders, of Essex-road, N., and by request of the then landlord of the Pike and Anchor, were left on show in his "anglers' parlour," but were subsequently seized by a firm of gin distillers to whom the landlord owed arrears of debt. The circumstances were explained at the time that these specimens were only on loan, but the distillers refused to give them up. Should they, however, read my remarks, I hope they will be courteous enough to return these two fish to Mr. Gant, whose address I can furnish them with through the *Fishing Gazette.*

Bream are sometimes to be caught in what are apparently unlikely places. I know a pond in a wood where, a century ago, clay was dug, to make the bricks with which the adjoining farmstead was built. The whole extent of water is less than half an acre, and varies from 6ft. to 10ft. in depth. It holds bream, tench, and carp. I have captured fine fish there—some of the bream over 4lb. in weight. How they got there nobody knows, unless vivified spawn was accidentally conveyed there, and left by night migrants—such as herons, ducks, and other water fowl. Spawn thus deposited, and fructifying, would naturally stock ponds, and thus account for fish where none had ever been put in by man. Many a small piece of water, often passed by as not worth trying, frequently contains a few—possibly very few—large fish. There is not sufficient food to sustain many, but occasionally a big inhabitant may be captured.

To give an instance. When my eldest brother lived at Winchmore Hill twenty years ago, before that pretty northern suburb was spoiled by shoddy builders, he had in his fields a very small pond, where his juvenile ducks strayed, and often returned in diminished numbers. A young friend, a mere tyro in angling, at my request put a live dace on snap tackle in the pond and caught a 13lb. pike, a thin spare beast, whose principal diet had apparently been frogs. The pond was soon afterwards drained and filled up, no other fish of any kind being found in it.

Last August, when I was spending a week near Leeds, a jolly Yorkshire squire invited me to angle in some small lakes, which add additional charms to much stately timber which adorns his picturesque estate. The country round about being of a limestone formation accounts for great diversity in depths of water. One corner of my friend's lower lake shows eighteen feet profundity in a wet season, while in a dry spring and summer twelve feet will prove its deepest; but in this corner the big bream congregated. Many good Leeds anglers had tried for them, but failed to catch any. They didn't quite understand "legering" with a small "pistol bullet," or two "swan shots;" and the betting was all in favour of the bream. Various shillings were backed *against the angler*, but he had judiciously baited with a few "chopped worms," and fished with small "maiden lobs," the result being six bream weighing 26lb., and four very fine perch, caught by the squire. I hope to be some day in these happy fishing quarters again, for enormous barbel are to be caught in the locality, and I wish to get among them, and make a record worth putting in the *Fishing Gazette.*

When fishing at the lower lake the Squire showed me the largest pike I have ever seen. We had a distinct view, and estimated the weight of this fine fellow at not less than 80lb.

Carp and Tench.

Both are soft finned fish, and like all other members of the *Cyprinidæ* family have no teeth in their jaws, but a powerful crushing apparatus in their throats instead. Of all fresh-water fish, none have such large scales as carp, those of a 10lb. fish equalling a florin in size. The scales of the *Speigel* (or "looking-glass" carp) are iridescent, exhibiting all the colours of an opal. In fecundity, carp exceed, weight for weight, all other fresh-water fish, one of four years old producing seven hundred thousand eggs, the roe weighing almost as much as the rest of the flesh. Some naturalists assert that carp spawn more than once in the twelve months; if this is so, then their great fertility and wonderful longevity—of which latter speciality I shall give some instances—makes the cultivation of these fish a profitable pursuit.

In Belgium, Prussia, Austria, &c., are numberless fish-farms—*i.e.*, large sheets of water—where they are bred in great quantities, then carefully fed and fattened till they attain remarkable dimensions, when, by the immense demand and sale of them, large incomes are realised.

It is generally supposed carp were introduced into this country during the fourteenth century. "There be but few in Englonde," says Dame Juliana Berners, in her treatise on angling.* But in the sixteenth century carp were abundant, and cultivated in "stews" all over the country, to supply diet for Lent and fast days. In "Izaak Walton," an old rhyme states that

"Hops and turkies, carps and beer,
Came into England all in a year."

But this is incorrect, inasmuch as beer was not only brewed and drank by the Britons, but it strengthened their brawny arms, when resisting their Saxon aggressors.

(To be continued.)

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Inquirer: The plant arrived here very dry, broken, and crushed, but we believe it to be the autumnal starwort *(Callitricte Autumnalis)*.

T. M.: You say a prize was given for the member taking most roach over 1lb. weight during the season. You also say that your rules allow members who fish for prizes the choice of doing so on Wednesdays or Sundays, and that they must weigh in once in seven days, and that no special "weighing-in" night is mentioned. You ask under these circumstances if a member weighs in on Wednesday, is he entitled to compete for the prize mentioned above? It seems perfectly clear that you are entitled to compete and weigh in on Wednesday; it is not reasonable to suppose fish caught on a Wednesday in the summer time can be kept until Sunday to be weighed in.

Correspondence

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinion expressed by our Correspondents.]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. Pritt.

SALMON AND SEWIN FISHING IN WALES WANTED.

Dear Sir,—I should be greatly obliged if any of your readers could inform me through the medium of your valued paper, as to where I could obtain good salmon and sewin fishing, in either North or South Wales, during the months of September or October?—Yours truly,

Silver Tinsel.

A LEGAL QUESTION.

Sir,—Is it illegal for a protection association to stake waters leased to them by a corporate body and landowners on which boating is slightly practised? Also, is the miller or boatman justified in drawing such stakes, the right of fishing being vested in the mayor and commonalty by charter granted in the reign of Henry VIII.? The river in question was navigable some hundreds of years ago, but mills have been erected within this last century. Are there any means of preventing boating on such waters?—Yours, &c.,

A. Goodfellow.

[We do not think that any opinion worth much could be given unless all the documents could be examined. If there is any public or private right of boating or bathing, the party staking the river would have to take the risk of an action for damages caused by the stakes. If the miller can show his flow of water is interfered with by the stakes collecting weeds, &c., he would probably have a good case if he took action. Our advice to A. Goodfellow would be to remove such stakes as might damage or upset a boat or entangle a bather. Angling must be carried on with due regard for the rights of others. We may be wrong, but actions at law about fisheries pay no one but lawyers.—Ed.]

SEA FISHING AT HASTINGS.

Dear Sir,—The sad experiences of amateurs at Hastings are now affording a striking example of the migratory tendency of sea fish. Nor are the causes far to seek. Continuance of wind and cold weather, packs of dog-fish scouring the neighbourhood—these are enough to cause a scarcity of fish within ten miles of the coast. The sea is always rough, and its surface considerably colder than usual at this season; while on three successive mornings last week I saw opposite the market large pails simply filled with the tails of huge dog-fish.

The pier has several nuisances peculiar to itself. Up to last year pout simply swarmed there, and there are now none to be had. An angler assured me that on a calm day a fortnight ago he counted over thirty large bass "messing about" under the piles; but for all their "messing about" they were apparently too cunning for most of the assembled piscatorial talent, only one (about 6lb.) falling a victim to the seductive powers of a mackerel's head.

My own efforts were only rewarded with a few small congers and a great many small crabs.

The aforementioned peculiar nuisances are steamboats and small boys: the steamboats ply backwards and forwards every hour, and the small boys were apparently directing their misguided efforts to spinning for pout with a chopstick and a pound of lead.

With an improvement in weather and a migration of dog-fish, steamers and small boys, amateurs at the channel stations should soon enjoy good sport, as bass and conger are plentiful, as well as squid and all the other favourite baits.—Yours very sincerely,

Fredk. G. A. Hale.

"BADGER" AND "BUMBEE."

Sir,—I observe a correspondent last week inquired about the "Badger" sea trout fly. It is an Aberdeen pattern, I believe, the invention of Mr. William Murdoch, and is in great request as a sea trout killer and a splendid Sutherland loch fly. Another correspondent, some time ago, asked about the "Bumbee." This is another local fly, and has been celebrated longer than I can remember. Indeed, its reputation locally would quite equal that of the "Jock Scott." Dressed small, it is one of the most popular trout flies. Dressed sea trout or grilse size, there is no other pattern excels it, and until the almost universal rule of the fancy salmon fly, it was as necessary a pattern for salmon in Deo, Don, and the Esks, as either the Black or Grey Heron.

Both these patterns can be had, correctly dressed, from yours, &c.,

W. Brown.

64, George-street, Aberdeen.

POACHING, &c., ON THE MEDWAY.

Sir,—Your correspondent, Mr. Shrubsole, has not exaggerated even a little bit *re* the Medway, for a friend of mine residing at Tonbridge says, in a letter just received:—

"The article on the Medway is not half strong enough, for there are places on the upper portion of the river in which the pike have been systematically *shot* by the son of a tenant farmer. The otters are numerous and large, but nothing is done to stop their increase. If all rivers are managed like this, they deserve to be taken from the so-called 'Fishing Associations,' for a yokel may watch you bait your swim, and in the morning occupy it himself, and there is no remedy. Truly a pretty state of affairs!"—I am, &c.,

G. A. S.

NORFOLK BROADS PROTECTION SOCIETY.

Dear Sir,—Thanks for notices in last week's paper.

Since last week the Norfolk Broads Protection Society has either had or been promised the following sums:—J. J. Colmau, Esq., M.P., £10; Sir Henry Tyler, M.P., £6 6s.; W. Pierson, Esq., £1 1s.; Robert Read, Esq., £1 1s.; Norford Suffling, Esq., £1 1s.; Fred Smith, Esq., 10s.; J. Fisher, Esq., 5s.—Yours faithfully,

18, Colemau-street, Bank. T. J. Woodrow.

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* The Book of St. Albans, published 1186.

A FISHERMAN'S CAP.

DEAR SIR,—Enclosed is a "Fisherman's Cap," which kindly accept. It is of the very best make and material. Will you kindly let us know your opinion of it through the *Fishing Gazette;* the price is four shillings. If the size is not right, kindly let us know and we will exchange it.—Yours faithfully, G. LITTLE & Co.

63, Haymarket, London, S.W.

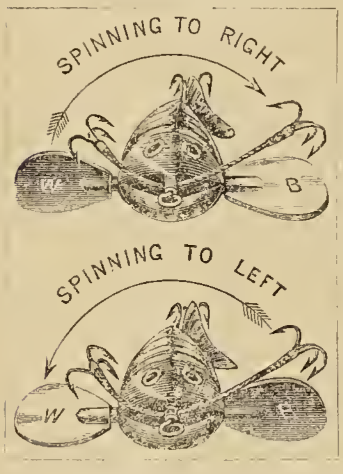
[We are not sure that Mr. H. M. Stanley would not consider this very good cap a "colourable imitation" of that one he has made so celebrated in Africa. Be that as it may, this is one of the best caps we have seen, and the price is very moderate. In ordering a cloth cap it is well to have it full large as the first thorough wetting makes it shrink so as to become unpleasantly tight. This cap will afford good protection in rough weather.—ED.]

A NEW INVENTION IN SPINNING BAITS.

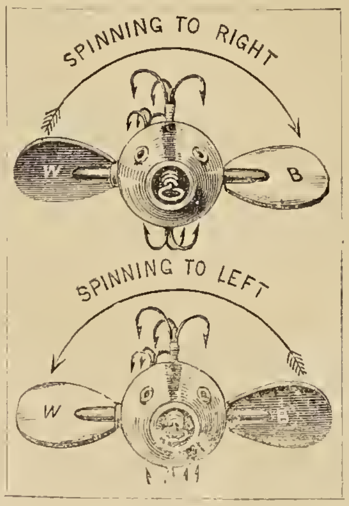
SIR,—I shall be very glad to be allowed, through the medium of your valuable paper, to bring a thoroughly new idea in spinning baits before the angling public. There are so many artificial baits already in the market, however, that the advent of a new one would scarcely be worth chronicling. I therefore hasten to say that what I refer to is not a new bait, but a new idea applied to baits already in existence—viz., the power of reversing their motion, or causing them to spin either way—to right or left—at will, so as to prevent the spinning-line being twisted into kinks.

This object is accomplished by substituting movable fins at the sides for the rigid ones hitherto universally used in all manner of artificial spinners. By a simple arrangement the angle of resistance of each fin to the water can be changed, and the revolution of the bait reversed.

The following diagrams of a Phantom minnow with riversible fins show more clearly what is meant than can be done by a written description. The first one exhibits the fins set at angles which will cause the bait to spin to the *right;* the second shows their angles reversed, and which, of course, will cause it to spin to the *left:*—

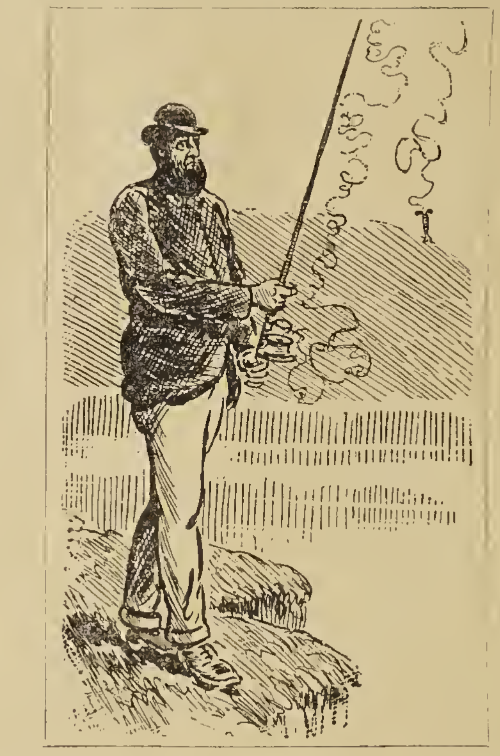


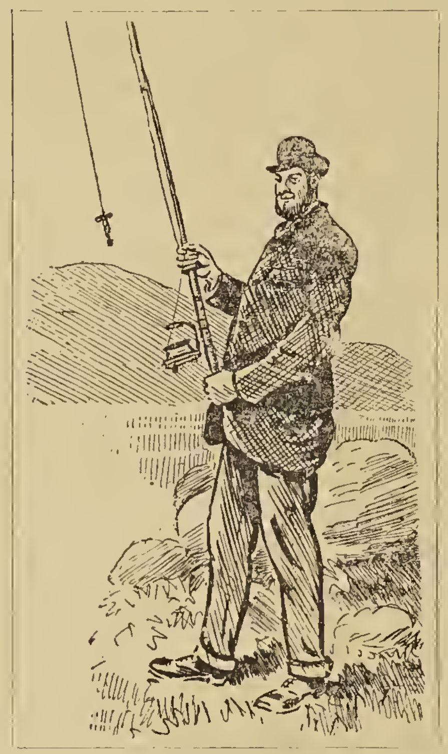
The same principle is applied to the Devon minnows, and by a similar contrivance their fins can be set so as to spin them either way, as shown below:—



The advantage of having a minnow which can be made to turn either way as desired needs only to be mentioned to be appreciated. All anglers who use a spinning bait have experienced the annoyance of a kinking line—twining and curling at every cast, through spinning with a rapidly revolving bait. But when the twist can be reversed this trouble is entirely done away with. All that is necessary—when the line shows the slightest signs of checking in the rings, by little kinks forming—is to turn the fins to the opposite angles, and the twist which has been run on to the line will at once begin to run off again. By repeating this process, when necessary, the angler will find his spinning line as straight and supple after a long day's work as when he took the first cast in the morning.

The first illustration below is very little exaggeration of the misery endured when a fine line is used with a rapid spinning bait—the most popular remedy for which is unshipping the line and careering through a grass field with it trailing at full length behind, by which means the angler renders himself a glorious spectacle for men—and cattle! Whereas, if his bait could be made to run off the twist as well as run it on, the cows might be deprived of their diversion, and time, temper, and silk line saved by everything working properly all day long, as shown below:—





It is almost unnecessary to add that this invention ought to double the ordinary lifetime of a spinning line, as twists and kinks do more damage than fair wear and tear.

The invention is patented in this country and America, by H. L. Inskip, Esq., of the city of London, and I have acquired the sole right of its application to baits in the United Kingdom and the Isle of Man. Very shortly it is intended to bring out a tackle on the same principle to spin natural baits, a patent for which has also been granted. Meantime Devon minnows can be had thus fitted, under the name of "Brown's *Inskip Devon*," and Phantom minnows under the name of "Brown's Phantom Minnow with Inskip Fins and Geen's Patent Swivel," through any tackle maker in London or the provinces—both baits being stamped "W.B." on the spinners—without which none are genuine.—Yours, &c.,

64, George-street, Aberdeen. WM. BROWN.

A DACE OF 1LB. 4OZ.

SIR,—A dace of the above weight, 11¾ inches *extreme length*, recorded in last week's *Fishing Gazette* as having been caught in the Thames at Sunbury, is a most unusual occurrence in any water, not that the river there is tidal, as (from his letter) Mr. J. J. Hunter appears to imagine.

But was it really a dace?

Some years ago a 1½lb. fish was weighed in at a West End fishing club as a dace, the captor knowing little of ichthyology—and less of angling. But some members suspected its genuineness, and when the taxidermist returned the specimen, it proved to be a *chub*.

I know of another instance where some baby-barbel, caught at Sunbury, were described by one of the oldest and most respected contributors of Thames angling news as "magnificent gudgeons—*nine inches in length*."

At the great International Fisheries, 1883, the largest and finest specimen dace were, one of 17oz. from Suffolk waters, exhibited by Mr. W. Howlett, of Newmarket, and another of 16oz., by Mr. A. C. Critchfield. The Piscatorial Society showed dace of 16oz. and 15oz. each; also the Friendly Anglers one of 14½oz.

I possess a fine specimen caught with artificial fly in the Kennet, June 5, 1884, measuring 12in. in length, 7¼in. in girth, weighing exactly 16oz.; therefore (if a *dace*) the fish recorded by Mr. Hunter would not have weighed 1lb. 4oz.

One of your correspondents, who writes under the *nom de plume* of "Giant," has kept a record of large fish, and is an authority whose opinion many of your readers would no doubt like to be favoured with.

Bream and roach "hybridise." Why not chub and dace? If they sometimes do, for they spawn in the same month, it would go far to account for abnormal weights. Chub, length for length, are heavier fish than dace.—Yours, &c.,

ALFRED JARDINE.

ARCHER SPINNER.

DEAR SIR,—We enclose a copy of a letter received this week, and shall feel much obliged by its insertion in the *Fishing Gazette*, as it proves conclusively of what our Archer Spinner is capable. We wish to call the attention of anglers to the fact that our Archer Spinner can now be obtained in five sizes—namely, pike, small pike, salmon, small salmon, and trout, which can be obtained from fishing tackle dealers only.—Yours truly,

WM. BARTLEET AND SONS.

Abbey Mills, Redditch.

[COPY.]

"ARCHER SPINNER PRIZE COMPETITION.

"GENTLEMEN,—I beg to state that fishing with your Archer Spinner on Loch Luichert on Tuesday, the 21st July, 1891, I hooked and killed a trout of 10¼lb. There being no fishing tackle maker in Garve, I append the signature of the landlord of the Garve Hotel, who saw the fish weighed, and of the boatman who was with me at the time.—Yours truly, "DAVID WOTHERSPOON.

"60, Cheapside, London.

"Attested by—
"FRANK RIVERS,
"The Hotel, Garve, N.B.
"SANDY STEWART,
"Boatman, Garve, N.B.

"P.S.—Mr. Jas. Moore, who was fishing with me, could also attest the fact, but I have not his address just now. On the previous Friday I killed a trout of 6½lb. with the same tackle."

RESMULLINS—QUID EST?—ATHOL BROSE.

DEAR SIR,—Perhaps my writing was not so clear as it might have been, but *resmullins* in my letter, in the *F. G.* of last week, for *res nullius* is rather hard on me, but perhaps the phrase was mistaken for some legal Scotch. "Homogeneous," not *homogenous*, was used as a good word by me to describe the thorough mixing which is a *sine quâ non* to the production or concoction of good "Athol Brose." It was a verse in one of the hymns of Veda (Dr. Muir's Metrical Translations from Sanskrit writers, p. 66) which suggested its use—

> "When Brama framed the world of men,
> He made it all Brahmanic then;
> By no distinction marked of class,
> *They formed one homogeneous mass.'*

This, one might, with reverence, "doggerelise" into—

> "When Bacchus made his 'Athol Brose,'
> The things that did the same compose,
> By no distinction marked of class,
> Were drunk one homogeneous mass."

"Athol Brose" is not an easy drink to mix, and it requires some special skill, but my prescription is the real "Simon Pure." My mother possessed, and perhaps yet possesses, tho art, but then she was taught it by a "past mistress" of the same—the landlady of the Athol Arms, Dunkeld, mentioned in my letter of last week. When we were temporarily resident in Dunkeld, the late Duke of Athol, and his brother (*eheu! fugaces anni!*) used often to drop into our house for their "meridian," of what I fancy must, or ought to be, the "Clan Athol" beverage. "Badger" hath not the secret, and may, therefore, be said "*quoad Athol Brose*" to have lived as yet in vain —Yours truly,

DUINE MÔR.

THE LATE DONALD GUNN, GILLIE.

SIR,—I have been asked by a few friends of the late Donald Gunn, my head gillie, to take charge of subscriptions towards defraying the funeral and other expenses of that "prince of gillies." I shall only be too glad to do so, and acknowledge each subscription on receipt, and publish the same in the *Fishing Gazette*. It has been suggested by one or two of Donald's admirers that a memorial stone be placed on his grave. But I think, Mr. Editor, that that should be left with subscribers to determine. I may add that Mr. Murdoch, of Aberdeen, who has himself already offered a handsome subscription, has also offered to take charge and acknowledge any sums forwarded to him.—Yours faithfully, GEORGE MURRAY.

The Hotel, Forsinard, Sutherlandshire.

[We shall willingly subscribe, and will take charge of any subscriptions those of our readers who knew Donald may care to send us.—ED.]

RED PALMER.

DEAR SIR,—Will you please allow me space in your interesting Correspondence column to make this apology to the original "Red Palmer" for making use of the *nom de plume*, which was appended to my letter that was inserted in your issue of the 8th inst. I can assure "Red Palmer" that the facts mentioned by him where wholly unknown by me.—Yours truly,

RED PALMER OF THE 8TH INST.

Waltoniana

A MEETING has been held this week in connection with the Henley-on-Thames and District Fishery Preservation Society. I must keep some account of it for next week, only saying for the present that important changes are to be made in the working of the society, which it is believed will considerably increase its usefulness and improve the anglers' chances of sport in the Henley district, and in the Loddon and St. Patrick's stream.

THIS year, August is being a far better month for fishing on many rivers than it usually is, and it is to be hoped that the snowstorms of the past winter, combined with the present rainfall, which is a little above the average, will do something to bring our rivers up to their proper level. For several seasons there has been a lamentable deficiency of water in many parts of the country, and there are not a few places where half-a-dozen years ago trout and other fishing were to be obtained where now grass and weeds are growing. Some years ago, I drove over to Hampstead Norris, a picturesque village in Berkshire, to negotiate the purchase ot trout for one of the Upper Thames Fishery Preservation Societies. I did not buy the trout, but saw many fine fish of a pound and upwards, in a stream (the upper waters of the Pang) which ran through the village. To-day the stream is absolutely dry and has been so for some years, and where trout formerly made their reds, sheep are now grazing. It would not be easy to find a more striking result of the series of dry seasons than that.

I HAVE to thank Mr. H. G. Green for sending me a page from his marked-fish register and a small metal label with wire attached for fastening to the adipose fin of fish. Mr. Green's plan is, as he explained last week, to have a number on each label and to enter all particulars relating to the fish bearing that number in a register. Each page of the register is divided into nine columns, headed as follows: "No. on label, description of fish, locality, weight, date of return to the water, date when retaken, weight, sex, remarks." There is only one objection to this otherwise excellent system of obtaining information respecting the habits and growth of fish. Only a limited number of people are aware that Mr. Green is marking fish and many of the marked fish must be caught by persons who wonder what the deuce the little label means. If the date when the fish was caught and its weight (or dimensions) could be conveniently marked on the label, any one catching the fish later on would at once understand the import of the label, and probably write to one of the sporting papers on the subject.

THERE are certainly practical difficulties in the way of marking a label at the river-side, while the fish is waiting to be put back. There is, however, no reason why when experiments on a large scale are being carried out by Fishery Boards or proprietors of fisheries, that a quantity of fish should not be netted and marked on a certain day, and labels prepared beforehand with the date and weight of the fish be used. It may be said how could the weight of a fish be engraved on a label before that fish was caught? As to that there is no difficulty. Have a number of labels ready, bearing the weights most common in any particular stream, omitting ounces. It would be very interesting to get some reliable records of the growth-rate of Thames trout. Those remarkable fish are probably the fastest growers in England, and if any of the professional fishermen could be interested in the subject, and would take the trouble to label some of the undersized fish that they take in the course of the season, we should soon have some reliable data on the subject.

WE also want some information concerning the growth-rate of perch. I have seen it asserted in these pages that the perch is a very slow grower; but should be inclined to think that, where not overcrowded by his own or other species, he grows rapidly for the first year or two of his existence, but slower afterwards. From what I saw of the dozen or so yearling perch which were taken out of tho Sunbury rearing-ponds, it was evident that for the first year perch, under favourable circumstances, grow quite as quickly as trout. But in this matter of growth-rate, we should not jump to hasty conclusions. We may with the greatest accuracy determine the growth-rate of fish in a particular river or lake, and then, on experimenting on other waters, find that the growth-rate is quite different under different conditions. For instance, a trout at Mr. Andrew's fish-ponds, at Crickmere, grows (roughly speaking) about double as fast as those reared at more northern fish nurseries. An Avon or Kennet perch would probably grow to a greater size, in three years, than would be attained by the perch in the horse-pond the other side of the village green, in twenty years.

THE various Thames Fishery Preservation Societies might take combined action in this matter of marking fish and in various other ways. It has always seemed an absurdity to me that those societies are not united into one large and powerful body. Mr. Butler, the vice-president of the Reading Association, has made the capital suggestion that two members of each committee should be elected honorary members on each of the other committees. Each society would then know what the others were doing, and endeavour to imitate their successes and avoid their failures. But a greater absurdity still is that the finest river in Great Britain should have no Fishery Board. Not that Fishery Boards as too often constituted are brilliant successes, for they are usually overweighted with persons who are absolutely ignorant of fishery preservation, but come on the board by reason of owning a fishery or having pecuniary interests involved. It is not so loug ago that a member of an Irish Fishery Board was fined for sending salmon to the English markets in the close season. TEMPLAR.

THE Carlisle otter hounds had a capital bit of sport last week, when the meet was at Longtown. They had a rattling good drag from opposite Scaur Bank, past Netherby Hall, Kirkandrews Church, up to the Red Scaur, where the animal was viewed by young Joe, the whip, and a grand hunt followed in the woods, which overlook the river at a considerable height. Finding there was no refuge in Carwinlay Burn, the otter took the deep water and steered for the Thistle pool, when the chase had to be abandoned in consequence of the flooded state of the river. Sir Richard and Lady Graham, of Netherby, were both present, and enjoyed the hunt.

THE SUSSEX PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

HEADQUARTERS, ARCH NO. 104, KING'S ROAD, BRIGHTON.

THE Sussex Piscatorial Society, which was started at Brighton in February last, entered on Wednesday evening into the occupation of headquarters they have fitted up in No. 104, of the King's-road Arches, under circumstances giving every promise of a flourishing career. Not so very long ago, the arch consisted of but four bare walls. To-day it forms as bright and comfortable a home as any society of the kind could wish for. The walls have been covered in the lower storey with stained pitch-pine match-boarding, and in the upper storey with bamboo matting, and, as the outcome of gifts from numerous members, the place has not only been commodiously furnished, but the nucleus of a valuable library on the subject of fishing and angling has been formed, several of the books being of considerable value. A little aquarium of living fish appropriately graces what may be described as the entrance hall, and the walls are embellished with a variety of adornments, including photographs and engravings of fine fish, and preserved fish in glass cases. As the hon. secretary, Mr. W. F. Booth, mentioned during the inaugural ceremony, there is still room for many more specimens of the same class.

The opening ceremony was performed by the Mayor (Alderman S. H. Soper), who confessed to having a decided taste for the art that it is customary to describe as "gentle," although, perhaps, if the fish were consulted, they would be disposed to object to the use of the adjective. After expressing the pleasure he felt in attending to open the headquarters, his worship reminded the gathering that it was in February last that they met to establish the society, for the purpose of promoting in every way legitimate fresh water and sea angling, and kindred pursuits, such as natural history, fish culture, and aquarium keeping, and with that object in view to rent and stock suitable waters, and in time to establish fish hatcheries. The first thing necessary was to secure permanent headquarters in the place of those so kindly placed at their disposal by Mr. T. Billing, and in that they had been most successful. After alluding in detail to the equipment of the arch, and making special mention of the library—which he confidently believed would become the best reference library of the kind in Sussex—his worship laid stress upon the valuable assistance that the members, with their special information, would be able to give to the committee that would take over the control of sea fishing along the Sussex coast, under the Sea Fisheries Act. Since the association was started, the membership had increased from twenty to something like seventy, and they had enjoyed many a day's, or, in some instances, week's fishing. But the aim of the association was not so much to secure a large roll of members, as to attract those who were ardent lovers of the sport, and they offered no other inducement than that of giving information to each other with regard to the art, and as to localities where a good day's sport could be secured. The Mayor then went on to make a hearty acknowledgment of the labour expended by Mr. Booth and the assistant honorary secretary (Mr. C. F. Gillam), in superintending the fitting-up of the arch, and he also made reference to the great assistance the association had received from the chairman (Mr. Henry Griffith), whom he described as one of the most ardent fishermen in Brighton. Finally, he said he had the greatest pleasure in declaring the arch open, and he hoped that many pleasant hours would be spent there by the present members of the association, and by those who would in the future join its ranks. (Applause.)

In a genial speech, Mr. Booth cordially thanked the Mayor for attending to open their headquarters, and expressed the regret they felt at Alderman Cox and Alderman Brigden, who were both members, being unavoidably absent. The members of the association, he explained, came from various parts of the county, as well as from London and Hampton Court; and for their benefit they had rented two pieces of well-stocked water, in all about twenty acres, beyond which they had obtained permission to fish in Barcombe Mills, at Lindfield, and elsewhere. At present they had no president, thinking it better that the association should be further established before they invited a county gentleman to accept that position. Now, however, he thought there were few gentlemen interested in piscatorial matters who would not be proud to accept the office of president of such an association. To show how the members had occupied themselves during the season, he stated that two papers had been read, they had stocked a tank at the Brighton Aquarium, and they had caught in the aggregate about 600lb. of salmon (over 300lb. being taken by Mr. Griffith alone in Sutherlandshire), about 40lb. of grilse, 10lb. of trout, over 10lb. of pike, 8½lb. of perch, 13lb. of chub, 16lb. of tench, 8½lb. of roach, over 2lb. of dace, 3½lb. of bream, and from 90lb. to 100lb. of carp. Lastly, he gave the chief credit of supervising the fitting-up of the headquarters to Mr. Gillam, and acknowledged the kind assistance of Mr. T. Billing, and the gifts of numerous friends, which included a punt. But, like Oliver Twist, they wanted more, one of the things enumerated being a boat for sea fishing. (Laughter.)

A vote of thanks to the secretaries and to tho Mayor for presiding brought the proceedings to a close.

Although nothing was said with regard to that point during the inaugural proceedings, it is intended to make the association of considerable utility to visitors to Brighton by furnishing them with information with regard to sea fishing and as to reliable boatmen.

BRENTFORD PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

THE members of this successful society on Monday last had one of the most enjoyable river trips it is possible to imagine, and that through the kindness of their liberal and hospitable supporter, Mr. Andrew Pears. It appears when that gentleman was invited to preside at the annual dinner in July last, he gave his opinion that summer time was not the most suitable for dinners, and with his truly liberal spirit offered to give an outing in his electric launches up and down the river, and to provide refreshments, which was at once accepted. It was left with him to fix the day, and accordingly, with his accustomed accuracy, he not only selected the seventeenth of August as the date, but timed all the arrangements with it. The hour of departure was nine o'clock a.m., at Brentford Great Western Station, and on the arrival of tho train at Southall, special carriages were ordered to convey the passengers to Taplow, so as to make the start from the Thames at Maidenhead Bridge at 10.30. On the arrival of the visitors some little before the time, Mr. A. Pears was there ready to receive them, having come down from his residence at Stonor Park, Henley-on-Thames, for that purpose. In addition to his recently built launch, *Glowworm*, which is considered the most costly and elegantly furnished boat on the Thames, tho cabin and its magnificent decorations being the well-executed work of

Mr. Praill, of Tottenham Court-road; and *The Pilot*, his smaller launch, he bad engaged *The Viscountess Bury*, which is a large and commodious electric launch, licensed to carry something like eighty passengers.

At the time appointed, Mr. Pears having got all seated, he started the larger vessel, with the members of the Brentford and District Piscatorial Society on board, under the charge of its most indefatigable secretary, Mr. E. J. Thomas. Then followed his private launch, *Glowworm*, having as his companions thereon, tho Rev. D. Stanley-Mansfield and Messrs. W. H. Ellis, C. Robinson, T. A. Frost Edwards, J. H. Saunders, W. H. Brougham, and Capt. F. H. Mahoney. Then followed, bringing up a party of about half-a-dozen, *The Pilot*.

Going through the most lovely portion of the Thames, which some admire in preference to the Rhine, especially where Cliefdon and the Quarry Woods are prominent objects. The launches were timed to be at the Compleat Angler at Marlow for luncheon at 12.30, and it need scarcely be added that all were seated by that time in the spacious out-door erection connected with that famous hostelry, of which Mr. Kilby is now the proprietor. Mr. Andrew Pears presided on the occasion, supported by the gentlemen whose names have been previously given, and in addition may be mentioned Messrs. F. Pears (who is at present camping out in that neighbourhood). E. J. Thomas, James Clapp, J. Taylor, T. W. Waight, J. Rowling, G. H. Parsons, E. Lock, F. J. Roper, C. H. Wilson, J. Reading, H. Harris, J. Allen, J. Ricket, E. Cox, J. Greenwood, jun., &c., the party altogether numbering fifty-five guests.

During the luncheon, at which champagne and hock were liberally supplied, thero were only three toasts, first the loyal one, then that of "Mr. Andrew Pears," given in graceful terms by Mr. E. J. Thomas; and then the "Brentford Piscatorial Society," by the chairman, in a few appropriate words. Mr. E. J. Thomas, whose name was associated with it, in his reply stated the society was formed on the 28th of May, 1889, in 1890 they had enrolled up to the same date one hundred and twenty-five members, and at the present time, up to date, ono hundred and thirty-two. The financial position was good, with a satisfactory balance in hand.

After a local photographer had taken a group on the lawn another start was made in the launches at the time fixed—1 30—up to Medmenham Abbey, where all disembarked to have a look at it, some few paying a visit to Mr. Fred. Johnson, the proprietor of the Abbey Hotel. This was the end of the trip, and the launches were timed to be at Marlow at four o'clock for tea, in the same place as the luncheon, and this was promptly effected. All appeared to enjoy "the cup which cheers, but does not inebriate," and the return and closing journey was to be made from there at 4.35, so as to reach Maidenhead Bridge at 6.30, in time to catch the train at Taplow at 7.13: and in all the places mentioned Mr. Pears was to be found with his watch in his hand, indicating complete punctuality in his movements, and there was in no instance the slightest confusion.

It should be mentioned that Mr. Pears had each launch well supplied with refreshments, and there was no stint in anything, and all was provided by Mr. Bennett, of the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, whose personal attention to those on the *Glowworm* was all that could be desired, the champagne cup and some first-rate cigars being always on the move.

Amongst the incidents to be noted on tho river were a considerable number of electric launches on the move; here and there wero anglers in punts, but who did not appear to be doing much; there were two pleasure boats engaged in the unsportsmanlike practice of trailing, one of a gentleman being rowed by ladies, and the other a lady using the objectionable method. As a conclusion to this notice of a thoroughly pleasant day, all were enthusiastic on landing in expressing their full appreciation of the great treat Mr. Pears had given them, and no one was more delighted than Mr. Pears himself to find it had been enjoyed by them.

End of the Salmon Netting Season in the North of Scotland.—Wednesday next at noon will again see the death-knell of tho netters rung for another season. They have had a fino time of it on the east coast, and, although the net figures may not transpire for some short time yet, still a rough guess may be made. Their average is a big one, and double that of last year. Latterly the harvest has been chiefly to the in-shore nets, but all over, with the exception perhaps of the upland river stations, the fishing has been a prosperous one. We do not grudge the netters success, if everything was fair and square to the angler, but this is not the case. There are two thorns in our flesh, caused by them—netting under any conditions in the river, and the too short weekly close-time. Till the proprietors combine and buy up tho rights of netters, salmon angling will never attain its healthiest and best conditions. It is all very well when there is plenty of water running, but this cannot be depended upon. When there is water a few fish may get past, but at other times, which includes all the summer at least, the fisherman is on the look-out. When a fish is descried, and the wave ho makes is perfectly discernible to the practised eye at a good distance off, the cobble is run out, the net dragged, and the poor *Salmo salar's* life's journey is cut short! The net can be so dragged, too, that a pound sea trout will have difficulty in getting through. I had some lately, and every second one of a pound and over had run the gauntlet by a narrow shave, as was plainly to be seen by the markings on the thickest part of the body, where he had been stripped of his soft, silvery coat. It would not be a great matter to buy up the rights of the netters, were the proprietors heartily to combine for the purpose. The enhanced value of their fishings would more than recoup them and redeem the purchase money in a few years time, and might not the purchase price be borrowed from the State? The other thorn does not prick so painfully, yet its presence is severely felt. Thirty-six hours is all too short a weekly close-time. It ought to be forty-eight hours at least. When there is a volume of water on Saturday or Sunday, the fish get away in fairly large quantities, but this is not the case so often as it might be, even in the spring months, and still less frequently the case during the summer. An extended weekly close-time to at least forty-eight hours would in a measure compensate for the difficulty the fish have in getting over the shallows, and allow more of them into the river and farther up the river than what the chances do at present. Meanwhilo they only escape the bag-nets to be caught in tho river traps. Only the other Monday morning a shoal of salmon and grilse, estimated at close upon one thousand, were got in one of these traps belonging to the Aberdeen Harbour Commissioners. Had these fish got into the river, what a sport they would have afforded in this dull season.—Deesider.

THE THAMES ANGLING PRESERVATION SOCIETY.

Guinea Cup to be Fished for.

An open competition has been instituted by the members of the New Albion Piscatorials, in aid of the funds of tho Thames Angling Preservation Steiety, and it is hoped that members of all London angling societies will support the project. The prizes and conditions are subjoined:—

£5 5s. silver cup, presented by Mr. W. F. Grimmett (chairman of the club), for the six best weights from any *bona fide* club in a week-day or Sunday competition during this season, from bank or punt. Thames only.

For best individual gross weight from bank, £1s 1s., presented by Mrs. Hughes.

For best individual gross weight from punt, £1 1s., presented by Mrs. Hughes.

For best roach, from bank or punt, 10s. 6d., presented by Mr. A. E. Baldwin.

For best dace, from bank oi punt, 10s. 6d., presented by Mr. C. W. Hugman.

For hest pike, from bank or punt, 10s. 6d., presented by Mr. R. La Feuillade.

For best barbel, from bank or punt, 10s. 6d., presented by Mr. R. Shonfield.

For best chub, from bank or punt, 10s. 6d., presented by Mr. R. Turnham.

For best perch, from bank or punt, 10s. 6d., presented by Mr. J. Rump.

Entrance fee, 1s. each competitor, tho wholo amount to go to the T.A.P.S,

Any number from one club to be at liberty to compete on the same day (Thames only); but six (or less) best only to count; and all fish to be weighed at the headquarters of tho competing club, or at the Duke of Kent, on tho day of competition, according to the following scale—viz., Roach, 8in.; dace, 7in.; barbel, 16in.; chub, 12in.; perch, 10in.; and pike, 21in.

A club shall be at liberty to compete any number of times on payment of fresh entrance fees, but no competitor to take more than one prize.

Notice of competition to be sent and entrance fees paid to Mr. E. Baldwin, secretary, 75, Wells-street, Camberwell, by the day previous to the outing.

When possible a representative of tho N.A.P. will attend at the weighing in, but in his absence a certificate of the weights and size of fish, signed by the chairman and secretary of competing society, to be forwarded to the secretary of tho N.A.P.

Mr. W. F. Grimmett to be sole arbitrator of any dispute that may arise.

***** Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

Holloway's Pills.—In general debility, mental depression, and nervous irritability there is no medicine which operates so like a charm as these famous Pills. They purify the blood, soothe and strengthen the nerves and system, give tone to the stomach, elevate the spirits, and, in fact, make the patient sensible of a total and most delightful revolution in his whole system. They may be commended most unreservedly as the very best family medicine in existence. Though so powerfully efficacious, they are singularly mild in their operation, and might be given with perfect confidence to delicate women and young children. They contain not a grain of mercury, or any other noxious substance, and cannot do harm. Delicate females and all persons of sedentary habits will find these Pills a blessing.

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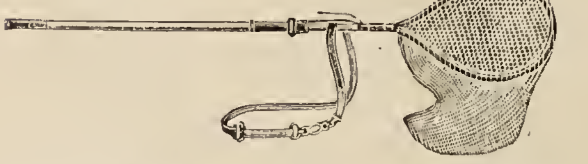

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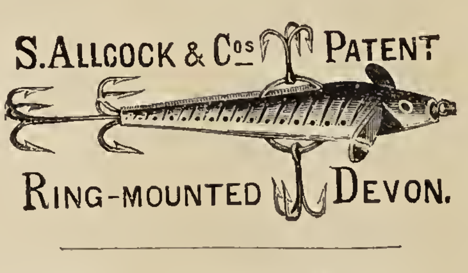

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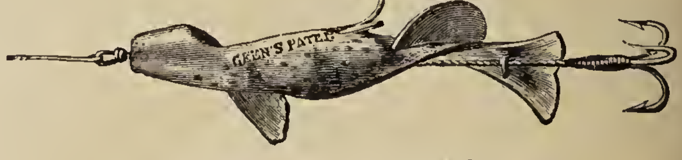

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SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 1891.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly delegate meeting took place on Monday evening last, W. R. Lawes in the chair. The report of the Renting and Preservation Committee was read. A resolution was passed that in future he General Committee shall have power to deal with minor club disputes, the abuse of privilege tickets, and the enrolment of new societies. The South Acton Angling Society was enrolled. A grant of £5 5s. was votod to the Maidstone Angling Preservation Society. Mr. M. Barrington, Hoxton Brothers, was appointed hon. bailiff, subject to the approval of the Lea Conservancy Board. M. Founain, senior, and G. Lewis, Sundial Angling Society, were appointed hon. fishery hailiffs to the waters rented by the Anglers' Association. The visiting officers, Messrs. Manning, Jennings, Thorling, and Armstrong, gave their eport. The secretary reported the capture of a net at Ware. The men, who are known to the police, will be ummoned. He also gave an account of the water being drawn down in several parts of the river Lea during the revious week, police being engaged during the whole of he time, day and night, to watch the river. The following ifty-one clubs were represented: Bermondsey Brothers, ity of London, Globe, Eastern Piscatorials, Hoxton Brothers, Izaak Walton, Duke of Norfolk, Mildmay, Original Alexandra, North Eastern, Prince of Wales, eckham Brothers, Prince Arthur, Royal Oak, South Hornsey, St. John's, South Belgravia, St. Andrews, Sunial, United Brothers, West Ham Brothers, Waltonians, Westbourne Park, Queen's, Waggoners, Walworth Walonians, Marylebone, Hertford, North London, Bostonians, Burton Piscatorials, Midland, Allason United, Campbell nited, Original North Lambeth, Clissold, Lady of the Lake, ntwerp, Islington Brothers, Bomore, East London, olden Barbel, Stepney, Crown and Buckland, Cobden, orth Lambeth, South Acton, North Western, Hearts of ak, Odds and Evens, and Cambridge Friendly.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT No. 2.—he next return visit on this list will take place at the unny Folks Angling Society, held at Mr. A. Eldridge's, e Rose and Crown, Goswell-road. The date I will nnounce next week.—F. THORLING.

Anglers' Association (SOUTHERN DISTRICT) VISITING IST.—The next visit on the above list takes place on onday, the 24th inst., at the Peckham Brothers Angling ociety, Prince Albert, East Surrey Grove, Peckham, hen I hope to see a good muster of brother anglers.—G. V. ARMSTRONG, District Officer.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, lerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The next meeting of e committee will take place on Friday evening, August , 1891.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, reat Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—On the 16th inst., our embers fished for their monthly prizes at Woking eads, we all had fish, but most of the takes were small. r. Scutt, first prize, roach and dace; Mr. Gibbs, second, eam and roach; Mr. Bees, third, roach and dace; Mr. rner, fourth, roach. Mr. W. Brown was duly elected working member of this society.—J. TUCKER, hon. sec.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason rms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—We had a od show of members on the 17th inst., when wo oposed to fish for the three prizes which were not won the 16th shall he continued at Staines on the 30th, two ds; roving. All fish, bar eels, to weigh in, and members go down on the morning of competition. We had e pleasure of making another working member, that ntleman being Mr. B. Skelt, who gave half a guinea for e largest barbel during the season. Members will please ow up on next meeting night, as we have important siness to transact. There will be a competition held in sociation water, from Langley Bridge to Iron Bridge, ndly given by Mr. David Pilhouse, of the North Star otel, Langley. For further information see next week's *shing Gazette.*—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

lma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, re Market.—On the 16th, several of our members were t, when the following weighed in: Messrs. T. Smith, eam; H. Wilson, dace and gudgeon; and W. Cutbush, ch. One of our memhers on the 16th, at West Drayton, ked up in a dying condition, a specimen roach of 1½lb., th two holes in its side, as if it had been speared. On esday J. Drew was proposed as a working member and ll be elected in due course. I hope members will not get the 30th, as we fish for seven prizes, and I should e to see a good muster.—J. PAILES, sec.

micable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced g, Worship-square, Finsbury.—The following members ighed in on the 16th—viz., Messrs. Medcalf, Moir, Hard-, and Potter, showing bream, roach, and dace. It is ided that we fish for a series of prizes at Fiddleworth, Sept. 13. We made two more honorary members, and l have a few vacancies for some working members as ll.—W. H. POTTER, sec.

micable Excelsior Angling Society, tho Greyhound tel, High-street, Battersea.—Our third outing this season ne off on the 16th, at Egham, when sixteen of our mems were out, but only two prizes were taken. The sucsful ones were Mr. J. Jones, first, with dace; Mr. G. h, second, with dace and gudgeon. Last week was rter night, and nineteen answered to the roll-call, and made two new members.—J. RICH, sec.

micable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, eat Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 16th inst. our mbers were out in good force, with the result that a e show of fish was placed on the trays by the following tlemen: Mr. Whitebread, bream and roach, 17lb., gest bream, 2lb. 7oz.; W. Embleton, junior, 10½lb. of eam and roach, largest bream, 2lb. 6oz.; Mr. Lambarth, ior, 5lb. of bream and roach, largest hream, 2lb. 1oz.; . Nunn, with 3lb. of very fine roach; Mr. Irvin, 2½lb. of am; Mr. Loosely, 3lb. of roach and chub; Mr. Humies, bream, 2lb., and also an eel of 1½lb., takon whilst k fishing. Mr. Hazell and Mr. Turpin also had roach. al weight for August 16, 47lb. 5oz. On the 23rd inst. thirty-sixth annual dinner will take place at the Black g and Duck Inn, Bury, near Pulborough. Members are requested to be early in attondanee. We enrolled two new members last meoting night, and have two more to be ballotod for next meeting.—G. MERRY, sec. *pro tem.*

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednosday, with a fair attendance of members. The members were out on the 16th, to fish for the prizes left over from the 9th, with the result that Mr. Bodell took 1st prize, 3lb. 13¾oz.; Mr. Simpkins, 2lb. 13¼oz., 2nd; Mr. Scott, 1lb. 15¼oz., 3rd; Mr. Smith, 1lb. 7¾oz., 4th. Mr. Palmer had a show of fish, 3lb. 4oz., placed to his account; Mr. Martin also had fish. It was carried unanimously that we send a donation to the Maidstone Angling Preservation Society of 10s. 6d., to aid them in their efforts to preserve their water for the benefit oi anglers in general. I hope tho members will attend early on Wednesday next, as the sea fishing competition is on the agenda, and I hope to he able to impart some information on the subject.—A. G. SMITH, secretary.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Battersea.—The members of this club fished a match on the 16th, roving, for four prizes, with the following result: Mr. F. Anstiss, first, 10lb. 1½oz., one harbel going 6lb. 2½oz.; Mr. J. W. Hopkins, second, 8lb. 6½oz.; Mr. G. Searle, third, 4lb. 1oz.; Mr. W. Wallis, fourth, 3lb. 5½oz. On Tuesday last two now members were elected, and three more proposed. Tho following also weighed fish on the 16th inst.:—Messrs. W. Chettle, perch; J. Ancliffe, bream; G. Mumford, roach; W. Himes, bream. The next outing will take place at Pangbourne, on August 30. Pegged-down for five prizes, presented by Messrs. Burgess, W. Edwards, G. Edwards, Hopkins, and A. Dodds. First prize, value 42s.; second, 38s.; third, 25s.; fourth, 25s.; fifth, 10s. Jack barred; one rod; to cease fishing at seven o'clock. A brake will start from club-house at 7.30 to Paddington. Under the same conditions a special prize of 10s. 6d. will be given to honorary members.—G. MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—On the 16th, the members fished a competition for the August series of prizes, with the following result: H. Patman, 9lb. 7oz., first; D. Dodson, second; A. Conn, third. Several other members also weighed in. The concert and draw for the benefit of Mr. Reuhen Smith, took place at the club-house on the 18th, and, I am pleased to say, was a decided success in every way. The following are the winning numbers: First prize, a general rod, number of ticket, 914; second, landing-net and telescope stick, 94; third, mail cart, 599; fourth, opera glasses, 893; fifth, fretwork brackets, 1,043; sixth, copper kettle, 302; seventh, box of cigars, 321; eighth, tackle case, 154; ninth, creel and bait-can, 1,361; tenth, winch and line, 305; eleventh, bottle of whisky, 451; twelfth, bait-can, 144; thirteenth, 50yds. of line, 92; fourteenth, winch and rod-rest, 6. There are several prizes not yet claimed. If the owners of the tickets will produce them at the club-house, as above, any Friday or Sunday evening, we shall be pleased to hand over the prize. I take this opportunity to return the sincere thanks of the Bermondsey Brothers to their brother anglers, for the hearty support rendered them on this occasion; and I am also requested by Mr. Reuben Smith to say that he is most deeply grateful to one and all for the assistance rendered him in his present difficulties.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—A further discussion on the annual dinner took place on Wednesday, when exception was taken to the date, which will he finally settled next week. Two prizes were promised to be fished for in the competition on that day—Mr. Wilson, 10s. 6d., for the largest roach; and Mr. Farmer, 5s., for the largest bream. On the 16th, Mr. Wheelhouse had a good show of fish; Mr. J. Barker, roach and dace, 1¼lb.; Mr. F. Barker, carp and perch, 2¾lb.; and Mr. Hacker, bream and roach, 2lb.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomshury, W.C.—On the 16th instant we had a good show of fish on the tables, Mr. Rich weighing perch, roach, and dace, heaviest dace, 9oz.; Mr. Young weighed in bream, heaviest bream, 2lb. 9oz.; Mr. Gill weighed in perch. No member is to go down before the first train on the 23rd, for our pegged-down match, and leave off fishing at six o'clock.—D. WARREN.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—Since last week the following gentlemen have weighed in: Messrs. Wilson, Watkins, and Mearring, bream, and Mr. J. P. West a nice tray of barbel and dace. We fish for two prizes at Dagenham, on the 23rd, same timo and conditions as before; all sizeable fish to weigh; one rod only. We are getting up a smoker; will members please attend.—T. HAWKES, sec.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—Our trays were very small on the 16th inst., owing to the water being so low and bright. The following members weighed in: Mr. D. Flint, roach, dace, and perch, 2lb. 10oz.; Mr. Gurney, 1lb. 7oz. of perch; Mr. Antill, 1lb. 14oz. of roach and dace; Mr. Sparks, 14oz. of roach. I hope members will not forget next Wednesday is roll-call night.—J. PETHER, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 16th inst. the following members weighed in: Messrs. Marshall, hream and roach; C. Chapman, tench and roach; A. Chapman, jack; and Fitter, roach. Our break outing to Woybridge will take place on September 6. Start from the abovo at 6.30 sharp.—E. T. WHITE, sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—On the 17th the meeting was a good one, hut, with regard to fishing during the current week, there has been nothing weighed in to boast about. Mr. T. Crumplen, of the Piscatorial Society, &c., will preside here on Monday next (24th inst.), when Professor Christopher Green, of the Grange Angling Society, will, at nine o'clock, read a paper on "Roach Fishing." A hearty welcome will be extended to all brothers of the angle who may favour us with a visit on that occasion.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

Central Association.—The monthly delegate meeting was held as usual at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, on Monday week. The chair was taken hy Mr. T. Crumplen, in the unavoidable absenco of the president, Mr. C. A. Medcalf. The minutes of the previous delegate meeting were duly confirmed, correspondence read, and routine business transacted. The Causton Angling Society, held at the Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, E.C., was enrolled, as was also a new society, to he called the Great Western Angling Society, the members of which are exclusively employees of the Great Western Railway Company; their rules being in accordance with those required by tho association. Mr. Wade, in making some remarks on the success attending the Pulborough tournament, mentioned that Mr. Eldridge was making arrangements to hold three competitions, two to take place at Pulborough, and one at Amberley. Those at Pulborough are to come off on September 6 and October 25, and that at Amberley on October 4. Mr. Eldridge is being locally supported in the arrangement of his prize list, and although these competitions are not those of the association, thero is no doubt they will be largely patronised by the members, and he will receive every encourgement possible. The water is being well watched on hehalf of the association, and several members volunteered to act as bailiffs during the month. It must be understood that the water rented by the association can only be fished by members holding its privilege card, which must in all cases be shown when asked for. In reply to an inquiry, Mr. Wade mentioned that the number of members now exceeded that of any year in the history of the association, and during the past two months, more privilege tickets had been taken up than in the whole of the previous year. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman and secretary brought the meeting to a close.

City of London Angling Society. White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—Mr. Macdonnell weighed in bream and dace from Amberley on the 16th. No other member weighed in fish.—CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.—The next visit on the South London United Visiting List will be to this society on Tuesday, September 1, when we hope to give a hearty welcome to all clubs on the list.—A. TROWBRIDGE, secretary.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—An ordinary weekly meeting was held at the cluhhouse at the above, on Monday last, Mr. R. A. Chillingworth in the chair. Several members related the satisfactory results of pleasant days with rod and line, Mr. R. W. Murray, whilst away in Ireland, having had heavy takes of grilse, ranging from 3lh. to 10lb., all with the fly. This gentleman has also had some fine sport in Hampshire—roach up to 2lb. and five dace, which weighed 4¾lb. Good accounts still come as to the excellent sport at our private waters at Enfield Lock. We hope next Monday that there will be a good attendance of memhers, as last Monday the question of a club outing was brought forward, and on our next meeting this will specially claim our attention.—HENRY HOWSE, hon. sec.

Clarence Angling Club, Red Lion Hotel, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.—On Wednesday evening another new momber was elected. Messrs. Sparrow and Halso had good roach and dace from the Thames; and Mr. J. F. Dawson, roach and dace, from Thames, also jack, perch, roach, and grayling, from the Kennet in good condition.—ALF. E. EVANS, sec.

Clerkenwell and District United.—A successful visit on the above was paid to the Independent Brothers on Wednesday evening, Mr. Crumplen in the chair, faced by Mr. Herbert, of the Islington Brothers. The following seventeen clubs were well represented—viz.: Great Northern Brothers, Lincoln, City of London, Independent Brothers, Seymour Brothers, Eustonian, Amicable Waltonians, Islington Brothers, Bloomsbury Brothers, Alma, Burton Piscatorials, North London, Camden, Royal George, Bermondsey Brothers, Phœnix, and Athenæum. The next visit will take place at the Eustonian Angling Society, held at the King's Arms, Swinton-street, Gray's Inn-road, on Monday evening next, Aug. 24. The Seymour Brothers have kindly consented to that arrangement.—F. CASTELL, hon. sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—Several members were out on the 16th, but only three weighed in fish—namely Mr. F. Stone, bream and tench, 20lb.; Mr. F. Hannabas, bream and tench, 18lb.; W. Hutchings, tench. On Monday, the 17th, E. Baker weighed in a specimen tench. We fish a match for private prizes on September 13, at Denham Straights. Members to proceed how they like; start fishing at eleven a.m.; leave off at seven p.m. Draw for swims at Swan and Bottle. Fish to be registered at side of water. Weigh in at club-house by 10.30 p.m. A pegged-down match. Jack harred. No raking.—A. SMITH, sec.

Corinthian Angling Club, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, W.—Several of our members have been out during the past week with indifferent success. Messrs. R. Brown and Stallibrass have had some fair roach from the Wey, and Mr. Sidney, a few barbel from the Thames at Windsor.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 16th, Messrs. Cogswell, Wild, Legge, Parran, Kellick, and Freeman had a very good show of rooch, perch, dace, and tench. On Thursday, tho 13th, Mr. Grange had some very fine perch, some scaling 1lb. 9oz and 1lb. 7oz., and a honorary member showed a very fine jack. On the 30th inst. a series of prizes will be competed for in the Stort, at Harlow. Full particulars to be obtained at the club-house.—S. MALBY.

Eagle Angling Society, Chesnut-road, Tottenham.—Our members are not yet bringing in much fish. The exceptions are Mr. Summers, a few weeks ago, with a fine show of perch and eels, two of the largest weighed 2¾lb. and 1lb. 4oz., respectively; and our old champion, Mr Dwyer, in company with a friend, captured about 18lb. of barbel, roach, and dace, on 16th inst., at Staines. I am pleased to report that up to this date twelve new members have joined the society this year.—T. F. B.

Eastern Piscatorial Society, Spread Eagle, Gill-street, Limehouse, E.—At our weekly meeting on Wednesday we made another member, which makes three new members this season. Mr. Jones has shown a nice lot of bream, from Dagenham; Mr. Bartlett, bream, roach, dace, and perch; hut our members generally are not making any great attempts at present. We shall shortly fish a match for a marble timepiece, and members are requested to turn up in force to arrange tho same.—W. B., hon. sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On the 16th inst. the following weighed in: Messrs. Biggs, roach and perch; Vanhegan, roach and perch; and S. Hill, roach. All members are requested to attend on the 27th inst., to arrange our annual dinner.—J. W. BIGGS, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had a first-class show of fish on the 16th inst. by the following members: C. Ellis, dace; A. Slade, fine show of hream and dace; H. Evans, some good roach and hream; C. Stehbings, a few splendid bream; Caborn, roach and dace; Riggs, roach and daco; and W. Lawrence, somo fine tench.—W. E. B.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road.—A few of our members took advantage of the fine weather on the 16th, and visited some of the favourite swims, and were well repaid, as we had a splendid show, Mr. Bailey being first with 20lb. of roach; Mr. Ellins likewise a fine show of roach, dace, and trout; Mr. Bowring, a capital tray of bream; our worthy vice-chairman, roach and dace from the Lea; and Mr. Marchant, also roach and dace. On Tuesday, Mr. Bishop weighed in 20lb. of bream; and our vice-chairman, a catch of roach. We elected two new members, one giving two prizes to be fished for.—A. Stokes.

Good Intent Angling Society.—Our annual dinner took place on Monday last, at the Ryo House Hotel, sixty-three members and friends sat down to a most excellent dinner served up in Mr. J. Teale and Co.'s best style, and gave entire satisfaction. A most hearty vote of thanks was passed to him for the capital manner he carried it out. Mr. H. J. Tibbatts presided, ably supported by Mr. S. Mead, Mr. J. Close, Mr. E. Mardell, and Mr. Smyth. Dinner over, and cloth removed, the chairman proposed the usual loyal toast and was heartily responded to; then came the Good Intent Society, coupled with the name of the secretary, who responded on behalf of the society and was most heartily received. The chairman then appealed to those members who did not give prizes on distribution night, and his appeal was well responded to; close on £20 was given. A most hearty vote of thanks with musical honours was given to the chairman for the excellent way he fulfilled his duties, then everyone dispersed to enjoy the beautiful fine day, and were sorry when the time came to depart for home.—R. Murphy.

Grange Angling Society.—During the last week the following members have weighed in: Messrs. Sandilands, bream and roach, 16lb. 15¾oz.; Wood, roach, 8lb. 13oz.; Green, 5lb. 8¼oz.; and J. H. Rich, perch and roach, 11lb. 12½oz.—W. K.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—On the 16th inst. the members of the above club were at Hatfield Peveril to fish a pegged-down match, but sport was very bad. Only two members got weighable fish, Mr. B. Edwards winning first prize, and F. Bates second, leaving two prizes to be fished for.—S. F. Weaver, sec.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Robin Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 16th the following members weighed in: J. Hewett, bream, 8lb. 9oz., and a jack, 4lb. 11½oz. taken on a tight line, roach fishing; W. Barnes, bream, 10lb. 5oz.; Wade, roach, 3lb. 9oz.; Theobald, roach and dace, 3lb. 7oz.; and W. Parkin, dace and roach, 1lb. 8oz. On the 17th inst. 10s. was collected for Mr. Smith's benefit (Bermondsey Brothers).—J. A. Fitch.

Gresham Angling Society.—An ordinary meeting was held last Tuesday, with Mr. W. B. Dippie in the chair. Mr. Bentley reported having caught roach in the Lea; Messrs. Fosbrooke and Norman, sixty flounders at Southend; Mr. Allen, several trout; Mr. Norman, nearly three hundred flounders in several days; Mr. Dippie, a pike at St. Margaret's; and Messrs. Dippie, Davison and Parker, dabs at Sheerness. Several members having been disappointed at not taking part in the competition at Sheerness, it was determined that it should be fished over again at Leigh, Essex, on the 15th Sept. The prize which had been presented was handed back, and another member offered a prize of tackle of the value of half-a-guinea. It was also agreed to recommend the committee to arrange a competition for prizes from punts in the Thames during the current half year, and a prize of some article worth half-a-guinea was promised by a member. Next Tuesday there will be some "Angling Reminiscences."—James Tayler, sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 16th inst. another fair show of fish was weighed in, the following being fortunate: Messrs. Muller, perch; Braham, jun., perch and roach; Wells, roach; Bagshaw, sen., roach; A. Fish, roach and bream; Callcutt, rudd; Rhoden, roach and bream; L. Walford, bream and perch; Russell, roach.—W. Fenner, sec.

Hertford Angling Preservation Society, (G. E. R.) Station Hotel, Hertford.—Mr. Herbert Johnson, one of the members of this society, fishing in the open water at Hertford, on Monday last, took seventy-four roach and dace and one trout, and on Tuesday fifty-eight roach and dace and two trout. Such a take has not been had for some past, and shows the good effect of the society's efforts to preserve the waters.—W. Waller, keeper H. A. P. S.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—A few of our members were out on the 16th inst. Mr. G. H. Wood weighed a handsome jack 10lb.; Mr. J. Row, one jack, 3½lb.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—On the 16th we fished off our match at Rye House, twelve members competing, with the following results: Mr. A. Pope, first, ten shillings; Mr. T. Morris, second, 8s.; Mr. F. Pain, third, 6s.; Mr. Nicholls also weighed in, but his solitary perch did not go the requisite length, so was disqualified. The remaining prize we will decide what to do with at our next meeting. Our visit on the C.D.V. List, on Wednesday last was, I am pleased to say, a grand success, which was mainly brought about by Mr. Harding giving us his popular reading, the "World of Waters," and which was received with much appreciation by his audience. "Old Izaak" occupied the chair, and Mr. Herbert faced him, and the best thanks of the above society are tendered to these gentlemen for assisting in making the evening pass so pleasantly. Seventeen clubs were represented, and the harmony was of a very good description, especially the songs rendered by Messrs. Taylor and Houghton, and Mr. Butler's recitation.—Snap.

Islington Angling Society, Jubilee House, Hornsey Rise, N.—At the meeting on Monday evening last the chair was occupied by the hon. treasurer, Mr. James Tayler, who exhibition a collection of tackle for sea fishing, and a very pleasant evening was passed principally in discussing the methods of using the many ingenious contrivances for marine fishing, produced by Messrs. Hearder and other makers.—C. S. B.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—We met on Thursday last, when our worthy host was balloted in, and another friend proposed. The following weighed in on the 16th inst.: Mr. G. Holder, roach and bream, heaviest bream, 3lb. 6¾oz.; Mr. H. Herbert, roach, 2lb.; Mr. W. Streek, roach and gudgeon. We are having a smoking concert for the benefit of Mr. C. Leach, on September 14.—J. H. Herbert, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The return visit (No. 1 Eastern District), took place on Monday evening last. Mr. C. Hayward occupied the chair, Mr. William Wilkinson, the vice-chair; the meeting was well attended, fourteen clubs being represented. I am requested by the members to tender their sincere thanks to all who kindly favoured us with their presence. The next visit of the (No. 1 Eastern District) clubs, will be to the Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's Walk, Ball's Pond. There are two special prizes, and a long list of extra specials to be competed for on the 23rd inst., competitors may choose their own fishing waters. Mr. T. Harris was the only member who weighed in on the 16th; he had some pretty roach, thus saving a blank.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—On the 16th inst., Mr. Tomkins had a few nice roach, best fish 1lb. ¾oz.; and Mr. Dunham, gudgeon. We enrolled two new members at our last meeting and had another one proposed. On the 23rd we fish a match for five prizes in the canal between Langley and Slough, first train from Westbourne Park or any subsequent train; two rods; all fish to weigh; but members must catch their own live bait after arrival, cease fishing at seven p.m., and return together or be disqualified. No member is eligible to take a prize unless he weighs in 8oz. of fish.—A. Ide, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—It will interest members to know that the balance in P.O. Savings Bank has been increased to £25. Angling and honorary members are reminded of the punt competition to be held on the 23rd and 27th inst., members being at liberty to go to any part of the Thames. During the past week Messrs. Wilmot, Mason, Carter, Evans, and Master, have weighed in barbel, roach, and dace.—F. Salter, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road.—On the 16th inst., the following members weighed in some good fish: Messrs. Gramlick and Bligh, bream; Messrs. Webster and Watling, roach and dace; Mr. Ellingham, tench; Mr. Porter, rudd; Mr. White, roach. On the 23rd inst., we fish our match at Pulborough. Any member will be allowed to go down on Saturday night, but not to start fishing till the morning. Mr. Morgan has been made a working member.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—Our last week's meeting was largely attended. Three new members were elected. A day's fishing on the 27th was arranged. Sport at the outing on the 13th was spoiled in consequence of the water, where the fishing took place, being, as it is termed, "broken," for this seems to turn the fish sulky, at least they will not feed. This is the second time we have had this kind of thing this season when we have visited really good meres. Success in angling seems to be at a low ebb everywhere, at least our members who have been here, there, and everywhere almost have had very poor catches.—R. Woolfall.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 16th our members were at various waters, and we had some good shows of bream, roach, tench, by Messrs. Penfold, Pearce, Milburn, and A. Clark. I beg to remind members they can weigh in fish from four o'clock Saturday.—W. F. Pearce.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Ball's Pond-road.—Our usual weekly meeting, took place on Tuesday, and there was a fair attendance. One more new member was made during the evening, and we still have a few more vacancies for gentlemen wishing to join us. The next return visit on the No. 1 Eastern Visiting List, comes to this club. It was decided that the date shall be on Monday, August 31. Secretaries of clubs please note this. I hope the members will all attend on Tuesday next, as there is some urgent and important business to bring forward.—J. Comber, sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 108, Westminster Bridge-road, S.E.—Three of our members were out on the 16th inst. Messrs. Roe, Rowles, and Dawes weighed in roach and dace. Honorary members can have their cards on application to—F. Wallis, sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W.—On the 13th inst., Messrs. Goodman, Ward, Pritchard, Lambert, Schultz, sen., Schultz, jun., and Weaver were elected on the committee. Mr. Ward had a good show of roach, one fish scaling 1lb. 1¾oz.; Mr. Schultz, sen., a show of perch; and Schultz, jun., dace. On the 16th inst., Mr. Plumpton, jun., had a nice tench. Our outing to St. Margaret's on August 30 will be by rail, for several prizes; gross weight; all fish bar jack; one rod; roving.—G. S.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—On the 16th, the following members weighed in at our headquarters: Messrs. Harrison, perch; Neville, dace; Bygrave, roach; and T. Forster, roach. Messrs. H. Forster and Potter also had a nice show, but did not weigh them in, arriving late.—J. Cuthbert, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—A match took place on the 16th inst.; and resulted in a good show of fish, Mr. Stidolph being first with a good show of tench; Mr. Brancher, second; Mr. Kemp, third; Mr. Steedman, fourth; Mr. Holt, fifth; Messrs. Gardham, Duke, Daniels, and Parsons, also having fish. The next visit on the Anglers Association Visiting List, goes to this club on Monday, the 24th inst., when we hope to see a good muster of anglers and friends.—A. G. Duke, sec.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Old St. Pancras-road, N.—On the 16th, Messrs. Elbourn, Heelas, Brown, Carr, Raymond, Mares, Foster, and Morgan, weighed in a nice show of roach, dace, bream and perch. On August 30, three handsome prizes will be angled for at Windsor. Conditions next Tuesday; and several more on September 6, at Marlow. All members please attend on Tuesday next at nine o'clock.—W. Elbourn, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—On the 16th, the following members weighed in fish, Mr. Rodber, one barble, 3½lb.; Mr. Buck, one barble, nearly 2lb.; Mr. Isaacs, tench and roach. We also had the pleasure of making two new members, and one hon.-member.—J. Harris, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—There was a fine show of fish on the 16th, contributed by the following: Mr. Neal, chub, 6lb. ¼oz.; Brett, roach, 1lb. 13½oz.; Scott, roach, 1lb. 6oz.; Buckland, 8lb. 6oz.; Robbins, 3lb. 11oz.; Axworthy, 3lb. 1oz.; Crawley, Ivernee, Matthews, and Hayden, making a very creditable show. On Wednesday, three new members were proposed, and will be balloted for next Wednesday.

Reading Angling Association.—"Gudgeon Day."—The annual gudgeon fishing excursion of the members of this association was held on Monday last, the river in the neighbourhood of Tilehurst being selected as the scene of operations. Fishing began at noon, and although the weather was very unpropitious for the purpose, the afternoon being cloudy and showery throughout, sport was not altogether bad, the numerous punts engaged counting in an average of six to seven dozen sizeable gudgeon, with here and there a good perch. At 6.30 the competitors sat down to dinner at the Roebuck Hotel, Tilehurst, the repast being provided by Mrs. Noyes in first-class style. Mr. W. W. Ridley ably filled the chair, and Mr. William Ferguson the vice-chair. In spite of the weather and the comparatively poor sport, the day was most pleasantly spent.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—Our outing at Cookham took place on the 16th, when only four prizes were taken by the following members:—Messrs. Webber, first; Holder, second; Bacon, third; Harris, jun., fourth. The remaining prizes will be fished for by the unsuccessful members on the 23rd. Go where they like. I beg to inform members that next Wednesday, August 26, will be quarterly night, and trust all members will show up for election of officers, and to clear the books, &c. Our new members, Messrs. Galloway and Phillips, have given three prizes to be fished for, the former 10s. 6d., for heaviest jack from Elstree waters, and 10s. 6d. for heaviest roach weighed in; the latter 10s. 6d. for heaviest bream weighed in.—F. C. Longland.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—Most of our members were out on the 16th inst., but the only members able to weigh in were—Messrs. F. Barrow, F. Barclay, G. Barclay, A. Barclay, E. Perry, Parsley, J. Yeo, J. Stanley, Henson, Cox, and J. Holden, with a very fair show of roach, perch, chub, and bream. On Tuesday last, we made one new member, and nominated another. Members please note that Tuesday, Sept. 1, is quarterly night, when I hope we shall have a full meeting.—A. Barclay, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—The fishing for the prizes on the 16th, at Amberley, resulted in Mr. Wood, first; J. T. Wright, second; J. Wright, third; W. Wink, fourth; G. H. Howard, fifth. The sixth, seventh, and eighth not taken, but will be fished for in the same stretch of water on the 23rd, under the same conditions. The two gentlemen—viz., Mr. Chas. Ellis and Mr. F. Birch—proposed last meeting night, were balloted for and duly elected members. I am very pleased to state that this club is increasing in numbers; in fact, we have more now than at any previous time since the club was formed.—J. Wright, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—It is with deep regret that I have to announce the death, after a long and painful illness, of our esteemed member, Mr. John Coates, sen. The late member was a very successful competitor in competitions held on behalf of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. On the 16th a few members were out, with the following result: Messrs. C. Smith, jun., chub; C. Smith, sen., bream and gudgeon; W. North, roach and dace, 6lb. 3½oz. (one dace, 8¾oz.); J. Petrie, roach and dace, 6lb. 6½oz.; J. Barnes, roach and dace. On Monday, August 31, we take a visit on the Central. Secretaries, please note that on September 6, at Pulborough, in the Central waters only, we fish for six prizes; two rods. All members going are requested to give their names to the secretary before the day. The prize list is now ready.—S. Cane.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.—On the 16th, we had a good show of fish, about 60lb. weight, contributed by the following members: Mr. O'Callaghan, bream, 21lb.; Mr. Cherry and Curtis, about 20lb. of tench; Mr. Kelly, one barbel over 5lb., perch and chub; Mr. Massey, one nice little carp, (4lb.), bream, roach and dace; and Mr. Geale, two bream from our club water, the largest just on 4lb. On Tuesday, we elected and proposed several new members. Just before closing the business Mr. Phillips arrived with a splendid barbel, weighing 10lb., which he kindly offered to the society for preservation. On the return of this fish from the naturalist, we shall be pleased for any gentleman to come up and see it.—Pelican.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—We fished at Dagenham on the 16th for prizes, when Mr. Machin came in first; Mr. McQuinn, second; Mr. D. Marks, third; Mr. Dean, fourth, leaving two prizes to be fished for. The following members also weighed in fish: Mr. T. Jones, with a handsome show of bream and roach; Mr. Wells, with a tray of nice roach.—R. Spenceley, sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on the above list will be to the Clapham Junction A.S., held at the Clarence Tavern, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, on Tuesday, Sept. 1, when I hope to see every society on the list present, for although this society has some long journeys to perform, they are always represented at every visit on the list.—A. Conn, hon. sec.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Rhodeswell-road, Stepney.—On the 16th inst. we had a very good sample of bream, and a few roach, brought to the scale by the following gentlemen: Messrs. West, Jolly, Ruston, Woodford, and Nash. We engage in a competition at Dagenham on the 23rd inst., for several valuable prizes. We shall go down by private van.—E. N. P., hon. sec.

St. George's Angling Society, Prince of Wales, St. George's-road, Peckham.—The members of this society had a handsome show of fish on the 16th, amongst them being a nice bream, 4lb. 5oz., taken by Mr. Lang. We have several vacancies for members. Any gentleman desirous of joining this society should attend on Wednesday evenings at 9.30.—G. Hetherington.

St. John's Angling Society.—The members of this society competed for three prizes, on the 16th instant, at Shepperton; all the competitors had fish, but only one got the required weight to take a prize—viz., Mr. P. Leacock. The fourteenth annual dinner of this society will take place at the Swan Hotel, Fittleworth, Sussex, on the 30th instant.—F. Thorling.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—The members of the above fished Amberley, between Houghton Bridge and the Park Gates, on the 16th, but only one member was fortunate enough to take a prize from the five prizes of the club—viz., Mr. J. Booth, with some nice roach and dace. Messrs. Reeves, C. Fisher, A. Renvoizei; and G. Morton also weighed in some roach and dace. At the meeting it was decided that the remaining prizes to be fished for should stand over until next meeting night.—G. Morton, secretary.

United Brothers, Deptford.—The members of the above fished a pegged-down match on the 16th inst., in the Medway, for several money prizes, with the following result: Mr. H. Tyler, first prize; Mr. F. Beak, second; Mr. W. Tyler, third; Mr. G. Marshall, fourth. Mr. H. Fennell also weighed in some roach.—H. Tyler, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall-cross.—We fished at Byfleet, on the 16th, for three valuable prizes, with the following result: Mr. Clegg, first; Mr. Ilsley, second; Mr. Smith, third. Mr. Bird, jun., also weighed in. We had a fair attendance on the 28th ult., Mr. Smith in the chair, faced by Mr. Petty, *pro tem.* I wish to remind members that our prize list is still increasing. During the evening we were honoured with the company of Mr. Ryan and Mr. Allen, of the Kenningtonians.—H. C., hon. sec.

Waltonian Angling Society, the Cape of Good Hope, Albany-street, Regent's Park.—Fishing this season proves anything but a success; a few of our members have been out, but the takes were small. August 9, Messrs. Wallham, roach and dace, 9lb. 13oz.; R. Dodge, roach, 2lb. 3oz.; H. Putnam, roach, 1lb. 5oz.; W. Dodge, roach, 2lb. 6oz. August 16, Morris, roach, 4lb. 6oz.; Roland, tench, 2lb. 4oz.; J. Dodge, roach, 2lb.; Dodge, sen., roach, 1lb. 14oz.; R. Dodge, roach, 4lb. 3oz.—J. Packman, sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—The result of the competition on the 16th inst.: Mr. Hibble, first, with good show of bream, two largest fish, 3½lb. each; Mr. H. Lees, with splendid show of roach, second; third prize not taken. For the competition on the 26th inst. it was carried that it be open, public and private, punt or bank, for two prizes. First, given by Mr. H. Bayley, hat, value £1 1s.; second, cash, 10s. 6d., given by Mr. Shenton.—C. Hibble, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 16th inst., Mr. Cooper weighed in two bream 5lb. 4¾oz., 4lb. ¾oz., and 2lb. 6½oz. roach; total 11lb. 11½oz.; and W. Gordon, 2lb. 6oz., roach. Our host, Mr. H. G. Hills, has been having some sea fishing at the (Calf of Man) Isle of Man, taking a lot of mackerel and sea carp. Mr. A. D. Kidd, of Ackerman-road, Brixton, was proposed as a member, ballot to take place on Wednesday next. There is one prize to fish for on the 23rd; go where you like.—R. J. Dartnall, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—We had a nice show of fish on the 12th inst. by the following members: Messrs. Smith, Parslow, Casey, Francis, Maples, and Fullbrook. Our next daily outing will take place at St. Margaret's, on August 30; roving; one rod only.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford. — Our members were out on the 16th inst., and the following weighed in: Messrs. Goodrich, 6lb. 10oz., roach; Marder, 1lb. 3oz., roach; Homer, 1lb. 10oz., roach; and Mr. Stevens, 1lb. 11½oz., roach.—R. Lowther, sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—Members are reminded that Thursday week is our quarterly night, and are requested to attend early as we have some important business matters to transact, and to elect a new trustee in consequence of the resignation of our trustee, Mr. C. R. Stock. Messrs. Hare, Leaf, and H. E. A. Digby, have weighed in fish during the week. Mr. S. W. Digby had a fine take of Dace, with the fly, scaling over 8lb.—J. J. Hunter, hon. sec.

Woolwich Brothers Angling Society, Green Man, High-street, Plumstead.—On the 16th inst., we fished our match for a series of prizes, in most enjoyable weather, at East Farleigh, with the following result: (1) G. Starling; (2) G. Grimwood; (3) H. Smith; (4) E. Morley; (5) F. Cresswell.—J. R. Howcroft, sec.

Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, Earl Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday, the 19th, Mr. Monro in the chair. Another new member was elected. Mr. Hesse, fishing on Thursday, the 13th, at the Ordnance Fishery, Enfield, had 5½lb. of good roach.—Henry Richardson, hon. sec.

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Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add 30 min. for Chelsea.
Add 40 ,, ,, Putney.
Add 45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.
Add 50 ,, ,, Barnes.
Add 55 min. for Kew.
Add 75 ,, ,, Richmond.
Add 80 ,, ,, Twickenham.
Add 85 ,, ,, Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

Time of High Water at London Bridge.

		Morning.	Evening
Saturday,	Aug. 22	3.27	3.49
Sunday,	,, 23	4.12	4.35
Monday,	,, 24	4.55	5.16
Tuesday,	,, 25	5.37	5.58
Wednesday,	,, 26	6.21	6.41
Thursday,	,, 27	7.10	7.38
Friday,	,, 28	8.9	8.45

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—General Remarks.—There is a great evil existing in all portions of the Thames at the present time which is very much on the increase, and that is the practice of young children with nurse-maids with a gauze net and a long handle catching the small fry in the river. I received a report on Saturday morning last from a gentleman complaining about it, and he said in one bottle alone there should not be less than two hundred small fry of roach and dace. I made it my business to go over at once to the head river-keeper at Kingston to request him to give his attention to the matter, and he informed me it was giving him much anxiety, and Mr. Alfred Nuthall had also spoken to him on the subject. He had taken the nets and bottles from the children, who wept bitterly at the interference, but that was no matter. It is not one of those things to take legal action on, though it is an illegal offence, as it would not do to bring such youngsters before a bench of magistrates for what some would say on a very trivial matter, and taking a lenient view put it down as only a piece of amusement. It is not so, however; if anyone wants to purchase even the fry of roach and dace let them inquire the price, and then again which is of the greater importance, these baby fish are to keep up the stock in the river and to grow up to a size to afford sport for the anglers, and in many instances as food for their families. In my opening remarks I said all portions of the river, and I did so because on going up the Thames to Wedmenham on Monday last I not only saw the same thing practised, but my attention was called to by my friends on the launch. I have given instructions to get the names of the parents, and it will become a question of having some small handbills printed setting forth the illegality of the practice, and the fines that can be inflicted for the violation of the bye-laws in respect to the sizes of the fish and that of using the net.—B.

Richmond.—Henry Howard, in the three days, 30lb. of roach and dace; Henry Mansell, 40lb.; J. Brain, in six days, 35lb.; a gentleman in a private boat, in two days, 30lb., and one perch.

Twickenham.—Samuel Cole, one day, 22lb. of roach and dace and one barbel; another day, 15lb., one bream and one perch; another day, 10lb.; and in two other days, 22lb.; J. Coxen, in two days, fourteen dozen of roach and dace; G. Coxen, in five days, twenty-six dozen and eleven barbel; R. Coxen, in two and a-half days, 24lb.; J. Frost, in four and a-half days, 70lb., two barbel, and one bream; Richard Moffatt, in the same time, forty-three dozen and a couple of bream; John Spong, in six days, 85lb., five bream, and three barbel; and F. Wiggins, in two days, twenty-one dozen.

Teddington. — Joseph Baldwin, in two days, seven dozen of roach and dace, one jack, and two barbel; B. Stevens, fourteen dozen of roach and dace. The bank anglers have been doing well with roach, dace, barbel, chub, bream, and a few perch.

Kingston.—John Johnson, in four days, eighteen dozen of roach and dace, five barbel, two jack, and a perch of 2lb.; J. Wilkes, during the week, seven dozen of roach and dace, twelve dozen of gudgeon, three bream, and one brace of jack; N. Bolton, in six days, forty-two dozen of roach and dace, and one barbel of 4½lb.; Mr. Sands, in one day, four barbel, the largest 6lb.

Sunbury.—Messrs. T. and A. Stroud, during the week, sixty barbel and thirty jack, the largest 6½lb.; E. Milbourne has been getting a nice quantity of roach and dace; Edward Clarke, in one day, nine bream; H. Pizzey, in three days, six dozen of roach and dace, and a barbel of 3lb.; Mr. Davis has taken a trout of 3¾lb.

Walton.—Mr. Darling and friend, fishing with A. Laney, in three hours, ten and a-half dozen of roach and dace.

Weybridge.—Mr. Leaf, during the week, fishing with Herbert Carr, has taken forty dozen of roach and dace, the largest roach 1lb. 2oz., two perch, the largest 2lb., and one brace of jack, all roach fishing.

Chertsey.—John Poulter, one day, with Mr. Watt, eight dozen of roach and dace, and in three other days some fine chub and barbel, and ten dozen of roach and dace. L. Hackett, in three days, fifteen dozen of roach and dace, and six barbel. Henry Purss, in two days, twelve dozen of roach and dace. A gentleman fishing with H. Little, four dozen of good roach, and a barbel of 4lb.

Staines.—John Keene, jun., one day with Mr. Harris, thirteen barbel and five dozen of roach and dace; another day with Mr. Richings, twelve barbel and two chub; another day with Mr. Edwards, of the Clapham Junction Angling Society, four barbel and five dozen of roach and dace; another day with Mr. Dyer and friend, nine barbel and three dozen of roach and dace, and another day with Messrs. Wilson, eleven barbel and six dozen of roach and dace, the largest barbel 4lb., and the largest roach 1lb. 6oz. All of these have been taken on roach tackle.

Upper Thames.—The rain, it raineth every day, but as yet makes little impression on the volume or colour of the Upper Thames. The river is in excellent fettle for any and all summer angling, but the execrable weather prevents visitors, angling or otherwise, from putting in an appearance. Barbel are well on the feed, and those who do not mind being ornamented with waterproofs and sou-westers, are having high jinks of it. Three takes this week at Maidenhead, Marlow, and Hambleden, going respectively, 36½lb., 54½lb., and 72lb. Lob-worms can now, I believe, be had from Nottingham, clean and bright, at two shillings and sixpence per thousand, and gentlemen wishing to get really good sport on the Upper Thames should devote a day or so in seeing that the swims selected are properly baited, otherwise thousands of worms are simply swallowed at the bars of public-houses, the selected swim as a rule, is not to be depended upon or unknown fishermen.—Marlow Buzz.

Thames (Windsor).—As might be expected, water keeps in good order, and the heavy showers which fell here on the 19th inst. must still further improve it. Some fine specimen fish have again been caught; but it is a pity the perch are not returned to the Thames, for at least this season, one lady angler had five weighing 4lb., and several smaller have been taken and detained. I weighed a handsome barbel, 7lb. 7oz., which was caught whilst roach fishing round one of the buttresses of Windsor Bridge, by Mr. A. E. Harhard, of Eton, which, if not beaten, will secure the local prize, value about three guineas. Mr. Bailey, of Eton, also had a good one of 6lb. 10oz.; and Mr. Smith, of Park-street, Windsor, out with James Gray, four, weighing 9¾lb.; Mr. Woodall, of the Friendly Anglers, London, has taken an extremely handsome roach of 1lb. 10oz., which should secure him first place in this class. Another fine specimen was one of 1lb. 1oz., caught by Mr. G. Harbard, of Eton. Mr. C. Taylor, of Windsor, whilst roach fishing one evening, had a brace of barbel, 6¼lb., the evening before, having a very large one on for an hour and a-half, eventually breaking away. Chub take gentles, slugs, frogs, and greaves well, but will not rise to flies so well. Mr. Thomas, of the "Christopher," Eton, with bunch of gentles, had a nice basket, weighing 13lb. A few jack have been caught, Mr. Herbert, of Windsor, a few nights back having his thirty-third fish this season. Gudgeon coming to rake, and well worth trying now. Messrs. Smith and son, of Park- street, Windsor, on the 19th inst., between three and seven p.m., six barbel (largest 3½lb.), all on roach tackle; also 6lb. of roach and dace—B. R. B.

Ancholme District.—The elements remain unsettled, but they have been a little more favourable to angling. Your correspondent had a nice catch of sixteen well-fed trout on a local stream one day, and Mr. A. Ford, of London, fishing another water, had six on the same day. Other small catches have been made on the Laceby and Barnoldby streams. The Grey Goose Dun is giving a good account of itself. It is made as follows: Body, lead-coloured silk; wings, starling's quill, varied in shade with yellow and straw-coloured bodies, and rather lighter hackles. Grayling anglers in other districts should note that this is one of the very best grayling flies up to the end of October. Some heavy catches of coarse fish have been made on the Ancholme. Messrs. Summerson and Clark had a basket of one hundred and eight roach one day, and Mr. Crossland, a fine lot on another, the largest weighing 1lb. 11oz. Two or three minor matches have been fished. I overlooked the reporting of one last week, the record of which is rather exceptional. I give it now. The Universal Angling Association, of Hull, fishing a match at Ferriby Sluice, took a total of 10st. 9lb. 10oz. of fish. The chief prizeman, Mr. Jevons, had 29lb., Mr. Phillipson, 16lb., and Mr. W. Hall, 15lb. 12oz. One Sheffield angler had 1½st. of good fish on Saturday last.—Thomas Ford.

Arun (Pulborough).—Notwithstanding the large quantity of rain which has been experienced in Sussex lately, the river still keeps in a bright state. Under such conditions, one would naturally think that anglers were doing nothing; but I am pleased to be able to report that the contrary is the case. Bream and roach have been fairly on the feed, and some nice catches of these fish are reported. Mr. Palmer, who did so well amongst the bream in the Central Fishery a short time ago, has been again very successful, having made a basket of the golden gentlemen scaling the respectable weight of 14lb. One of the fish was, I understand, 3½lb. On the 16th inst. the special anglers' train, run by Mr. Eldridge, was crowded with the fraternity, and although many fishermen drew comparative blanks, still a number managed to get hold of some decent fish. Several of the London clubs held matches on the river, with the result that the trays at their respective headquarters were well filled in the evening. More large fishing competitions are to be held here by the London club men, the dates of which, I think, I shall be able to give next week. I hear also that there is to be a match on the Arun, at Amberley. This will, probably, not take place till October, a very nice time for the red fins. What do you think, Mr. Roachpole?—Goosequill.

Barle (Dulverton).—The river remains in fine order for fly or minnow. Some salmon up. Cloudy, with heavy rain and cold. Uprights and Moor Palmer killing flies.—B. C. Marshall.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers. — Storms have been prevalent during the week, and rivers are fast regaining their normal height. The members of the Brighton Anglers' Association competed on the Ouse for six special prizes on the 16th. Mr. Laurence secured first place with 8lb. of roach; the largest fish weighing 1lb. 7oz. The other prize takers were Messrs. Kempshall, Pain, Wingfield, Stapleton, and Sweetman. Thirty members competed. Mr. A. Stapleton fishing last week in the Adur, lost rod and tackle, evidently taken by a carp. Dace and roach have given sport in the Adur, and from the Rother, roach up to 1lb. 5oz. have been taken. Bream and roach have given sport at Chichester Canal, but the heaviest bream recorded was of 2¾lb. Some fine roach are notified me from the upper waters of the Ouse, three fish, weighing 3lb. 2oz.—George F. Salter.

Derwent (Ambergate).—There has been little doing on the Derwent during the past fortnight owing to the persistent rainy weather, which has kept the stream at too high a level for fly-fishing. The weather now fine and more settled, and prospects look favourable for the end of the week, best flies Cinnamon and Brown Spinner, and Yellow and Ash Duns. Coarse fishing fairly good, both in canal and stream.—Amber Dun.

Dove and Tributaries.—The Dove and the smaller streams hereabouts have all had a heavy colour on the earlier part of the week, and the fish have been gorged with bottom food in consequence. On Friday evening last, Mr. F. Wilson again met with first-rate sport, a bag of six brace being made in less than one hour, these with the Turkey Brown, used at twilight, on the Birdsgrove Club water. Mr. C. Closo has done well on the Upper Dove and Manifold, up near Hartington, with the Kill Devil Devon during the past ten days. As a proof of the stock of fish in the Dove, and in at least one of its unpreserved tributaries, the following is valuable. A keeper named Ward has been given a chance to test the Norbury waters' stock with the live minnow as an experiment only. The result proved a heavier catch than would be credited by the reader were it named. One fact alone will be sufficiently striking, and that is this: twelve grayling were brought to the net at one standing. "That's a real whacker!" exclaims the sceptical consulter of this column; but, Sir Sceptic, *it is true*, as is also the following astounding piece of information: The mill dams at Itwiston, on the Henmore, an unpreserved brook that runs through Ashbourne. The water was run off with a view to get out sundry pike and heavy trout suspected to be damaging the young stock; the result being sixteen trout, weighing in total 60lb., an average of 3¾lb. each; and only six smaller fish not included in the sum total of trout. The largest trout of the sixteen was 5½lb. A few grayling averaged 2¼lb. each. There were also a few pike, but not of great size. The average size for trout in this district is usually quoted at ¾lb. The Henmore Mill Dam average and the average shown on the Norbury water is much above this. It follows, therefore, that the average size of the river's stock is much higher than is usually credited. The average stock size and fly-killed fish sizes are a totally different thing.—D. and W. H. Foster, Ashbourne.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—Angling.—Since our last report the river has been rather too low for good sport, but on Wednesday the water was in better trim. Mr. C. J. Keighley landed two salmon, weighing respectively, 5lb. and 6lb.; Mr. William Readman (Brunswick-street, Whitby), one of 6lb.; Mr. William Harland, one of 14lb.; Mr. John W. Nicholson. one of 4lb.; Mr. J. R. Wallace, of Glaisdale, two, of 4lb. and 7lb.; Mr. E. R. Duffield, Wimbledon, four, of 2lb. 3lb., 2lb., and 4lb. Amateur Sea Fishing. — There continues to be splendid sport for amateurs in the roads about a mile from the shore, as ther is also from the piers and quays by the harbour side. Fish, such as gournard, whiting, dabs, and billets, are abundant, and, indeed, it is many years since fish of all kinds were so plentiful. A couple of anglers may easily catch from a boat some three or four score of fish of various descriptions in the course of an hour or so. It is capital fun, and somewhat exciting, at times, and appears to be immensely enjoyed, especially by the visitors sojourning at Whitby for the season. J. J. Jackson.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—The continued rains had brought the fen waters into a capital state for angling, and the weeds having been kept down pretty well by cutting, there has been a better chance of sport than before experienced. The finer weather has also been encouraging. Roach of a good size are now coming to hand more freely, gentles and paste being both good lures. Perch are also being taken mostly with small worms. Some good specimen fish of the latter class have lately been taken. Another perch of over 2lb. is reported as having been taken on the Aslackby Fen. Dace and bream are also on the feed. The latter are to be taken freely, I am told, on the Welland, and on some of the waters running into it. Not much trolling has yet been done, but pike will soon be a leading article.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—More settled weather has led to better sport in the district of the Idle. Numbers of fishermen have been patronising the river about Broom Hall, Bollam, Tilne, &c., whilst the canal at Hayton, Clayworth, Wiseton, has had many patrons. Fish are in good condition. The water is in good colour, and owing to the better flow there are less weeds floating through the swims than usual. Anglers still report trout in the semi-public waters, and certainly some good fish of this class have been met with, since the rainfall, a good way down the river, Some nice dishes have been lately taken in the upper water towards Eaton and Elkesley, but these are chiefly from preserved lengths. In the lower district trolling is being added to the bottom fishing.—L.

Lake District.—The rivers and tarns throughout the district are now in fine fishing order, the high waters of a week ago having been kept up by heavy showers daily. As a consequence of this, fishing has been generally good, with large quantities of fish. Sea fish have been running for some time, and the nets at Low Levens have been fairly successful. In the Bela, on Wednesday, Mr. Huddlestone (the oldest member of the Bela Fishing Association) had 10lb. of nice trout, and Mr. Titterington, a pannier not far short of that weight. Some nice fish have been taken in the Rothay—one of 2lb. and a few of 1lb. each.

Lea.—The water in the navigable river is now in full force again and some good sport should shortly be had, as the fish will soon recover from their enforced idleness during the time the water was drawn down; the weeds have in many places been settled and consequently there are plenty of clear swims now to be found. I spent an hour to-day (Thursday), watching Mr. Bennett casting the dry fly in the Ferrie Boat waters, both roach and dace were very plentiful, but appeared to be feeding on the duckweed which was being blown up stream; Mr. B., however, was not to be denied and took a dozen or two nice roach and dace; some few roach have been taken here by the bottom fishers. We hear good accounts lately of barbel being taken from the Thames; why they are not more fished for in the Lea I cannot understand, as I know they are plentiful enough in many places I could point out, but, of course, to be successful it would be necessary to bait up for them a day or two before fishing; lob-worms are now so easily to be had, that it would be worth any good fisherman's while to go to the trouble and expense. one of this species of over 3lb. was taken at the beginning of this week at Games's Fishery; plenty of perch and a few chub have also been caught here. In the open waters at Cook's Ferry, sport on the 16th and 17th was fairly good amongst the chub, roach, and dace, an eel of about 2lb. was also taken; but they have been running badly lately. As far as I can learn jack have been difficult. to catch and nothing of any weight has been taken, but this is generally the case at the beginning of the pike season in the Lea. Perhaps a flush of water which seems from a persistent downpour to-night (Thursday) to be imminent, will put all kinds of fish better on the feed.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—The approach of autumn is indicated by the closing of the days, which causes anglers to be more anxious to avail themselves of the best period of the year for all-round fishing. The weather has been everything in favour of anglers of late, the occasional showers keeping the waters in the best of condition. The preservers near Leicester and at Aylestone have been well and successfully fished, anglers rarely being out without getting fair baskets of spoil. Pike, perch, roach, and dace, have each been caught pretty freely, and the best baskets that were shown were those of Messrs. C. Lings, H. Prime, W. Dewick and A. Bacchus. Pike fishing has shown a more decided improvement, and all along the waters anglers are having sport. Mr. Bates took one specimen 4½lb., and Messrs. Prime, Moulding and others had a few brace each. Dace fell in good quantities this week to the share of W. Hobbs up to 10oz., and eels continue to give anglers plenty of sport and frequently trouble. One nice fish 2lb. 8oz. was taken by Mr. W. Smith. The waters in the pleasant rural districts are receiving ample attention from Leicester anglers, the Weake and Narborough coming in for the greater share. The Weake has yielded excellent roach and bream, and a good brace or two of pike.

Loddon (Earley).—Some very good sport has heen had during the past week. Whiffing for chub, some very nice fish have been taken, the heaviest scaling 4lb. Also several good baskets of roach. Fish feeding well, and water in splendid condition.—J. R. GOULD.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams have been improved a little by the rain which fell this week, but it has not altered the colour of the water. The rivers are getting very foul, and a good rush of water is wanted to clear them out. Since the rain the fish have moved better, and some very nice trout and grayling have been taken. Fly-fishing has been good. Wasp grub fishing has accounted for some good trout. Minnow fishing has been successful. The Pinsley is low and clear.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Heavy storms of rain on Monday caused a slight rise of less than 2in., but did not stain these rivers. Fish are very sulky, owing no doubt to the unsettled state of the weather. Few rods out. Nearly all the autumn flies have appeared. The best should be August Dun, Blue Gnat, Silver Dun, July Gnat, Red Tag, Ginger Moth, and Spinners. A fresh to cleanse the bed of the rivers would be welcomed.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Tonbridge).—The river is still very low and in consequence of the uncertain weather fish are not so well on the feed as they should be. However, on well-baited swims roach and bream are on the feed, and chub rise well at the fly. What is wanted is a little settled weather and then all would be well.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—A good basket of roach was on Saturday obtained, near Castor, by Mr. Rowell, of Peterborough, the largest fish was a plump specimen of over 1½lb., and the total take forty, and few small ones. A tortoise nearly a foot long, was taken from the Nene, near Dog in a Doublet Bridge, Whittlesea, last week. It was observed crawling along the bed of the river, and was taken out by a boatman. A lad fishing from a lighter at Peterborough, fell into the river and had a narrow escape of drowning, and, instead of his fishing for roach, Mr. J. Hemmant had to fish him out. When rescued he was unconscious, but his hand firmly held a small clay pipe, which he had been smoking. A few perch have been taken this week, also several bream, but nothing very heavy.—NENEBANK.

Ouse, &c. (York).—The heavy rains in this part continue to interfere with angling in the Ouse, which is still running a thick brown muddy colour, and very little is being done with the rod. A little better sport is being had in the Derwent and Foss. As these heavy downfalls cease, and the rivers begin to clear a little, we are looking forward to the good results which must follow this "washing out" of the rivers and streams. The only sport now practised with any degree of success is the up-stream fishing with worm or minnow, chiefly in the Rye, Dove, Costa, Upper Derwent, and other streams of the North Riding. There will be very little fly-fishing until the streams clear themselves to allow of surface feeding. The rains of the past week have had a most disastrous result on the Ouse salmon fisheries, Large quantities of polluted water from the Aire have been forced into the Ouse, and there has been a great destruction of fine salmon. As this has occured just at the height of the salmon fishing season, which is rapidly drawing to a close, the loss to the licensed fishermen of the lower Ouse will be very great.—ROLAND.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—Anyone wishing for good bottom-fishing should not miss the present opportunity, for the bream are feeding well, and some good takes have been had during the week. Two local anglers landed 4st. of good fish in one take, including one of 3lb. 14oz., and two more landed 60lb. of good fish, the largest a fine one of 5lb. 4oz., and several others have had good sport. The water has not been in better condition for years, but good roach are not feeding well; plenty of small ones have been taken with wheat. Prospects very good. Perhaps it will be interesting to anglers to state that it is a grand sight to see the bream pryming in the evening. The river appears to be full of bream, they are continually rising the whole evening till dark.—H. ROUT.

Plymouth.—SEA FISHING.—The Sound is now full of mackerel, and the shoals can be seen daily disporting themselves on the surface of the water, feeding on the brit, of which there is an abundance. Railing for them is the best mode of capture, either sailing or rowing pretty fast, using a twenty-four line, and from ½lb. to 2lb. sinker, according to the speed of the boat. A long trace, of some three or four fathoms of gimp and gut below the lead, and a Silver Spinner, launce, brit, or other attractive lure. Some half-a-dozen lines can be used at a time from one boat, using different weight leads, and thirty or forty dozen are taken sometimes by a boat thus equipped. Now is the time for the bass fishing off the Breakwater and Penlee and Rame Heads, and several have been taken through the week with the "Plano-Convex" and spinning sand-eel. Mr. M'Bryde, who caters so liberally with his steamers, is running them now at intervals to Cawsand, calling at the Breakwater mornings and evenings, so that you can be landed at the Breakwater or Cawsand early in the morning, and can return by the steamers in the evening, for the modest sum of sixpence. This gives you the best part of the day for fishing at either of the points named above. The gear necessary for this kind of sport is an old salmon or pike rod, 60yds. or 80yds. of fine, but strong, line (the Japanese superfine flax is cheapest and best), some salmon traces and swivels, and the various baits, such as minnows and artificial sand-eels, or any old, gaudy salmon flies that may be gone too far for the "king of all fish." Some who are not *au fait* with the rod use the throw-line off the rocks, and the men at the Lighthouse often take some nice fish in this way. The pollack are still attracting the attention of the small boats in the Sound, and the fish taken are much larger than usual, some being as heavy as 7lb. or 8lb. The largest fish are taken on the artificial india-rubber sand-eel, either red or black mounted, on the double-curved hook, with swivel at the head to give them a spin as they are drawn through the water. Although more fish are taken on the worm, yet the largest are taken on the india-rubber sand-eel. The usual pouting and blain fishing is to be had at the slack tides, either at high or low water, in the pit of eighteen and a-half fathoms off the white patch at the ladies' bathing place, using a chopstick with two hooks, baited with mud-worm. Eight to twelve dozen a boat is an average catch in a few hours.—WILLIAM HEARDER.

Potter Heigham Sounds (Norfolk). — Angling that beautiful fish the rudd, is now in full swing here, and last week a great capture was effected by three members of the Friendly Anglers' Club, London. If my information is correct they caught over 60lb. weight, some of the fish being 1½lb. each. This week, however, has not turned out so successful for visitors to this renowned fishing resort. In addition to very unsettled weather, boisterous winds have prevailed, and the rudd have not fed at all well. Worms are the best bait to use, but on Monday Messrs. Dyer and Feaks (of the Mildmay Angling Society, London) did fair execution amongst the perch with gentles, which also accounted for several small rudd. Anglers visiting the sounds for the first time will think them an extraordinary place. In the first instance the water is only about two feet deep and the bottom is covered with weeds. There are no holes, so it is not advisable to spend half the day in rowing about to discover them. I should advise my friends to fish on the weeds—say a foot or a boat and a-half deep—with brandlings or very small lobs, and if they fail gentles, as there are some thumping roach roaming about. —GOOSEQUILL.

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—Both streams in fine condition, and the fish rising well at the fly. The Red Spinner, Red Palmer, Blue Dun, Black Gnat, and Little Green insect killing well, and good baskets of trout and grayling have been taken. The bottom fishers have also had excellent sport with Wasp Grub, Maggot and Worm. Roach having been taken over 1½lb. weight, and chub from 2lb. to 3lb. each; there have also been some nice jack of from 4lb. to 5lb. weight, taken with the live minnow in the Severn.—WINGFIELD.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—We have had some very good fishing weather—south winds and light showers—and the river having been in fair condition, a goodly number of trout have been taken, though nothing very heavy. Messrs. Frost, Perkins, and Dutton have been pretty successful, and I hear that the former last week captured a heavy trout. Mr. A. Williams had a good day at the beginning of the week, capturing with the spinning minnow, eight trout, all between 1lb. and ½lb. each. As the river and brooks are running clear, and there is promise of good fishing weather, anglers should be pretty successful, especially as the trout are now beginning to move again after the long holiday that they are wont to take in June and July.—PISCATOR.

Taw (North Devon).—River higher than ever this year, and salmon and peal are up. Mr. Batson caught some this week. Rev. Mr. Wilson, Mr. Truscott, Mr. Reed, and the "Raker" all got some good sport. The rain does not cease, and it is feared the corn will considerably suffer. Shooting cannot commence for some time. One gentleman told me he took only forty-one on Wednesday. Two others caught some nice fish on Monday, in the Bray. Some good sport has also been had at Lynmouth. Should the rain cease, fishing will be very good, and it is hoped the snapping of the trout through the year will turn to their more readily hooking to the fly.—RUSTY GAME.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this district is still running in nice order for angling, being a nice level and clear. Heavy rain fell at the beginning of the week, but it made little difference to the water, and has improved it. The fish have been moving better, and have rose freely at the fly.—S. LUDLOW.

Thurne (Potter Heigham).—Many anglers have been out lately along this river, fishing for roach and bream. As regards the latter fish, few have been landed, but several fine shows of roach have been obtained, the water being in excellent condition. The weather, however, has been somewhat unsettled and windy, and as may be imagined bad luck has fallen to the lot of many a disciple of Old Izaak. I have seen several London club anglers out here this week. There have been Messrs. Feaks and Dyer, of the Mildmay; Mr. Arthur Matthews, of the New Albion Piscatorials; and Mr. B. Matthews, of the Marlborough; and on Monday these gentlemen accounted for some good baskets of roach and perch. There are some splendid fish in this river, and I should advise anglers visiting Great Yarmouth to give it a trial. The best baits just now are boiled wheat and worms. Gentles are also worth trying, but the best roach come for the boiled wheat. There is also a chance of taking bream with the bait.—GOOSEQUILL.

Trent (Newark).—Roach fishermen are meeting with most success in the Newark district, creed malt and gentles being the popular baits, and from the upper portion of the Rolleston fishery some capital sport has resulted. Pound fish are common, and on Tuesday evening Mr. T. Lees showed 22lb. at the club-room, several over the weight mentioned, Mr. D. Slater also having a nice sample up to 1¼lb. each; but it is from the Muskham water that the roach of the week, and perhaps of the season, has been secured, Mr. Croom showing one weighing 1lb. 10oz, a really good specimen, which has been sent to Messrs. Cooper and Sons for preservation. A slight rise of water on Wednesday brought down an immense amount of loose flannel-weed and rubbish, and the fluctuating water has a detrimental effect on barbel fishing, but few have been taken during the week. On Saturday last the Newark Piscatorials journyed to Collingham for their annual outing. Thirty-four took part in the match, eighteen of whom secured fish; but with a gale blowing, small takes were general, Mr. R. Dale securing premier prize with 3lb. 6¼oz., and thus becomes the holder of the silver challenge cup for the ensuing twelve months; Mr. David Slater, second, with 3lb. 1¼oz.; and Mr. J. Longdown, 2lb. 9oz., third. Trent in good order for either malt or maggots; but plenty of ground-bait is necessary to ensure sport. Wind west.—TRENTSIDER.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—Most of the leading station along the river and about the drains towards Boston have been patronised by what are known as club matches. The success of this class of fishermen is but small, and only by luck rather than intent are anything like decent takes obtainable. This largely arises from the undue quantity of bait of one sort or other that is being put into the water. No fish get more profusely fed than these during the club match season. Anyone will know the result. If these fishermen could by any means be induced to leave all bait behind save just a few gentles and a few well-scoured worms for hook-baiting only for a month capital baskets would be made. As it is, splendid roach are now and again landed, and so also bream, but quantity is wanting.—LUCI.

Witham (Dogdyke, Lincolnshire).—The angling at this place has been, on the whole, fairly good for the last few days, particularly for those who understand very light bottom-fishing. Mr. W. H. Robinson, of Sheffield, caught on Monday last about 4st. of very fine roach. He had fifty-six fish, and on the Tuesday following be had seventy-four fish, of a total weight of 4st. 10lb. All these were caught with creed wheat on very fine gut. Another gentleman from Leeds caught several pike, the largest fish weighing 14lb., with live-bait. All the above were caught in the waters opposite the Packet Hotel from a punt. Anglers cannot do better than try this place, as it is very quiet and not over-fished, and excellent accommodation can be obtained at the hotel mentioned above, kept by mine host Mr. Benjamin Watson. I may add that there are any quantity of good bream in these waters.—H. BENNETT.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire).—The quantity of rain we have had has kept the Derwent in a discoloured state, and only on Wednesday last was there any possibility of fly-fishing, and a few brace were killed on that day. The Wye has not been very good this week for sport, and only small baskets have been made. The Darley and Matlock waters have afforded good sport for the bottom fishermen. Mr. Gibson, of Manchester, had a basket of five brace on Wednesday, several heavy fish amongst them, the largest scaling 2¾lb. Mr. F. Ogden and Mr. H. Cooper have also had good sport in the evenings—two and three brace each. Flies now killing are Yellow and Apple Green Duns, Jenny Spinner, and Little Blacks.—DOTTEREL.

Yare (Norwich).—From Stalham, which is connected with Barton Broad and the Ant, comes excellent reports of visitors doing remarkably well, and catching fish in numbers, weight, and also size, that would do credit to local anglers; this is very pleasing news, as strangers sometimes think we are not exact in our tips about the sport obtainable on some of the Norfolk waters.—ROBERT MOLL.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire). — Although the rivers keep rather low, trout rise fairly well towards evening. A local angler took a very nice basket of trout a few evenings ago in the East Cleddau. The Hare's Ear and Rough Blue continues good killers. —H.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—During the past week we have had an abundance of rain, which has put the lake in good order for the remainder of the season (Sept. 15). Every day some very nice baskets have been made, Friday being the best. Most successful anglers: Captain Stevenson, thirty-eight trout, 27lb.; Mr. A. Busk, thirty, weight, 24lb.; Messrs. Flint and Robinson, forty-seven, weight. 38lb.; and Rev. G. S. Rogers, in a day and a half's fishing, twenty trout, 13lb. 6oz.; Mr. Flint's basket of seven, weighing 7lb. 6oz., on Thursday was very much admired on the "weighing" table, heaviest fish, Mr. Bullock, 1lb. 9oz. Best flies: Heckhum-Peckhum, Golden Dropper, and Zulu.—LONG DRIFT.

Teifi (Lampeter, Cardiganshire).—The river continues in first rate fishing order. Two or three salmon were caught last week, from about 10lb. to 15lb. each. Trout fishing has been chiefly confined to worm or minnow fishing—but we are now anticipating a renewal of the fly, with the March Brown and other spring flies to the close of the season. Just at present, salmon are not taking the fly at all well, but merely appear to follow it, as if out of mere curiosity.—H.

Usk (at Usk).—Several slight freshets have taken place in the river during the past week, but angling for salmon have noways been checked, and capital sport has been obtained. To-day (Thursday) the water is at its strongest, but the rise being a clear one, anglers can go out. There is every prospect of a good fortnights' fishing in consequence of the ground being fairly well saturated from the heavy storms. On Friday last Colonel Waddilove caught a salmon of 13lb.; Colonel Rocke, one, 8lb.; Mr. Gardner, one, 6lb.; Mr. Cole, two, 7lb. each. On Saturday, Colonel Rocke, two, 4lb. and 8lb.; General Mignon, one; Mr. Brown, one, 7lb.; Mr. Gardner, one, 6½lb. On Monday, Mr. Roberts, one, 15lb.; General Mignon, three; Mr. Stone, one, 20lb.; Mr. Brown, two, 16lb. and 17lb.; General Sir C. L. Barnard, K.C.B., one, 14lb. On Tuesday, Mr. Brown, one; Mr. Smyth-Pigott, one; Mr. Cole, one; Col. Waddilove, one; General Dunn, two. Wednesday, Mr. Brown, two; Mr. Rickards, two, 16lb. and 5lb.; Col. Rocke, two; Mr. Barker, one; Mr. Hammond, two: Mr. Bruce, one; General Dunn, two; Col. Waddilove, one; General Mignon, one; General Sir C. L. Barnard, K.C.B., one.—T.

Scotch Reports.

Altnaccalgach Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—On Monday last week, Mr. J. Roberts, Selkirk, on Loch Urigill, twenty-six trout, 6½lb.; Mr. Shannen, Selkirk, on same loch, fourteen trout, 3½lb.; Mr. G. Clark, Bedford, on Loch Cama, twenty-four trout, 8lb.; Rev. W. Chapman and Mr. Clark, London, on same loch, eighteen trout, 8lb.; Mr. A. Roberts, Selkirk, on Loch Veyatie, twenty-five trout, 6lb.; Mr. Sanderson, Selkirk, on same loch, twenty-seven trout, 7lb.; Mr. Couper, Edinburgh, on Loch Urigill, twenty-three trout, 5½lb.; Dr. Saundby, Birmingham, on Loch Boarlan, eighteen trout, 4lb.; Mr. Shepherd, Dundee, on same loch, twenty-six trout, 6lb.; and Mr. Ogilvy, Dollar, on Loch Urigill, forty-two trout, 11lb. On Tuesday, Mr. Shepherd, on Loch Veyatie, twenty-six trout, 7½lb.; Dr. Saundby, on Loch Urigill, eighteen trout, 4½lb.; and Mr. Ogilvy, on same loch, forty trout, 11lb. On Wednesday, Mr. G. Clark, on Loch Cama, thirty-six trout, 14lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, on same loch, seventeen trout, 5lb.; Dr. Saundby, on Loch Veyatie, thirty-six trout, 10lb.; Messrs Sproat, Liverpool, on Loch Urigill, seventy trout, 21lb.; and Mr. Shepherd, on same loch, forty trout, 11½lb. On Thursday, Messrs. Sproat, on Loch Boarlan, thirty-six trout, 13lb.; Mr. G. Clark, on same loch (half day only), twelve trout, 4lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, on Loch Veyatie, thirty-nine trout, 13lb.; Mr. Couper, on Loch Urigill, twenty-three trout, 5½lb.; Mr. Shepherd, on Loch Cama, forty-two trout, 8½lb.; and Dr. Saundby, on same loch, thirteen trout, 4lb. On Friday, Mr. G. Clark, on Loch Veyatie, fifty-eight trout, 18½lb.; Mr. Shepherd, on Loch Cama, forty-seven trout, 13lb.; Mr. Couper, on Loch Urigill, fifty-four trout, 10lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, on same loch, forty-two trout, 11lb.; and Dr. Saundby, on Loch Mheallain, a basket of 13lb. On Saturday, Mr. G. Clark, on Loch Cama, twenty-three trout, 7¼lb.; Mr. Couper, on same loch, nineteen trout, 6½lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, on Loch Veyatie, thirty-five trout, 10lb.; and Dr. Saundby, on Loch Urigill, sixty trout, 4lb. Total basket for the week, over eighty-six dozen trout, aggregating 301½lb. in weight.—McB.

Auchintaple Loch (Forfarshire).—Mr. Hammersley and party, from London, are having excellent sport on this loch. On Saturday, Captain Campbell landed four good trout; and on Monday, Mr. W. S. Campbell had two.—G. G.

Ayrshire Lochs and Streams.—Lochs Doon and Fuilas have been again affording good sport during the past week to a fair number of local and visiting anglers. Some have killed at an outing, on favourable days, four and a-half dozen yellow trout. On both lochs the trout are still in first-rate condition, and their gameness affords excellent sport. The trout caught run about four to the pound, or thereabouts. The neighbouring streams have been doing fairly well with the fly. On Rye water, Mr. Crawford, Kilbirnie, caught four dozen yellow trout on Monday, and on the following day two dozen. The minnow has been killing well, while a good percentage of the trout have fallen to the garden worm as a lure. Other streams have done fairly well in the neighbourhood of Glengarnock. On Wednesday all the streams were in good ply for fly.—Heatherbell.

Border Esk.—In the upper reaches (Langholm water), Mr. T. Irving had five sea trout and six whiting; Mr. J. Anderson had two whiting and twenty yellow trout; Master Walter Scott, Ashley Bank, one of the most promising young anglers on the river, had a sea trout, a whiting, and eighteen yellow trout; Mr. T. Hounam had three sea trout, fifteen whiting, and a number of yellow trout; Mr. William Morrison had a good basket of sea trout and whiting; Mr. G. Armstrong had five splendid sea trout at a morning fishing at Glenfira; Mr. William Keir, Commercial Hotel, Langholm, had two sea trout, a whiting, and some yellow trout at Skipper's Bridge; Mr. W. Urquhart, had two sea trout, one weighing 3lb., and some yellow trout, with the fly, at Glenfira; Mr. J. T. Burnett, Ewesbank, had a sea trout, two whiting, and a dozen yellow trout, with the fly, at Todholes; Mr. James Elliot had two sea trout, five whiting, and two dozen yellow trout in the same water. In the middle reaches, Mr. Richard Graham had a splendid sea trout and some whiting. Good sport has been had in the Broomholm water, which extends from Shippers Bridge to Tarras-foot, about two miles of charming scenery, and an excellent fishing stretch. Between the places mentioned, Mr. Connell, St. Thorwalds, had two sea trout, 3lb. each, and some whiting; Mr. W. Davidson had a basket of 9½lb.; Mr. E. J. Connell had six sea trout and six whiting; and the Rev. David Maxwell had also good sport. In the Canonbie water, Messrs. Craig and Shand, Cross Keys Hotel, have each had a salmon of 10lb. from the Cauldron Pool; and Mr. J. H. Park, of March Bank, a salmon of 9lb. from the same water. In the lower waters, between Longtown and the Metal Bridge, the following takes are recorded: Mr. Jos. Beck, three salmon and some whiting; Mr. Jonathan Beck, three sea trout and whiting; Mr. Stubbs, Carlisle, one salmon, after a good run, also some whiting; Messrs. Waters and Borwick, one salmon each; Colonel Whyhurgh, a basket of whiting, Mr. Mason, Rockliffe, creel of sea trout and whiting; Major Burky, also basket of whiting. So far as my experience teaches me, and I have known the district over forty-five years, there will be plenty of rain to keep the Esk going for another month at least. There are no roaring floods now like the one I recollect in 1846, when all the hill-streams came rushing and tearing down their rocky beds like foaming cataracts, when both Esk and Liddle, especially the former, rose to such an extraordinary height that you could wash your hands from the ledging of the bridges, many of which were swept away, and the fish were afterwards gathered high and dry from the hill-sides.—Gilnockie.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—On Tuesday last week, Mr. J. MacLeod caught a 6lb. grilse on Poll-a-Gharaidh. Rev. Mr. Brown fished the Balnagown Arms Hotel water on Friday, and grassed a six-pounder on Poll-'a-Chapnill. On Saturday, Mr. Montpierre, out from the hotel, caught a grilse of 5¾lb. Monday and Tuesday this week blank, so far as known. Weather most unfavourable.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—The river has been very unsteady owing to the excessive rains, which threaten to ruin everything. All round grilse have been running freely and of very heavy weights for the Dee; the average weight in the nets is 8lb., and one 10½lb. was landed on Friday morning. The autumn fish have already made their appearance on the river. On Friday last, Mr. Hugh McDonald landed the first of the season on the Park water, a beauty turning the beam at 17lb. weight. He also landed two grilse on Thursday, 5½lb., and one on Tuesday of 7½lb. On the Ballogie water, Mr. W. E. Nicol landed a grilse last week of 8lb., while several of lesser weights have been got on the other sections. On the Glentana water, an excellent season has been enjoyed, and should the autumn prove as prolific of sport to Sir William Brook, and party, as the spring, the season all through will be a record one. On the Invercauld water, Mr. Robert Gibb, Aberdeen, landed a beauty of a 9lb. fish, while D. Morgan, keeper, had several others, chiefly red fish. On the coast the in-shore netting stations have been yielding well, and several fish of 20lb. and over, have been taken, while the average weight is about 14lb. The netting season closes on the 26th, so that a fresh impulse will now be given to angling. The nets have yielded a high average all round, and nearly a third more fish than were got last year.—Deesider.

Deveron (Banffshire).—There were a slight falling off in the salmon fishings on the river Deveron and along the coast for the past week. Fish have been running freely up the river for some time, and on Saturday night until Monday morning not a few passed through the sluices, which were open. Owing to the dark colour of the water it is difficult to observe the run of fish, but from what we hear and see, the numbers in the pools in the river was never so large on any former season for many years. Although the river fell on the end of last week, it was again in spate on Tuesday, and with the heavy volume of spate water, which, has been in that condition for more than a month, anglers have had poor sport. In fact, there will be little done now until the beginning of next month, when the nets will be off. Two salmon were killed by Mr. Fraser on the Nethordale water, of 4½lb. and 9lb., and fair baskets of trout were got on the tidal and upper waters. On Monday the net fishermen on the river had twenty grilse and twelve salmon, the shot was not so heavy on Tuesday. In the end of last week the hauls were very large, and as many as six boxes were got daily. On the coast stations the fish are not so numerous. On Saturday the total was fourteen boxes; on Monday eleven boxes, and on Wednesday fifteen. Last year for the present week, the yield was sixteen boxes. The daily yield from the fishings on the Gardenstown coast, averaged three boxes. A number of the grilse are small and thin, but free from disease.—H. W.

Helmsdale (Helmsdale).—On Monday of this week we had another tremendous flood in the river, and it still continues. Two days and nights of a perfect deluge of rain has swollen every burn and streamlet in the district, and the river highest of all. The netsmen could do nothing, not to speak of anglers, and it may be said of the former, that their season is now over, as fish are almost up stream. A few anglers were out during the week, and a few grilse fell to their share, but angling was not at all satisfactory, although fish were never so numerous. I have always pointed out that this river is only really good for anglers in spring, but why this is the case is a problem which the party who solves will gain everlasting praise. There are always plenty of autumn fish, grilse, salmon, and sea trout, and why do they not take? Surely there is some lure hitherto untried that might be found to tempt them; if there is, it is as yet undiscovered. On several of the larger burns, notably Luthbeg, four miles from here, both salmon and grilse have been going freely up this season, and one gentleman has had some good takes. I have no doubt towards the end of the month fish will take better if anglers care to try. The 12th turned out fairly successful in this parish this year, Kilderon, Suisgill, and Tonish sportsman having all got fair bags on the opening day. The herring fishing has been interrupted this week by stormy weather, and the catch all over Scotland is now over three hundred thousand barrels short of last season. This means a poor time for hundreds of fishermen.—S. C.

Inchnadamph Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—During the past week, the weather has been so stormy, and otherwise unfavourable, that the record of sport is a poor one. Rev. Mr. Short, Salisbury, fished Traligill on Friday, and landed fifty-nine trout, weighing 13lb. On Saturday, General Smith, Salisbury, caught a 7lb. salmon on Maiden Loch; and Rev. Mr. Short, on Loch Awe, nineteen trout, 6½lb. On Monday, Mr. Tracey, London, fished Loch Awe, and landed eleven trout, 4lb.; Mr. Fry, London, on Loch Assynt, a sea trout of 2lb., and two salmon weighing 5lb. and 7lb.; Rev. Mr. Short on same loch had a salmon weighing 15lb.; and General Smith a sea trout of 2lb.—McB.

Kyle of Sutherland (Station Hotel, Invershin, N.B).—A few evenings ago Mr. W. Urquhart in three hours fishing landed sixteen trout, averaging ½lb. Other hotel anglers have also been doing well. One landed a grilse on Saturday.—McB.

Lairg (N.B.).—On Monday of last week, Mr. Mackay killed a *Salmo ferox* of 3lb. and ten trout, 8lb.; Mr. Copeland on this same loch had three; and another angler six trout. On Tuesday, a gale with heavy showers prevailed. Mr. Mackay fished Loch Beannoch and killed seven trout, 5lb.; Mr. Ivory, Invernauld House, made a basket of thirty trout on Loch Shin. On Wednesday, Captain Cotton got eight trout, 2½lb., on Loch Shin; Mr. Mackay, on same loch, nine trout, 5lb.; Messrs. Cooke, on Loch Cracail, ten trout, 4lb. On Thursday, on Loch Shin, Mr. Finlayson caught nine trout, 4lb.; Rev. Mr. Chapman and Mr. Clark, twenty-two trout, 9lb.; Captain Cotton, twenty-five, 9½lb.; Sergeant Ray, six, heaviest, ¾lb.; Mr. Neill, Dornoch, and Mr. Grant, four. On Friday, which was dull and wet, Messrs, Cooke, fishing Loch Shin, killed fifteen trout, 8½lb.; Messrs. Castle, on same loch, had sixteen trout, 7lb.; Mr. Neill, half-a-dozen in two hours' fishing; and in the evening, Mr. Young six nice trout; Mr. Finlayson got two trout, 1½lb., on Loch Beannoch. On Saturday a gale blew from the north-west and interfered with sport. Messrs. Castle made a basket of sixteen trout, 5lb., on Lower Loch Shin; Master William Butters, sixteen, 5lb., on same loch and Rev. Mr. Bull, five trout, 4lb., on Loch Beannoch.—J. Y.

Liddle.—This river is now in capital order, and the following takes are recorded: Dr. Knowles, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, four sea trout; Rev. E. I. Smith, same hotel, four sea trout and two whiting; Rev. W. R. Bell and friend, three sea trout, one 3lb., eight whiting, and one grilse of 4lb.; and Mr. Carruthers and friend, Rowan Cumfoot, landed twenty-eight sea trout, several whiting, and a salmon of 8lb., with the Devonshire Minnow. The train from Langholm—six miles distant—takes the visitor down to the water's edge in a few minutes. Next week I hope to say more about historic and romantic Liddle.—G.

Loch Leven (Kinross).—Anglers have been more successful here during the past week in consequence of the weather being moist, although baskets are still rather short of what should be got this month. On Tuesday Mr. R. M. Cairns gained the first prize in the St. Mungo Club from Glasgow, with a fine basket of nineteen trout, 17lb. 4oz., which is one of the best prize baskets got this season. At the same competition Mr. Allison had the heaviest trout which weighed 2lb. 9½oz. Private parties have been going out for only a few hours in the afternoon or evening and have had pretty fair sport. Captain Harding, from Stirling, and Mr. J. J. Harris, Kinross, were the most successful, their capture for a few hours in the afternoon being nineteen trout, 14lb. 4oz. Sir Graham Montgomery has this season, in compliance with a representation of the directors of the Loch Leven Angling Association kindly agreed to extend the present angling season to Saturday, the 5th September next, inclusive instead of Monday, 31st inst., which is the usual day for closing. The competitions for championship and the patron's prize will as usual take place on the first two days after the close of the season, viz., Monday, 7th September, and Tuesday, 8th September.—R. B. Laing.

Loch Rannoch—.The following is the angling report and list of takes during the past few days by gentlemen from the Dunalastair Hotel: On the 11th inst. Mr. Ward, of Lincoln, killed twenty-two trout on the lake, and the Messrs. Mills, of Louth, captured six. Mr. Hodgson and son, of London, on same day had a basket of fully 6lb., and Mr. Kirkby, of London, killed six trout. Mr. Higson, from Oban, also succeeded in making a basket of 6lb. On the following day, Mr, and Mrs. Gordon, of Edinburgh, captured twenty-four very nice trout, and the Messrs. Mills killed fourteen. Mr. Hodgson and son, obtained a basket of 5lb., and Mr. Marriage, of London, captured eight trout. On the 13th inst. Mr. Hodgson and son, killed thirty-four trout, and the Messrs, Higson and Kirkby secured twenty-two. The Messrs. Mills captured eighteen, and Mr. and Mrs. Williams, of Eton, had a basket of 5½lb. on the river. On the loch, Mr. Ward captured eleven trout, and Mr. Hare and son, of London, and Mr. Marriage, all obtained pretty fair baskets. On the following day, Mr. Hodgson and son captured twenty-four trout, and Mr. and Miss Marriage killed fifteen, and Mr. Kirkby had ten. During the last few days the weather has been exceptionally unfavourable for angling, cold winds being prevalent, with heavy showers of rain.—J. Kennedy.

Naver.—Owing to continuance of rainy weather very little has been done in salmon and grilse angling since last reported. The Dalvina anglers grassed two fish weighing 9½lb. and 6lb. Seven in all including salmon and grilse were landed by the Syre Lodge anglers; while the Skelpick Lodge party had three, two of which weighed 18lb. and 10lb.—McB.

Ness (Inverness).—During the past week anglers had excellent sport on the upper and lower reaches. On the Ness Castle water Mr. Fountaino Walker killed seventeen grilse. On the Holm water Mr. Godman killed twenty-seven grilse; on the Lower Holm, Sir George Boswall killed three grilse and General Mounsey Grant killed seven grilse on Monday, 17th, a few local anglers out killed ten grilse and one salmon. The best fishers are getting large catches of salmon and grilse daily.—D. Watson.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—The wet weather which has for some time prevailed over Sutherland has seriously affected angling on the Overscaig Lochs. Dr. Matthews, Liverpool, was out on Loch More on Friday last, and got three sea trout averaging 1¼lb. each. On the same day Masters Kenneth Mackay and John Butters fished Loch Shin and caught one and a-half dozen trout, aggregating 7lb. Up to Wednesday weather still unseasonable.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—Pretty fair sport is still being got notwithstanding a succession of spates which keep the lochs too high and muddy. On Monday last week, Mr. Sampson, Brighton, on Loch Dionard, had one sea trout, 3½lb.; Mr. Young, London, on Loch Garbetmore, one of 3lb.; and Mr. Maitland, Dover, on Loch Garbetbeg, two salmon, weighing 7¼lb. and 6½lb. On Tuesday, the Rev. Mr. Green, Surrey, on Loch-na-Caillich, two sea trout, 4lb. and 1lb.; Mr. F. Maitland, Dover, on same loch, sixteen trout, 5½lb.; General Murray, Worthing, on Loch Garbet, three sea trout, 3lb.; and Mr. Young, two sea trout, 2lb. On Wednesday, Mr. Wallace, on Loch Inchard, two sea trout, 2½lb.; Rev. Mr. Green, on mountain streams, sixteen trout, 7½lb.; and Captain Sinclair, on Loch Garbotmore, twelve trout, 6¾lb. On Thursday, Mr. and Mrs. S. Young, London, on Loch Inchard, four lythe, 12lb.; and Rev. Mr. Green, on Loch Mathair-a-Gharbhuilt, thirty-six trout, 12lb. On Friday, Mr. Sampson, Brighton, on Loch Inchard, eight lythe, 30lb.; and Rev. Mr. Green, two lythe, 9lb. On Saturday, Mr. Beale, Shropshire, on Loch Garbetbeg, six sea trout, 8lb.; Mr. Sinclair, on river Acriskill, two sea trout, 2lb.; and Rev. Mr. Green, on Loch-na-Caillich, one sea trout, 1lb.—McB.

Shin (Inveran Hotel Waters).—The sport obtained by anglers from Sutherland Arms Hotel has deteriorated of late. Last week only three fish were landed—viz.: On Tuesday, an 8lb., caught by Mr. Hall, on Angus Pool. On Thursday, a grilse of 6lb., landed by Mr. Lewis Hall, on Poll Clarag; and on Friday, an 8lb. salmon, grassed by the same angler on Clarag. Since then the weather has been very boisterous, but on Wednesday it showed signs of settling.—McB.

South of Scotland.—In Hoddom Castle water, on Monday, Mr. T. B. Johnston, Lord-street, Liverpool, had several good sea trout and herling; he hooked a salmon in the Churchyard Pool, but with a small 10ft. rod the fish fouled him on the rocks, and unfortunately broke him; Mr. McKinnell killed several good sea trout up to 2lb. each; Mr. R. Graham, Glasgow, caught one dozen herling and a sea trout of 2½lb.; Mr. James Henry, chemist, Annan, had eight herling and one sea trout; Mr. J. Pollock had a few herling. On Tuesday the catches were exceptional in the lower waters. Mr. Thos. Tweedie, Moat House, fifteen herling; Mr. T. Gibson, Bridge-place, twenty-two herling, one good sea trout, and four yellow trout; the Rev. Mr. Kennedy, Newington Lodge, caught thirty herling and one sea trout; Mr. Thomas, of Manchester, had a splendid basket of bright fresh-run fish, viz., thirty-one herling; Mr. James Bonner, Hare's Den, caught twenty-nine good fish, some of which weighed close on 1lb. each; Mr. John Iveson, Wigton, a score of herling and a yellow trout or two; Mr. John Laurie, Bank-street, landed twenty-one herling; Mr. Munro, a basket of eighteen, and a few yellow trout; Mr. Wm. Atkins had a basket of herling, 16¾lb., viz., thirty-one herling and three sea trout; Mr. McGiverin, post-master, landed in the Luce portion of the river thirty-two herling and three sea trout of 2lb. each, besides a few yellow trout; Mr. James, London, Bruce-street, ten herling and a sea trout, 1¾lb.; one angler in the higher water had two salmon, 3½lb., and three large sea trout: Mr. Arthur Nicholson, St. Asaph, North Wales, caught a good basket; Mr. James Dixon, Annan, twenty-six herling; Mr. Joseph Pollock, thirty herling; Ex-Dean of Guild London, Annan, caught in one hour ten herling and one sea trout; Mr. James, London, had exactly the same number of fish; Mr. Adler. London, six herling at Galabank; Mr. McKay, Brydekirk, had a fine basket in the Blacketless portion of the Annan. In water above Brydekirk village many heavy baskets were made with worm on Tuesday. Mr. Wm. Miller, Glasgow, had a very fine lot of herling in the Everholm water. At Hoddom Castle, Mr. J. Tweedie killed one sea trout and six herling on Monday, and on Tuesday one dozen herling and one sea trout; Mr. Wilson, Ecclefechan, had over twenty herling; Mr. Milligan, sixteen herling; Mr. P. Murray, fifteen herling and two sea trout; Mr. Stewart, caught a fine basket of sea trout and herling, 12lb. In Castlemilk section, Mr. John Rae, the Firs, Ecclefechan, had twenty herling; Mr. D. Tweedie, clothier, fifteen herling, two sea trout and a yellow trout, 2½lb. In the inland water, near Warmanbie, on Wednesday, Mr. McGiverin, post-master, Annan, had ten herling with fly; and Mr. D. C., London, four, with the minnow; Mr. Thomas Jamieson, Westerhall, had two salmon, one out of the Cauldron Pool, and the other out of the famous Willow Pool; Messrs. A. E. Stephenson and C. Stephenson, out from the Crown Hotel, Langholm, have had good sport among sea trout and herling, and have succeeded in landing two salmon. In the Broonholm reserved water, Mr. Edward Connell had a small grilse and one or two sea trout; Messrs. Tetley, Leeds, have had a number of sea trout and herling in the same portion of the river. Dr. Knowles, from the Temperance Hotel, Langholm, had four sea trout in the Liddle; and Messrs. St. George Tucker, London, had four sea trout and a couple of dozen yellow trout in the Langholm part of the river. The Rev. J. W. Bell had six sea trout and herling, and the Rev. Edward Smith, Bradford, caught several herling in the Liddle. The Rev. E. J. Smith, Hexham, has had some fair sport. Mr. D. Temple West, out from the Buck Hotel, Langholm, has had nice sport in the town water; and Mr. W. Reid, Hawick, good catches in the Liddle. The Devon Minnow has been doing great execution on some of the stretches. Mr. Thomas Irving, Langholm, had a basket of 7lb. of sea trout and herling; and another day he landed a sea trout of 2½lb. Mr. J. Malcolm had two sea trout in the waters above the town, 1½lb. each. The Earl of Dalkieth, Mr. Forbes, and Mr. Devas, had fair sport the other day in the reserved portion of the river at Langholm Lodge. Mr. Thomas Hounam, Langholm, had four sea trout and half-a-dozen herling near the Skipper's Brig; Mr. Wm. Urquhart, Langholm, had a few sea trout; Mr. A. Glendinning, a sea trout and five herling; Mr. W. Irving, Canonbie, a salmon of 18lb. The river is in the finest order of the season. The Dee (Kirkcudbrightshire) is now doing fairly well, and the sport has much improved this week. A salmon was landed out of the Nith the other day by Mr. Morley, Dumfries. This is the first fish of the season.—HEATHERBELL.

Spey (Elgin).—The salmon fishing on the Spey has been more satisfactory. On the Piteroy water Mr. Burns landed five fish, and on Friday last Master P. Burns had a splendid fish. On the Ballindalloch water on Saturday Lord Garioch landed a salmon of 16½lb., and a grilse of 5lb. On the Aberleur waters on Friday a salmon of 9½lb., and on Saturday a grilse of 4lb. were landed. On the Wester Elchies water last week Sir Archibald L. Smith's party killed eleven splendid salmon. On the same water on Friday, Mr. A. F. F. Smith landed two grilse, weighing 6½lb. and 6lb. respectively. One of the gentlemen from Easter Elchies had a grilse of 4lb. on Sulcham water on Friday.—H. LOGI.

Tay (Perth).—The river, which has been running high for a few days past, has again got into good angling ply, and a good many fish should be caught within the next week, notwithstanding the excessive netting. On Wednesday, next week, the nets will be taken off, and the autumn rod-fishing will commence in full swing, and there is every prospect of the season being a good one, as fish are very numerous. On Tuesday, last week, his Serene Highness Prince de Wagram killed a fish on the Castle Mengies water. On the Taymount water, Mr. Murray killed a fish and two grilse; and Chas. Holland has had three on the Stanley Water. On the Benchill water, Mr. Kelsall killed a fish of 19lb., and two grilse on Wednesday; and on the same water on Friday, Capt. Ostrchan killed five grilse, running from 5lb. to 10lb. On Monday, Sir J. Millais, R.A., killed a fish of 14lb. and two grilse. On the Free water, Mr. Rutherford had two sea trout 2lb. and 2½lb.; and another gentleman had 14lb.—ALDER.

Tweed.—The weather since last week has been, on the whole, very good for anglers who delight in bottom-fishing. Rain has fallen in large quantities on various occasions, and both the main river and the tributaries have been flooded to some extent. The Tweed water at Kelso Bridge on Wednesday marked a rise of fully 3ft., and to-day (Thursday) it is running in good order. This opportune flood must have been of material benefit to allow of a run of fish to the upper reaches, and once the river gets into fishable order, we are sure to have successful salmon angling on the various fastnesses. A very severe thunderstorm passed over the immediate district of Kelso on Wednesday, when the pluvial descent was exceedingly heavy, as was to be expected under the circumstances, and Waltonians have been out in large numbers, and many baskets of trout have been killed in all the districts. On the Tweed, near Kelso, Mr. William Shiels, has had takes of from 6lb. up to 9lb.; Mr. Jas., Chisholm, 4lb. and 8lb.; Mr. James Oliver, 4lb. and 8lb.; Mr. D. Brown, 6lb. and 8lb.; Mr. James Mabon, 4lb. and 7lb.; Mr. Bond, 5lb. and 6lb.; the Misses Affleck, Heiton, on the Teviot, several takes of from 6lb. up to 8lb., 9lb. and 10lb. Many other takes have also been got on both rivers, ranging from 3lb. upwards, but the above are the best individual catches in the Kelso district, and all got with worm. On the Jed, baskets of from 3lb. up to 8lb. have been taken. On the Yarrow and St. Mary's Loch exceptionally good takes have also been got, including a goodly number of trout, weighing 2lb. to 3lb. each. In the Peebles district, capital baskets have also been had, Mr. Turnbull, 8lb. and 12lb., with fly; Mr. Scott, baker, 7lb., including one fine trout of 2½lb.; Mr. James Black had a good take, two of his trout being 1lb. each. Before the rivers became swollen a few salmon were got with fly on some of the waters. On the Craig Pool, on the Mertoun water (Lord Polwarth's), Mr. Goodfellow, the keeper, had a nice fish of 8½lb.; while on the Littledean water, two Edinburgh anglers had capital baskets. The various rises in the river, accompanied with a rough sea, has made the salmon net fishings in the river during the past week something really excellent, and the amount of fish got has not been equalled for many years back, both on the river and sea coast stations. The fish have been running very freely, owing to the flooded state of the river and the other conditions above-mentioned. Several excellent "shots" were secured on many stations last week, including one of twenty-five fish; and on Monday last, one of the nets on Spittal Beach had a haul of forty fish, nearly all large-sized salmon. On some of the stations over one hundred fish have been caught during one tide on several occasions. On Tuesday forenoon, however, an eye-witness informed me that all previous records were broken by a splendid haul got on the Hallowstill Fishery (a short distance up the river from Spittal Point), when the splendid "shot" of one hundred and eight salmon, one grilse, and one trout were landed at one shot. The total number of fish, salmon, grilse, and trout may have been exceeded once or so within the last twenty years, but there is no record of such an extraordinary haul of salmon being caught at once. The spectacle was one of the most remarkable ever witnessed, and great excitement prevailed among the crowd which soon gathered at the spot, and which included many of the visitors at Spittal. A salmon of over 40lb. weight was captured in the same neighbourhood, on Tuesday night. The weather seems much more settled, and the barometer is high, with the wind from south.—MAXWHEEL.

Thurso and Lochmore (Brawl Castle).—We are having too much rain and spates in the river, even for salmon fishing. No sooner is the river in good ply than another spate comes down so rapid and dirty that salmon fishing is done for the day, consequently anglers' baskets are much lighter for the past week than they would be in favourable weather, as the river is full of fish. Pipe-Major Grant, who is an excellent angler, did not meet with the success his skill and perseverance deserved. On the 11th he got one salmon, 12½lb., on No. 4 beat. The 12th was calm and rainy, and nothing was got. On the 13th, on No. 2 beat, Pipe-Major Grant got one; 9½lb., and another angler caught a grilse, 4½lb. The 14th was a blank day. On the 15th Pipe-Major Grant got one, 6½lb., on No. 2 beat. On the 17th Mr. Newett fished No. 3 beat, and got one salmon, 9½lb., and one grilse, 6½lb.; Pipe-Major Grant, on the same beat, got one salmon, weighing 10lb. On the 18th there was a high spate; some good yellow trout were caught in the river with worm, Pipe-Major Grant being the most successful.—A. H.

Tongue Hotel.—On August 10, Mr. Wordsworth, on Loch Slam, nine trout weighing 3½lb. On the 11th, Mr. Rawlinson, on Loch Loyal, twenty-two trout, weighing 8lb.; Mr. Wordsworth, on the Kyle, three sea trout, weighing 6lb. On the 12th, Mr. Rawlings, on the Kyle, ten sea trout, weighing 20lb.; Mr. Muir, on Loch Craggie, six trout, weighing 3lb.; Mr. Wordsworth, on Loch Slam, one salmon, weighing 4lb., and another weighing 8lb. On the 13th, Mr. Wordsworth, on Loch Loyal, six trout weighing 8lb. and two *ferox* 6lb. and 8lb. On the 15th, Mr. Wordsworth, on Loch Loyal, one trout weighing 2½lb. and one *ferox* weighing 6½lb.—A. CAMPBELL.

Whitadder (Ellemford).—Mr. Ayton, Edinburgh, had 4½lb. of trout yesterday (Tuesday); Mr. James Ayton, 2lb.; Mr. Roberts, Wakefield, had several good trout. A great many trout were rising, but mostly small ones. The Red and Black Spider seem to be the favourite flies at present. The river had not subsided after the flood on Monday, but to-day (the 19th) it is expected better baskets will be made.—R. J. FENTON.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—Previous to Saturday trouting was improving. Mr. C. B. Irwin, on the Coagh reaches, had two dozen fish in three days, and on Friday I myself creeled seven nice trout, but the next day we had the first instalment of that annual pest, flax water. The fish become sick by a small quantity of this vile fluid, and *will not take any lure whatever*, and a larger dose proves fatal to all fish life in the infected stream. Heavy floods would sweep away this pest, and in any case another couple of weeks will rid us of it altogether; but the effects remain for a considerable time afterwards.—EAST TYRONE.

Connemara Fishing Club.—The floods have come at last, and are not over yet, plenty of fresh white trout are running up every night to the club's lakes at Ballinhinch and Carna; there will be no lack of fish for the rest of the season. Write to H. Radman, Royal Hotel, Recess; or to Martin Morgan, Post Office, Carna (Co. Galway).—H. H.

Blackadder.—At Ballynahinch fishery, since my last report we have had a great flood, and water is rather too high for angling. Still a few fish have been got, and by end of month sport should be very good.—TOOMBEOLA.

Lough Currane, Waterville (County Kerry).—Sport has been poor. The baskets of white and brown trout obtained during the week ran from three or four up to a dozen. A dozen and a-half white and brown trout was the best basket, but it was had only on one day. On the Imry, on Thursday, Captain Wilson had a salmon 10½lb., and one on Monday 6½lb. On the latter day Mr. Merryweather, on the same water, caught one, 7½lb.; and Mr. Pernell, one, 6½lb. This river always affords good sport after a flood, but it is hardly in proper trim yet. On Coppal Lake some good baskets of white and brown trout were had by Surgeon-Major Rahilly, Mr. Gordon Farren, and a few others. All the hotels are crowded, and the rush of anglers is quite unprecedented. I understand some should return as no room could be got. Anglers would do well to write beforehand.—THOS. J. DENNEHY.

Lough Neagh.—Trout are rising much better. During last week Mr. Donaghey had over forty nice trout, and Mr. James Eccles, Glasgow, killed twelve on Monday evening; but, as a rule, rod fishing is at a discount. Salmon are reported scarce, and indeed they have been so since the opening of the season. With the prevailing westerly winds, enormous hauls of eels are being made on "night" lines, baited with pollen fry, worms, and small bog frogs. The eels, if possible, are kept alive in tanks till exported. Perch, bream, and eel fishing continues good, but the pollen fisheries show a slight decline. The demand for this fish is ever increasing in the London, Midland, and Scotch markets, and to meet this enormous quantities of under-sized fish are taken. Complaints have been made about this. Fortunately there is every chance of Mr. McCartney's bill, dealing with this, passing into law next session.

Moy and Lakes (Ballina).—Since my last report the water has been in a very disturbed state, owing to the heavy fall of rain. On Monday the river cleared a bit, and two were out. The Rev. Mr. Hawkins got one nice fish, 7½lb., and lost one; and Mr. Grieghy killed a fresh-run salmon, 12½lb. Tuesday, the Rev. Mr. Hawkins had two fish, 5½lb., 7½lb.; Mr. Griegby, two fish, 12lb., and three sea trout, 4½lb.; Mr. Willie Brown, three fish, 5½lb., 7lb., 6½lb., two sea trout, 3½lb. On Wednesday a fresh came down and spoiled sport. Trout fishing in the loughs has not improved. Only moderate baskets have been brought in of late. The Rev. John Thornton had a very nice basket of fish one day last week, and among the lot he had a beautiful trout, weighing a little over 6lb. As soon as the water fines down we expect good sport with salmon and sea trout.—FRANK HEARNS.

Westmeath Lakes (Mullingar).—The fishing upon these lakes, especially Lough Ennell or Belvedere has been making rapid progress, and as it is principally confined now to local professionals, the latter are having a good time.—T. J. W.

MR. J. SHAW PHILLIPS' OTTER HOUNDS.

MR. J. SHAW PHILLIPS' (late Hon. G. R. C. Hill's) otter hounds met on Thursday, July 30, at Three Cocks, and drew up the river Llynfi, almost as far as Llangorse Lake, but without success, an otter having unfortunately been worried by a sheep-dog a few days before. On Tuesday, August 4, the master took his hounds to the Swansea Valley, where he was put up and most hospitably entertained by Fleming Gough, Esq., of Yniscedwyn House. The meet on that day was at Penwyllt, and the master first drew Madame Patti's water, on the river Tawy, just below Craig-y-nos Castle, and drew down as far as Ystragynlais, without the sign of an otter. On Wednesday, the meet was at Yniscedwyn House, and both the river and canal were drawn as far as Pontardawe, without the slightest touch. The brook Cumddu was then tried, and a drag quickly hit on. The otter was soon put down in the midst of a very thick wood, and after a short hunt got in among the rocks, whence it was impossible to get him out. The master was determined not to be beaten, and was back next morning by the first train. A drag was soon hit on, and after pursuing it many miles up brooks and through woods, he was obliged to relinquish the chase at three o'clock, in order to catch the train for Brecon. On Saturday, August 8, the hounds met at Brecon to draw the Honddu. After some time the hounds marked at a strongholt, from which the otter could not be bolted. The master, therefore, determined to draw on and return again in the afternoon, on the chance of the otter having meanwhile bolted; and his conjecture proved to be only too true, for on returning to the bolt the drag was hit on, and after a very sharp hunt of fifteen minutes, partly in the brook and partly round a wood, the wily otter took refuge in the stonework of a bridge, from which it was dislodged by sundry pokes from otter poles. The master viewed it as it went up the bank, where it was pinned by the hound Gorgeous. The cry of the hounds was splendid, and it was with the greatest difficulty that the otter—a bitch of about 14lb.—was got away from them, so savage were they. During the afternoon the master and field were most sumptuously entertained by Miss Lloyd, of Llandefaelog, who is one of the most famous salmon fishers and otter hunters in Wales.

On Friday, July 31, an otter hunt dinner was held at the Assembly Rooms, Builth, at which over one hundred landowners and tenant farmers were present. The master, who took the chair, was received with the greatest enthusiasm, and he was very kindly promised their support by all present, and that they would do all in their power to preserve otters for him, and that no other pack should hunt their country. The chairman proposed "The memory of the late Hon. G. R. C. Hill," saying that wherever Major Hill's hounds had been, his name had been honoured by all. He had been taken from them, and how they were to replace him he did not know. Major Hill was a thorough sportsman, of whom Britain should be proud. They had lost one whom they had known for many years, and who was beloved by all. The chairman also mentioned his obligations to the Hon. Mrs. Hill for the picture of the late Major, which she had so kindly given him, and which stood on the platform behind him. On Monday, August 10, the hounds were to have hunted the Usk down to the Yisbin, but on account of the heavy rains on Sunday they were washed out, so the master drew down the Tarall Brook instead, and very soon hit upon a drag, which he followed till close under Bolgoed, where the otter was found to be in a holt, and after using spades and pick-axes, the animal was got out, and after a hunt of three-quarters of an hour the otter—a bitch of 15lb.—took to a dry brook, where the hounds soon bowled her over.

CATCHING HERRINGS WITH A BARE HOOK.—This mode of fishing for herrings has long been known in the north of Scotland, where it has been practised by fishermen, not for sport, but for the purpose of obtaining those fish for bait for cod, haddocks, &c., for which they are famous. But this mode of fishing is also an excellent sport, for there are no more beautiful or better eating fish than the herring when fresh from the sea. Now as to the *modus operandi* of this kind of fishing. Only hooks are required; those hooks are the white common tinned haddock hooks. First of all, a line of fine whip-cord, of, say, 40yds., is got, then five or six stacking wires; those are securely fastened horizontally to the end of the line about a yard apart, and to each end of the wire is firmly tied a hook on about a foot of good gut. Those are tied in a way that the hooks hang down from each end of the wire, which if you have six wires, gives you six *bare hooks*; no bait or fly is wanted here. To the end of the line is fixed a lead of 8oz. to 10oz., and you are then ready to try. One has seldom to go more than a mile to two miles off shore, and putting the boat stationary, you drop your line to such a depth as you think necessary, and then begin to pull gently up a yard, and then down again. If herrings are there, you soon feel them on the line, and it is not uncommon to get one on each hook. They do not show much fight, but the sport is so clean and the fish so beautiful that it is a real pleasure to fish in this way. This season, for example, in one hour with one line, seventy herrings—plump and good—was got in this way. Our local fishermen call this kind of line a "sprool."—W.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

THE Rose and Crown Society, Brearley-street Birmingham, held their annual contest on August 9, at Droitwich. This club is the second largest club connected with the Birmingham Association, and their annual contest is always looked forward to as a very important event. This society has always been noted for the valuable prizes put up to be contested for, and the value of the prizes I saw on view on Monday evening must not be far short of £30, and I am informed that there are about a dozen more valuable prizes to be added. The worthy host and treasurer, Mr. Harry Hodgetts, has this year again behaved most handsomely, and has given a marble clock of the latest design, two eight day Vienna clocks, and a handsome barometer, the other prizes are given by the members of the club, and great praise is due to them for their selection, and considering that the funds of the society have not been drawn upon for any of the prizes, I must congratulate the club upon the liberality of the members in getting such a fine collection of prizes together, the number of prizes in all being over forty. With the object of securing one of these valuable prizes, it was not to be wondered at that a goodly number of members would turn out and about one hundred and twenty-five members left by the Midland Railway for the scene of action by the 8.20 a.m. train. Droitwich was reached at about 9.30, when the referee, with the assistance of the committee, proceeded to mark out the ground, and one hundred and twenty competitors answered to their names to take part in the contest, which was of one and a-half hours' duration, the rule being in this society for one half the contestants to fish at a time, and the other half to act as umpires. The takes of fish were extraordinarily small, the cause of which was not found out until the conclusion of the contest, when it was made known that one of the large brine tanks at the salt works had, during the past week, burst and destroyed a great quantity of all kinds of fish. The number of members who took fish in the contest was twenty-nine. This will show the state of things at Droitwich, and I should advise the clubs not to forget the circumstances mentioned, as it will take a long time for the water to recover itself again. I have been informed that the stench from the dead fish which lay floating on the top of the water was abominable, especially below Droitwich. It is not to be wondered at that only so small a number of persons succeeded in taking fish under the difficulties they had to contend against. The following is a result of the contest: First, Mr. W. A. Phelps: second, Mr. A. Hipkiss: third, Mr. C. Bevan; fourth, Mr. J. Oliver; fifth, Mr. T. Mole; sixth, Mr. T. Smith; seventh, Mr. J. Shale; eighth, Mr. C. Hartwright; ninth, Mr. H. Medlicot; tenth, Mr. J. Hubble, &c. The prizes will be distributed at the next general meeting of the society, when a place will be chosen for the second contest for the remainder of the prizes left. The arrangements of the contest were carried out by Messrs. Coles, Dance, Goode, and the committee, who, had they have known of the state of the water, would have brought off the contest elsewhere. Still, great credit is due to the gentlemen mentioned for the way they conducted the contest under the disagreeable surroundings.

THE Highgate Angling Society, held at the Queen's Arms Inn, Conybeare-street, Birmingham, fished their annual contest at Binton, in the river Avon, on Saturday last. The weather was all that could be desired, and the water was in first-class condition. The prizes competed for were of a valuable and useful description, and consisted of marble timepiece, eight-day clocks, dinner and tea services, vases, table lamps, electro-plated articles, fishing tackle, &c. In the selection of prizes great praise is due to the purchasing committee; and a word of praise is also due to Mr. E. Slim, the worthy host, who contributed the sum of seven guineas to the prize fund. The contest was of the ordinary pegged-down kind, and was of three hours' duration. Fifty-four members answered their names, and at twelve o'clock the referee gave the signal to commence fishing, and the contest continued without any interruption until three o'clock, when the signal was given to cease fishing. The bags were collected, and the weighing of the fish commenced, the result being that Mr. R. Robinson was first; Mr. H. Garner, second; Mr. T. Vincent, third: Mr. Nash, fourth; Mr. G. Perkins, fifth, &c. Twenty-five members succeeded in taking fish and securing a prize, and as the prizes number about thirty-three, a consolation contest will be held later on in the season for the remainder of the prizes. Mr. Kingerlee acted as referee, and with the assistance of the president, Mr. R. Gumbling, and the worthy secretary, Mr. T. King, the arrangements were all that could be desired.

THE annual dinner and distribution of prizes took place at the Camden Society on Tuesday evening, when about forty of our members availed themselves of the opportunity of partaking of the good things provided for the occasion by Host Walker. After the dinner had been dispensed with, Mr. Lee was voted to the chair, Mr. J. Maisden, the president, being unavoidably absent through a serious illness. The toast list was quickly got through, when the distribution of prizes won in the late contest at Droitwich took place. After this important item in the programme was finished, the remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony. Owing to the whole of the prizes not having been won in the late contest the club has decided to hold another contest on Saturday afternoon, September 5, at Kingswood.

MR. C. WHITE, general secretary to the Birmingham Angling Association, will attend at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Snathfield, every Saturday evening until further notice, 7.30 till nine o'clock, for the purpose of issuing railway and contest tickets to the branch secretaries of clubs affiliated with the Birmingham Association. All tickets to be paid for on or before September 10 next, or charged for.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

LANCASHIRE anglers are still grumbling at the weather. The running waters have been more or less in a flooded state, and altogether unreliable for sport; while lakes and meres, and also reservoirs and pools, are reported as being what is generally known as broken up. Still, however, fair sport has been obtained.

A FEW weeks ago we referred to the fine gudgeon often obtained in the Dane. Since then, Mr. Geo. Yates, Manchester, has captured some good specimens. Fishing on the 14th, in this river, he caught ten of these fish, weighing 1lb. 2¼oz., the heaviest weighing 2¾oz., and will probably receive the careful attention of the taxidermist; it certainly deserves that honour, being a beautiful specimen. This season so far has teemed with good sport amongst this particular class of fish. On the 15th, Mr. Smith and a friend from Bolton, visited a private water, noted for its grand trout, but to such an extent did the gudgeon abound that the wasp bait was never allowed to remain unmolested for many minutes; and at the close of the day only two trout had been killed, and numerous gudgeon weighing ten to the pound. The river Weaver seems to be in good fishing condition just at present, and the Dane and Bollin are fast getting back the reputation which in times past gained them their present popularity. We hear that the Smoker has been at last fished; but for the future only fly-fishing is to be allowed. What is to become of the bottom-fisher should this policy be extended to other waters, is a problem difficult of solution, and disagreeable to anticipate.

SPLENDID sport is reported from the preserved portion of the Wye between Miller's Dale and Monsall Dale. That portion of Cressbrook appears to have entirely recovered from the dose of lime gratuitously administered by the railway company a few years since. From Buxton comes good reports of the sport obtained there by Lancashire fishermen. The Crannage Brook is affording good sport, and a visit will repay anyone who cares to go for trout and other fish. Mr. O. Jones has secured a fine pike of 35lb. in a private water with a minnow; a small pike, 2lb., was also taken by his friend, Mr. J. Westfield, with maggots, while perch fishing with fine gut. Good fishing is now of daily occurrence at Ingleton, and Lancashire rods will do well to pay this locality a visit. Mr. Griffiths and a friend have been amongst the trout in the Lake District, and splendid sport has resulted. The streams hereabouts are very prolific, but it requires an expert to overcome the difficulties of the waters. A good many fish have found their way from Bakewell to Manchester during the past fortnight, and judging from those we have seen, the club in authority are to be complimented for the excellent condition of the waters and fish. Mr. S. Allsop secured some nice perch in private waters on the 17th, and Mr. Walmsley a nice pike of 4lb. with a worm on the 15th. On the 18th the Free Anglers held their annual picnic. The usual sweepstake produced a keen contest, and is in fact the only competition indulged in by this club. Prizes are never offered for competition.

THE Middlewich anglers have just finished their contest, with the following result: 1, Mr. H. Wilkinson; 2, Mr. Sharman; 3, Mr. A. Sweatman; 4, Mr. P. Higginson; 5, Mr. J. Lant; 6, Mr. J. Roberts; 7, Mr. H. Luker; 8, Mr. J. Allcock; Mr. Denlith secured a special prize. The Stopford Anglers fished the initial contest since the inauguration of the club last Saturday, and finished in the following order of merit: Messrs. Hyde, Ashworth, R. Janson, Hodgson, Barker, Hargreaves. The Bedford fished a match on the 16th; the winners of the first three prizes were R. Buchanan, T. Hampson, and H. Eaton. Negotiations are pending for a friendly match between the two clubs meeting at the same house—viz., the Bedford and the Ellesmere, and should the event come off a close finish may be expected.

MR. SAM BROOKS, Ardwick, secured ten brace of trout in the Dane on the 17th.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

BARBEL anglers are on better terms with themselves so far as improved sport is concerned. At one period the season seemed doomed in a matter of killing any great quantity of fish. Unsettled weather prevailed to an alarming extent, and even at the time of writing on Wednesday night, ominous clouds overhead were not of a thoroughly re-assuring character. Still, of late a few fine days have been enjoyed, and some of our most experienced throwers of the barbel line have made the most of them. On Monday night a grand lot of fish were brought into the lower room of the Nottingham Wellington Hotel, which, as is well-known, is the headquarters of the leading angling society of the town and district. On enquiry I found that the fish, twenty-two in number, had been killed below Carlton ferry boat by Mr. W. Lantley and Mr. I. Lantley, of Beeston, who were assisted by Mr. "Harry" Hudson, of Lenton. Mr. Hudson is a "shining light" in the local piscatorial world and has generally brought off a big catch every summer in the district mentioned. On the occasion under notice he had ground-baited the swim, and as proving that the fish revelled in the food, the worm, they were all taken in less than three hours. They did not, however, run very large, although such a catch very rarely happens on any public water. I believe that Mr. Hudson fished the same swim on the following day and bagged a large quantity of bigger fish.

AT King's Mills of late very few of the subscribers appear to have patronised the water, and so far as roach and bream fishing is concerned the takes have not been large. Attention has been paid to the barbel swims below the weirs, and on Monday Mr. J. Greaves, of the Wellington Society, showed up with a number of remarkably good fish. Other gentlemen had been amongst them at Shardlow and Sawley, and one of 8¼lb. was killed below the Red Bank in Clifton Grove. Years ago the swim here turned out enormous quantities of aldermanic chub, and just at present the wasp grub is doing marked execution amongst the fish at Wilford and Stoke. Spent salmon may still occasionally be seen, not only at King's Mills, but at Willington, where a few days ago Mr. Noel Johnson and friends had brilliant sport amongst roach, with creed wheat. Mr. Johnson informed me that the catch exceeded 60lb., and that many of the fish averaged 1lb. each. I have always held that the dace and roach landed in the Willington length are the finest taken on the whole course of the river. The fishery is a favourite resort of the Derby contingent, one of whom once killed, to his own rod, in a few hours' fishing, 30lb. of dace.

AT Shardlow, Mr. John Bailey, of Lenton, who is the second son of the late distinguished Mr. W. Bailey, has played sad havoc amongst the bream near host Taylor's old-fashioned inn. Getting well amongst the fish he placed 40lb. to his credit in double quick time, and supplemented the take with a second of 27lb. In the same waters, Mr. H. Leek, Lenton, had five or six barbel, besides other fish, and takes of less note have come to hand from most of the reaches in the neighbourhood.

MR. H. SPRAY, hon. sec. of the Wellington Society, has just been sending out to the members the revised rules, and it is evident the committee have been at immense pains over them. They have been well and carefully considered, and will doubtless be cordially endorsed by all those that have the honour of being connected with the society.

ON Tuesday, an unexpected rise of the river occurred. Very little rain fell in our own immediate district, but there must have been a heavy downpour either in Derbyshire or Staffordshire. At all events, an extra foot of water came down, and with it long masses of dead and dying weed. The influx set the roach and dace fishermen freely on the move, and at Welford, on Wednesday, the punt occupiers did very well indeed, using, of course, the maggot for bait.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

THE long spell of ill-success which trout anglers have experienced during the last few months—a period which is always accounted a bad time for trouting—has at length been partially broken, and after a long and regretted indisposition to feed, the fish have at length commenced to afford sport, and will probably continue to do so until the 1st of October compels the fly-fisher to forsake the riverside, and lay by his tackle till the advent of another season. Trout fishers should make the best of the short time at their disposal, for there is generally good sport to be obtained in the Severn in this locality at the tail end of the season.

THE members of the Ironbridge Severn and District Angling and Protection Society visited Shrewsbury on Wednesday, and held their first prize outing of the season. Judging from the excellence of the takes, the Ironbridge men are very skilled anglers, and, in the event of a contest being arranged between them and the members of the Shrewsbury brotherhood—as it has been proposed there should be—there would doubtless be a very interesting, if not exciting, contest. The Ironbridge anglers thoroughly enjoyed their trip, and the charm of angling was greatly enhanced by the beauty of the scenery around the scene of operations. The piscators were conveyed by brakes from Ironbridge to Uppington, a long and delightful drive.

Mr. J. Toddington secured first prize with 6lb. 4oz. of fish; Mr. H. Aldred capturing 4lb. 10oz.; Mr. J. Norry, 3lb. 8oz.; Mr. J. Edwards, 3lb. 4oz.; Mr. M. Jarratt, 3lb.; Mr. A. Nicholas, 2lb. 10oz.; and Mr. Wilson, 2lb. The following also took prizes in the members' prize fund: Messrs. J. Toddington, H. Aldred, J. Edwards, E. Jarratt, A. Nicholas, W. Wilson, and T. B. Rowley. The members of the Shrewsbury Society have not yet been able to hold an outing, bad weather and other causes preventing them. It is, however, intended to hold one as soon as possible.

THE constant and ever-increasing pollution of the Severn almost from its source to its mouth, and the deleterious effect it cannot but have on the fishing in the river, more especially perhaps the salmon fishing, is a question which is now occupying the serious attention of the Severn Board of Conservators, and through that body it is likely to be taken up by the County Councils of those counties through which the river runs. Many competent authorities almost wholly attribute the constant decrease in the number of salmon, especially in the upper waters, to the pollution of the river by lead works, flannel mills, and sewerage in general, and however opinions may differ as to the primary cause of this lamentable falling off in the supply of fish, it is certain that river pollution has a great deal to answer for. If the Board of Conservators, by inducing the County Councils to exercise jointly with them their legal powers to compel borough councils and local authorities to remove their sewerage from the river and prevent manufacturers from discharging from their works the quantities of poisonous matter now sent down in large quantities, it will earn from the angling fraternity, as well as from those connected with the salmon fishing industry, the heartiest thanks and praises that could be bestowed upon it, and it will furthermore condone for any unsatisfactory or unsuccessful legislation it has carried out in the past. The first step towards this desirable object would be to make the small borough councils and urban sanitary authorities remove the sewerage that is now allowed to flow into the river at all parts from the stream, and if not removed within a certain space of time, an injunction should be obtained against the offending bodies. At a recent meeting of the Shropshire County Council, the decrease of salmon was considered—as reported in our last issue—and Mr. T. Southam, who represents the borough of Shrewsbury on that important body, sought to explain and excuse the apparent neglect of the borough council in regard to the pollution of the river by the town's sewerage. He argued that as this polluting matter was not turned into the river in one volume, but at various parts, it did little or no harm to the fish. He added, however, that the corporation, before tackling the question, was desirous of awaiting the results of experiments in other towns as to the best method, as the removal of the sewage would prove a very difficult and expensive undertaking. Now, as to the sewerage doing little or no harm to the fishing, one has only to go on a hot summer's day when the water is low to have ample evidence of the shocking state of affairs that exist. The Welsh bridge ford, the English bridge ford, and below the railway bridge, are each contaminated to a considerable extent, and below the mouths of these pestilential pipes the river bed is nearly always to be found a layer of festering matter extending for yards. Now it is manifestly a mistake for the Council of Shrewsbury to remain inactive, perhaps, for years to come in order to benefit by the experience of other bodies. If it is not thought advisable to sink money experimentally, the question should be at once taken in hand and one of the best methods in vogue of dealing with sewerage adopted—say by means of a sewerage farm. There is not the slightest doubt that unless a considerable change for the better takes place in regard to this question of river pollution, the endeavours of the Severn Board of Conservators to increase the supply of salmon, and the efforts of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society and other bodies to preserve and restock the river will be almost nullified. That salmon will not run against a flow of poisonous sewerage matter is a well-known fact, and even where they do ascend it is questionable whether many are not killed by disease, resulting from this wholesale pollution.

Last year many salmon were found dead from disease above Shrewsbury—it was stated that William Darling, the late water bailiff, discovered between twenty and thirty dead from Shrewsbury to the Vyrnwy—and there is every reason to suppose that pollution was the primary cause of the disease from which they died.

NOTES FROM WORCESTER AND DISTRICT.

THE Severn and Teme and their tributaries have been in capital condition. Angling has been brisk in this neighbourhood during the week; with wasp, grubs, maggot, and worms, the bottom fishers have made good baskets of trout, chub, and dace, the roach biting but slyly, yet a few large ones have been taken. Some capital baskets of grayling have been taken in the Teme with the fly, the Red Spinner, Blue Dun, Red Palmer, Black Gnat, and Little Green insect all killing well; one angler taking sixteen brace in a few hours. Some members of the Izaak Walton Club had good sport among the trout, S. Webb killing six and a-half brace; R. Wingfield, twelve and a-half brace; and C. Evans, five brace of beauties, besides some very fine roach and chub.

THE Izaak Walton Club on Thursday last had a contest on the Teme at Stanford Bridge, the prizes amounting to £10, divided into seven prizes given by Hubert Holland, Esq., one of the hon. members of the society. Twenty members were down to compete, and the journey made by brake *via* Martley, through some twelve miles of the most beautiful scenery of Worcestershire, lunch being partaken of on the way. The competition did not commence until 12.30, and terminated at 7.30 p.m., the weighing in being at eight o'clock to the minute, when Mr. Chas. Evans, who had been wading, won first prize, £3, with 10½lb. of perch and chub, mostly taken with the minnow; Mr. E. Millington, second, £2; Mr. W. Smith, third, £1 10s.; Mr. R. Wingfield, fourth, £1 5s.; Mr. S. Webb, fifth, £1; Mr. G. Mapp, sixth, 15s.; and Mr. A. Cooper, seventh, 10s. There was also a consolation sweepstake, divided among, first, Mr. W. Roberts, and, second, Mr. C. Wall, of the non-prize winners. The contestants were much worried with samlets and minnows, which attacked any bait as soon as it was in the water. The prize winners being those who fished the roughest water, a great many fish were taken that were not weighable, being under the regulation size. An excellent dinner was provided by Host Smith, of the Stanford Bridge Inn, and full justice was done to it.

THE Avon is in capital order for fishing, and some capital baskets of roach, perch, and bream have been taken during the week, and any angler may be sure of good sport at either Defford or Eckington with stewed wheat or malt, or the lively worm.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

THE state of the Ouse has not been entirely consistent with good angling during the past week. Large quantities of polluted water from the Aire have been forced into the river, and there has been a great destruction of fine and useful salmon. This having occurred as it has, just at about the height of the salmon fishing season, which is of course drawing to a close, the loss will undoubtedly be great. The Foss has been in a fair condition, and has attracted a goodly number of fishermen, who have met with encouraging sport. The water of the Derwent, at Hackness, last week, was reported to be in capital condition, and lively sport was said to be the rule; whilst at Malton things are somewhat more backward. More heavy rains this week, however, have put the river in flood.

THE report mentioned by me in my last week's notes that the right of fishing between Stamford Bridge and Buttercrambe had been stopped, seems to have been "hardly the thing," nevertheless, there has doubtless been some cause, however slight, for the origin of the rumour. In an explanatory letter, the new tenant, Mr. Fred B. Lysaght-Knight, who has come into possession of the land through which that portion of the stream flows, contradicts the assertion, and says that it is not, and has never been, his intention to stop any one fishing so long as they do not injure the fences, &c., and will readily grant permission between Stamford Bridge and Buttercrambe Church for all who may ask for it; but the remaining waters he intends to reserve for himself and friends. That no one be allowed to angle without such permission is, he contends, in the best interest of every true angler, and in a further sentence he denies the conception entertained by some that the waters are free.

THE Melbourne Hotel (York) Angling Society's first match of the season came off in the river Derwent, at Elvington, on Saturday, under but moderately favourable conditions. Sport was consequently only fair, the largest of the numerous takes scaling some 12½oz.

THE third fishing match of the season, held under the auspices of the Fulford Friendly Angling Society, took place on Wednesday, on the farm of Mr. Gilbertson, of Catton. The weather was fine, but unluckily, owing to the heavy rains of this and last week, the catch was but small. There were seventeen competitors, and the eight prize-winners were—Messrs. J. E. Wilkinson, W. Bouttell, C. W. Armison, J. Oliver, H. W. Watson, J. Green, A. Simpson, and E. Staines, rotatively.

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mmunications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

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— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, AUGUST 29TH, 1891.

EDDIES.

WITH THE FLY, "LIGHT AND FINE."

W WATER SUMMER FISHING FOR GRILSE AND SALMON.

By W. MURDOCH.

EDDIES or circling boils are the most difficult all casts to fish aright. The plain round and ınd swirl may often be found bad enough to ınage properly, but when besides a swirl inter-ngling currents come to the surface, and set in ferent directions, not only the tyro or young nd, but even the expert will often be cometely puzzled what to do in order to achieve ccess. In many rivers, in some very frequently, cur casts or water of the character indicated, ich although known to almost constantly ntain fish—yet from having never been properly d persistently tried, or from the right place, are arly always passed by without even the "just e throw" hurried flick over. They remain year er year unexploited, a "sealed book.' "No use ere," says Kenneth, with a shake of the head, d his "shentleman" believes him. But is this t an evidence of incapacity, or of not wishing to bothered—of a want of the qualities of a true rtsman, of that keen enthusiasm for the sport ich rarely admits impossibility, and without ich no difficulty save of the most rudimentary aracter can be quickly surmounted? I trow so. rsonally I know of nothing in the whole range angling that affords such real satisfying pleasure to get at last to the light—to discover, so to speak after much study, resorting to many advices, and being baffled again and again, the key to the situation. It is the crowning triumph for the enthusiast.

To describe how all eddies should be fished were impossible; there are such a great many sorts of them, each of all of which has its own individual peculiarity. Therefore, rather than picture in fancy even but a few, and describe minutely how they should be fished, I prefer, as being far more practical for the generally occurring circumstances, to give a hint or two, which very often, I conceive, will be found to prove useful. It is first and foremost in importance to see, after the cast or throw is made, that the line is not lying in the water in sweeps and curves, all bulged and bellied, part of it perhaps, sucked down by the current and part remaining on the surface. Very quickly eddies and cross-currents, and the suction frequently connected with them, will cause this ugly fish-frightening sight. The young angler, most likely, never thinks of it: he is standing (it is assumed) level with the water and so does not see it; he has his rod point low down, and what little of the line he sees appears to be all right; he has no thought of the rest being wrong, but from a height opposite or close by it is distinctly seen to be utterly wrong. And why is it so? Partly from too much line being out, partly from the water being allowed to wimple it as it wills, or from both circumstances combined. To prevent the display of such an ugly piece of art—most inartistic alike to the eye of the fish and the fisher, and so fatal to success—the thing to do is to cast no more line than is necessary to get over the water sought to be fished and then to hold the rod up to keep the reel line off the water while the fly is brought toward the angler or taken in whatever direction he desires to guide it. When a great length of line gets daddled about and all bagged and bulged by the water, not only are the fish likely to be scared (especially in clear low water, when very fine light fishing is inseparable from success), but in nine cases out of ten they are about sure to be lost sooner or later from the line, when they rise to the fly, being neither tight nor straight to cause them to hook well or aright, nor the water itself of a character calculated to make them hook themselves. Here I wish to remove a misconception, if such has arisen in the minds of my readers with regard to the remark as to fish occupying eddies. They do, it is true, lie in some eddies, especially where the water is not very strong or when it is low; they also are often seen rising in them; but, as a rule, it is outside the eddies proper that their "lies" are, although very commonly just on the verge of them. The angler will very likely often notice that if the bottom is not entirely sandy the sides of eddies, the water of a straight run current close above an eddy, and the commencement to run in the straight of the water as it leaves an eddy, are particularly favourite holds. But while this is so, peculiarities are multifarious—as multifarious as the bottom formations, and strength and set of the currents which wholly account for them.

Although eddy casts are usually of considerable depth (comparatively), it is not required—in the summer season, at least—that they should be fished "deep"; hence no sinker or lead is needed; and the short line which I have advised for such fishing enables the angler—since here it is specially desirable—to always keep the fly swimming "light," as also at the same time "true"—to play it exactly where and wherever he wishes, and in whatever manner or manners his fancy dictates. In fine, by the use of the short line the angler possesses perfect and absolute control of the movement of the fly entirely to his mind. In the case of casts, which are thoroughly understood, he needs no advice; he knows quite well what to do, or his gillie tells him, and he has but to act; but it is quite a different affair when unexploited casts come to be tacked. What, then, is he to do? My advice to him is: Attack from all points, resort to all known ways of working the fly, fish at different times of day and under different lights, and use various patterns and sizes of flies, giving "rests" to the water between the changes—if necessary. Last of all, if fishing over the fish in all manners, at all times of day, under various natures of light, with all thought-of flies, and from all positions obtained from one side or by wading, should prove ineffectual, I recommend the angler to take himself to the other side (if he has the right), and repeat the performance in all its variety. "From the other side you'll be sure to get him," I have often heard it remarked, and have often proved it to be the case. And how can it be accounted for? Perhaps, previously the fly was not seen by the fish, or, if seen, not seen in a position for them to take it from their "lies." Or it may be they had not time or the *instant* impulse to take it from only getting a momentary glimpse of it, like a flash, whilst passing over them, after which boulders, rocky shelves, or ridges intervening, completely obscured the view. It is, indeed, true that the formation of the bottom much more frequently than many imagine accounts for this. But very much oftener, I feel sure, the fact that the fly, after being persistently refused from the one side, is readily taken from the other side is due about wholly to the totally different—entirely *new*—direction of its track, which, with (not unlikely) its better and more tempting play, tickles the fancy of the fish irresistibly.

Without the conceit that it will be instructive to the expert, but simply in the hope that it may be useful to the young hand, both for his guidance and encouragement, the foregoing has been written. I have purposely avoided any reference to the patterns and sizes of flies, the methods of playing the same, and the hooking and playing of the fish, thinking it better not to cram in too much at one time; as of tough and heavy matter, such as this I am afraid must seem, digestion proceeds but slowly. Accordingly, until a future occasion, when probably the appetite for a fresh supply will have been acquired by the readers whom I seek to assist in developing into anglers fit to hold their own against most, consideration of the subjects mentioned, as well as of others of which I mean to treat, is deferred.

A REMINISCENCE OF THE MAY-FLY IN IRELAND.

By C.

THE season had been up to the average. The fish were in prime condition and taking freely. The May-fly was on; an English angling club was encamped on the lake shore, and the weather was favourable. Will experienced anglers please note particularly the last fact—the weather was exactly right? It is a thing that, to my knowledge, had never happened before, and, life being short, probably never will again. But on this first (and last) occasion the sun, the wind, the clouds, and the May-fly were all on our side, and I dare say the English club was at least neutral. Mac. arranged the details of the venture, and to watch the way he swaggered over it, you would think he had included the atmosphere in his programme; certainly the clerk of the weather himself could not have managed it better.

While the "kyar" was being adjusted to a horse several sizes too small for it, a happy thought struck me. This adjustment would take some time. The harness was aged, and did not lend itself readily to unfamiliar surroundings—that is, to surrounding an unfamiliar horse. Why not occupy the interval by addressing labels and writing notes to friends who, I knew, would expect a nice consignment of fish once they heard I was in the neighbourhood of Lough Sheelin? The happy thought was acted on. I wrote the pleasant little letters (of course, "regretting that I had not better luck, but hoping the accompanying parcel would not come amiss," and so forth), and addressed all the labels with my compliments. This filled up the time nicely, and when I was through with my correspondence, the "kyar" was quite ready—the horse seemed in no hurry. But Pat Brady, with the aid of a stout stick, induced the "shiltie" to make up his mind on the point, and we started for the lough.

It was pleasant to look forward to one complete and satisfying day's sport—to a vast ingathering of the trout of Lough Sheelin; a slaughter grim and great that should last till the going down of the sun, if not quite from the rising of the same. Long before we caught sight of the lough, I could see in imagination the slow-drifting boat glide over the wimpling wavelets, and hear the "Troth, gintlemin, and it's a fine day ye've got any way," of Larry, as the long blow-line floated out upon the summer breeze, then dropped its tiny burden delicately on the curl of mimic breakers. Also, as we jogged along, I mentally revised the bestowal of my spoils. Half-a-dozen nice trout would do very well for Smith, a bachelor friend; but Brown, a married man (with whom I dine on wet Sundays), was fairly entitled to a dozen. Jones (who proposed my health last lodge night) must have the pick of the basket, and Robinson (who put me in for a subscription to a Zenana mission) should go troutless, if not supperless, to bed—and so on, till we pulled up at the boatman's cottage, and hailed it cheerfully.

"Is it me fether ye want?" a small boy asked.

"The same man," I replied, with a vague effort after the vernacular.

"He's down at the lough, spearin' eels."

"Spearing eels!" Alas! the gentle breeze had died away unnoticed what time I built those castles in the air, or, say, those round towers in the waves beneath me shining. The metaphor's a little mixed, but it drags in Erin's poet, and no Irish reminiscence is complete without him. The sun, unnoticed as we drove under the cool shade of overhanging trees for the last mile or so (the shiltie's pace was leisurely), now blazed brilliantly overhead in a grand expanse of spotless blue, and the clouds which had been done to a turn, so to speak, when we started were all vanished. The day, after all our hopes, was only fit for basking in the shade with a shilling novel, amateur photography, or "spearin' eels." Mac. looked guilty—as well he might.

"Can you find your 'fether' for us?" I demanded moodily.

"Yis," the urchin briefly answered.

"Then up you get!"

The lad clambered up beside me, and swung his short, brown legs about in great content as we drove down to the lough. I think both Mac. and I envied him. He seemed so completely happy; while, as for us, we came to the beach of Lough Sheelin with hearts as heavy as ever the poor exile's could have been. Larry had speared about a hundredweight of eels. When he learned our business, however, he was not altogether hopeless of our catching a trout, provided, of course, that we took his boat. He never is quite hopeless under the circumstances, although long experience should have taught him better knowledge. Anyway, we got out the ship, secured as many May-flies as would have stocked the whole English club, and pushed off.

And then began our final preparations—half-hearted preparations they were, instead of the eager bustle my fancy had foreseen. The thing was such an utterly foregone conclusion nobody could get excited about it. There was not a ripple on the glossy surface of the still water—so clear that you could see far down into its sunlit depths. It would be absurd to expect a trout with a well-balanced mind to seize our plainly captive insects when thousands of winged wanderers were to be had for the gobbling. The fish that would swallow a hook on such a day must certainly be soft in the head. If any such did really live and move in the blue waters of Lough Sheelin, I decided in my mind that it would be a sin to eat him and a shame to sell him. I would send him to Henrik Ibsen, who would probably be able to use him as a new character for a play—a new one being badly wanted just now.

I leant lazily over the side of the boat, and watched the big eels and little fish glide to and fro beneath us, while Mac., with a faint show of expectation, put the rods together. From the groves which line the lough shores a gay chorus of singing birds floated out. The fields were all deserted, for the cattle, driven by the pitiless sun, were now ruminating drowsily in the leafy shade of scented hawthorn hedgerows—but we came to fish, and must not remain merely to admire the scenery. The rods were ready, the long light lines were cast upon the summer air, but breeze there was none, so they fell in tangled bunches on the water. Then we reeled up again, unravelled the tiresome knots, and this time the lines were flung afar with an angry cast, and the "natural" flies were flung still farther. Larry knew perfectly well that the game was useless, but he saw that we were determined to go on with it, so he gave us the best advice he could by way of lending us his moral support.

When this sort of thing had lasted long enough for my taste, I threw down my rod and lit my pipe. Mac. continued drearily for some time longer, then he too threw down his rod and lit his pipe. Thus we smoked in moody silence for half an hour. The whole thing was Mac.'s fault, so I could not feel very cordial to him; and as for him, although he neither spoke nor wept, I could see he felt his position keenly. I began to wish he would say something, but I wasn't going to be so mean as to give him a lead. At last a benign expression showed on his usually good-natured countenance. It commenced small, but it developed fast, and by the time he got back from the bow of the boat with a basket in his hand it had become a decided grin. I forgave him. Where would the fishing man be without his basket—I mean his lunch basket? He could dispense with the other mostly—except for the look of the thing.

We felt better presently. There was no better sign of fishing, but life without it seemed less desolate. When the afternoon was far spent a strange thing happened, as they say in story books. I was looking idly at the lough shore, thinking about nothing in particular, my line trailing out some dozen yards behind the boat, when I got a pull that sent my heart into my mouth.

"Give him line, sir!" Larry shouted. "He's a big one!"

Out went the line, my rod bent double, and the reel still spinning gaily round. After that long day of waiting and watching this thing came upon me too suddenly, and I lost my head a bit. But Larry took command, and told me when to give my fish his own way, and when to compel him to take mine, meanwhile manœuvring his boat to suit. I could have done with less rowing about, but I bowed to Larry's better judgment. I had never hooked a really big fish before (in fact, have never), although I had read about such glories in the sporting papers, which is perhaps the next best thing. Now strange to say there dawned upon me—while with beating heart I did battle with this finny Goliath—a vague but palpable sensation that the sporting papers had somehow overdone the details of the combat. The mighty rushes, the gigantic leaps, the scream of the reel, and all the rest were surely overdrawn. Anyhow they did not seem to suit my case. My fish was more dignified than masterful in his rushes. He did not leap at all, and the reel was only moderately resonant. All the same, I was sadly disappointed when, after a brief engagement, my straining rod jerked back and my line came in with a sharp pluck.

Larry and Mac were sympathetic. But I would not be consoled. It was my last chance on Lough Sheelin, and I had stupidly thrown it away. I had lost the biggest fish of the season (Larry was positive it was the biggest) and my grief was great. Mac. saw that it was useless to reason with me, so he ordered Larry to put about and "pull for the shore," as the song says. Pat Brady watched our coming from afar, and by the time we landed the "shiltie" was in his harness, or in all that was left of it. I noticed it sloughing off a good many well-worn tag-ends on the morning jaunt.

As we took our seats, the sun, now low on the horizon, gleamed redly across the broad sheet of water and tinged the green groves on the farther shore with a fiery sheen. Big banks of crimson clouds began to creep up from the flaming horizon and spread over the hazy arc of blue. In the woods, the coos and caws of woodquest and rook mingled with the joyous gibberish of the tiny singers all warbling their joyful evensong. A country lad passed us, driving homeward half-a-dozen sleek milch cows that "mooed" contentedly, as with distended udders they passed on to the waiting milkmaids.

"All this sort of thing—this rustic delight—is pleasant enough," I remarked, as the 'shiltie' broke into a trot. "If I had not lost that big fish, I would have enjoyed the day immensely."

"You need not let that trouble you," Mac. said, somewhat shortly, I thought.

"But it does trouble me; it is too bad to lose the biggest fish ——"

"The biggest rubbish. That's only Larry's chaff."

"Well, on such a day it is too bad to lose the most microscopic minnow: to lose any fish at all."

"You lost no fish," Mac. said dryly, as he knocked a long white ash off his cigar.

"Lost no what? What do you call that fish I played for over five minutes."

"It wasn't you played it. It was Larry. You were too excited to notice that he was rowing the boat backwards and forwards all the time. You had had such a stupid day, I thought it a pity to spoil the only bit of sport you got. The thing wasn't a fish at all."

"Then what the devil was it?"

"A bunch of weeds; they are a nuisance in that part of the lake."

Then we smoked in silence for a time.

A FISH PREVIOUSLY UNKNOWN TO SCIENCE.

(DIPTYCHUS LANSDELLI.)

SOME little time back, in the course of conversation with the Rev. Dr. Henry Lansdell, the celebrated explorer, author of "Through Central Asia," &c., we found that he had discovered a fish previously unknown to science. We, by the kindness of Dr. Lansdell and Dr. Günther, of the British Museum, are able to give a beautiful engraving of the fish, which we had specially made from the specimen in the Museum, and the following account of it, from No. 16, vol. iii., of "Annals and Magazine of Natural History":—

NOTICE OF A NEW FISH FROM THE ISSIK KUL (DIPTYCHUS LANSDELLI).—BY DR. A. GUNTHER.

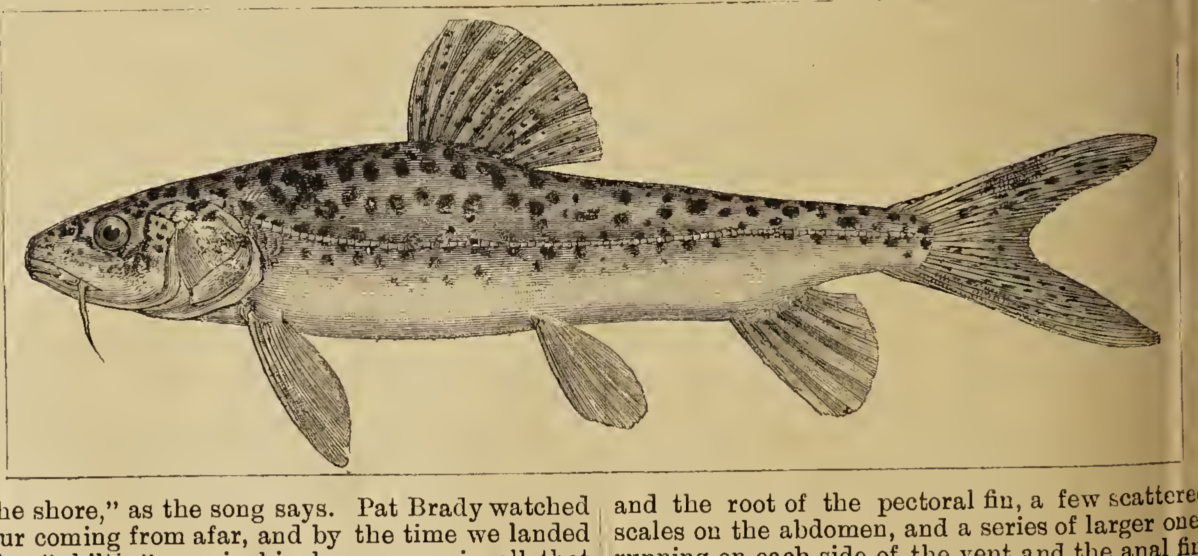
"The Rev. H. Lansdell has discovered during his recent travels in Central Asia a new species of the singular genus *Diptychus*, one of the most characteristic forms of the Central-Asiatic fauna, in the Issik Kul or one of its affluents. This is the fourth species known at present of this genus.

"*Diptychus Lansdelli.*

"D., 11. A., 7. P., 18. V., 10 L. lat , 80 90.

(Above refer to the Fin-rays.)

"Nearly the whole body is naked, the parts above the lateral line being quite scaleless; but there are a few scales between the lateral line and the root of the pectoral fin, a few scattered scales on the abdomen, and a series of larger ones running on each side of the vent and the anal fin The scales of the lateral line are distinct enoug in its anterior part, but rudimentary behind.



"The body is low, loach-like, its greatest dept being only one-sixth, or nearly one-sixth, of the total length (without caudal); the length of the head is contained four times and a-quarter in it and exceeds the length of the caudal peduncle Interorbital space very broad, its width being equal to the length of the snout. The diameter o

ye is one-sixth of the length of the head, and
er less than two-thirds of that of the snout.
h semicircular, quite at the lower side of the
t. Barbel about as long as the eye. The
l fin is as long as high, its origin being equi-
nt from the end of the snout and from the
of the caudal peduncle. Caudal fin deeply
d; pectoral fin reaching to the origin of the
l; ventral fin nearly to the vent. The outer
al ray is opposite to or a little behind the
dorsal ray.
The upper two-thirds of the body of this
es are covered with deep black spots, the
st of which are half the size of the eye.
The largest of the specimens is 12in. long; its
rays are covered with seasonal epidermoid
cles, arranged in a series along each ray."

Notes and Queries

is satisfactory to know that Mr. R. Rams-
m, of Manchester, has quite recovered from
evere illness, and is once more able to go
t in his usual genial manner.

E hope salmon anglers on the Earn will have
ter season than last. We hear from Crieff
there was a good spate on Wednesday, and
ets and cruives are now off.

E can recommend any of our readers who
to combine pleasant sea-side quarters with
ing air, and inland as well as sea fishing to
to the secretary of the Great Eastern
way, Liverpool-street, for their illustrated
phlets for tourists, with descriptions of holi-
resorts on the East Coast, the Broads, &c.

E publish a letter from Mr. F. G. Pattison,
secretary of the Bideford and District
ler's Society, in which he informs us that "a
leman, greatly interested in fishing, has pro-
d the prize money for a class for poultry at
annual show, on October 22 and 23, the
age of which is suitable for fly-tying."
her particulars can be had of Mr. Pattison.
wish the movement every success.

E following advertisement appeared in the
ness Courier, of August 21, 1891:—"In conse-
ce of the numerous applications which Sir
. Tollemache Sinclair, the proprietor, has
tly received for permission to angle for trout
e lower part of the Thurso river, he hereby
ates that until the close of the present year,
he will give leave to the public to fish with
nd line for trout from the Rivermouth up as
the South Boundary Wall of the Thurso
etery, opposite Juniper Bank.—By order.—
ter Estate Office, Thurso; August 18, 1891."
is a very liberal gift to the public, and one
h they will, no doubt, appreciate, as they
now fish with freedom, and without being
dicted for trespass.

OD SPORT AT STALHAM.—A. Nichols still con-
s to show good sport to his clients. Mr.
alli caught with him on Tuesday night
gust 18), in about six hours, two and a-half
of fish, including two perch, weighing
oz. and 1lb. 6oz.; three roach, 1lb. 2oz., 1lb.,
14oz.; and several bream about 2lb. On
rsday night they landed two stone of fish.
ngst them was a tench of 2½lb., and several
y rudd. Those who wish to fish the Broads
A. Nichols, or to engage rooms at his house,
ld write beforehand, to avoid disappointment.

E RIGHT OF FISHING FROM STAMFORD BRIDGE
UTTERCRAMBE, YORK.—To the Editor of the
shire Herald.—"Sir,—In to-day's issue of
Yorkshire Herald, I observe under the head-
of 'Angling Gossip' a paragraph stating I
stopped all fishing from Stamford Bridge to
ercrambe. I must ask you to correct this in
next issue, as such is not the case. It is not,
has never been, my intention to stop any-
fishing so long as they do not injure the
s, &c., and to prove this, everybody who has
d for permission to fish has been granted such
ission. It is in the interest of true anglers
no one is allowed to fish without such per-
ion, as then they can always be sure of good sport, which nobody is more pleased at than myself. The late tenant granted permission to anybody who asked for it, and I am willing to do the same. The writer of the article seems to be labouring under a misconception in stating the waters are free; if such were the case, how, then, should it be necessary for intending anglers to ask permission? Again, allow me to state that permission will readily and with pleasure be granted to any intending anglers between Stamford Bridge and Buttercrambe Church; the remaining waters I reserve for myself and friends.—Yours sincerely, FRED. B. LYSAGHT-KNIGHT.—Aldby Park, York, August 13, 1891."

A DAY'S BREAM FISHING AT OFFORD.—Starting from Host Faulkener's, at the Horse Shoe, about half-past nine o'clock on Saturday morning, August 22, we—*i.e.*, my wife and self—went over to our boat, lying in Abraham's meadow, and got fairly under weigh in about a quarter of an hour. We pulled up stream as far as Mr. Priestley's meadow, passing at the G. N. osier bed, the Rev. Turner who had been fishing since half-past five and had not caught a fish. Coming to land about half-way up at a good open space, where there was plenty of room to handle long rods, we disembarked and put together two long rods 20ft. and 18ft. respectively, and one short one, which my wife uses, and which lies close under the bank. We had taken our baiting, consisting of a pail of grains, with us, and I mixed about half of this up and throw it in. We then sat down and patiently waited for a bite. The "first express" went down (we were close to the railway) and not a touch; two or three more rattle by, and still all was silent, and our spirits began to droop, and we began to think we were in for a bad day. However, about a quarter to twelve there was a mighty tug which I attributed to an eel, at one of the long rods, but before I could rush to it to strike, it was gone, and all was again quiet. A few minutes after, my wife caught a 1lb. bream on her short rod, and this opened the ball, for immediately after there was another sheer walk off with one of my big floats (Thames quills) and a few minutes after a two and a-half pounder lay on the bank. The fun now became fast, and by one o'clock we had eight bream, three 2½lb. each, and the rest a little smaller. There now seemed a slight lull, and we improved the time by having lunch, and then I walked down the bank to speak to Mr. Margetson, who was fishing a swim on the towing-path about three hundred yards below us, which Collins, the keeper of the Offord Association, had been baiting for him for a few days previously. He was fishing with lobs and had not got a fish, so Collins came over the river to me, and I gave him a few brandlings with which Mr. M. subsequently got a few nice fish. Having returned to my own rods, and put the rest of the grains in, the bream soon began to feed again, and they kept right on through a severe storm which broke over us about six o'clock, with a result that we got in all twenty-eight bream, sixteen of them weighing from 2lb. to 3lb. each, and the rest were all over 1lb. each. I scarcely know what to attribute it to, unless it was that a lot of rain water had come during the previous night and the water was very discoloured. At any rate, I know it was one of the best day's sport we have ever had, and when the fish were spread out in the yard on our return to quarters, everybody said it was the finest show of fish they had ever seen at Offord. I ought to say that in addition we caught twenty-six roach, and could have caught an unlimited number.—ROVER.

LAKE VYRNWY, NORTH WALES.—A correspondent writes: "To the uninitiated, Lake Vyrnwy would convey to the minds of many a place where engineering and mechanical skill had spoilt natural beauty; but this is not so. Not only does it supply Liverpool with an ever-abundance of the best drinking water, but it furnishes delights for tourists of all classes—the artist, photographer, shootist, &c., and especially flyfishermen. This beautiful lake runs longitudinally for five miles, varying from a quarter of a mile upwards in width, and on either side are huge mountains of heather, fern, and gorse, intermingled with grass, and here and there stand out in bold relief rocks, larch, and oak plantation, &c. On the lake are to be seen wild fowl of various descriptions, and occasionally the solitary kingfisher, all tending to add to its general charms. There is a carriage drive of twelve miles round, which is cut away from the mountains, and at various distances there are sequestered bays into which many streams and rivulets pour their ever-living waters, descending from precipitous heights in varied course over boulders, rocks, and stones that make the scenery truly enchanting. From the dam overlooking southwards, the river Vyrnwy takes its winding course to the Severn through such a variety of sylvan beauty that no bard could describe. Facing the lake, at the south-west side, we have the Vyrnwy Hotel, standing some 100ft. above it. This hotel is replete with all comforts, and is managed by Miss Davis and Mr. Gibbings, and to both your correspondent must pay a tribute of respect for the very able manner in which it is conducted, at a moderate charge; the posting, boating, and boatmen, &c., coming under the supervision of the manager. Now, August is not considered a good month for fly-fishing; but the lake is so full of trout there is no wonder at the weekly record. I myself have caught the limit (fifteen) in a very few hours, and never had any difficulty in making up a good basket. The fish are brought to the hotel, weighed, and registered in a book under the strictest scrutiny of the manager, who is particular almost to a fault, for many were the trout I caught within a hair's-breadth of 10in. (the limit of size), and which had to be thrown back, under penalty of a fine, which in many rivers would have been considered a fine fish. I do not mean the latter a sa joke. The lake is fishable from the shore at any point, or from a boat, at the fisherman's option. There are some very large fish in mid-lake, but I caught none above 2lb., my average being a little over 1lb., and the strongest fighting fish it has been my lot to welcome. There will always be plenty of fish, as, apart from the natural breeding-ground, Mr. Ward (the enterprising lessee) has at a great cost completed some extensive artificial breeding ponds, from whence there were will be an everlasting supply; besides, no fishing is allowed between Sept. 15 and the following March. Anyone desirous of visiting this grandest of trout fishing lakes should write to the manager, and arrange for conveyance to meet the train at Llanfyllin station (pronounced Thlanfuthlin), or at Bala, truly a charming drive to the hotel, and one never to be forgotten."

CLOSE OF THE SALMON NET FISHING IN THE NORTH.—Wednesday last, at midnight, witnessed the enforcement of the closure on the netters' operations till the advent of a new year. On the Dee, Don, and district coast fishings, the season has been a good one, and particularly so on the coast south of the Dee, where the fishing has not been so prolific for many years back. The Harbour Commissioners stations have yielded a higher record than in any previous year, while the Bay of Nigg, Altens Cove, and other south stations are also above the average. In the in-river stations the results have not kept pace with the coast, yet the figures are much above last year, and on the whole a fair average. The Don all round is much better than last season. On the coast north of that fishing has not been nearly so successful, and the yield is under the average.

FISHING ON THE HAMPSHIRE STOUR.—A curious fishing case was recently heard at Christchurch Petty Sessions. A gentleman, a visitor to Bournemouth, was summoned for fishing in the river Stour in water over which a private right of fishing existed. The defendant pleaded guilty, and at the same time stated he was not aware that he was doing wrong. He was under the impression that a ticket could be obtained for the fishing at the New Inn, towards which he was making his way, intending to pay when he got there. The owner of the fishing did not wish to press the case, and probably no more would have been heard of the matter, if defendant, after having fished from the banks of the river, had not been found fishing from Ilford Bridge later in the day. The defendant said he thought he had a perfect right to fish from a bridge over a public highway. The magistrate's clerk said, although the bridge was public, the water was private. Defendant was fined 10s. and 17s. costs. But how about the 3s. 6d. ticket, which could have been obtained at the New Inn during the intervals of the two fishings?

THE LATE DONALD GUNN, GILLIE, FORSINARD.

ALAS! Poor Donald Gunn! He has joined the majority. This member of the warlike clan Gunn, the terror, in the "good old times" of reviving and reprisals, of the Sutherlands and the "men o' Strathnaver," was born sixty-four years ago, in Strathhalladale, close to the spot where the burn of Shallag-na-Coorach joins the Halladale river. Early in life, and when as yet scarce able to wield a stout willow wand, Donald showed his fondness for fishing, and it was always well known to his parents, when they failed to find him when wanted, that he had "stealt" quietly away to the burn of Coorach, with wand and worm to "pin" the yellow trout. Later on, and when strong enough to walk to the several hill lochs in the neighbourhood, he got hold of an "otter," and with this deadly engine, equipped with a line of his mother's making and flies of the roughest of his own tying, he sped gleefully over "moor and moss," to the field of his operations. With the "otter" he was wonderfully successful, bringing home on many occasions (as of late years he has told anglers) such a heavy lift o' troots that he had to rest "every few hundred yairds wi' th' wecht o't." Ah! those were the palmy days of sport, when Donald was young and the trout knew no guile! Such baskets as are never *now* heard of were *easy then.* In justice to Donald's memory—for he was a fair fisher—it has to be stated that, although in his young days he was a terrible and renowned "otterer," he never once, albeit he retained a hankering for it, declaring often that it "beat a' for catching troots," put the "otter" on a loch after ottering became illegal.

Donald, when examining the tiny flies of the present day, as he often did with great circumspection, was wont to make quaint reference to the large, rough, home-made flies of his youth. "Ah," he would say, "when I was a bit laddie, and the troots loupt like daft, I would never hae imagined that the day would come when a' this fine art in dressing would be required to beguile them. Trow, times are sair changed." Of a truth, "sair" changed indeed they are, for, flies aside, there was no such thing known in the Highland Strath during Donald's boyhood, as fine drawn gut and silk lines, not to speak of cane rods, "whip-lash," eyed hooks, dry-fly, and "strike from the winch." No, indeed! As to lines, Donald's consisted of horse-tail hair—two or three good long hairs for gut, and the nest, or reel line, of three ply, or plait, of two or three hairs, all twisted together with goosequills, which were found on the shores of the upland lochs.

Mr. Murray, of the hotel, Forsinard, where for eight seasons Donald has been head gillie and boatman, writes:—"About thirty-five years ago Donald went to America, where several of his uncles had some twenty years before emigrated, and after accumulating a little money he bought a piece of rough land in the neighbourhood of the place where one of his uncles lived. But Donald was no 'land man.' After spending some days felling trees, he took his hatchet, and giving it a few swings round his head, pitched it as far as he could into the forest, and straightway went and sold the piece of land to his uncle. Some time afterwards, and during the American war, he found himself as stoker on board a steamer, and while in this employment he ran the blockade twice. With all the war-fire of the Gunn in his eye he would tell how that the captain—who was also a Scotchman—said to his crew, 'Heaven, hell, or New York to-night, my boys.' The plan the captain fell upon was to make a raft of timber and tar and oil, and set fire to it. The wind being favourable, the raft was carried towards the enemy's line of ships, and thinking it was a ship on fire, an opening was made in their line, and the gallant Scottie, taking advantage of the opening and the darkness of the night, got safely through.

Finding that American money did not stick to his pockets, Donald returned to his native strath about twenty-four years ago, and married a Crofter's only daughter, and at the death of his father-in-law he succeeded to the Croft, where he has had his "ups and downs," like all other Crofters.

Donald got the credit of being able to give a name to every fly shown him. And he could highly entertain his employer when trout were not on the rise, or when walking over the moors to some distant loch. One of his amusing clever "buts" we must give. Once, when returning from fishing Loch Coorach with a party, Donald was asked what building was that, pointing to a rather primitive free church by the roadside, and he replied that that was the Free Church of Scotland. The querist gave a derisive laugh, which did not go down well with Donald. And walking a few yards farther, where stands a crofter's meal mill, he again asked what building was that. Donald replied that "that was the Church of England." "And what is the wheel for?" asked his questioner. "For driving the organ," said Donald. A glass of whisky was ordered for him on arriving at the hotel. If anything that Donald would say was doubted, he would reply, "that he never told a lie but when the truth would not suit."

DONALD GUNN.

Donald was a most accommodating gillie, and truly, as one gentleman to whom he had been gillie this season said on hearing of his death, he was a prince among gillies. He liked to beat all the others each day, and invariably did so, but when this did not happen he felt and looked ver disappointed. He knew all the shallows and bays frequented by the trout, and no doubt this accounted for his gentleman having the best baskets. Fly fishing was his favourite sport and he did not care for trolling, though the largest trout he knew well were got by the latter mode o fishing. There was always a great demand fo him by those who came to Forsinard, and he ha this summer finished his seventh season, lastin five weeks, with one angler who is an annua visitor. Three-fourths of the visitors wanted t have him and he was often bespoken a mont beforehand. Donald will be greatly missed b those gentlemen on their retur to Forsinard, and several of the to whom his death has been announced have replied expressin their deep sorrow. Letters continue to be received from partie nearly every other day asking t have Donald Gunn for their gillie but alas! alas! no more will hi advice guide, his skilful han handle the oar, or his light foo tread the heather.

Although in his sixty-fourt year, Donald was up till August quite fresh and vigorous, an would have passed for a man te years younger. From the 1st o May until the date mentioned, h was constantly at Forsinard. O the latter date he had finishe with a Mr. Durrant, and wen home as usual on Saturday nigh apparently in his ordinary healt For a week or two previous t this date he had complained o "rhumates," as he called it, in hi left arm, but nothing was thoug of it, until Monday, 3rd Augus when his arm became serious, an before medical aid could be got h was past recovery, and deat ensued at noon on Tuesday, 4t August. The "rhumatie" that h complained of turned out to b erysipelas. The funeral took plac on Thursday at noon, and was attended by upwards of one hundre people, nearly the whole mal population of the eighteen miles o Strathalladale. The coffin wa carried shoulder-high to Kirkto Churchyard, and so Donald Gun was buried within one mile o where he was born. Everybod seemed much moved at Donald' sudden death, and seemed to thin that a "land-mark had been removed."

Donald was very quick-witted and also very entertaining; hi hobby was angling, and he ofte declared that there was nothin under the heavens in the shap of sport to beat angling for trout And so anxious was he to mak a good basket that he woul scarcely give time to his gentleman for lunch Nay, he would be up and in the boat befor he was half finished with it, calling out, "Th trout are on the rise, Sir; let us be off, o we will not make a basket the day. No, indeed no, Sir!" To lady anglers he was all *gallantry* and would plump into the water in the mornin so as to transfer them, without wetting a pretty shoe, into the boat. One thing he had a grea aversion to, and that was *two* anglers in one boat He used to declare that such ought not to b allowed, as the one was always in the way of the other.

Mr. Murray, in a private letter to me, expresses himself as much cut up about Donald's death, which was so sudden and unexpected. For the bereaved family, a widow and three boys, he says much sympathy is felt, and he suggests that a "little something" to cheer them, and as a tangible expression of kindly remembrance of the "head of the household," might be done by those anglers to whom Donald was known. Mr. Murray thinks, as I do, that we shall not soon look upon his like again. In the season he had come to be regarded at Forsinard as one of the family, and an undoubted attraction to the place. I knew him, and can truly say that I found him a model gillie—active, obliging, attentive, beguiling with saying and story when required to relieve tedium, and ever anxious to please as he was to get sport. He was intelligent and a great reader, and his frequent quaint letters to Mr. Marston, Editor *F. G.*, were always replied to. He took a pride in making anglers aware of this, and when a present accompanying a letter was a book on angling, he read it over and over again with the greatest zest. Piscatorially, next to angling, his delight was to read about angling.

Waltoniana

IF there is one class of sportsmen who should not complain at the wet summer we are having, it is the anglers. The harvest is being spoiled and bread will be dear; but there is water in the rivers and fish do bite, and the gallant bearers of fly or bottom-fishing rod are for the most part having sport far above the average for the time of year. The barbel, which during many summers past have fed but poorly, have been taking well, and, needless to say, roach fishers have not done badly. Of course we grumble. We should not be anglers if we did not. But the few who are contented with moderate bags are thankful and satisfied.

NOT everywhere, however, has sport been first-rate. A friend writing from Gweedore says there are a lot of anglers there, but they are not doing much. Sarcastic-like, he adds, "I am sure their baskets will be heavy by the time they come to tell their friends at home of their doings." He is an angler himself, so knows I cannot, for the life of me, understand why anglers are supposed to magnify the contents of their baskets. I do not meet the men who do it. Certainly a few of my acquaintances have an unfortunate way of losing the largest fish they have ever hooked, but large fish are surely more likely to break away than small ones, and if now and again a forty-pound salmon goes off with a cast and a favourite fly, which said fly is recovered the next day sticking in the tail of a 3lb. sea trout, it only proves what strange things fish can do in the way of ridding themselves of flies and transferring them to other fish.

IN this connection, I remember a story told me by a fairly veracious Scotch gamekeeper. The tenant of a certain stream in the north was fishing a noted pool, and at the third cast was into a fine salmon (this always happens in stories about the third cast) which cut capers and behaved wildly. Above the pool were a couple of small falls, and just below the upper one was a small eddy, in which the keeper knew two salmon to be lying. In answer to a query I put him, he was unable to say whether or no the fish knew anyone was lying on the bank near them. Anyway, that was immaterial. Now, the salmon which was hooked and cut capers in the pool below as aforesaid was a large fish of about 20lb., while the two fish in the eddy were neither of them over 10lb. in weight. We now arrive at the marvellous part of the story. The big fish, having gone hither and thither in the pool, suddenly struck up-stream, with a rush ascended the lower fall, dashed into the eddy, and a second later the angler found he had on a smaller fish, which he ultimately landed. "Oh, it was easy to understand," said the keeper. "The small fish in the eddy just rushed at the fly in the large fish's mouth, and broke the fly away and became hooked. Oh, yes, it was easy to understand that." The wonder of it was that the fish which was landed was fairly hooked in the mouth. The same keeper also told me that that same angler, who was also a shooter, blazed away all through one shooting season at grouse, snipe, woodcock, pigeons, duck, and other wild-fowl without—hitting once? you suggest. No, my friend, without making one miss all through the season. Oh, yes, it was easy to understand that.

"I WANT you kindly to tell me where I can get really first-rate pike fishing in Ireland," wrote one of my too numerous correspondents the other day, and I was inclined to reply "nowhere," having hunted for that same first-rate pike fishing until I wearied and gave up the chase in disgust. Possibly there are some private waters where the pike are large and numerous. I know of one such place in the sister isle, but in the public waters I fear that the slaughter of pike in the breeding season, combined with the ever-increasing attention paid to these fine fish by anglers (an attention both complimentary and obnoxious to pike), have had the result of thinning out the fish in all the more comeatable waters, and also in the great majority of those more remote. Pat is never tired of telling one of the monsters, which have been killed; but how many of the thousands of anglers who have visited Ireland during, say, the last ten years, have had any monsters to show for their pains? There are certainly many Irish lakes where better pike fishing can be had than in most open English waters, but not what I can term "first-class pike fishing," by which I mean an average of ten fish a day of goodly size, and at least one fish over 20lb. in a fortnight. There are private waters in England where even better sport than that can be obtained. In a land where pike are looked upon as vermin, and are slaughtered at all times accordingly, it is absurd to expect really fine pike fishing. Still, it is expected, and many are the anglers who are disappointed.

I SHOULD be sorry to say anything to keep anglers away from Ireland, but I should be still more sorry to be the means of sending anyone there with the idea that they would obtain sport which would not be forthcoming. Ireland is a first-rate place for an angling holiday. I prefer it to Scotland myself. If the tourist angler's hopes are not raised too high, he will enjoy his holiday far more than if he goes over there expecting to have splendid fishing, only to be disappointed. A good all-round angler can have a most enjoyable time on some of the large lakes, provided he is not nervous on the water. There are a few large trout to be obtained by trolling (*Anglice*, trailling); probably the perch fishing will be first-rate. If there are bream in the lake, a likely spot should be baited and tried at night. Then there may be rudd to be caught with the fly on the shallows, and in numbers of small streams are numbers of small trout, which anyone is at liberty to catch. In September (I am speaking of the west and south), a little wild-fowl shooting can probably be obtained without difficulty, and altogether a very jolly holiday may be spent. I have in my mind some of the large Shannon lakes.

TEMPLAR.

A LARGE PIKE.—A noble pike was caught just at the close of the season by a gentleman on Stalham Broad. It was captured in splendid condition, and weighed 21lb.; it measures 3ft. 3in. in length, and is perfect in shape. It has been most artistically mounted by Mr. W. Lowne, of Fuller's Hill, Great Yarmouth, and has been much admired by all who have seen it.

A SHARK CAUGHT ON A "SPINNER."—Quite a stir was caused at Bridlington, on Thursday week, when Mr. Mills's yacht came in from a fishing cruise, having on board a large shark, which the crew had captured whilst out hand-lining. The circumstances connected with its capture were of a most exciting character. It seems that Mr. Mills was pulling in a small fish—a gurnet—which he had hooked on a "Spinner," when suddenly a shark appeared and attempted to swallow the gurnet, but the smaller fish had no inclination that way, and fought hard to escape from the jaws of the huge creature, now diving under the boat and now skimming on the top of the water. All the while the shark was making great rushes at it, and once or twice got it in its mouth. Whilst this exciting scene was going on, Mr. Phil Mills got the gaff, and stood ready for a chance at the monster, and presently the opportunity offered. By a dextrous stroke he then sent the gaff into the right place, and amidst great excitement the shark was hauled on board, where its frantic efforts to escape soon put all in confusion; but a few well-applied blows with a marline-spike by Mr. Frank Mills quickly placed the creature out of harm's way. A large crowd gathered round the yacht as it lay at its moorings near the south pier to see the monster.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. PRITT.

WHOLESALE DESTRUCTION OF SALMON.

DEAR SIR,—I should feel very much obliged if you would publish in your next *Gazette* a letter that I take from the *Cork Constitution*, August 14, 1891, and signed "F. W. Jackson, *Ex* Hon. Sec. Old Anglers' Club." This appears in print just after a terrible destruction of salmon and trout at Innishannon, river Bandon, co. Cork. The water was low, and the fish had congregated in large numbers just above the tideway, in a reach of about three-quarters of a mile. The slaughter was awful, independent of those taken away by the poachers. It is said nearly a thousand fish were taken out of the river to prevent contamination of the water. The river Ilen, farther south, has been mercilessly poisoned this year also, and is similar to the Bandon at present, almost fishless. When it is reflected that this is destruction of splendid food and manly sport, there should be a long and lusty cry to the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland for more stringent laws relative to the inland fisheries, and dismissal of the various conservators that have proved themselves unworthy of the trust placed in their hands, and care nothing that this great evil is extending year by year.—Yours, &c.,

NUNQUAM NON PARATUS.

[COPY.]

THE WHOLESALE DESTRUCTION OF SALMON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CORK CONSTITUTION."

SIR,—I am informed that fully two weeks ago above Macroom salmon were poisoned by hundreds. At the weekly meeting of the Board of Conservators, on last Saturday, Mr. Barry stated that since then another poisoning had been effected in lower waters, whereby over fiv hundred salmon were taken out of the river. Strange to say, that in the very same paper in which this startling statement appears, a letter signed by Mr. George Haynes, conservator, takes prominent place, assuring all its readers that fully five hundred salmon more have passed from their only place of safety, to receive unquestionably the same sad fate.

Everyone interested in this question knows that the key of the river Lee is the Wellington Bridge hole, with its long reaches below, where fish may lie in comparative safety owing to sunken anchors and heavy hitching.

But since the new weir has been erected, in which a most efficient pass has been constructed, under the guidance of the chairman of the Waterworks Committee, the conservators appear not to be satisfied with the consciousness of its efficiency, but must insist on having "artificial" floods passed twice a week through it, with what object nobody knows, except to supply an irresistible temptation to the poisoner to practise his deadly art above.

Is it genuine work to induce the fish to leave the deep waters of safety in summer seasons to reach the shallows and pools of the upper waters, where a couple of bottles of condensed poison is certain to annihilate them? And yet it appears to be so from the statement of Mr. Haynes. The only reason assignable is that "there are poachers at Wellington Bridge hole." Now, to my certain knowledge, not more than a dozen licensed men fish from that bridge, two-thirds of whom are unquestionably not poachers, but would be willingly bailiffs if properly handled. Yet at this very point the greater part of the board's energy is directed, leaving thirty miles of water to two or three bailiffs, supplemented by the occasional visit of a police patrol. Can anyone wonder at the result? Until this present year this Wellington Bridge hole has been part of a "several" fishery, consequently netted throughout the entire season. I have seen one hundred and twenty salmon taken out of it in one draught of a net; this one draught of a net would represent more than all the poaching of one year at that bridge would be equal to, and yet to protect this one draught the conservators will insist on closing their eyes to the frightful poison slaughter in the upper waters.

The whole matter resolves itself into a simple question of expediency—viz., whether it be easier for the board to direct nearly all its attention to watching the questionable proceedings of four licensed anglers (who, by the way, are thoroughly watched by eight fair fishing anglers, besides the general public), or strive with every nerve to vanquish that the practice of which will render our lovely Lee in two brief years a "fishless river."

One thing is certain, the old wail of indignation draft and drift nets can be no longer indulged in, for thousands of salmon have passed this year these destructive engines to meet on the upper waters their inglorious doom.

Have the net men nothing to say to this?

What has the medical superintendent of health to say?

If the conservators cannot preserve the fish, surely it becomes the corporate duty to strive to preserve from contamination the water.—Yours truly,

F. W. JACKSON,
Ex Hon. Sec. Old Anglers' Club.

ARUNDEL PARK.

DEAR SIR,—In replying to your correspondent, "M. A.," saying the Duke has closed the gates of Arundel Park, I beg to contradict that statement, for it is entirely without foundation. We should like to know where "M. A." got the information. —Yours truly,

A. A. ELDRIDGE,
Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.

WARWICKSHIRE AVON.—CART-LOADS OF FISH AND FEW FISHERMEN.

DEAR SIR,—Herewith I beg to hand you the envelopes which I have not used. I find it is not of any use trying to send a report all through the season, as there are so few fishermen who go out, and there is little or nothing worth reporting. There are cart-loads of fish in the river. Last Bank Holiday I saw—well, I can't say how many, but for two hundred yards the river was positively black with big bream; in fact, I don't think you could have put your hand down flat on the water without touching one. The strangest thing of all is that I can never get them out in any quantity. I've baited and baited, with the result of only three or four decent fish in the first hour of daylight. Directly the sun gets up, all of them come up to the top of the water, and won't look at a bait; at the same time they take no notice of the casting out of the tackle. What can they all find to feed upon, for those I catch are in splendid condition? The river here is always weedy, with clay or muddy bottom as a rule, and slow running. Below Warwick it runs over gravel chiefly, and is remarkably clear from weeds and vegetation, and flows tolerably fast. Down there the bream feed freely, and I have caught good quantities without previous baiting. I think the weeds hold some food or other which the bream thrive on, and prefer to any baits I can place before them. Some lucky beggar will get them "on" some day—I only hope I may be the favoured individual.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

Rugby. A. FROST.

MARKED FISH.

DEAR SIR,—I am glad to be able to assure "Templar" that the only point upon which he takes objection to my scheme for marking fish has been fully considered and provided against. The labels are only used by me in certain districts, and in each of these ample notice has been given that fish are being so marked—not only by letters in the local papers, but also by persons in communication with the keepers in charge of the rivers where they are in use; and a notice has also been given by the courtesy of the Editor of *The Field*, and yourself, as Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*, of the fact, and giving my address as that to which any labels which may be detached from fish may be sent. I am, yours, &c., HENRY G. GREEN.

Laverton House, Hill, Southampton.

A GOOD FISHING PLACE IN NORFOLK.

DEAR SIR,—In your issue of the 1st instant you published, under the above heading, a letter from Dr. Ladell, of London, recommending anglers wishing to fish the Broads to make Stalham their headquarters; and acting on the above, I at once decided to give the place a trial, with the following results.

I arrived on Monday evening, August 10, and began fishing next day, taking 30lb. of bream, one 3lb. and several over 2lb. The previous day Nichols had been out for two or three hours with Masters E. and F. Hudson, of Birmingham, their initial effort in angling, and they had taken 13½lb. of roach. On Wednesday my catch did not amount to very much; but Mr. Arthurs, Mill House, Stalham, out with Nichols, had a grand catch of fish, including twenty-five roach, weighing 22lb.—certainly the finest lot of roach I ever saw. Thursday I did not fish; but Masters E. and F. Hudson had 45lb., including some very fine rudd, about 2lb. each. On Friday I had (two rods) sixty-six fish, weighing 70lb.; roach up to 1½lb.; perch, 1¼lb.; rudd, 2½lb.; and some very fine bream. On Saturday, myself and the Masters Hudson had about 30lb., my best fish being a tench of 3lb., which I am having set up; and one of the Hudsons had a perch 1lb. 10oz. Nearly all the above fish were taken with lob-worms on Barton Broad.

As the *F. G.* was the means of my having such grand sport I shall be only too glad if this letter induces other anglers to give this place a trial. They are bound to catch plenty of fish, as they are there in tons. Nichols knows every yard of the broad and river, and his services are in great demand. I put up with him at Walton House, and was made thoroughly at home.—Yours truly,

Oldham. J. F. WILKINSON.

A NEW SEA FISHING BAIT.

DEAR SIR,—I herewith enclose two new baits that I am just bringing out for pollack, bass, and mackerel. You will see that it is a metal fish, cast on to a specially made long shank hook; it can be used by itself, or may have a worm or strip of fish put on the hook, and being cast solid does away with the lead to a certain degree, especially when drift lining for pollack. Should it get dull at any time a scrape with a sharp knife will make it glisten again. There is nothing to wear out in them, and the hook is solid right through the fish. I make them in two sizes—prices twopence and threepence; and I think they will prove very killing. I have had good reports of them, fishing for codling off piers, as they resemble the jigger used in the Newfoundland cod fishery.

I shall be glad to hear your opinion.—Yours truly, W. HEARDER.

Union-street, Plymouth.

[We do not see why this bait should not prove a useful addition to the tackle of the salt-water angler.—ED.]

THE BADGER.

DEAR SIR,—Permit me to thank "Liberia" and "Badger" for their replies to inquiries after badger-fly.

I find I have more dressings thereof now than there are days of the week; and the conclusion I have come to is, that any body and wing, with the hackle they term the badger hackle, answers for the badger fly; but the neatest I have received is one dressed by Ogden, of Cheltenham, from a private source.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

D. W. BREARLEY.

Sherrington, Newport Pagnel.

COTTON CAKE AS A GROUND-BAIT.

SIR,—Water was thick at East Peckham, Kent, last Friday and Saturday, but not too thick to catch fish (legering), bream, eels, and dace taking the worm. Aaron Saunders (or Sanders) is a noted character in this neighbourhood, and knows the water well—one reason, perhaps, why Aaron often catches bream when others cannot, and that with a rod that would fill an ordinary angler with wonder. His chief ground-bait is cotton cake—a remarkable production, with a very strong and most peculiar odour, not unlike a linseed poultice stuffed full of currants, only darker and greener—probably the husks of the seed from the cotton. Aaron believes in the efficacy of this odour; I certainly do not in a discoloured water, because I and a friend, after fishing for several hours in a noted swim (which Aaron had baited for a London angler who did not come), never took a bream; but trying for the last few hours of my stay at another quiet corner, in a lazy current much nearer the side, and throwing in chopped worms as ground-bait, we took three good bream and a few eels. How does Aaron account for this, as we fished the swim that he had baited exactly as he told us. He well ground-baits with the cake, and fishes with worms. An immense number of large pieces of foam or froth-like small patches of dirty snow were continually floating down the Medway, and gave it a singular appearance—nothing could have better marked out the river's course, or shown how the bream eddy was formed.—I am, &c., MARK.

THE FIRST EDITION OF RONALD'S "FLYFISHERS' ENTOMOLOGY."

DEAR SIR,—Being anxious to obtain a first edition of Ronald's "Flyfishers' Entomology" (1836, I believe), I am writing to ask if you will kindly tell me, through the *F. G.*, the most likely manner in which I could obtain the above, also what price I should give for it? An acquaintance got hold of a very good copy of the first edition for ten shillings and sixpence. Are there any later editions than somewhere in the fifties?—Yours faithfully, F.R.C.S.

[A first edition is worth from twenty shillings to forty shillings, according to condition. We advise "F.R.C.S." to advertise in *The Publishers' Circular and Booksellers' Record*, "Books Wanted" column, or get his bookseller to do it.—ED.]

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—EAST LONDON RUBBER Co, 8, Shoreditch, E

INTERESTING TO ARTIFICIAL FLY MAKERS.

SIR,—I beg to inform you that a gentleman here, greatly interested in fishing, has provided the prize money for a *class for poultry* at our annual show on October 22 and 23 next, the plumage of which is suitable for fly tying.

The class has been placed in the schedule, which can be had from, yours obediently,

F. G. PATTISON,
Hon. Sec. Bideford and District Fanciers' Society.

[We hope those interested in this question will communicate with Mr. Pattison.—ED.]

LARGE DACE.

DEAR SIR,—I should like to know what your correspondent "Giant" has to say respecting the large dace weighing 1¼lb. The fish in question is said to measure 11¾in. I have taken a great quantity of very fine dace (notably one take last season of forty fish, weighing 20lb.), and I have no hesitation in saying that a dace of the weight of 1¼lb. should measure considerably over a foot long. A friend of mine, a preserver of fish, now has in his possession two dace of 12oz. each, and they measure from tip to tip 11in. long. Now this fish has half-a-pound more flesh on him, and is only three-quarters of an inch longer. I think the above must be taken with a very large grain of salt.

Then, again, Mr. B. Abrahams draws attention to a very fine take of dace—viz., thirteen fish, weighing 10lb.—certainly a *most extraordinary* take; and I, like him, would like to know the measurements—it would considerably enlighten us on the above.—Yours truly, A. GEORGE,

Sec. Caledonian Angling Society.

THE 1LB. 4OZ. DACE, &c.

SIR,—Referring to Mr. Jardine's letter respecting the capture of a dace 1lb. 4oz., measuring 11¾in. extreme length, there is either some error in the measurement, or the fish must have been what a Thames professional (whose opinion I asked on the matter) described as a "precious thick 'un."

As a contrast to the above I quote the following: In *Fishing Gazette*, of about 29th November last, Mr. Edgar S. Shrubsole stated that in 1887 Mr. Hicks (Woolwich Brothers Angling Society) caught a dace in the Ravensbourne, Southend, Bromley—weight 1lb. 2½oz., length 16in.; and as a dace 2in. longer than the extreme depth of the *Fishing Gazette* was beyond my comprehension, I inquired whether the extraordinary measurement could be substantiated; and on the 20th December following a reply appeared from Mr. William Stevenson (secretary of the club referred to) to the effect that the statement was perfectly true.

In the *Fishing Gazette* of 4th April Mr. R. L. Atchinson gave the measurements of a 1lb. 1oz. dace (as weighed at the office of *Fishing* twenty-four hours after its capture) as extreme length 13⅛in., depth 3½in.

Mr. Jardine also refers to gudgeon *9in. in length*, which turned out to be small barbel. I have never heard of recent instances of gudgeon attaining this length, until, on the 1st August last, an article appeared in the *Field*, wherein the writer states "we have seen one gudgeon of 9in., and several of 8in.

In the *Fishing Gazette* of 8th August, in "Notes from Lancashire," the following passage occurs: "Some very good minnows have lately been taken in the Weaver and Dane; they were exceedingly fine, and in a few cases measured 6in. in length." I have never before heard of minnows exceeding 5in. in length. Have any of your readers?—Yours, &c., GIANT.

RE DACE.

SIR,—Mr. A. Jardine in his letter states that the *largest and finest dace* at the great International Fisheries Exhibition, 1883, was exhibited by Mr. Howlett, of Newmarket, weighing 17oz. He must have forgotten the one exhibited in the collection of the Hoxton Brothers, which was taken on a Sunday afternoon by Mr. E. Barr, and when taken to Mr. Cooper's on the next day (Monday) between twelve and one o'clock weighed *17½oz.* This fish took the *money prize, certificate, and diploma for dace* at the Fisheries Exhibition of that year, and is now in the club-room of the Hoxton Brothers Angling Society, the Swan, New Bethnal Green-road. It was taken in a small river that empties itself into the Lea. It is no uncommon occurrence to take dace from this stream from 12oz. to 15oz. I had the privilege of fishing it for many years.—Yours, &c., R. GHURNEY.

FISHING NEAR SOUTHAMPTON.

SIR,—Could you, or any of your readers, kindly supply me with the following information? I am going to Southampton for a few days, and whilst there would like to do a little fishing. Is the river Itchen free to fish in? Is there any hotel or inn close to the river where I could get accommodation? Can you give the name and address of any fishing-tackle man likely to give me information? Is there any good roach fishing?—Yours truly,

26, Albany-street, N.W. J. KELLY.

BABY ROACH FOR SALE.

DEAR SIR,—The other morning, in passing Billingsgate Market, I was very much disgusted to see a "trunk" full of roach, and apparently not a *sizeable fish amongst them*—in fact, those that I could see were from *two* to *three* inches long. Being an old angler, and a member of a well-known angling society, you may be sure I was not over and above pleased to see such a scandalous piece of vandalism, if I may so term it. Unfortunately I was in a hurry to catch a train, or I should certainly have made some enquiries into the matter, as I think it is a duty one owes to angling society at large to endeavour to prevent such baby fish being taken. Would to goodness the Mundella Act had gone a little further, and so enabled *someone* to take proceedings against the seller of such fish. I may add that on the top of the trunk there was a barbel of about 2lb., showing, I think, the lot had been taken from some river.—I remain, yours faithfully, C. DE NOVA ROSA.

THE DERBYSHIRE WYE.

SIR,—Although sorry that circumstances should make necessary the writing of such protests as those of "Old Otter" and "Saracen" in recent issues of the *Gazette*, still I am glad in the sense that others confirm what has been my experience for a long time past in respect of the fishing in this river, and I should be pleased if the dissatisfaction now being expressed were the means of bringing about a change in the desired direction.

"Old Otter" marvels that the chief owners of this historical trout stream appear to care so little for its destruction; and in this sentiment I am quite with him, and think the kernel of the matter lies somewhere here. But can the kernel be got at and interviewed on the subject? I have not any great hope that it can; for some time ago I addressed a letter (complaining on behalf of others as well as myself) on this subject of the never-ending interference with the river to the steward of the estate, and received a reply to the effect that the Wye, ever since he had known it, had been subject to what I complained of, and he did not know of any remedy! I might say here that a friend of mine, who also wrote a letter of complaint to the same gentleman, was referred to "higher powers" for a solution—whatever that may mean. So, evidently, it was not considered necessary to take any remedial steps.

If it is a fact that there is no remedy, the game very soon will not be worth the caudle—in other words, a day's fishing on this river will not be worth the charge made for it, and the time and trouble expended in preparing for it.

Referring again to the letter of "Saracen." If behind that *nom de plume* there is the personality I imagine, I feel sure that gentleman will have done all he possibly could from time to time to remove the present reproach from the character of the Wye; and if his efforts have been of no avail, this, added to the decision of the steward as above quoted, does not make it very hopeful that anglers are soon to see the Wye in anything like its former pristine beauty, which is much to be regretted, for the river ought to be—and no doubt would be were it not for the interference with it—one of the best in the northern district.—Yours truly, YELLOW DUN.

FISHING NEAR STOKE-ON-TRENT.

SIR,—Could any of your readers kindly inform me if there is any good coarse fishing to be obtained (pond or river) near Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, as I intend spending my holidays there, and should like to know if it is worth while to take tackle?—Yours respectfully,

H. A. HOBBES.

RE CLARENCE DACE.

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Abraham's query as above, I wish to say the fish in question were taken from the river Kennet (private water), and their average length was 11¼in.—Yours, &c.,

THE PRESIDENT OF THE CLARENCE A.C.

A GOOD PLACE FOR BIG ONES WANTED.

DEAR SIR,—I should feel greatly obliged if you, or any of your readers, could give me some information as to where I could get some carp and tench fishing, or either where there is a chance of specimen fish. I have a good collection of Thames barbel, bream, and a trout, cased, averaging 8½lb. to 6¼lb., and wish to add different species to the same. I have heard of Ruislip. Can anyone give me public or private information? A letter to my address would be kept strictly confidential if desired.—Yours respectfully,

HENRY COOPER.

7, Edna-street, Battersea Park, S.W.

WHAT IS A PUBLIC NAVIGABLE RIVER?

SIR,—In a book published by David Douglas, Edinburgh, entitled "How to Catch Trout, by Three Anglers," there is an appendix on "The Law of Scotland as to Trout Fishing." In this appendix a public navigable river is defined as "one which is fit for the transportation of the country products." It is also stated that "in what are termed public navigable rivers, trout may be captured by everyone."

Can you or any of your readers give me any further enlightenment on this subject than I have been able to gather from the afore-mentioned appendix—viz., whether the Tweed comes under the category of a public navigable river up to any fixed point?—for it would scarcely be so considered over its whole course, else fishers would claim to fish for trout, notwithstanding any rights of holders and renters of land on the banks of the river, as indeed is claimed by some anglers on certain parts of the Tweed.—Yours, &c., RED ANT.

RE CAMM FUND.—APPEAL TO CLUB ANGLERS AND FRIENDS.

SIR,—Since my last appeal to all clubs for their grant towards the above case, I have received with thanks from "Fisherman" (per editor *Fishing Gazette*, £1 17s. 6d.; and five shillings from members of the Camden Angling Society.—Yours truly,

B. ABRAHAMS.

25, Silver-street, Notting Hill Gate, W.

Cheques and Postal Orders should be crossed "Alliance Bank and Co."

P.S.—As the above list closes on the 5th September, will all those societies who have promised, and those that have any subscriptions, send them on to me by Wednesday night at the latest, so that their names may appear with other societies in the *Fishing Gazette* on Sept. 5?

WELSH HARP FISHERY, HENDON, MIDDLESEX.

DEAR SIR,—Some very good takes of fish here during the past week. I enclose you list of some of the takes: Mr. Cameron, three dozen roach; Mr. Noble, two jack; Mr. Seal, seven dozen roach; Mr. Hunt, four dozen roach and eight bream; Mr. Rawlings, three dozen roach; Mr. Smith, ten dozen roach; Mr. Noble, four dozen roach; Mr. Winckworth, three dozen roach and four perch, 7½lb., and one jack; Mr. Altwood, seven dozen roach first day, and six dozen roach and six bream second day. These are the principal takes that have been weighed in by our keeper.

After trying everywhere for some good stock fish, I have at last managed to buy about seven thousand splendid roach, all large size, some of which my two men fetched yesterday, about one thousand seven hundred, and they were turned into the water here last night, in the presence of some well-known anglers, among others Mr. George Knott, of the Royal George Angling Society, Messrs. Vaughan, Smith, Broughton, Ealand, [illegible], &c. Some more fish will be fetched [illegible]day next and put in the water same night.—Yours faithfully, J. WARNER.

August 26.

"THERE is now in the windows of Messrs. T. Page Wood and Co., Castle-street, Cardiff, the finest specimen trout (*Salmo fario*) taken in the district with the fly. The fly, dressed by Mr. Wood, is shown inside the case. The weight of the fish is 4½lb.; length, 21in.; girth, 12in.; and it was taken by a member of the Cardiff Piscatorial Society, Mr. Richard Harris, who on Saturday also took two, one of which weighed 2lb. 3oz., with flies given him by General Meade."—*Cardiff Express.*

OTAGO ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY.

EXTRACTS FROM THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 1891.

THE Council of the Otago Acclimatisation Society begs now to represent its annual report for the year ending 31st March, 1891.

But before proceeding to review the past season, we have with feelings of deep regret, to record the loss of one of our number. Our late friend, Mr. James Wilkie, died on the 29th of April, after a few days' illness. The loss to this society is very great indeed. As is well known, Mr. Wilkie took a very great interest in all things pertaining to the society, besides acting as secretary from the year 1885 to 1890, with the exception of one year. From his very large amount of information and experience, he was continually consulted by the members and public, to whom he was always willing to impart all he knew, and it will be a long time before the memory of Mr. Wilkie fades from the minds of all those connected with acclimatisation matters.

During the past season our operations have been almost entirely confined to piscicultural matters. The Council, at several of its meetings, has discussed the introduction of winged game, but the surrounding circumstances are so adverse they cannot advise any steps being taken at present, or so long as poisoned grain is so largely distributed over the country.

The number of licences issued for the season was—trout licences (men's), 513; youths', 81. Perch licences, 31.

English Salmon.—Nothing has yet been seen of these fish after their return from the sea. The estuary of the Aparima has been netted several times within the last month, with the object of ascertaining if any grilse or smolts are there, but up to the present without success. Netting will be continued at intervals there, as well as in the pools of the river, and it is hoped some good results will be forthcoming.

The present stock of salmon in the ponds is doing well. They produced over 20,000 ova this season, 1,000 of which went to Wellington, 7,000 fry were liberated in the Waiwera, 7,000 in the Owake, 3,000 were sent to Lake Ada, at the head of the Arthur river, Milford Sound, and 800 were retained as stock fish. Mr. G. P. Clifford again kindly volunteered to take the fry round to the Sounds, which he accomplished with very little loss. The fry put into the Waiwera have done very well, and have been seen in large numbers up to 10in. long. They disappeared during a fresh in the river in the beginning of November, and it is hoped the most of them reached the salt water in safety, and will return again.

Rhine Salmon.—These fish, although four years old, and thriving well, have not, as yet, produced any ova, but it is very probable some may be obtained from them next season.

Rhine Trout.—From these fish we have got 300 or 400 bright and healthy fry, six months old.

Brown Trout.—Our supply of ova this season was obtained entirely from the rivers by our manager, Mr. Deans, and Ranger Burt, the latter being very fortunate in the Clinton district, the rivers being in splendid order just at the right time, and while prosecuting his labours several fish over 20lb. in weight passed through his hands.

Besides supplying other districts with ova and fry, we distributed 284,000 fry in our streams.

Mr. McConnochie, of St. Bathans, has hatched, reared, and distributed 8,000 fry in that district this season. This is a great assistance to the society, it being a very risky matter transferring fry such a distance from headquarters.

Loch Leven Trout.—These fish having been placed in the largest pond at the Clinton hatchery, are doing remarkably well. The ova procured from them this season was 60,000, and the number of fry distributed 56,000. Some good specimens of this fish are reported as being caught in the Waipahi and Pomahaka this season.

Scotch Burn Trout.—About 15,000 ova were obtained from these fish this season—13,000 fry were liberated and 1,000 kept for stock. The demand for this class is increasing, being very suitable, especially for small streams.

American Brook Trout.—This class produced 90,000 ova. 76,500 fry were liberated, but, notwithstanding the large quantity which have been put into our streams for the last few years, very few have been taken by our anglers, only an odd one being reported now and again.

Perch.—These fish are becoming very numerous in some of the lakes and lagoons. Kaitangata Lake and Lovell's Creek are simply swarming with them, affording capital sport. The society are now issuing licences to fish for perch at five shillings, the season opening on the 15th December.

Tench.—Having only a few parent fish on hand, we have placed them in better quarters, and expect a larger increase in future.

Golden Carp.—We have a few of these of a mixed character—dark and red—but have had no increase.

Shags.—Very few of these pests have been destroyed this season. Seeing the society gives one shilling a head for black shags destroyed inland, we trust our friends in the country will take more interest in their destruction. Any known breeding-place should be rooted out when the next breeding season comes in. The best time to visit them for this purpose is while they are rearing their young.

Eels.—During the season we distributed a number of eel-pots, and have had some very good reports as to captures. One report from the Waipahi states that from the part of the river where a great number of eels were taken out last season very few are to be got this season, and at that particular portion of the river the small trout are now to be seen in thousands, showing how destructive the eels are on the spawning beds of our rivers.

Fishing Season.—Notwithstanding the past dry season, our licence-holders have no reason to complain of the scarcity of fish. From reports received from all quarters we find that on all rivers free of diggers' "tailings" the takes have been above the average, and the fish found in capital condition. On the Pomahaka, many good baskets of splendid fish were taken. This is very gratifying, seeing that a few years ago the reverse was the case. The river has been heavily fished by our licence-holders and visitors from Victoria and elsewhere. Mr. Thomas E. Brown, of this city, fishing the lower waters, killed, in six hours, twelve fish, weighing 52lb., all in perfect condition. Mr. George Munro had twelve fish, weighing 34lb., one day's fishing. Messrs. Marshall and Chisholm spent three days in the same locality, and had very good sport, killing between them thirty-seven fish, weighing 138lb. The water of Leith and streams near town yielded good baskets to those anglers who fished them in the early part of the season; but, owing to the dry season, the takes were small after Christmas. The Waipahi, and streams in the neighbourhood of Clinton, have furnished capital sport to the southern residents, and we are pleased to observe so many boys taking out licences in the town and country districts, having issued eighty-one youths' licences this season.

The Clutha and its tributaries have afforded capital sport. The trout in the Clutha are increasing fast, and are very numerous a long way up the river, one rod killing as much as 90lb. weight of fish in one evening above Cromwell. The fish caught near the mouth of the river are pronounced as good as salmon. The upper reaches of the Mataura have also yielded good baskets. Many of our old visitors from the North Island again returned to their favourite haunts in this stream, and were very successful.

The Waikaia, a river not far from Switzers, although not much known to anglers, is a fine river for trout. Messrs. Marshall, Chisholm, and Brown visited it late in the season, and had very good sport, speaking very highly of this river and its tributaries, Gow's Creek and Dome Creek. Mr. Christie, a settler in the district, during the past season killed a large quantity of fine trout.

The Mimihau and Otaraia.—These streams have both been very heavily fished this season, and yielded their usual number of fine trout, baskets from 30lb. to 40lb. weight were of frequent occurrence. Mr. Matthew Lowrie, fishing the Mimihau principally, killed, this season, two hundred and forty-one fish, averaging 3lb.

Poaching.—We would earnestly urge on all anglers the necessity of keeping down poaching in our streams. We know that it is carried on to a great extent in many districts, but, unless the anglers and settlers themselves in their several districts take a stand against poaching, the society can do very little to prevent it.

Crabs and Lobsters.—The society are in communication with several parties with the view of procuring some from the Old Country. It is probable a trial shipment will be made shortly.

NEW PATENTS.

The following is a weekly list of New Piscatorial Patents, specially compiled for the *F. G.* by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Patent Agents and Engineers, 76, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., authorised Attorneys for the procuration of English and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks:—

13,110.– J. B. Barnes, of 24, Wingfield-road, St. Augustine's, Norwich, for "the Barnes incomparable float."

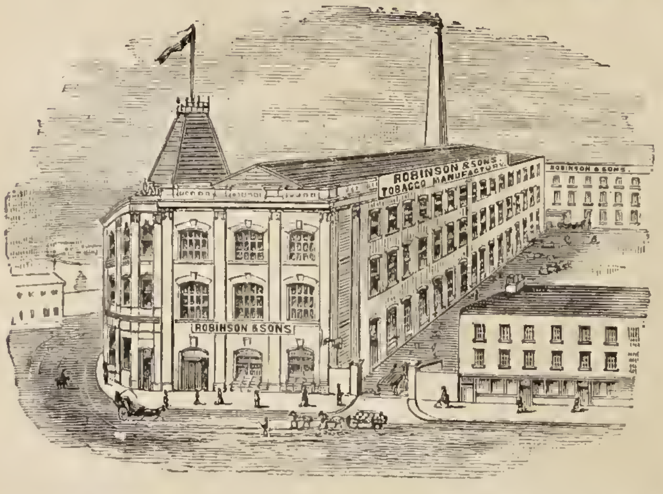
Seizure of Unseasonable Salmon.—On Friday afternoon, on the arrival of the 2.20 train from Limerick to Clonmel, Mr. Richard Bradford, Inspector of Fisheries, seeing a box, lying on the platform, which was about to be put into the van for transmission to Waterford, and suspecting that it contained salmon (this being the annual close season), he seized the box, which, on being opened, was found to contain eight salmon; and for the forfeiture of which he subsequently obtained a magistrate's order. The consignor, who is known, is to be prosecuted.

Holloway's Pills are admirably adapted for curing diseases incidental to females. At different periods of life women are subject to complaints which require a peculiar medicine; and it is now an indisputable fact that there is none so suitable for complaints of this nature as Holloway's Pills. For all the debilitating disorders incidental to the sex, and in every contingency perilous to the life and health of women—youthful or aged, married or single—this great regulator and renovator of the secretive organs and the nervous system is an immediate cure. Their purifying qualities render them invaluable to females at all ages. They are searching and cleansing, yet invigorating; a few doses will speedily remove every species of irregularity in the system, and thereby establish health on a sound and firm basis.

Geo. CORDING'S
Ventilated Fishing Coats,
TROUSERS, STOCKINGS, BOOTS, BROGUES, BAGS, &c.
125, REGENT ST.; 231 STRAND

James Ogden,
28, Winchcomb Street, Cheltenham,
Practical Angler, Fly Dresser, and Manufacturer of every Description of Fishing Tackle.
Maker of High-class Salmon, Grilse, and Trout Rods.
JAMES OGDEN'S CELEBRATED MULTUM IN PARVO FLY RODS, £1 1s.
Every description of Salmon and Trout Flies Dressed on the Premises and despatched per return of post.
N.B.—NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER PERSONS ASSUMING THE SAME NAME.

SMOKE "ORIEL" NAVY CUT.
THE HIGH CLASS TOBACCO,
MADE FROM PICKED LEAVES OF THE FINEST QUALITY.



Extract from the "FISHING GAZETTE" of February 21st, 1891:—

A GOOD SMOKE.

Dear Sir,—Knowing how much you enjoy your pipe when out a-fishing, may I ask if you, or any of your friends, have ever tried "The Oriel" navy cut, manufactured by Robinson's, of Stockport? If you have not, do so at once, and I venture to say that you will be well pleased with it, being very cool and lasting, with an exquisite flavour. I have no interest in the matter whatever, but simply recommend it as my *beau ideal* of what a fisherman's tobacco should be.—Yours truly, Smoker.

Sold at 5d. per ounce, in 1 and 2 oz. Packets, and 4oz. Tins. Any Smoker having difficulty in obtaining it from his usual Tobacconist can obtain it direct from the Manufactory
POST FREE. 2oz., 10d.; ¼lb., 1s. 8d.; ½lb., 3s. 4d.; 1lb., 6s. 8d. POST FREE.
Sole MANUFACTURERS: ROBINSON & SONS, TOBACCO & SNUFF MILLS, STOCKPORT.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29, 1891.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT No. 1.—The next return visit will be to the Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road, on Monday next, August 31, when I hope to see a good gathering of clubs on the above-named district.—G. MANNING.

Anglers' Association.—SOUTHERN DISTRICT VISITING LIST.—A return visit on the above list took place on Monday, the 24th inst., at the Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham, where a most enjoyable evening was spent. On the roll being called, the following seven clubs answered: Bermondsey Brothers, Peckham Brothers, Rodney, Second Surrey, St. George's, United Brothers, and Waggoners. The next visit will take place at the Rodney A.S., Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road. The date I will give next week.—G. W. ARMSTRONG, district officer.

NOTICE TO ANGLERS HOLDING THE ASSOCIATION PRIVILEGE TICKETS.—A competition will take place on the 13th of September from Langley Bridge to Iver Bridge, two rods (jack and eels barred). Entrance fee, sixpence, which can be paid to the appointed committee on the morning of the 13th only, at the North Star Hotel, Langley Station, G.W.R. The anglers will be started by signal from Langley Bridge, at ten a.m., and to prevent disputes, fishing will commence only by the given signal, so there will be all swims open to any angler who gets first after that time. D. Pithouse, Esq., has contributed largely towards this competition. For final information and names of the committee, list of prizes, &c., see *Fishing Gazette* of September 12. Referee, B. Abrahams, 25, Silver-street, Kensington, W.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—The members met on the 26th, when H. Skelt was unanimously elected to officiate on the committee of the forthcoming competition at Langley, on Sept. 13. Our roving match at Staines and various parts for three prizes takes place on the 30th inst.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our fourth outing this season will take place at Windsor on September 6, from Eton Bridge to Boveney Lock; tow-path only; to go over night. Several of our members were out through the week, and I am very proud to state that we had two specimen fish weighed in—Mr. Roberts, bream, the largest one a very nice specimen of 4lb. 10oz.; and Mr. Cooper, with a very fine specimen roach of 1lb. 12¼oz.; Mr. Barraclough had roach and dace: Mr. J. Bell, roach and dace; Mr. King, roach and dace; Mr. Bond, roach; Mr. Knowles, roach and dace, largest dace, 10½in. long.—J. RICH, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 23rd inst. our annual dinner took place at the Black Dog and Duck Inn, Bury, near Pulboro', the worthy host, Mr. Henley, providing us with a very good dinner, the members and friends numbering thirty-two in all. After the cloth was cleared a few of the members went and tried their skill with the roach with the following result: Mr. W. Embleton, roach; and Mr. Lowe, roach; also Mr. Ricks weighed in roach, thus saving the society from a blank. Mr. Walker and Mr. Green was duly elected as members of the society on the 20th inst. One of our members, Mr. Marsh, coming home from Hertford, on the 16th, fell asleep, and somebody in the carriage took a roach rod and jack rod belonging to him. If any brother anglers hear of them and will communicate to the above address, full particulars can be obtained of the lost articles.—E. R. EMBLETON.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The first sea fishing competition in connection with the above society will be held on the 30th inst., at Southend, for four prizes; roving; boat or land. Trains from Fenchurch-street Station at nine o'clock, 9.25, 9.55, 10.28. Messrs. Palmer and A. Davis saved us from a blank on the 23rd inst., with fish from Pulborough and the Cam.—A. G. SMITH, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Battersea.—The members of this club will fish a match on the 30th inst. for eight prizes (value seven guineas and a-half) at Pangbourne; pegged-down; one rod; jack barred; to cease fishing at seven o'clock. A brake will leave the club-house same morning at 7.30 for Paddington, and bring them back in the evening; return fare, one shilling. A punt competition will take place at Twickenham, on Sept. 13, for valuable prizes. On the 23rd, Mr. T. Denton brought in a nice bream taken at Kingston, weighing 4lb. 14oz., in splendid condition; Mr. J. Antcliffe, 6lb. bream and roach; Mr. Hopkins, a nice tray of roach; Mr. C. Wastell, roach. Our honorary members' competition will take place on the 30th inst. at Pangbourne, and rove; for prizes given by the club. No limit; jack barred.—G. MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—Our trays were fairly well filled with some nice roach on the 23rd inst., contributed by the following members: Messrs. H. Patman, James, Smith, and Pallum. There are several societies that have not given any account of the books of tickets sent them for the benefit of Mr. R. Smith. If they will kindly do so as soon as possible they will greatly oblige.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—On Wednesday, Mr. William White and Mr. Joseph Green were proposed as working members, also Mr. B. King, and they will be ballotted next week. The dinner will take place at Woking on Sept. 13, and not at Pulborough as previously announced. On the 23rd, we had a very fine show of fish, the following gentlemen weighing in: Messrs. Wheelhouse, roach and bream; Hacker, roach: J. Barker, carp and perch; Foster, carp, perch, and roach; Farmer, carp; and F. Barker, carp. —F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the 23rd inst. we fished our quarterly match at Ware, when the prizes were taken in the order named: Mr. Newton, first, with perch and dace; Mr. Brown, second, roach; Mr. Warren, third, with roach. On the 26th inst., Mr. Rich had a very nice show of roach and dace. The dace were worth seeing, the two heaviest weighing 9½oz. and 9oz.—D. WARREN.

Bostonian Angling Society.—The following members have had fish during the past week: Messrs. Clark, roach; Hallsell, roach; Ward, roach and dace; Brown, roach and dace; West, roach and dace; Jennings, roach; Steggles, roach; Rundle, roach; Lawson, roach.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On the 23rd instant the following members weighed in: Mr. F. Briggs, roach and bream; Mr. E. Briggs, perch; Mr. Sewell, roach and dace; and Mr. G. W. Ducker, roach and bream.—H. ROACH.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—We had a very favourable day on the 23rd, all members taking fish, Messrs. Bissell and Whatcott taking the two prizes. Messrs. Bissell, Whatcott, Foster. Lee, J. Mearring, G. Mearring, Wilson, Tucker, bream; Whatcott, Lee, J. Mearring, G. Mearring, Wilson, T. Hawkes, roach; and Mr. Wilson a nice perch of 2¼lb., now being set up by Mr. Cooper. We shall hold a special meeting for very important business, on Tuesday next, also in connection with our great smoker. Will members please attend.—T. HAWKES, sec.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—We were saved a blank by two of our members going out on the 23rd. After so much rain one would have thought the waters were in good order. but their takes were small: Mr. D. Flint, 3lb. 6½oz. of bream and roach; Mr. Green, 1lb. 8½oz. of bream. We fish a pegged-down match on the 30th inst.; members to sign at the club-house on Saturday, August 29. —J. PETHER, sec.

Buxton Brothers' Angling Society, Walthamstow Liberal and Radical Club, 4 and 6, Buxton-road.—On the 22nd, Mr. M. Stephens was out, and caught a fine tray of roach; some of them were very fine specimens. On the 30th, we fish our next match for special prizes, when it is to be hoped all members will be present, so as to make it a success.—A. SHUKER, sec.

Campbell United Angling Society, Sir Colin Campbell, High-road, Kilburn.—Several of our members weighed in on the 23rd, but the takes were very small. On the 26th, Mr. J. Tanner weighed in barbel, chub, and roach. Members will please take notice that next Wednesday is quarter night, when all should be present (*vide* Rule 3). Our next outing will take place at Staines on Sept. 20, roving between Staines Bridge and Penton Hook Lock; two rods; jack barred. Members have the privilege of going down overnight. Those coming down in the morning must report themselves in the usual way.—E. W. WOOD, hon. sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—On Monday last, Mr. T. Crumplen (Old Izaak) occupied the chair. The announcement that Professor Chris. Green, of the Grange Angling Society, would read a paper on "Roach Fishing," proved to be good bait, and crowded the club-room. The Professor in his paper not only exhausted the subject of roach fishing, but gave in narrative form his past reminiscences as an angler, dating from 1858. "As sound as a roach," is an old proverb; and on Monday last, in order to mark the occasion, and to give a filip to Professor Green's paper, Mr. Tom Keeble and Mr. J. Deplidge went roach fishing with good result—viz., two trays of—almost every one a specimen—splendid fish, weighing upwards of 40lb. each tray. Mr. T. Crumplen, Mr. R. Ghurney, Mr. J. A. Wade, and Professor Green were unanimously elected honorary life members. With a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman and Professor Green the meeting terminated.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

Central Association Visiting List, and Clerkenwell and District United Visiting List.—The next visit on these two lists will take place on Monday next, August 31, at the Seymour Brothers A.S., Coffee House Tavern, Chalton-street, Euston-road, at 8.30 sharp.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—Only two of our members had fish on the 23rd—viz.: Mr. Macdonnell, bream from Amberley, and Mr. E. Garbrecht, roach from the association water Pouder's End.—CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.—Since my last the following members have weighed in fish—viz.: Messrs. J. W. Jameson, jack, 2lb. 13½oz.; G. Jameson, roach, 8¼oz.; Chapman, bream, 5lb. 1oz., one fish, 3lb. 2oz.; W. May, bream, 1lb. 12½oz.; T. Jameson, one chub, 2lb. 8oz.; Mr. Edwards, 12lb. 8oz., and 13lb. 5oz., barbel; and Mr. E. Wilson, 25lb. 15½oz., barbel, one barbel, 3lb. 9oz., and one roach, 1lb. 2oz. The next visit on the South London Visiting List, will be to this society, on Tuesday next, September 1, when we hope to have a good muster.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—At the meeting on Monday last another new member was nominated. There will be a club outing on Saturday, the 5th September, to our private water Rammey Marsh, Enfield Loch, of which due notice will be sent to all members. Our Host, Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, kindly offered a guinea rod for competition on that day for the finest specimen fish of any denomination. If desired members can have a plain dinner at the keeper's house, at two o'clock, but I should be glad to know by Wednesday next the names of those who will attend.—HENRY HOUSE, hon. secretary.

Clerkenwell and District United.—The return visit to the Eustonian Angling Society, on Monday evening, was a success, their large room being crowded with company. Mr. Neall in the chair. The following seventeen clubs were well represented, viz.:—Great Northern Bros., Lincoln, St. Andrew's, Barbican, Crown and Buckland, City of London, Independent Bros., Seymour Bros., Eustonian, Islington Bros., Bloomsbury Bros., Burton Piscatorials, North London, Camden, Midland, Anchor and Hope, and Mitre Bros. The next visit will be to the Seymour Bros., held at the Coffee House Tavern, Charlton-street, Euston-road, on Monday next, August 31; a visit on the Central Association list, is also due to the Seymour Bros., on the same evening, so the meeting will take the form of a combined visit.—F. CASTELL, hon. sec.

Cliftonville Angling Society, Cliftonville Hotel, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey.—Several members fished at Ware on the 19th, but were unsuccessful. At a meeting specially called for the 23rd instant, it was carried unanimously that our late secretary, Mr. W. Andrews, be expelled the society. We fish a match at Pulborough on September 6, and hope all members will compete. Important business will be brought before the members on Wednesday next, and it will be to their interest to attend. We intend to show up in full force at the Clapham Junction Angling Society.—LEGITIMATE.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We had a splendid show of fish weighed in on the 21st, Mr. E. Baxter, with bream, tench, and jack, 51lb.; Mr. E. George, bream, tench, and jack, 20lb. On the 23rd, W. Hutchings, tench and roach; E. Baker, tench; F. Hannabus, tench and bream; W. Hill, jack. The match takes place at Denham Straights, on September 13.—A. SMITH, sec.

Corinthian Angling Club, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, W.—Several of our members have been fishing the broads, Mr. C. Day getting, amongst others, some nice rudd. Mr. H. Stallibrass had a mixed bag, from our private water, of chub, roach, dace, one jack, and a nice perch over 1lb.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 23rd, several of our members were out, but the only gentlemen who were able to show fish were: Messrs. Cogswell, Killick, Wild, Kitson, W. Midson, and Parran, who had a nice show of roach, dace, perch, and bream. Mr. Flowers had a very fine jack. On Thursday, the 20th inst., Mr. Orange was again to the front with some fine perch, one scaling 1lb. 9oz. Members will book to Harlow, on the 30th, the train leaving Liverpool-street at 8.2. In my last report Mr. Grange should read Mr. Orange.—S. MALBY, sec.

Earlsfield Angling Society, Half-way House, Earlsfield, S.W.—The members of the above society have decided to hold their next outing (roving) from Laleham Ferry to Staines Bridge, on Sept. 6; all fish to weigh. Members will kindly take this as a notice, as I am going away for a few days. Some of our members are having good sport. Mr. Bicknell has had a nice brace of barbel, 8¼lb., from the bank; Mr. Nager, perch and roach; Mr. E. Biederman, bream, largest 2¾lb., and several other members have had fish. We have made three new members since my last, but we still have room for a few more.—R. W. BIRD, hon. sec.

East London Piscatorial Society, London Hospital Tavern, Whitechapel-road, E.—On the 20th inst., our members fished for four prizes, at Nayland, but only one was taken—that for the largest of any kind taken during the day—and was won by Mr. W. F. Bull, with a perch of 12oz. Members are requested to attend on 3rd September, committee night, to arrange punt outing, and decide the prizes.—FRANK WOODS, sec.

Eustonian Angling Society, King's Head, Swinton-street, King's-cross.—On the 23rd, we fished Amberley for a prize given by the Midland Angling Society. Mr. Bailey first, with a nice show of bream and roach; Mr. Abbot, second, with bream and roach; Mr. Barrett, third, with bream and perch; Mr. Tavener, with bream and roach; Mr. Drako, with bream; Mr. Cougblan, bream. On Monday last, we had a return visit on the Clerkenwell V. L., which was a great success, seventeen clubs being present.—R. NEALL, sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On the 23rd, we had a nice show of fish by Messrs. Biggs, bream, roach, and dace, heaviest bream 2lb. 14¾oz.; S. Hill, roach and dace, heaviest roach 1lb. The next return visit on the No. 2 Eastern District will take place at the above on Monday, Sept. 7, when all brother anglers will receive a hearty welcome.—J. W. BIGGS, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We were saved a blank on the 23rd inst., by Mr. Baldham and Mr. Riggs, with a few fish. I beg to inform members that Monday next, August 31st, is a quarterly night, when I hope to see a good muster.—A. PAYNE, sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road.—We had a very fine show of fish on the 23rd, Mr. Deperron being first with 27lb. of bream and roach; Mr. Ellins, a nice tray of roach and dace, 16lb.; Mr. Elton also a goodly show of dace and roach, and a nice dace of 8¾oz.; Mr. Green, bream and roach, from the Rother; Mr. Vinall, a nice little 12lb. of bream and dace (the first show of our new member not—bad); Mr. Roach, dace and roach; Mr. Bowring, bream and roach; Mr. Clark, roach; and a show by Mr. Brewer, of roach. We have elected another new member. On Tuesday next the balance-sheet for the quarter will be ready, and I hope members will not fail to put in an appearance.—A. STOKES.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—On the 23rd inst. the members of the club were out, when Mr. F. Bates was well to the front with 12lb. of roach and dace; W. Burling, 2lb. 15oz. bream; H. Caddon, 1lb. 4oz. bream; B. Edwards and T. Grande also weighed bream, roach and perch.—G. F. WEAVER, sec.

Greenwich Angling Society, Prince Albert, Royal hill, Greenwich.—On Wednesday last about thirty members and friends of this society had their annual weekday outing to Wateringbury, and a most enjoyable day was spent, the weather being fine for once in a way. The takes of fish were small, however, Messrs. Wood and Lawrance, being the most successful, the former taking the sweepstake prize. Dinner and tea were served in the saloon carriage which had been engaged for the occasion. Too much praise cannot be given to Mr. G. H. Young for the excellent manner in which he carried out his duties as caterer, everything being done in first-rate style. As a mark of appreciation a small presentation was made him by our vice-president, Mr. J. R. Orr.—G. J. TOYNBEE.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday evening, with the Rev. E. Meyer in the chair. Some interesting reports on fishing were laid before the meeting. One of the members, Mr. E. Clements, had caught, at Hastings, a large sting ray, which was an unusual occurrence there, and the fish was on view at Messrs. Robertson's shop in the town. Mr. Bentley had caught roach in Sussex. Mr. F. R. Ohlson, a number of pollack, twenty-two codling, and a conger of 3lb. Mr. E. J. Powell, in four days, one hundred and eighty fish, weighing 170lb., chiefly pollack and mackarel; the whole of these fish were taken on one hook. Mr. Fletch, one trout, 2¾lb.; two, of ¾lb.; and two of ½lb. Mr. Young, sixteen dace. Mr. Fosbrook presented three books on "Fishing and Shooting in America," to the library, for which he was cordially thanked. A new member was proposed. On Tuesday, Sept. 1, the secretary will read a paper on "The Humane Angler." On Tuesday, the 15th instant, there will be a sea-fishing competiton for prizes, at Leigh, near Southend. Members intending to go are requested to send in their names to the secretary, that suitable arrangements as to boats, &c., may be made. The train leaves Liverpool-street Station at 8.17 a.m., and Fenchurch-street Station at 8.23. Some interesting "Angling Reminiscences" were communicated by members.—JAMES TAYLER, sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—One member only weighed in on the 23rd inst., A. Hattemore, one jack, a little over 3lb., and two roach.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—Several of our members were out on the 23rd, Mr. Davies saving us from a blank with roach, dace, and gudgeon. Mr. Pope also had fish, but was too late to weigh in.—A. W. Pain, secretary *pro tem.*

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—On the 23rd, Messrs. Lean and Key were out, but got up too late to weigh in. The smoker for Mr. C. Leach takes place on Monday, September 14, at 8.30. Tickets 6d. each.—J. H. Herbert, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members competed for two special prizes on the 23rd instant. Mr. T. W. Garrard was first with 8lb. 15oz. of bream and roach; Mr. W. Mecham, second, with one bream, 3lb. 8oz. Messrs. G. Rogers, G. Washington, and A. Furlong also weighed in on the same day. There are three special prizes to be fished for on September 13th. Competitors may choose their own fishing waters for these prizes. Mr. J. McDermott had a tray of grand dace and roach on Wednesday, 26th instant.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—On the 23rd inst. we fished a roving match between Langley and Slough for five prizes, the result being as follows: First Mr. Wheeler, a nice show of roach, best fish, 1lb. 5¾oz.; second, Mr. E. Challen, roach and jack; third, Mr. Stringer, jack; fourth, Mr. Onree, tench; and fifth, Mr. Beales, with roach. We had a good meeting on the 25th inst., when we had the pleasure of enrolling two new members and another was proposed.—A. Ide, sec.

Junior Piscatorial Society, New Cross Inn, New Cross-road, S.E.—Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, several members have been out, with good results. Messrs. J. W. and J. R. Freeman had roach and perch from Paddock Wood, largest roach, 1lb.; perch, 1¼lb. Messrs. J. K. Orsman and A. J. Slatter, during last week, had excellent sport on the Norfolk Broads, bringing home a capital show of rudd and roach. Mr. Orsman's largest fish, 1lb. 9oz.; Mr. Slatter's, 1lb. 8oz. Both rudd.—W. W. C.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—At a committee meeting held on Friday evening the 21st inst., one new member was elected, bringing our number of members up to one hundred and thirteen. The following members have weighed in during the last week: Messrs. Tame, one barbel, 7lb. 10oz.; Masters, 3lb. 10oz., dace; Carter, 3lb. 6oz. bream; Prole, 3lb. 4½oz.; bream; A. B. Mason, 1lb. 14oz., roach and dace; Newcombe, 1lb. 11½oz., roach and dace; A. Evans, 2lb. 6½oz., bream; and Bartlett, 1lb. 10oz., dace. Messrs. Carter and Prole were successful in carrying off the first and second prizes respectively, in the punt competition which took place on the 23rd inst.—T. Salter, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road.—On the 23rd inst., the members of the above society fished at Pulborough for several prizes. Some good fish were taken, considering the very thick state of the water. Mr. More, first, with 5lb. 13½oz. bream; Mr. Holmes, second; Mr. Beesley, third; Mr. Ellingham, fourth. The following also weighed in: Messrs. Belton, White, Watling, and Bligh. This evening (Saturday) a smoking concert takes place at the above, for the benefit of Mr. Rach Nelson, one of our members. I shall be pleased to see any anglers who can make it convenient to attend.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—We had a very good meeting last week. God-speed was given to Mr. Shaw, who is leaving for India. Mr. D. Wise presided, and Mr. J. Woods, hon. sec. of the St. Helen's Angling Association, attended for the purpose of settling conditions of a friendly contest. This is now fixed for Sept. 17, in our Knowsley water; and a dinner will come off the same evening at our club-house, Bee Hotel, at which we ought to have a big muster. One thing may be relied on that Mr. Bush will be equal to the occasion, be the number big or little. I attended a competition of the St. Helen's Association on Saturday afternoon, August 22, in Eccleston Mere, when close on forty members were pegged-down on the bank of this fine water. The result was most disappointing, and goodness only knows what has come over the fish this year—nowhere have they fed at all generously, and this occasion was no exception. But Mr. Woods will no doubt give particulars.—R. Woolfall.

Liverpool East End Friendly Angling Association, 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool.—We had a well-attended meeting on the 18th inst. I shall be pleased to see a good muster of members at the next meeting (September 1), as we have a match to propose for several prizes. Members who have been out have met with fair sport: Mr. Meighn, our treasurer, one roach, 1lb. 1oz., also a bream, which weighed 3lb. 3½oz.; Mr. J. Hitchcock, one roach, 1lb. 1½oz., weighed in for special prizes. Other members have also met with fair sport, taking into consideration tho weather thoy have had to contend with. Two new members were made on last meeting night.—T. C. Segar, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—The members of the above club were out in full force on the 23rd inst., visiting various waters, and returning with some splendid catches of bream, tench, roach, and chub, the best show of the season, which kept our chairman busy. The most successful were Messrs. Penfold, Taylor, Smee, A. Clark, Sampson, W. Pearce, Milbourne, and Weller.—T. F. Penfold.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road.—Messrs. H. K. Applin, G. Fortescue, C. Oliver, Staines, and Garratt had a nice show of fish on the 22nd and 23rd inst. On the 25th, Mr. Gibson, of Ye Pluckie Perche Angling Society, showed a nice tray of fish. Secretaries of clubs, please note that the next return visit on the No. 1 Eastern List comes to the above address on Monday next, August 31, when the company of all friends who can make it convenient will be esteemed a favour.—J. Comber, sec.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—The competition at Twickenham, on Aug. 20, resulted as follows:—1st, Mr. Hearn; 2nd, Mr. Baldwin; 3rd, Mr. Shonfeld. To-night (Thursday, Aug. 27), Mr. Turnham weighed in 10lb. of jack and roach. Members are requested to be present on Thursday next, to arrange for the Sept. 10 match.—A. E. Baldwin, sec.

North London Angling Club, Tap Houso, Holloway-road.—Since my last report we have had a few fish weighed in by the following members: Mr. Howton, perch and roach; Mr. Stretch, roach; and Mr. Bennell, roach. On Wednesday, August 19, Mrs. Weston presented the club with a handsome cup as a prize for roach, Mr. Weston promising another cup as a prize. On September 13 we fish a roving match at Cheshunt for three prizes.—H. Stretch, hon. secretary.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W.—We had a fair show of fish on the 23rd inst., Mr. Harris, jack and roach, caught by the "Patent Automatic Angler," of which Mr. Harris is the inventor; Mr. Schultz, junior, roach; and Mr. Holman, jack. I wish to remind members of the match at St. Margarets, on the 30th inst. Start same morning, and fish to be weighed at club house same night.—G. S.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—Several of our members were out on the 23rd, but met with very poor sport. Messrs. Forster, Bygrave, and Harrison were the only members weighing in.—J. Cuthbert, sec.

Original Alexandra Angling Society, Green Man, Cambridge-road, E.—A smoking concert is arranged to take place as above, on Monday, September 7, in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Fund. Further particulars next week.—E. Brockett.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—On Monday last a visit of the clubs on the Anglers' Association Visiting List was held at the above, but only six clubs were represented. The deficiency, however, was made up by friends, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Reed, our worthy host, occupied the chair, Mr. Raper supplying the musical portion of the programme. Some capital songs were sung by the following gentlemen: Messrs. Tozer, Reed, Smith, Bennett, Lang, Mitchell, Springthorpe, the Beaumont Brothers, and Dan Franklin. On the 23rd, a very good show of fish was weighed in by Mr. Steedman. Our next series of prizes will be fished on the 13th September at Pulborough; members to leave town same morning only.—A. G. Duke, sec.

Pontefract Piscatorial Society, Pontefract Castle, Chapel-street, Edgware-road, W.—The annual summer outing of the society took place on Wednesday last, when a party of about thirty proceeded to Goring by special saloon carriage. Mr. Gardiner, of the Bull Inn, Streatley, provided the members and friends with a first-class *menu*, and various sports were indulged in during the afternoon, fishing, of course, included. A goodly number went by steam launch to Shillingford—an excursion appreciated by all. The day's outing concluded at the club-house, when the host, Mr. Lipscomb, treasurer of the society, had the pleasing satisfaction of having universal congratulations for a highly successful and enjoyable day. Three new hon. members were elected.—A. Sutherland, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—Several members were out on the 23rd, but only Mr. Corney weighed in 12lb. 13oz. of roach and tench from Slough. We also had the honour of making two new members.—J. Harris, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—Some splendid shows of fish were seen on our trays on the 23rd inst., contributed by the following: Mr. Neal, chub, largest 4lb. 4½oz.; Clist, bream and tench; Wheeler, roach and perch; Hayden, roach and barbel; Brett, jack and tench; Robbins, roach; Davis, bream; Ivermee, jack and tench; Scott, roach; . Reed, roach; and others. Messrs. Peirson, C. King, and G. Brown, were duly elected working members of the society.—W. Bowyer, sec.

Queen's Angling Society, the Latimer Arms, Walmer-road, Notting-hill.—We had a good show of roach and tench on the 23rd, by Messrs. Hodges, Pratt, Drake, Messenger, jun., and Pearce. I hope members and friends will give in their names not later than September 3 for the annual outing to Harefield, on September 6, by vans. Fare half-a-crown. The first prize on that day will be a handsome cup, presented by Mrs. Singer. We leave club-house as near twelve o'clock as possible.—F. G. Pearce.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—On the 23rd, Mr. Sharpless saved the society from a blank with a show of roach and dace. Members who have not turned up lately are informed that there is a prize of ten shillings for the best day's show of fish during the month of September; also that a special meeting will be held on Monday next, when all absentees are earnestly requested to show up.—J. Skinner, sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—I beg to inform all members that our outing takes place at Wateringbury on the 30th inst,; train leaves London Bridge at 7.13. Also that the next visit on the Angling Association list falls to this club, and we have decided to receive samo on Tuesday, September 8, when all brother anglers and friends will be heartily welcomed. On the 23rd, Mr. Pine weighed in 6lb. 10½oz. of tench; also Mr. Wigley, barbel, 1lb. 5¾oz.—F. T. Lamberton, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—On the 23rd fished for the remaining prizes left over from our last outing, when they were all taken with the exception of one, Mr. Webber's prize. Mr. Webber weighed in a nice show of roach from the Upper Thames; Mr. Gibbons, roach and jack; Mr. Holder, roach. Our quarterly meeting took place on Wednesday last, Mr. Trotter in the chair, when the election of offices took placo with the following results: Mr. Trotter, chairman; Mr. Webber, vice-chairman; Mr. Webber, treasurer; Mr. Longland, secretary; Jerquet, Gibbons, Holder, extra committee; Gibbons and Jerquet, auditors; Webber and Holder, delegates.—F. C. Longland.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—We had a very fair show of fish on the 23rd, when the following members weighed in: Messrs. F. Barclay, F. Barrow, Parsley, Cox, Holden, Perry, Stanley, and Henson; total, 32lb. 4oz. Members please note Tuesday next is quarterly night.—A. Barclay, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—Result of fishing at Amberley for the three prizes left over from previous week: Mr. Forrester, sixth; Mr. Horace Howard, seventh; and Mr. T. Ovens, eighth. We had a grand show of fish, Mr. Wood, 28lb. 12½oz.; Mr. G. Ballinger, 25lb. 8½oz.; Mr. J. Wright, 6lb. 7½oz.; and Mr. Stone, 2lb. 8¼oz. Mr. G. H. Howard had fish, as did Messrs. Brocken and Walls; but would not weigh them in. Taking the fish as a whole, it was a very good show.—J. Wright, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 23rd inst., only a few members were out, with the following result: Messrs. E. Wright, bream, dace and roach; E. Bacon, dace; W. North, roach and dace, 11lb. 12¼oz.; J. Petrie, roach and dace, 4lb. 7¾oz. On Monday next, a return visit on the Central Visiting and the Clerkenwell District List together, will take place at the above, when the company of anglers and friends will bo welcome, when I hope to see our spacious club-room full. An outing will take place on Sept. 6, at Pulborough, when six prizes will be fished for; the Central waters only; two rods. All members going are requested to give their names in by Tuesday, Sept. 1. Members in arrears are requested to pay up at once.—S. E. Cane, sec.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.—On the 23rd inst. several of our members were out, but met with very poor sport, Mr. Smales being top weight with 12lb. of bream and roach, the largest bream, 3lb.; roach, 1lb, 2¾oz, Mr. O. Callaghan had bream, and Mr. Clark had perch from tho club waters. On the 25th inst., Mr. Williams had a perch of 1lb. Members are reminded that September 1 is quarterly night (election of officers, &c.), and also that our next outing will take place on September 6, at our club water. Pegged-down; fishing to commence on tho arrival of the first train from Waterloo (usual conditions). Three prizes. We have elected three new members lately.—Pelican.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—On the 23rd inst. we had a splendid show of fish: Mr. Hoopor, four bream, scaling 10lb., the largest weighing 3lb. 11oz.; Mr. Jones, with a fino show of bream and roach; Mr. Wells, with 12lb. of good roach; Mr. M. Marks, bream and roach; Mr. D. Marks, roach; and Mr. Polykett, roach and dace.—R. Spenceley, sec.

South London Angling Society, George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell-road.—Mr. Boorman has weighed in 7½lb. bream, and Mr. Merrick, barbel, roach, and dace. We havo had added to our prizes 10s. 6d. and 2s. 6d.—B. B., sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—Tho next visit on the above list will be paid to the Clapham Junction Angling Society, held at the Clarence Tavern, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction Station, on Tuesday, September 1. As this society is always well represented at every visit on the list, I trust the other societies will return the compliment and give them a bumper.—A. Conn, hon. sec.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Rhodeswell-road, Stepney.—On the 23rd inst., the following came home with catches—viz., Messrs. Nash, Jolly, and Woodford, with bream; Ruxton, roach and bream. Our competition, which should have taken place on the 23rd, was altered, at a special meeting, to the 30th, when we fish for eight prizes. Our brake will start at one o'clock for Dagenham.—E. N. P., hon. sec.

Stockton Angling Association, Regent Inn, Stockton-on-Tees.—Through the kind permission of Major Scrope, of Danby Hall, the members of the above association held their annual competition on the river Yore, on Thursday, August 20. Fifty-eight members arrived at Cover Bridge with the full intention of a good day's sport, but owing to the peaty colour of the water and the recent floods, the weight of fish caught was rather small. The weather was fine and the members thoroughly enjoyed their outing. Through the generosity of the tradesmen of the town in giving prizes, each member who caught any fish will obtain one. The first was captured by the secretary, R. Readman, with 3lb. 13¾oz.; the second, J. Willey, 3lb. 5¾oz.; the third, T. Day, 3lb. 3¾oz.; the fourth, L. Metcalf, 3lb. 0¾oz.; the fifth, G. Thompson, 2lb. 14¼oz.; the sixth, J. Patterson, 2lb. 8¾oz. The other forty-four who got any fish ranged from 2lb. 4¾oz. to ½oz.—R. Readman, sec.

Stoke Newington Angling Society, the Dun Horse Kingsland-road, E.—Members unable to attend on meeting nights are informed that a competition is arranged to take place at Hatfield Peveril, on September 6, for three prizes presented by Messrs. W. Ball, J. Reens, and T. Gretton. The usual conditions to be observed. Mr. E. Orrow had some nice roach on the 23rd inst.—T. Gretton.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—The members have decided to fish Harlow in Essex, on the 30th inst., for their remaining prizes. Mr. J. Dumbledon weighed in bream from Pulborough on the 23rd, and Mr. J. Booth, bream, roach and dace from Amberley.—G. Morton.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—The members of the above society fished a match on the 23rd inst., when the following were successful: Messrs. Lewis and Boreham (fishing with F. Collier, of the Wheatsheaf and Pigeons, Staines), came in first and second with 22lb. 10oz., and 11lb. 5½oz.; Mr. Carpenter, third, 9lb. 13½oz.; Mr. Neal, fourth, 6lb.; Mr. Fountain, junior, fifth, 3lb. 12½oz.; Mr. Comley, sixth, 2lb. 5½oz. Altogether upwards of 62lb. of fish were weighed in. Messrs. Lever, Brothers, of Sunlight Soap renown, have very kindly promised to give a case of soap to bo fished for. Tho outing is arranged to take place on September 6. Final arrangements to be made at tho meeting on Tuesday night next.——H. Reaves, sec.

Tadcaster Angling Association.—The annual match in connection with this association took place at Elvington on the Derwent (by kind pormission of Mr. R. Barker), on Thursday week. Eighteen members entered the competition, and they were conveyed to Elvington, in waggonettes, supplied by Mr. J. E. Scriven, of the Londesbro' Hotel. About £8 was given in prizes. The day was all that could be desired, and the water was in splendid condition. After the match the party sat down to a capital tea. The prize-winners were: First, Henry Barker, with 4lb. 4¾oz.; second, Boynton, 3lb. 5½oz.; third, Spink, 1lb. 13½oz.; R. Wright, 1lb. 8¾oz.; Holloway, 1lb. 5oz.; C. J. Ireland, 1lb. 4¾oz.; E. Calvert, 1lb. ½oz. The other competitors, whose catch was under a pound, were J. T. Hall, E. Payne, C. Varley, T. Poarson, W. Welsh, J. Cowap, E. Jackson, H. Fairborne, E. White, J. Leighton, and C. B. Dixon.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above were out on the 23rd, with the following result: Messrs. G. Marshall, bream and perch; S. Cockerton, bream and roach; W. Windred, chub and roach; F. Beak, roach. The members can congratulate themselves on making eight good working members this year. Members will kindly oblige by being present on Saturday evening next, as some important business will be brought forward. It has been decided to fish for the given prizes on the 4th of October.—H. Tyler, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall-cross.—Several of our members were out on tho 23rd, Mr. Bird, sen., being the only member who weighed in; several others had fish, but did not arrive. Next Tuesday being quarterly night I hope to see a good muster so that we must get over the business quickly.—H. C., hon. sec.

Waltonian Angling Society, the Cape of Good Hope, Albany-street, Regent's Park.—On the 23rd we fished Shiplake and Henley for thirteen prizes, gross weight, twenty-three members competing. All the prizes were taken: Messrs. R. Dodgo, 7lb. 14½oz.; Wrather, 7lb. 11¼oz.: Good, 6lb. 6oz.; A. Putman, 3lb. 4½oz.; J. Dodge, 3lb. 1¼oz.; Marriott, 2lb. 4oz.; Waltham, 1lb. 14oz.; Morris, 1lb. 12oz.; Wright, 1lb. 11¼oz.; Jukes, 1lb. 8½oz.; W. Dodge, 1lb. 4¼oz.; Hedge, 1lb. 2oz.; H. Putnam, 13½oz. Messrs. Miller, W. Putnam, and Starr also weighed in. The pleasure of the day was greatly marred by heavy rain.—J. Packman, sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—On the 23rd instant, Mr. Hibble weighed in good show of roach, one fish 15oz. Tho result of tho competition on the 26th instant: Mr. Piolani, first, with roach; Mr. Craddock, second, with dace. The grand outing takes place on September 13. It will be necessary for the members to attend to voto how and where. The following prizes will be fished for: First prize, £2 12s. 6d.; second, £1 11s. 6d.; third, £1 1s.; fourth, 10s. 6d.; fifth, 10s. 6d. Mr. W. Ovendon was proposed as a member, and will be balloted for in due form. Mr. Hardy's specimen roach is finished, and on view at the club-house.—C. HIBBLE, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 23rd inst., Mr. C. Newbury, honorary member, showed 43lb. of roach, dace, and barbel, largest barbel, 4lb. 4oz.; Mr. Cooper, one bream, 4lb. ¾oz., and 2lb. 9oz. roach; Mr. F. Hailey, 5lb. 12oz. roach; Mr. R. Dartnall, 4lb. 5oz. roach; Bryant, 3lb. 11oz.; Mr. A. G. Gemble, 2lb. 5oz.; Gordon, 2lb. 2oz.; G. Boyd and Enever, dace. Mr. A. D. Kidd was duly elected a member. Wednesday next, September 2, will be quarterly night, when all arrears should be paid; and there are two notices of motion regarding Rules XV. and XXI., for which a special general meeting is called at eight o'clock sharp. Also the place has to be selected for September competition and the election of officers for ensuing quarter.—R. J. DARTNALL.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—We had a good show of fish on the 23rd inst., contributed by the following members: Messrs. Frances, Casey, Smith, Whitby, Harden, Clark, Kertland, and Dessert. We have a daily outing on the 30th inst., at St. Margaret's, for four prizes; roving; all to go by first train.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford. — Our members were out on the 23rd, and the following weigbed in fish: Mr. F. Humfryes, 8lb. 3½oz., bream; Mr. W. Cox, 5lb. 6oz. of roach; Mr. R. Lowther, 4lb. 14oz. of roach; Mr. F. Horner, 2lb. 11½oz. of roach; Mr. Goodrich, 2lb. 5½oz. of roach; Mr. J. Newton, 13½oz. of dace.—R. LOWTHER, sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—Next Thursday being our quarterly night, members are requested to attend early as we have to elect a new trustee in the place of Mr. Stock, who has resigned, and to make arrangements for the next club match. Other important business matters are to be discussed.—J. J. HUNTER, hon. sec.

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REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

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Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea.	Add	55 min. for Kew.
	40 ,, ,, Putney.		75 ,, ,, Richmond.
	45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.		80 ,, ,, Twickenham.
	50 ,, ,, Barnes.		85 ,, ,, Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Evening
Saturday,	Aug. 29	9.28	10.15
Sunday,	,, 30	10.58	11.41
Monday,	,, 31	—	0.16
Tuesday,	Sept. 1	0.43	1.8
Wednesday,	,, 2	1.30	1.50
Thursday,	,, 3	2.8	2.24
Friday,	,, 4	2.40	2.51

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—It is to be hoped the efforts of the New Albion Piscatorials to help the work of Thames Preservation, by means of a competition on behalf of the Thames Angling Preservation Society will not share the same fate that it did last year. The particulars of this competition appeared in the columns of the *Fishing Gazette* last week, and it will be seen that it is open to the members of the angling clubs in London and suburbs, upon a very liberal principle, and on very easy conditions. The prizes are of a very costly character, and if the movement is not supported as it ought to be it will be much regretted. It has been altogether prompted by a honest desire to assist in preserving the river for the benefit of all classes of anglers, and any failure in carrying it out will be the fault of the anglers and not the promoters of it. I would strongly urge upon those clubs especially, whose members fish the Thames, to support the New Albion Piscatorials, so as to make it a substantial and solid success. The death of Mr. W. D. Lewis, who for the last twelve years has been one of the auditors of the T.A.P.S., called forth expressions of deep regret from the committee, at their meeting on Tuesday afternoon last, and a vote of condolence with the family was entered on the minutes. Personally I had the highest respect for Mr. Lewis, and I deeply mourn his loss. It will be seen from the angling reports there has been some splendid sport in our Metropolitan river, and the barbel are plentiful in most parts of the river. I was very pleased to learn that Mr. Alfred Nuthall has been rewarded with the capture of a very handsome trout of 6lb., which he caught in the neighbourhood of Penton Hook, and the fish has been sent to Messrs. John Cooper and Sons for preservation. Another good trout of 7lb., has been taken by a gentleman at Sunbury, so that the trout catching season is not yet over. The river keepers of the T.A.P.S. have had a good deal of night work lately, to prevent the laying of night-lines. The services of the head river keeper, William Douglas, were highly commended and recognized by the committee at their meeting on Tuesday last, and in his assistant, John Davis, he has a useful coadjutor.—B.

RICHMOND.—Henry Howard, during the week has taken 45lb. of roach and dace; H. Mansell, in four days, 70lb., and five bream; Job Brain, in five days, 65lb.

TWICKENHAM.—S. Cole, in four days, 41lb. of roach and dace, and another day, three dozen of fine roach, and a bream of 4lb.; R. Coxen, with Messrs. Farrant and Sons, during the week, 70lb. of roach and dace, and three barbel; George Coxen, 51lb., and seven barbel; J. Coxen, in three days, 30lb.; J. Frost, in three and a-half days, 36lb., and three bream; A. Hammerton, in the week, 40lb., six bream, and one barbel; F. Wiggins. 85lb.; and John Spong, in four days, 75lb., five bream, and two barbel.

TEDDINGTON.—Joseph Baldwin, in three days, twelve dozen of roach and dace; B. Stevens, in two days, ten dozen of roach and dace, and five bream; W. McBride, in one day, eight dozen, and one jack.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, during the week, thirty-two dozen of roach and dace, four barbel, one brace of jack, and three chub; N. Bolton, in four days, thirty-one dozen of roach and dace, four barbel, and one brace of perch; J. Knight, during the week, twenty dozen of roach and dace, fourteen barbel, ten chub, the largest 5¾lb., and a jack of 5½lb.

HAMPTON COURT. — John Smith, during the week, twenty barbel, and three fine perch; W. Milbourne, thirty dozen and eight barbel; Thomas Milbourne, in three days, eight dozen, six chub and four barbel; James Hedger, in one day, ten dozen. One of the anglers fishing for barbel, and using mutton for bait, caught four fish weighing respectively 6lb., 5½lb., 3¼lb., and 2lb. William Milbourne, says: "After the heavy rains the water is getting in good condition."

HAMPTON.—One of the anglers fishing on Tagg's Island, landed a fine barbel of 8½lb.

SUNBURY.—Three of the punts of Messrs. T. and A. Stroud, in one day, brought in thirty dozen of roach and dace, and ten barbel; Alfred Stroud is credited with a fine trout of 7lb. A gentleman fishing in one of Messrs, Stroud's punts during the week, has taken fifteen jack, ten dozen of roach and dace, two chub, the largest 4lb., and three barbel; Edward Clarke, during the week, forty-nine barbel, seventeen bream, and a few roach and dace.

WALTON.—Mr. Read fishing in the back-water, hooked a very fine pike, which he estimated at 15lb. at the least, but he did not manage to land it.

LALEHAM.—Mr. Alfred Nuthall J.P., chairman of the T.A.P.S. fishing with George Harris, in addition to other fish, caught a splendid trout of 6lb.

STAINES.—Charles Hone reports he has been doing well amongst the roach, several fish over a pound, one of 1lb. 3oz., and one of 1lb 4oz.; his best day with two rods was 22½lb. of good roach; he says, the water is in good order, and hopes to report some good takes next week. John Keene, jun., says, he has been out six days; one day with Mr. Wilson, eleven barbel and four dozen of roach; another day with Mr. Mencar and friend, ten barbel, and five dozen of roach and dace; another day with Mr. Westley, seven barbel, and five dozen of roach and dace; another day with Mr. Edwards and friend, nine barbel, and six dozen roach and dace; another day with Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis, twelve barbel, and six dozen of roach and dace; and another day with Mr. Newbury, of the New Albion Piscatorials, 50lb. weight of roach, dace, and barbel, the largest barbel, 5lb. All the above takes were on roach tackle.

Upper Thames.—Nothing but a deluge of rain every day up the Thames valley. Visitors, angling and otherwise, have fled in despair of ever having any fine weather, and the riverside resorts which at this time of the year should look bright and cheerful, are deserted, washed out and melancholy. The Thames at last is beginning to feel the effect of the continued influx of land water, has risen ragidly, and becoming highly coloured. Under all these deterrent circumstances it can hardly be wondered at that few fish have lately been taken. In the Temple waters Mr. Cox and party have been defying the elements, and got hold of really good baskets of roach. At Harleyford Sir E. Dashwood and party deserved success amid the barbel but could not command it. Mr. Ford, in these same waters, is credited with one tench, 4lb., one barbel 4lb., and a perch, 1¾lb. At Benson, on one occasion, a gentleman last week had five trout spinning, two being returned. THURSDAY NIGHT.—Rain has fallen the whole of the day, and in consequence a summer (?) flood is imminent. Little success can now be expected with barbel, but roach and perch should feed in the eddies and boughy swirl.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Datchet).—The river is in very fair condition; fair sport being had at times; unsettled weather makes it uncertain. I was out on the 17th inst., had very good sport—about 40lb. weight of barbel, chub, and dace. On the 19th, good sport with chub and dace, not a bite with a barbel. Going gudgeon fishing to-day, they are sure to bite.—G. LUMSDEN.

Thames (Windsor).—An extremely boisterous week rendered angling here very unpleasant, and consequently fewer anglers were out than is generally the case this time of year, August being *the* month, for all-round coarse fishing, more especially barbel, chub, dace, and gudgeon. The latter fish are having a very easy time of it this season, as very few punts have worried them; but as September, according to the Jenkin's chart (so far correct), is to be a dry month, doubtless their ranks will yet be considerably thinned by the fair sex, many of whom delight in catching the merry little gudgeon. Very meagre are the accounts to hand of sport during the past week. Bunce, of Windsor, had a few borbal from the well-known Windsor Bridge swim; Mr. Rowell, of Eton, four chub, 8½lb.; and a three days' basket, consisting of chub and dace, going 18lb., by a London angler too modest to give his name, is the sum total worthy of mention. Roach have been quite off feed, even the enthusiastic little Howlett, of Eton, could not coax them into taking the succulent gentle, however, skilfully presented, if one can judge from his basket, consisting of one roach, between half-past five and eight a.m. Water could not look better, and I can only attribute the non-success to the immense amount of food the storms have caused to get into the water, fish must be surfeited this summer, with creeping things innumerable.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—It has been very tempestuous during the greater part of the week, and little has been done on the trout becks. Your correspondent fished a little while yesterday, but only secured one brace of good fish. On the Ancholme, two or three matches have taken place with tolerable result. The Hull Universal Club in which thirty-two members competed came out as follows:—F. Brown, 11lb. 6oz.; F. Phillipson, 9lb. 4oz.; W. H. Barker, 5lb. 10oz. Several of the bream taken ran between 3lb. and 4lb. The Gainsborough Angling Association came out thus:—J. Fishburn, 9lb. 10oz.; E. Andrews, 7lb. 2oz.; G. Tuman, 5lb. 11oz.; Mr. W. Good, of Hull, had a nice basket, one day with fine fish up to 3lb. 8oz.—THOMAS FORD.

Ant (Stalham, Norfolk).—Like many other angling resorts in Norfolk, Stalham has been visited during the past fortnight with a considerable amount of rain and high winds. However, sport has been very good, experienced anglers making fine baskets. Mr. Nichols, the well known local piscator, has been out several times recently, and I am pleased to report has been well rewarded in the shape of pretty shows of roach, perch, bream, and rudd. Last Saturday I was in readiness to go over to Stalham from Great Yarmouth, but owing to the state of the elements, I put my visit off at the last moment, especially as I knew that the Yare was in flood, and that sport was not good. Last week Messrs. E. and F. Hudson, of Birmingham, captured in a short time 13½lb. of fine bream; Mr. J. Wilkinson, of Oldham, took 35lb. of bream, some of the fish weighing 3lb. each. This fine catch was beaten on the following day by a local gentleman, named Arthur, who killed 42lb. of coarse fish, including a magnificent tray of roach. Another angler was even more successful, placing 71lb. of bream, roach, and perch to his credit. A fine tench, weighing about 3lb. has also been caught here. Several members of London clubs have visited Stalham this season, notably Dr. Ladell and Mr. W. H. Ellsmore, who as I reported the other week, played great havoc amongst the bream on Bank Holiday. Anglers should not forget to give Stalham a turn.—GOOSEQUILL.

Arun (Pulborough).—During September and October three fishing matches amongst the London clubmen are to be contested here and at Amberley; and through the kindness of Mr. W. J. Wade, secretary of the Central Association, I am now enabled to give the exact dates of the events. The matches at Pulborough are to be held on September 6 and October 25. The Amberley match will come off on October 4. Mr. A. A. Eldridge is, I understand, organising the competitors, and arranging the prize list for the same. They will be big days if the weather is favourable. On the 23rd, several anglers had decent takes from the river, including bream, roach, and dace. Up to the present I have not heard of the capture of any of the grey mullet at Stopham, but I am assured they are there in hordes. They are extremely cunning gentlemen, but perhaps they might be deceived by a sea worm, or live shrimp, or a mussel. During one of my visits to the river at Pulborough I saw several nice perch dart out from the side, and I should imagine that an angler, supplied with some well-scoured brandlings, who devoted his time to a day's perch fishing, might be agreeably surprised at the result.—GOOSEQUILL.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—There is but little to record as the proceedings of the week. The weather has placed a veto on this and all kindred sports. A few anglers have been out and wet jackets the general result. Monday was fine and from the Adur a few roach and dace were taken; from the Ouse a few good roach; and from Chichester Canal bream up to 2lb. 7oz. a few roach and a host of small fry. From other waters reports are nil. The weather continues stormy. As I write, Thursday, there has been a deluge of rain. It will be some days ere the waters are again in trim.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—Detestable as the weather has been for the great crowds of tourists who have visited the island during the last fortnight, the anglers have nothing to grumble at, water and fish being both plentiful, and shoals of sea trout up almost all the rivers; in fact, there is every prospect of sport continuing until the end of the season. Mr. Rylance weighed in a good trout of 1lb. 8oz. last week. Sea fishing is still very good, mackerel especially being very plentiful. Messrs. C. and R. Brook's new sensitive shifting lead (ascribed in error to the Rev. F. W. Tracy), is an admirable invention; but a size or two smaller would be very handy. Brown's Inskip minnow is a step in the right direction. I killed some large pollack up to 8lb. weight with it, besides mackerel. There are plenty of codling and flat fish about, and take well.—STORMY PETREL.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—ANGLING.—The fishing on this river during the past week, has been exceedingly good and anglers are in high glee at the results of their expeditions on the banks of the Esk. The rains, which have flooded the river, have occasioned a good run of salmon and salmon trout, and below are given, as nearly as can be ascertained at the time of writing. The results: Mr. J. W. Wheldon, Pickering, one salmon, 6lb.; Mr. R. B. L. Johnston, one, 6lb.; Mr. F. Lloyd, Grosmount, two, 5lb. and 6lb.; Mr. C. J. Keighley, Whitby, six, 3½lb., 12½lb., 7½lb., 3½lb., 5lb., and 6lb.; Mr. Daniel Green, five, 3lb., 4lb., 8lb., 5lb., and 7lb.; Mr. E. Chapman, The Carrs, Ruswarp, one, 5lb.; Mr. J. W. Nicholson, Talbot Hotel, Whitby, seven, 11lb., 6lb., 6lb., 6lb., 6lb., 4lb., and 5lb.; Mr. J. H. Keighley one, 17lb.; Mr. Linton, East Row, four, 10lb., 8lb., 5lb., and 5lb.; Mr. John H. Levy, Whitby, five, 5½lb., 5½lb., 6lb., 5lb., and 5lb.; Mr. Rastall, junr., Turnergate Hall, Ruswarp, two, 4lb. and 5lb.; Mr. Rastall, senr., one, 4lb.; Mr. Bulmer, Hull, one, 2lb.; Mr. George Ward, two, 3½lb. and 4lb.; Mr. Robert Hay, four, 4lb., 5lb., 5lb., and 3lb.; Mr. Jackson, six, 6½lb., 3lb., 8lb., 2lb., 13lb., and 2lb.; Mr. Charles Proctor, Woodlands, one, 11lb.; Mr. Jefferson, Leamington, three, 15lb., 11lb., and 5lb.; Mrs. Keighley, Spring Hill House, Whitby, one 5lb.; and Mr. Nicholls, two, 9lb. and 5lb. Since the above was written Mr. J. W. Nicholson landed three more fish, weighing 6lb., 5½lb., and 5lb.; Mr. Andsell, Hull, one, 8½lb. The river is still ripe for fishing, the streams being splendidly stocked.—JOHN J. JACKSON.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—Prior to the rains this week the water in the Fen drains had become clear and fine, and roach fishing had again become difficult. but it is expected that as soon as the storm settles there will be good sort with even these fish. When the water is so very clear it requires very fine tackle and careful handling to get anything like a decent take. Perch fishing, however, has been good, and some excellent fish of this description have been captured. I hear, the other day, Mr. Butcher, of Billingborough, in a local water, captured a perch scaling over 1lb. Perch fishing has this season been very good, and has gone a long way to make up to make up for the shyness of the roach. Good accounts come to hand of the prospects of tench fishing, and among the different waters the stretch of the Forty-foot at the junction of Dunsby drain, is recommended. Little or no trolling is being done as yet, and the recent growing of the bottom weeds has been against it; trollers will therefore await the final cutting, but it is expected there will be plenty of pike when the season for them comes round.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—Despite the unfavourable conditions of wind and weather, angling in the Idle proceeds briskly. There are plenty of fish, but it is sometimes a little difficult to get hold of them. The trout in the upper waters are in fine condition, and well repays the angler for his trouble trying for them. Quite a number are now to be got in the water about Retford. The other day, H.S.H. Prince Francis of Teck and Lieut. Hardiman, officers of the 1st Dragoons, whilst passing through Retford, spent the evening fly-fishing below West Retford Bridge with good effect, the latter getting a specimen fish scaling 1½lb., and together making a good basket. Roach and chub are also to be got in goodly numbers about the same district. Gentles seem to be the favourite bottom bait just now. Roach, dace, and bream are to be got all down the Idle from this point, and some good bream have been got from the canal. A bream of 4¼lb. was caught the other day by a visitor at Gringley. A few tench and perch have come from the lower waters. Pike, also, of fair dimensions have been caught on the drains, and also from the Idle between Bollam and Mattersey.—L.

Lea.—During the past week the reports of takes have been poor; but it is not to be wondered at, considering the changeable uncertain weather we have experienced. Referring to barbel fishing which I mentioned last week, perhaps it may be as well I point out a few places where sport would be likely to be met with; I shall only speak of places where I have reason to believe, both from good authorities and my own personal knowledge they do exist; first, their is the Ordnance water at Sewardstone; then the side water by the Pike and Anchor at Ponder's End; here some few years ago some large catches were made, and there is no doubt that there are plenty of them still; Flanders Weir fishery undoubtedly holds them, although they are seldom taken; at Cook's Ferry plenty were seen during the late winter; at Gamese's, Higham Hill fishery, their presence is an undoubted fact as a good specimen has been taken during the last fortnight; I have not heard of any having been seen or taken at the Ferrie Boat lately, but formerly some good ones used to be taken, and there is no reason to doubt that some are still in existence. In fishing for them, there would be a good chance of getting hold of some of the monster carp and bream which are frequently to be seen. As an instance of what may be done, is that recorded in last week's *Fishing Gazette* where a gentleman in two days took a hundred and thirty-two roach and dace and three trout, this was in the waters at Hertford, and shows what can be done by thorough preservation.—Spliced Joint.

Leicester.—Fishing, forsooth! Why, sport with the rod and line lately has been entirely out of the question, and just at a period when anglers were hoping for a good time of it. Disappointing! Well, it couldn't be more so; and just as the roach were well on the feed, and in the best of condition. Saturday was the last day on which we had a glimpse of sunshine, but the 22nd will be remembered most, as the day on which the continuous downpour commenced, a sort of deluge, which has lasted up to time of writing, late on Thursday night, with only brief cessations. The harm done to anglers is infintismal to what the farmers are suffering, and if the rain continues much longer, incalculable damage will ensue.

Loddon (Earley).—Weather still continues very rough and unsettled. There has been some good takes of roach and chub this week: two gentlemen, thirty roach, scaling from ½lb. up to a 1lb.; a very handsome lot of fish. Mr. Valitine also had roach over a 1lb.; several others have had good takes. Jack have not been tried for much yet. Water in capital condition.—J. R. Gould.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams have now a good rush of water going down them since the rain at the beginning of the week. There is more water in them than there has been for months, and will do a great deal of good. It will clear the beds of the rivers out, and sport should improve when they clear again. Fishing is quiet, and but few anglers have been out. The Pinsley has rose. Fishing quiet in it.—Gwynne.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Heavy storms on Friday brought about 3in. of stained water. On Tuesday a day's constant rain flushed the rivers a foot or more of muddy water, which is now (Thursday) running down again, and will, with moderately fine weather, be in good order by Sept. 1. This flush will do an infinite amount of good—it will clear the bed of the streams, and freshen the fish. Flies the same as last week. Pinsley is clear, but very much choked with weeds—in many places quite unfishable.—R. T. Williams.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—The disgraceful state of the river between Peterborough and Guyhirn has again claimed attention. As a result of the agitation caused on the subject by the Local Town and County Council, the Local Goat Board, recently sent down an able inspector in the person of Major Marindin. This gentleman has submitted the river between Wisbech and Peterboro' to a very careful examination, and report says has expressed an opinion that the strong condemnation used with reference to the state of the river, has not been uncalled for. The result of this personal inspection will, undoubtedly, result in a full inquiry into the subject at the cathedral town. The weather has been too catchy for successful angling, and only a few baskets of roach have been obtained.—Nenebank.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—Angling is going on well all through these three counties, and very excellent takes of roach, dace, perch, pike, &c., continue to be made. I saw one lot of roach, from the Lark, on Thursday last, that weighed 27lb. the lot of sixteen fish. Several of these splendid fellows are being preserved. A fine perch of over 4lb. was taken from near Mildenhall; on Monday a beautiful fish from Brandon. Good sport is being obtained. The water is high and coloured, but it soon runs off. The swims have been cut out, so that anglers can fish with some degree of comfort. At Lakrenheath some very good catches were made on Saturday and Monday. Brandon Creek is in fine order now for angling, and there are lots of good fish there, a drive of three miles from Littleport station. Roach are well on in the Waveney, at Beccles, and what bouncers they are. A roach of 1¾lb. or 2lb. is not a rarity there; and what splendid perch! You want, of course, to know the swims. The bailiff there is a very obliging fellow, and will tell you them from the Yare. I have seen during the last few days some very excellent roach, especially from Cantley and Buckenham. Creed wheat and red and white paste they take best. Very few baskets are being taken. I hear of a monster pike working near the branch swim; from the look of him he weighs considerably over 20lb. Bream have gone off a bit, and I question whether we shall get many more, unless the weather sets in warmer. It is now very wet and cold, and looks like lasting. A nice lot of perch were taken on the Swaffham Lock yesterday, and a brace of good chub. Anglers may with safety try any of our waters now. I advise warm clothing and thick boots; they will not find it hot.—William Howlett.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—The bream were feeding well at the beginning of the week, but the boisterous winds have put them to almost a standstill. Some have been out, but returned with a blank, not being able to keep a line in the water; but, rain following, will no doubt cause a flush of water, which will put a stop to sport for a short time, although at the time of writing the water is in very good condition.—H. Rout.

Ouse (Offord).—Bream have been on the feed well the last week. Mr. and Mrs. Abbott had a good take on Saturday of twenty-eight bream, and twenty-six roach; sixteen bream averaging 2½lb, and twelve 1½lb. each. They have angled this water for the last month, and have killed seven hundred and seventy-one fish; namely, roach, six hundred and fifty-five; bream, ninety-three; perch, thirteen; eels, nine; rudd, one. Several other anglers have also had good sport; small brandlings, the best killing bait for bream; boiled wheat for roach; water in good condition, prospects good. Anglers wishing for good bottom fishing should not miss the present opportunity, for bream are feeding well.—H. Collins.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—The weather, last week, though not by any means so fine as we expect in sultry (?) August, and the bettered condition of the water gave promise of sport, especially as the trout commence to feed again after their lethargy; but this week brings a daily downpour of rain and a discoloured and rising stream, so that angling will not be possible for some time. Last week, Mr. Maddox, took two trout by spinning, about 1¼lb. and ¾lb.; and Mr. Dixon, who has had a remarkably good spinning season, has taken another trout of 1½lb, also a number of chub and perch, about 1lb. each. The latter seems to be in the increase, judging by the numbers that have been recently taken while spinning for trout.—Piscator.

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—The water was in beautiful order during the earlier part of the week, but the continuous downpour of rain has quite upset the anglers' calculations, causing a considerable rise in the water, the Teme at the present time being as red as marl, and fishing out of the question; but both streams will be the better for angling when the water clears again.—Wingfield.

Taw (North Devon).—Rivers very high, the large ones unfishable; too thick the small ones, only here and there, and at the heads of the brooks some nice peal have been taken.—Rusty Game.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—Since I last wrote you we have had very heavy rainfalls here and the rivers are much flooded. The salmon have been running up freely and much better sport has been obtained. The following are some of the takes which have come under my notice: Mr. George Bainbridge, one fish, about 12lb. and one 6lb.; Mr. Dent, one small fish; Mr. R. Wandlers, three fair salmon; Mr. Thomas Parkinson, one of 12lb. 5oz. and one of 5lb.; the writer one of 5¼lb. and one of 2½lb.; and Mr. Dobson a dish of trout weighing 3½lb. This morning (Wednesday), the river is a perfect torrent and fly-fishing until Saturday will be at a discount, some execution may, however, be done with the bait.—J. H. R.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this district is now running high and coloured, there is more water in the river at the present than has been for some months. The weather has been very rough and heavy rain has fallen, and angling has been quiet since Monday. Before the rain a good few anglers were out, and some good trout and greyling landed. The best baits at present are the Wasp Grub and Worm. Fly-fishing should be good by the end of the week. At the end of last week six good greyling were taken in the water below the New Bridge. Over Ludford Bridge several fine trout scaling over 1lb. each have been taken with the Wasp Grub. The Ony, Corve, Clum, and Ledwyche are all coloured and have rose. In the Corve five good trout were taken with the Wasp grub on Tuesday, and a large number of eels were caught in the traps at the Mills, and are sold at eightpence per pound.—J. Ludlow.

Teme (Tenbury).—The water in this part is now high and coloured, owing to the late heavy falls of rain. Fishing has been dull, and will be so until the water clears, when sport should be good, as this is the first flush of water that has been had for months. The Rea, Kyre, and Ledwyche are all rose and coloured. Fishing in them quiet.—Worcester.

Wharfe, Yore, Swale, Nidd, &c.—There has been a succession of floods since my last report, the heaviest being on Wednesday, when the adjacent land was under water. The bottom fishers have had some good baskets with worm and wasp grub, the latter chiefly. When the water does get into a settled condition, the following flies will kill: Brown Owl, Cinnamon Fly, Fog Black, and Poult Bloa. The weather remains very close and depressing. I should say that the salmon will run well up the Yore, that is if the abominations from the Aire and Calder have not deterred them.—Francis M. Walbran.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—Storms of rain and wind, more or less heavy. have been disturbing the angling of this district of late, but on favourable occasions the results have been satisfactory. If the weather would only settle down expert fishermen would give excellent accounts of themselves. Some places seem a bit over-fished, but there is no wonder, seeing the numbers attending. Still, now and again, even in club matches, when angling is done under difficulties, 5lb. or 6lb. have been made in the two to three hours allowed. The first prize in a match on the Kelsey drain, near Boston, was taken by 5lb. 1oz., and in another at Sibsey, by 5lb. 7oz. Independent anglers have done well at Kirkstead, Dog Dyke, Southrey, and Bardney. A party from Lancashire, at the latter place, got upwards of six stone of fish a few days ago, and the take included several tench upwards of 2lb. each. Some good roach were caught about Southrey, but the finest roach continue to come from the Fossdyke waters. Capital specimens have come from Saxilby and Pyewipe. Fish over 1lb. each have been weighed even in matches. Near Torksey, several pike have been captured, one weighed 9¼lb.—Luci.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire).—A great quantity of rain has fallen in this district since my last report, and the Derwent has been practically unfishable since Monday last. Very poor sport has been had on the Wye below Bakewell, but on the private water about Monsal Dale some very good baskets have been made. Mr. A. Clarke, of Matlock, killed a heavy basket of trout here on Wednesday with the Ash Dun. This gentleman had some grand sport on the Lathkill on Tuesday last, on the Marquis of Granby's water. On Saturday and Monday last some good sport was had on the Matlock Club water—Mr. Green and others killing two or three brace each. Best flies now are: Ash Dun, Whirling Blue, and Pale Blue Dun. Outlook to-night (Thursday) not encouraging, as weather remains unsettled.—Dotterel.

Yare (Norwich).—A great number of anglers have been out since my last report, but very few have had anything of a catch. A gale during the last few days have entirely spoilt the fishing. On Tuesday the Norwich Angling Club held their annual match at Cantley, and very poor luck they had, the splendid silver challenge cup being won by Mr. Bush with about 6lb. fish, and he also took first prize for greatest number (nineteen) yesterday (Wednesday). The East Anglican Piscatorial Society held their annual match at the same place, and they had better luck, the first rod yielding 14lb. 3oz., and the second (in the same boat) about 14lb.; the other takes in both matches were very match-like, as about twelve in the first and fourteen in the second never had a fish. Angling news has had a stopper put upon it by a very terrible accident close to Norwich, whereby three of a yachting party on our river have unfortunately lost the lives.—Robert Moll.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire).—We have had a heavy rainfall during the past few days, so that the rivers will doubtless be in grand fishing order next week. During the past ten days, some good catches of trout have been made, chiefly with worm. Another good run of sewin anticipated.—H.

Lake Coron (Bodorgan, Anglesey).—Owing to the exceptional rough weather there has been no fishing worth mentioning during the last fortnight. The wind suddenly changed on Friday, and six gentlemen from Lancashire came to the Bodorgan Arms, only to find that the wind had as suddenly veered to the south, and until Wednesday night it blew a terrific gale, so that no boat would venture out. It has also rained for forty-eight hours, and the lake is as high as ever it is in winter. With such a volume of fresh water, I hope to be able to record some capital sport in your next week's issue.—W. H.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—Fishing during the past week has been carried on under rather trying circumstances, amid a succession of floods and gales. However, some very good baskets have been made. Mr. A. Busk, being the most successful with thirty-eight trout, 27¾lb.; followed by Captain Stevenson with twenty-one, weighing 15½lb. On Monday one angler brought in eight lovely fish; several others have also had very fair sport during the week. Heaviest fish, Mr. Boydell, 1½lb. Best flies Golden Dropper, Claret and Grouse, Heckbum Peckhum. Season close September 15.—Long Drift.

Scotch Reports.

Altnacealgach Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—Monday was so boisterous that all the boats out were driven off the lochs, The only water which yielded any sport was Loch Cama, on which Mr. G. Clark, Bedford, got six trout, 3lb.; Dr. Saundby, Birmingham, six, 2½lb.; and Dr. Semon, London, two and a-half dozen, 9lb. On Tuesday, Mr. G. Clark, on Loch Cama, twenty-three trout, 6½lb.; Dr. Saundby, on Loch Veyatie, two and a-half dozen, 8lb.; Dr. Semon, on same loch, forty trout, 9lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, Dollar, on Loch Mheallain, forty-three trout, 10lb.; Mr. Cowper, Edinburgh, on Loch Urigill, twenty-six trout, 6lb.; and Dr. and Mrs. Rose, London, on Loch Cama, fifty-two trout, 18lb. On Wednesday, Mr. Clark, on Loch Veyatie, twenty-nine trout, 6lb.; Mr. Ogilvy, on same loch, two dozen, 5lb.; Messrs. Cook, on Loch Cama, thirteen trout, 4½lb.; Dr. and Mrs. Rose, on same loch, thirty-eight trout, 10lb.; Dr. Saundby, on Loch Urigill, forty-three trout, 10½lb.; and Dr. Semon, on same loch, forty-six trout, 10lb. On Thursday, Mr. Clark, on Loch Cama, forty-nine trout, 15lb.; Dr. Saundby, on Loch Mheallain, fifty trout, 12lb.; Messrs. Cook, on Loch Veyatie, twenty-four trout, 5lb.; Dr. and Mrs. Rose, on Loch Urigill, one hundred and ten trout, 25½lb.; Surgeon-General Smith, C.B., on same loch, twenty-five trout, 8lb.; and Mr. Barton, on Loch Boarlau (two hours only) eleven trout, 4lb. Weather most unfavourable.—McB.

Auchintaple Loch (Forfarshire).—On the 22nd inst. Mr. Osborne, from London, caught a fine trout, weighing 3lb. 9oz. On the 24th inst., Captain Campbell and Mr. Osborne landed twelve fish, scaling 13lb. 2oz.—D. G. Grewar,

Ayrshire Lochs and Streams.—All the district rivers have been in heavy floods this week and capital baskets of yellow trout have been secured with worm bait. Mr. James Crawford, of the High School, Glasgow, and Mr. Robert Crawford, Kilbinnie, have had some splendid baskets of native trout in the stream, chiefly in Glengarnock and Rye waters. Several local anglers did very well with the minnow bait. In Loch Doon some capital catches were reported to me this week with fly.—Heatherbell.

Border Esk.—Heavy rains have fallen since my last report and sport has now reached a high-water mark. The river was flooded on Saturday, and some good takes were made. Mr. William Ballanteno, Langholm, hooked a salmon with the worm in the Island Pool, and after an exciting run landed a new run fish of 11½lb.; in the Langholm water, Mr. T. Irving had two sea trout and five herling; Mr. T. Preston, two sea trout, 3lb. each, and five herling, with a small rod; Mr. Doughty, with a small rod, killed a salmon of 6½lb., two sea trout, and a number of herling; Mr. J. Murray had a grilse of 3½lb., three sea trout, and four herling; Mr. J. Harkness, two sea trout and six herling; Mr. J. Armstrong, two sea trout; Mr. A. McMillan, three sea trout and six herling. In the reserved water the Earl of Dalkeith and party have had good sport. In the Canonbie water, Mr. J. Graham, Hallows Hill Bank Gate, had one grilse, five sea trout, and twenty herling, with the fly. Mr. Hepburn, Carlesgill, had two sea trout in the Burfoot water. In the Cauldron Pool, Mr. Shand, Cross Keys, Canonbie, had a salmon of 17lb., with the fly; Mr. C. Johnstone, Birmingham, had a salmon of 18lb. from the same pool and one of 8lb. from the Willow Pool. Mr. D. Edger, Rowanburn. had five sea trout and a number of herling. Mr. J. Graham had twenty-four herling from the Cauldron and Willow Pools. Mr. W. Irving, Prior Hill, had a grilse of 6lb. in the Prior Pool. Mr. D. Edgar, had two small fish of 5lb. and 8lb. in the Cauldron and Long Pools. Mr. Walter Irving, of Canonbie, a grilse of 5lb.; Rev. E. Smith, Bradford, had five sea trout and a number of yellow trout; Mr. J. S. Goddard had a sea trout; Mr. Draper, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, had two sea trout and a dozen yellow trout; Mr. John Bell had 10lb. of herling and two sea trout; Mr. William Mars, Jedburgh, five sea trout and five herling; Rev. J. Bell, at a second fishing, six sea trout and six herling; Mr. Walter Park, a basket of 10lb. of herling in the double water; Dr. Moon, London, one salmon, one grilse, and a good basket of sea trout and herling; Mr. Walter Scott, Holmfoot, five sea trout, twenty herling, and a number of yellow trout; Mr. J. H. Park, of March Bank, had a large basket in the double water; Mr. W. Thornburn had five sea trout, fifteen herling, and some yellow trout; Mr. Craig, Cross Keys, a salmon and some smaller fish; Mr. John Waters, Carlisle, a salmon of 7lb. and some whiting. In the lower waters between the Metal Bridge and Longtown, Mr. Storey had six sea trout and thirty-five whiting; Mr. Mason, Rockliffe, had a grilse: Mr. S. Walton, one grilse, three sea trout, and thirty whiting; Mr. W. Walton, four sea trout and thirty-six whiting; Mr. A. Graham, forty-five whiting; Mr. Twedale, two sea trout and twenty whiting; Mr. James Bell, twenty whiting; Mr. Sawyer, twenty-four whiting, Mr. J. Scott, twenty-one whiting; Mr. Willis, Carlisle, thirty-one whiting; Mr. Lamb, two sea trout, twenty-three whiting, and a salmon of 17lb.; Mr. Borwick, a salmon. On Friday, Mr. Mason, Rockliffe, landed a salmon of 14lb.

and lost another one. Other takes are recorded, but the foregoing are the principal ones, Mr. George Goodfellow, of Canonbie, tells me there will be good fishing for a month yet. The river is full of salmon, sea trout, and whiting, and a great many visitors are staying at the Cross Keys.—GILNOCKIE.

Bunessan Hotel, Mull.—On Loch Asopol and Loch Pattee Bunessan Hotel waters, August the 18th, the Rev. Mr. W. Thompson had three sea trout, and ten brown trout. Mr. Penman and Mr. Prentice had six sea trout, the heaviest one 2lb, and twenty-one brown; Dr. John Dougall and Mr. Watson had six sea trout, the heaviest one 4½lb., and twenty-three brown trout. On the 19th, Dr. John Dougall and Mr. Watson, one grilse, 4½lb., caught by Mr. Watson; and three sea trout, and twelve brown trout, on Loch Asapol; Mr. Pinkerton and Mr. Oliver had six sea trout, and twenty-one brown trout; Mr. Penman had one sea trout, and twenty-four brown. On the 20th August, Mr. Penman had two sea trout, and twelve brown; Dr. John Dougall and Mr. Watson had four sea trout, the heaviest one, 2lb., and fourteen brown trout; Mr. Pinkerton and Mr. Oliver had three sea trout, and thirteen brown trout. On the 22nd, Mr. Ritchie and friend had three sea trout and seven brown. The weather has been very unsettled, with showers, and stormy for the past ten days, and very much against angling and fishing in general, but are more settled like to-day.—JOHN CAMPBELL.

Carron (Easter, Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—Although this river is at present well stocked with fish, the high winds, heavy rains, and low temperature of the past week have rendered successful angling impossible. One fish was caught on the upper waters, but beyond that the week has been blank so far as can be ascertained.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—The netting season in the Dee, Don, and coast closed on Wednesday. This will now give a fresh impetus to angling which has been passing through the dull season lately. On the Balmoral reaches an occasional fish has been got. On the Invercauld water at Ballater, the Messrs. Webster landed two on Thursday, scaling respectively 12lb. and 8lb. Owing to the superabundance of rain the river has continually in flood so that a good back end on the upper reaches has now been assured. Seldom has there been so much moisture in August, and its effects will bear rich fruit as regards the autumn run. On the Carlogie water on Monday, Captain George Campbell landed two nice fish, of 7lb. and 8lb., respectively. On the lower sections an occasional fish is being grassed in the Woodend, Blackhall, and Park reaches. Finnock fishing is promising better on the tidal reaches. The netters have had a good season.—DEESIDER.

Deveron (Banffshire).—The salmon fishings on the river and coast were exceedingly productive during this last week, both as regards salmon and grilse. The river was in fair flood for the net fishing, and the hauls were the largest for the season. As many as six boxes were taken from the water daily. There was a large run of salmon in the end and beginning of the week in the river, and a good many were also taken from the bag-nets on the coast. On Saturday no less than eighteen boxes were consigned to the London markets; on Monday, twenty-five; and on Tuesday, twenty-two. In all, for the week, up to the day of cessation, over seventy boxes, the heaviest catch for any week of the season, and far in excess of that of last year, when only a dozen boxes were sent south. Towards the close of the fishing, both salmon and grilse increased considerably in weight, and all along they have been of a superior quality, not a diseased fish having scarcely been landed by the nets. On the opening day, the catch on the river was large, some three hundred and fifty fish being caught. For the remainder of the month of February the catch was greatly on the decrease. It continued so until the middle of May, when the river began to rise, and since then it has continued in splendid condition for fish running. It is many years since the water has been for so long a time in spate. Grilse appeared on April 21 on the river, and on April 25 on the sea. They have been a splendid crop, the last time they were so abundant being in 1882. Without exception, all the stations on the coast have done remarkably well. Over one hundred grilse were got at one haul from one of the nets on the sea. For the months of July and August, the total catch from all the stations for the week were from thirty-four to seventy boxes, more than double that of the corresponding months last season. Rough weather was pretty frequent on the coast during the latter half of the season, and a large amount of nets were destroyed. Hatching operations were very successfully carried on this year. About one hundred thousand fry were hatched, and in the month of June were safely deposited in the river. The operations were conducted by Mr. Bisset, the lessee, and Mr. Kennedy, superintendent of the fishings. On the fishings to the east of the Deveron district (Gardenstown), fair takes were got, the number of boxes ranging from one to eight weekly up to the middle of July, when they increased in number to twelve, eighteen, and twenty. Altogether they have been above an average. The prospects for anglers are very encouraging. Fish are abundant in the pools, the only drawback being the discoloured state of the water, which is exceedingly heavy. Three salmon and two grilse were killed on the Mayne and Netherdale waters, and now that the nets are withdrawn from the river and the cruives opened, sport will be greatly on the increase.—H. W.

Helmsdale (Helmsdale).—Never in the memory of that notable being, the "oldest inhabitant," has autumn angling, so far, on this river been so unsuccessful, and, in the same way, never have fish been so numerous in the river. I had the other day an opportunity of interviewing the water-bailiffs on this water, and they declare—and they have been many years on the river—that never was so many fish on all the reaches. No matter where you go, there they are, leaping and tumbling about, but in vain does the angler ply his craft—ply he it ever so wisely—fish are not to be lured by any known fly or bait either. This, to many anglers, must appear almost incredible, but, for all that, it is the fact. The shooting tenants, who have also the fishings, have been trying to vary their sport by angling, but they soon tire of it, seeing the result to be *nil*. For weeks back flood followed flood, and, every time the water fell, anglers' hopes revived, only to be again disappointed. This is doleful news from such a noted salmon river as this, but one must give facts regardless of the consequences. The netsmen have now finished up their fishing, and have had, on the whole, a very successful season, but it is not too much to say, had there not been the succession of spates indicated, their catch would have been almost double what it was, and yet they have considerably beaten the record of last year. The lochs in this district have been considerably behind last season, both in quantity and quality, and now the season, being so far advanced, any further improvement is not to be looked for. The herring fishing industry is drawing to a close, but to-day (Wednesday) is the heaviest fishing of the past six weeks. One hundred and twenty boats landed no less than eighteen hundred barrels of herrings, some of them being of fine quality. Over Scotland this week the shortcoming of the earlier part of the season will be considerably lessened. A number of vessels are loading for the Continent, where the bulk of the catch annually goes.—S. C.

Lairg (N.B.).—Monday of last week was so stormy that very few anglers ventured out. Tuesday was also very unfavourable for sport. Mr. Wordsworth fished Loch Beannoch, and killed six very fine trout, the heaviest scaling 2lb. A local angler made a basket of twenty-three lovely trout on Loch An-Ullavie. On Wednesday, which was very boisterous, hotel anglers got a few trout on Loch Shin. Mr. Neill, Dornoch, fishing off the shore, caught half-a-dozen, and Sergeant Ray, in the evening, eight trout. On Thursday, Mr. Wright and party killed seventeen trout, 6lb., on Loch Shin; on the same loch, Rev. Mr. Anderson caught thirteen trout, 4¾lb. Messrs. Dalgleish and Eden fished Loch An-Ullavie, and landed twelve nice trout, averaging nearly ½lb. On Friday, Mr. Wright and party, fishing Loch Shin, killed twenty-seven trout, 13lb.; on the same loch, Rev. Mr. Anderson got fifteen trout, 4¾lb.; Mr. Allen caught one trout, 7½lb., on Loch Beannoch. On Saturday, Rev. Mr. Anderson killed two grilse, weighing respectively 6lb. and 5¾lb., on Sluice Pool, Lower Loch Shin. Sergeant Ray made a nice basket on Loch Shin in the evening.—J. Y.

Liddle.—This historic tributary of the Esk is fast rising into importance as a fishing resort. The river has been in capital order during the past week, and anglers have been busy. In the upper reaches—Newcastleton water—Mr. J. Elliot had a salmon, 13lb.; Mr. A. Nichol had twelve whiting and sea trout; Mr. W. Armstrong, nine whiting; Mr. A. Little, seven whiting; Mr. W. Tail, six whiting; and Mr. W. Hope, seven whiting; Mr. Harper, London, had also a number of sea trout and whiting; Rev. J. Bell, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, Langholm, had a grilse weighing 4lb., three sea trout, and eight herling, with the fly; and Messrs. St. George Tucker, staying at the same hotel, had four sea trout, six whiting, and three dozen yellow trout; Mr. R. Calvert, Rowauburn, had a salmon, 10lb.; Mr. Graham, Crookholm, a grilse, 8lb.; Mr. T. Cairns, Newton, a grilse, 5lb.; and Mr. May, Liverpool, a grilse, 5½lb. Mr. John Archibald, of Jedburgh, had a good basket of sea trout and whiting. There is now a good run of salmon in the Liddle, and anglers are expecting rare sport.—GILNOCKIE.

Loch Craggie (Lairg, N,B.).—The Achany Lodge party, in a couple of hours' fishing killed nine fine trout.—J. Y.

Loch Laro (Invershin N.B.).—Messrs. Walter, Scott, Brock and Arthur Brock, Achindwich House, were out on Saturday last, and made a fine basket of sixteen trout, aggregating 8lb.—McB.

Loch Leven (Kinross).—The weather during the past few days has proved the most favourable of the season, at least, so far as club competitions are concerned. A fine genial rain fell with a favourable wind, and trout rose very freely, but came rather short. The Bridge of Allan Club, on Friday, had the best sport of the season, the total capture of four rods forward, being fifty-one trout, 40lb. 2½oz. Prizetakers: First, Dr. Allum, twenty trout, 19lb.; second, Mr. R. T. Annan, eighteen trout, 10lb. 12oz.; third, Dr. Robertson, ten trout, 6lb. 10oz.; heaviest trout, Dr. Allum, 2lb. 2oz. The Amateur Club, from Edinburgh, also had capital sport on Monday, the total capture of seven rods being eighty-seven trout, 70lb. 3oz.; first prize, Mr. D. P. Aitken, sixteen trout, 13lb. 8oz.; second, Mr. Cargey, eleven trout, 12lb. 9oz.; third, Mr. Steell, nineteen trout, 10lb. 14oz.; heaviest trout, Mr. R. P. Wilson, 2lb. 8½oz. Private boats were not so successful as competing boats. A few of the most successful were: Mr. James, London, seventeen trout, 17lb. 1oz.; eighteen, 15lb.; and twelve, 10lb. 8oz., respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Laird, London, fifteen, 15lb. Mr. J. W. Cartwright, London, eighteen trout, 14oz.; this gentleman the previous evening had nine trout, six of them weighing 10lb. Mr. W. Koene, Madeira, sixteen trout, 15lb.—ROBT. B. LAING.

Loch Shiel (Salen Hotel, Ardgour, N.B.).—On Saturday last Mr. Swinton caught a 10lb. salmon, also sea trout 3lb. on Loch Shiel on Wednesday, twenty-six others got five salmon yesterday. Loch in good fishing ply.—CAMERON.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—This inland region which is at a considerable altitude above the sea suffered much from the recent storms, with the consequence that very little sport has been obtained. Rev. Mr. Ainslie and Mrs. Ainslie, London, and Mr. Ross, Glasgow, ventured out on Loch Shin and made a basket of from 5lb. to 7lb. of trout. At the beginning of this week the weather showed signs of improvement.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—General Murray, Worthing, fished Loch Luxford, an Monday, and got ten sea trout, aggregating 12lb., and a salmon of 8lb.: Loch Garbetbeg, on Thursday, one salmon, 9lb.; and Loch-na-Caillich on Saturday, three sea trout, 3lb. Mr. Beale, Worthing, on Loch Luxford, on Monday, nine sea trout, 10lb.; and on Loch Garbetmore, on Wednesday, five sea trout, 5lb.; and on Loch Garbetbeg, on Thursday, three sea trout, 3lb. Mr. Manning and friend, London, fished Loch Inchard, on Wednesday, and caught four lythe, 43lb.; and Loch Garbetmore, on Friday, three sea trout, 3lb. Mr. Millis, London, tried Loch Inchard on Thursday, and got three lyth, 10lb. On Friday, Colonel Butler, London, on Loch Inchard, two sea trout, averaging 1lb. each; and Mrs. Butler, one of ¾lb. Mr. F. Maitland, Dover, caught twenty lyth, aggregating 122lb., on Loch Inchard on Friday; and on Saturday, on mountain streams, fifteen trout, 6lb. Mr. Maitland, Dover, was also out on Saturday on Loch Garbetbeg, and grassed a 6lb. salmon; and Mr. Dugdale, London; on Loch Inchard, seven lythe, 23lb. The successive spates along with the cold north-easterly winds of the past ten days have militated against successful angling, but now there are prospects of a change for the better.—McB.

Shin (Inveran Hotel Waters).—Owing to inclement weather and other causes, anglers have not been regularly out. Mr. L. D. Hall, Sutherland Arms Hotel, Inveran, fished the lower beats on Tuesday, and caught a 7lb., grilse on Cromarty Pool; and on Friday a salmon of 8lb. on the same pool. Saturday and Monday were blank. —McB.

South of Scotland.—There has been nothing but repeated floods in the South of Scotland rivors during the past ten days, and the rivers had not been in such big spates for many years in the month of August. Towards the end of last week Mr. Dirom, of Mount Aunan, killed with fly two sea trout, of 1¾lb. and 1½lb. each. Mr. A. Bell, Brydokirk, landed one sea trout, 1lb. 5oz., and Mr. Tweedie, Annan, had seven herling and one sea trout; Mr. Robert Irving, half-a-dozen herling; Mr. McGeverin, a very fine basket of sea trout and herling in Blacketlees water, with Stuart and Minnow, and Munrow had also a good catch in the same water; Mr. D. C. London killed a few herling on the same day with Quill Minnow. On Monday, Mr. Thomas, Manchester, landed five good-sized herling with Devon Minnow in the lower waters. On Tuesday morning the Annan was in another heavy flood. Mr. Thomas Tweedie, Moat House, killed thirty herling, and two sea trout; Mr. John Laurie, Annan, had eight herling and one sea trout; Mr. London, eight herling and two sea trout; Mr. John Iveson, Wigton, landed a catch of twelve herling and a sea trout of 1½lb.; Mr. James Dixon, High-street, Annan, had a good bag of fine fish; Mr. Currie, Sheffield, caught nine herling; Mr. Law, five herling; Mr. Bonner, fourteen herling and one sea trout; Mr. Thomas, Manchester, twelve herling; Mr. F. H. Wilson, Brydekirk, six herling and one sea trout; Mr. Richardson, one sea trout and a number of herling; Mr. Peter London, one dozen herling and two sea trout. Many others had fair catches in the lower waters. On Wednesday the flood had not subsided, and the catches exceeded that of the previous day. Mr. John Iveson landed thirty herling, four sea trout, and a yellow trout; Mr. Peet, Wigton, had twenty herling and a sea trout; Mr. J. Bonner, a good basket of herling and a sea trout; Mr. Thomas, in an hour, caught a sea trout of 2½lb., and six herling, at Annan Bridge; Mr. Atkins killed nine herling; Mr. Wallas, gunmaker, Wigton, had a basket of herling and sea trout, weighing 10lb.; Mr. Thomas Gibson, Bridge Place, killed twenty-two herling, two sea trout, and half-a-dozen yellow trout; Mr. Lawson, thirteen herling and one sea trout; Mr. James Dixon, baker, a basket, weighing 8lb., of herling and two sea trout; Mr. Robert Dixon, High-street, a creel of 10lb. of herling and three sea trout; Mr. Hall, ten herling; Mr. Laurie, Town Hall, a creel of herling, weighing 9lb., and two sea trout; Mr. James Mundell, clothier, eight herling; others from six to ten herling each. On Thursday, Mr. Peet, Wigton, landed during the forenoon, twenty-five herling and one sea trout; Mr. John Iveson, twenty herling and one sea trout; Mr. Thomas Gibson, Bridge Place, fifteen herling and one sea trout; Mr. Peter London, sixteen herling; Ex-Dean of Guild, London, about twenty herling; Mr. James, London, had fifteen herling and a sea trout; Mr. Currie, Sheffield, a nice catch of herling and yellow trout; Mr. Thomas, Manchester; Mr.; Laurie and Mr. Robert Dixon, Annan, all good catches; Mr. T. Tweedie had over a score of herling; Mr. W. Wright killed six herling and a trout in little over an hour in the early morning: Mr. Johnstone, five herling; Mr. G. J. Hope, London, a sea trout and a few herling; some good sport was had in the Esk last week with fly and bait. Mr. J. Graham, fishing with night fly after dark killed twenty herling and grilse, and five fine sea trout, in the Canonbie water. In Burnfoot water Mr. Hepburn landed two sea trout of 3lb. each. On Saturday the river was placed in heavy flood, and bait fishers were out in force on every available cast on the river. Mr. William Ballantyne, Langholm, killed a salmon in the island pool weighing 11½lb. Mr. Doughty caught a salmon of 6½lb., and two sea trout. Mr. T. Irving, two sea trout and five herling; Mr. Preston, to sea trout, and a few herling; Mr. J. Murray, a grilse of 3½lb. in the town water Mr. J. Harkness, two sea trout, and six herling; Mr. Shand, Cross Keys Hotel, Canonbie, a fine salmon of 17lb. with fly; and Mr. Walter Irving, a grilse of 5lb., in the Canonbie section; the Rev. Mr. Bell, out from the Temperance Hotel, Langholm, killed a grilse of 4lb., three sea trout, and eight herling, in the tributary—the Liddle, with fly; Messrs. St. George Tucker, had four sea trout, six herling, and three dozen yellow trout; the Rev. Mr. E. Smith, Bradford, had a very nice catch in the higher waters, killing five sea trout and herling; Mr. J. Bell, a basket of herling and sea trout of 10lb.; Mr. J. Elliot, Newcastleton, had a salmon of 13lb., in the Liddle; and Mr. J. Beattie, killed seven sea trout, and a number of herling. In the tidal and lower portions of the river near to Longtown, anglers have been having excellent sport. Mr. Waters, Carlisle, landed a salmon of 7lb.; Mr. Story, Carlisle, six sea trout and a good heavy basket of herling Mr. Walton, a grilse, three sea trout, and a fine creel of herling; Mr. Lamb landed a salmon of 17lb.; Colonel Wybergh killed a grilse, and, at another outing, he succeeded in killing a basket of twenty-four herling; Mr. R. Graham caught about forty herling; Mr. Lamonby, a salmon of 12lb.; Mr. Mason, a pretty grilse. The Dee, Kirkcudbrightshire, has been pretty much flooded of late. Among the best catches mention may be made of that of Dr. Reid, Mr. W. Milroy, and Mr. J. A. Osborne. The latter gentleman killed in the "Sheep Dub" the other day a fine grilse of 16lb. and six sea trout and herling. The net fishing is now closed, and fish will have a free run up the river. The weather is very unsettled, and rain is again falling at the despatch of my report.—HEATHER-BELL.

Thurso and Lochmore (Brawl Castle).—The river was again in high spate during the whole of last week, which was much against anglers. Still, one, two, and sometimes three fish were landed daily by the Brawl Castle anglers. Strathmore party have had fair sport with the salmon, and Mr. Baring, jun., one day had a basket of good trout, basket and fish weighing 17lb.; the heaviest fish weighed 2¼lb., another 1½lb., and a brace of 1lb. each—not bad for a boy of about twelve years, and all caught in the river. Mr. E. McKay, Post-office, Halkirk, who got a day on No. 1 beat, killed a fresh-run salmon, weighing 8lb., on the 24th. The general complaint is, that the fish (salmon) are not taking well. Pool after pool is often fished without a rise, although many are seen jumping. Your Helmsdale correspondent, in last week's *Fishing Gazette*, makes a similar complaint, and says, "Surely there is some lure hitherto untried that might be found to tempt them; f there is, it is yet undiscovered." He also asks the question, "Why salmon take better there in the spring than at this time of year, and that the party who solves this problem will gain everlasting praise." Now, I would fain be a candidate for this honour. Before offering my theory as a solution to the problem, I would ask another question, viz., Why do salmon take fly in September and October better than they do now? In most north-east rivers, in some of which they take as well as they do in the spring; perhaps the Helmsdale is no exception. I do not think there is any lure invented or in embryo that would tempt salmon to take well under the present conditions no more than it is likely that a solid combination of foods or otherwise will be invented that would tempt a man to eat who is in a burning fever. More of this by and by.—ARCHIBALD HARPER.

Tongue Hotel.—On August 19, Mr. Todd, on Loch Craggie, thirteen trout, 5½lb.; Mr. Elkington, on Loch Na-Hakel, fourteen trout, 7lb.; Mr. Pollock, on Lochs Craggie and Slamm, twelve trout, 6lb. 20th, Mr. Todd, on Loch Loyal, nine trout, 4½lb.; Mr. Elkington, on the kyle, one sea trout, 2lb., also one lythe. 21st, Mr. Elkington, on the Rigibill Burn, one sea trout, 2lb. 22nd, Mr. Todd, on Loch

Loyal, sixteen trout, 6½lb.; Mr. Elkington, on Loch Na-Hakel, 7lb. trout; Professor Rilian, on Loch Loyal, nine trout, 3lb.—A. CAMPBELL.

Whitadder (Ellemford).—The fishing last week improved very much towards the end. After several hours' rain the river rose quickly—the heaviest flood there has been in the Whitadder for the last twelve years. No fishing could be done on Saturday. However, on Monday everyone had splendid sport. Without going any distance many large trout were seen. Good fishing may be expected for September.—R. J. FENTON.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—The Ballinderry is slowly getting rid of its quota of flax-water, aided by the torrents of rain which have fallen continuous for the past three or four days. However, this year, it has escaped comparatively easy. I have seen no dead fish, but the pools contain many sick ones. The other streams of East Tyrone—Blackwater, Tenew, Kingsmill, &c.—are slowly recovering; but another instalment of flax-water may still be expected, as the supply is far from being exhausted yet.—EAST TYRONE.

Erne and Lough Melvin.—Sport on this river improved rapidly during the past week, and capital bags were made by the following gentlemen: Mr. F. T. Green—who got six in one day—had the biggest bag for the week; Mr. E. Green, Mr. S. V. Thomas, Captain Green, and Mr. H. Gair. Some good trout fishing has also been had, as the rivers in this neighbourhood are all very full, and good sport is likely to continue.—M. ROGAN AND SONS.

Lough Currane (Waterville, County Kerry).—Sport has been slack in consequence of unfavourable weather. On some days fishing has been impracticable. Thursday was the only day that could be called an angling day, and fair baskets were had. Ten white and ten brown trout, by Mr. Alfred J. Cobbold and Mr. E. Bishop, was the best basket. The other anglers out during the week included Rev. Mr. Fitch and brother, Mr. F. L. Gordon-Farrar and two sons, Major Cresswell, Mr. G. Eades, Messrs. Matthews (two), Mr. Merriweather, Mr. W. W. Pownall, Dr. Coats and Mrs. Coats, Mr. Brock and Mr. Baker, Major Wilson, Captain MacIntosh, Mr. Winter, and a few others. Sport on the Inny has been fair on a few days after the flood. The following gentlemen had a salmon each: Mr. Merriweather, Major Wilson, Mr. Cobbold, and Mr. Le Marchant. Donal Leary, fishing for Mr. Merriweather, had two on one day, weighing 7lb. each. White and brown trout fishing very good on preserved waters.—THOS. J. DENNEHY.

Lough Neagh.—The runs of salmon are increasing, and netters report fair takes. Trout netting is also good, and some nice fish have been taken with the rod by Mr. Dinaghey. Eel, perch, bream and pike fishing continue steady, and the takes of pollen show a slight improvement. Apparently, the Board of Conservators at Coleraine are awakening to the fact that there is such a thing as the Irish Fisheries Act, and that it contains a section prohibiting the taking of pollen under 8in. in extreme lenth. Placards containing this section, and the attached penalties for its infringement, have been posted up along the shores, and at the various police barracks in the district. The majority of the pollen for sale in the local markets are under the eight limit, while the good fish, as usual, go to the Scotch and English markets.

Moy and Lakes (Ballina).—This river is now in flood after the heavy rains of Monday and Tuesday, and will not be fishable with fly before Saturday. Plenty of fresh-run fish to be seen sporting about in the pools. Some nice baskets of sea trout, from six to a dozen averaging a pound, has been taken in the Bunree river (a tributary of the Moy) these last few days. Trout fishing in the loughs has improved since the recent heavy rains.—FRANK HEARNS.

Shannon and Lough Derg (Killaloe).—For better than a fortnight we have experienced on the Shannon most horrible weather. To agriculturists the result will, I greatly fear, prove most disastrous, corn of all sorts and hay lying rotting in the fields, and the rain falling heavy as ever. Potato gardens, which two or three weeks ago were as green as parsley, are to-day in many places as black as bog oak. In the midst of all this desolation it is difficult to feel cheerful; but if anything could bring joy to the angler, it is the fact that the rain-fall has brought the water up to a height never before known in August. But as floods in the Shannon mean salmon, grilse, and trout galore (*Anglice*, in plenty), here, at Killaloe, fishermen, at least, will have no reason to complain. The river is full of fish, which are coming up in tons from Limerick and Castleconnell. Next month (September) should fish splendidly—fish in abundance and any amount of water to stir them up; even October will, I predict, witness superb sport. Both these months are already fully engaged, and I expect to be able to send you many accounts of good sport and heavy bags before the end of the season. The Shannon, at Killaloe, has held its own against all the angling stations in Ireland this year. Were it not for the ferocious weather, my record this week would be something to remember. In the midst of all the storm and all the floods, Sir H. Meridyth, Bart., Carlton Club, managed to kill five grilse, 9lb., 8lb., 7lb., 7lb., and 7lb., besides several baskets of fine trout; Sir Henry's friend, Mr. Claud E. Levita, White's Club, London, has also had some really grand sport amongst the trout on Mr. Young's preserves. Major Traherne landed, on the 22nd inst., one salmon, 28lb., and two grilse, 8lb. and 6lb. The weather is more settled this evening. Hope it will remain so, and give us a chance of killing some of the huge salmon that we see rising all over the preserves. The quantity of trout alone in the river is simply marvellous; for about twenty minutes last evening they positively went mad down about the Isle rise and on the Clieve. Mr. J. W. Young, Brockley Park, Stradbally, Queen's County, fishing his father's preserves, killed twenty trout, "oil paintings," every one of them. Anyone who could stick to trouting all day might easily basket from 15lb. to 20lb. Pike fishing on Lough Derg is well worth a trial. Big fellows beyond counting are up there, but no one to catch them.—S. J. HURLEY.

Strule and Mourne (Newtown Stewart, Co. Tyrone).—The heavy rains here last week have brought the salmon, which your report of last week mentioned were so plentiful in Lough Foyle, up these rivers. The keepers at Iron Mills say that several thousand fish passed up last week, as the river was in flood the whole week. The river was in fishing order here on Monday, and the following gentlemen, among others, killed—viz.: Mr. Start, three salmon and some white trout; Mr. Vyse, two salmon; Mr. Sweeney, two salmon; Mr. Houston, two salmon; Mr. McCloy, one salmon; Rev. Mr. O'Dougherty, P.P., one salmon; Mr. Berry, one salmon; Mr. Girr, one salmon; Mr. Donnell, one salmon; Mr. Callaghan, of London, lost two fine fish. The rain came down again on Monday night and the river is in flood again, but as this is the flax-water season, it will do good by keeping the river clean. In a few more days we will have bid good-bye to it, and from the large numbers of fish up, we should have splendid sport till the end of the season.—JOHN J. MOORE.

Suir and its Tributaries (Clonmel).—The season for netting and with it the season proper for salmon, closed here on the 16th inst. Although the spring fishing was anything but good, and, indeed, the whole season on the upper waters more than indifferent, yet the summer fishing—up to the end of the season—on the tideway, both for salmon and peal, was the best we have had for the past fifteen or twenty years. Now that the nets are off the river, and that the rod fishing remains open until October 16, we ought to have some good sport for the rest of the season, especially as the present floods are bringing up crowds of fish, and every stand should be fully stocked. Trout fishing during the past fortnight was very successfully carried on, especially with artificial minnow, in the coloured waters. Many good trout were got up to and upwards of 1lb., one of the largest, taken near Clonmel, weighed 3¼lb.; another, over 2lb.—R. BRADFORD.

Westmeath Lakes (Mullingar).—We have had a most disagreeable week since furnishing my last report, as the weather has been almost continually wet, and accompanied with coldish atmosphere, and fishing has, as a matter of course, declined. The Green Drake still continues to rise on Lough Ennell, but in fewer numbers, while Harries (Daddy Long Legs) are in myriads. The trout now rising are small, and seldom average more than a pound, each boat getting daily from four to a dozen fish when weather permits.—W. T. THOMAS.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

THE Birmingham clubs are getting their contests over as speedily as possible, so as not to clash with the large contest promoted by the association. Three important contests have been decided since my last Notes. The West End Society fished their annual contest at Wyre, near Pershore, on the 23rd inst., and were favoured with beautiful weather. The club offered twenty-two prizes to be competed for, and twenty-eight members answered to their names at the draw for places. The contest was of the usual duration, two hours, at the end of which the weighing in of the fish took place, with the following result: First, Mr. C. Wainwright; second, W. H. Woodall; third, Mr. H. Coleman; fourth, Mr. A. Wainwright; fifth, Mr. Hulse; sixth, Mr. T. Jesson; seventh, Mr. H. Jesson; eighth, Mr. T. Gold, &c. The contest was fished under some little disadvantage, owing to the water being lowered for the repairing of the locks. The weights of fish were below the average on account of this great obstacle. The prizes were distributed on Tuesday evening last.

THE Birmingham Garrison Lane Society held their annual contest on Monday last, at Alveston, near Pershore, in the river Avon. There were forty-nine competitors for the valuable prizes, which numbered forty-one; the fish caught in the contest were a little above the average weights caught in these competitions, as the winner succeeded in capturing close upon 3lb. weight. The gentleman who had the honour of obtaining 1st prize was Mr. T. Swan; 2nd, Mr. W. Trever; 3rd, Mr. W. Bowen; 4th, Mr. W. Village; 5th, Mr. W. Monks; 6th, Mr, H. Slinn, &c. The arrangements for the contest were made by the energetic secretary, Mr. J. Waterhouse, who succeeded in giving satisfaction to the whole of the members, who were more than pleased with their visit to Pershore.

THE Birmingham Spring Hill Society held their annual contest, on the 23rd inst. Fazeley was the place selected, where the contest was fished in the canal, which is preserved for angling by the company; and a charge of one shilling per day is made for the privilege to fish. Only about half the strength of the club turned out to fish for a first-class lot of prizes, the chief winners of which are: Mr. T. Tyler, 1st; Mr. J. Strawford, 2nd; Mr. T. Cox, 3rd; Mr. F. Jones, 4th; Mr. R. Gibbons, 5th; Mr. R. Saunders, 6th, &c. The contest was witnessed by about one hundred of the Fazeley yokels, who considerably hampered the competitors; but, notwithstanding this drawback, the whole of the competitors with one exception succeeded in taking fish. The weather was all that could be desired, and the whole of the members thoroughly enjoyed the out. Mr. C. Green officiated as referee, and carried out his duties to the satisfaction of all.

THE Avon has received a fair amount of patronage from the members of the Redditch and Birmingham clubs. The river is reported to be rather low, but in all other respects it is in first-class condition. Some good takes of roach have been made, the chief and best bait being the stewed malt. This bait will be found to be more seductive than the wheat or paste, and, at the present time, will be found to excell all other baits on the Avon. The roach will be found in the deep water, and, with the use of the bait mentioned, and using firm tackle, the angler will be certain of good sport, as there is an abundance of fish in the river this season. Some of the anglers who are acquainted with the swims have secured as much as 25lb. to 30lb. of roach, nearly all the fish running large and the majority over a pound each. At Barford some grand sport has been had with the roach. The river in this part is very low on account of some repairs being done to locks and flood-gates, and the fish have made for the deep holes, where they fell an easy prey to the angler. Bream have been well on the feed, the best bait being stewed wheat The natives round Fladbury and Pershore have had some fine catches with this bait, the best fish being taken early in the morning or late in the evening. The perch have been going well at the worm, and some fair takes of 8lb. to 9lb. have been had, a good few of the fish running over a pound each. Anyone who wishes to have a bit of good perch fishing, I should advise to take a good supply of live minnows to Fladbury, and fish round the lock, where they will be sure to find some good fish that will give the angler some rare sport.

SOME fair sport has been had on the Severn, and the river seems to be getting back to its old form again, I am pleased to say; and those who have visited the river during the last week or so, have spoken more favourably of the fishing, as there seems to be more fish in the river this year than there has been for many seasons past. They also run larger, especially the roach, these fish have been taking the wasp grub very kindly. Mr. Brereton, the secretary of the Spring Hill Society, on one of the days last week succeeded in capturing seventeen roach with the bait just mentioned, in about an hour and a-half, the fish weighed close upon 8lb., and were taken from the Severn close to the river Salwarpe at Hawford; other good catches of roach have been had higher up the river, which is now in nice condition. The dace have been biting freely at the maggot, and a fair number of fish have been taken. The fly has done but very little execution of late. Some of the Kidderminster anglers have been doing well at Highley and Hampton Lode, some of them taking baskets of 10lb. to 12lb. of roach and dace.

ON the Trent good sport has been had by a few of the Birmingham anglers. The roach and dace have been on the feed and some good catches have been made by the aid of the maggot. At Yoxall a good catch of 26lb. of roach, dace, and perch, was had last week, nearly all the fish being of a good size. Some good perch have been taken with the maggot whilst roach fishing, and these fish seem to prefer the maggot—at present—to the worm. Very few members have visited the Birmingham club waters during the past week, but those who have been down have been rewarded with fair sport. The committee that have in hand the purchasing of the prizes for the great Birmingham and District contest have been busy purchasing a good collection of useful and ornamental articles. The first prize will far exceed the prize given last year, and will consist of a magnificent marble timepiece; which is surmounted by a large bronze figure, the other prizes purchased are far above those of any previous year. The prizes will be on view any Saturday evening at the Birmingham Arms, Smithfield, when the members and their friends are invited to inspect them.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

NOTWITHSTANDING the climatic difficulties of the past week or ten days, fishermen have been abroad in great numbers, and all things considered, sport has been obtained of a more than average character. Club matches are very prolific, and better results are to hand of the various contests than is experienced generally.

THE Royal Walton fished a contest on the 22nd at Blackley, eleven prizes were offered for competition, and were awarded as follows: First, W. Butterworth; second, J. Bertenshaw; third, J. Small sen.; fourth, J. Butterworth; fifth, J. Small jun.; sixth, J. Whalley; seventh, J. Etchells; eighth, T. Blease; nineth, J. Robinson; tenth, J. Kenyon; eleventh, W. Linker. A dinner was afterwards held, and the prizes were presented to the winners by Mr. A. Ferri. The evening was passed in a social manner, and good music provided by special friends of the club.

THE Openshaw Club competed on Saturday last for a valuable list of prizes at Whatcroft by permission of Mr. Millington, the following are the prize-winners: First, T. Jones; second, J, Crawther; third, E. Tudor; fourth, J. Jackson; fifth, H. Thompson; sixth, G. Yates; seventh, F. Brabner; eighth, J. H. Chadwick; nineth, R. Burgess; tenth, W. Webb; eleventh, H. Nuttall; twelfth, and thirteenth, J. Eyres and J. Evans; fourteenth, J. Jones; fifthteenth, S. Eyres; sixteenth, J. Edwards.

THE Salford Friendly Anglers fished the contest on Saturday last for an exceptionally attractive lot of prizes, the following is the complete list: First, W. Court; second, W. Kelsall; third, J. Hares; fourth, E. Harris; fifth, J. Barnes; sixth, John Royle; seventh, T. Price; eighth, J. Burgoyne; nineth, S. Delman; tenth, J. Hall; eleventh, C. Whitehead; twelfth, J. Delman; thirteenth, H. Baxter; fourteenth, T. Hannah; fifteenth, R. Hunt; sixteenth, J. Bates; seventeenth, A. W. Plapford; eighteenth, T. Harker; nineteenth, H. Holland; twentieth, J. Doving; twenty-first, P. Wove; twenty-second, R. Driver; twenty-third, R. Bates; twenty-fourth, W. Fletcher; twenty-fifth, G. Forester; twenty-sixth, James Royle; twenty-seventh, J. Thretford.

THE newly-formed Levenshulme Club are taking steps to fence round their acquired private waters, this step is forced upon them through the defiant trespass of a small body of men? Stocking will shortly be vigorously proceeded with.

MR. BROOKE is having a rare time amongst the trout and perch in the Lake District some very fine fish have fallen to his skill. Mr. R. Rigby, Oldham, has secured a nice pike of 7¼lb. and a perch of 1lb. 11oz. in the flashes at Northwich. Individual catches in the Dane are of daily occurrence, but it would be impossible to attempt any detailed account. Trout are in fine condition and plentiful, but the sport amongst the coarse fish, is the most satisfactory. Cheshire brooks are now in the best of condition and are receiving great attention. From the Dee reports are coming in of a more favourable nature for rod-fishing. The netting season being all but over, tends to this improved state of things.

THE Seedley Angling Society held a contest on the 22nd, with the following result, after a keen and interesting fight for the various prizes: First, J. Senior; second, V. Harrison, third, J. Baxter; fourth, C. Cropper; fifth, R. Higgins; sixth, S. Appleton; seventh, H. Lopper; eighth, D. Barlow. A social evening completed the day's programme.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

IT is a gratification to be able to report an improvement in the character of sport on the Trent. Fish generally have fed more freely, and on some of the lengths the takes have been remarkably good. At Shardlow, on Saturday, Mr. M. Leek, of Lenton, and Mr. A. Sewell, of Radford, killed, with the worm, eight splendid chub, four barbel, and sundry eels, and in the canal at the back of the river here, Messrs. J. Bailey and H. Daykin, of Lenton, and Mr. F. Baker, of the Nottingham Wellington Society, have certainly excelled amongst the bream. In two outings Mr. Bailey killed something like 70lb., and amongst the fish taken by Mr. Baker, one of over 3½lb. was recorded on the books of the society named. Mr. T. Essex, one of the vice-presidents, has caught an enormous quantity of fish (bream) in the Sawley private waters, and numbers of roach have been met with at Trent Lock and Barton. Most of these fell to creed wheat, which continues to do good execution in the Wellington district. I hear that Mr. F. Ley, of Barrow-on-Trent, had a take of eight or nine very fine barbel from his waters above Swarkestone Bridge, on

Saturday, and having fished them with him, I can testify as to their general excellence. At King's Mills, Mr. S. Pogson, mine host of the Bowling Green Inn, Canal-street, Nottingham, Mr. J. Clayton, and Mr. Harry Spray (hon. sec. of the "Wellingtonians") caught something like 30lb. of chub, dace, perch, and roach, on the 19th, Mr. Pogson having, in addition, a barbel of 5lb. This he weighed in his own society. Friend John Theaker, the well-known professional, accompanied the party and performed in his usual talented manner. The river rose a few inches on Sunday, and the rise has been attended with satisfactory results. Recently moderate takes of white bream and small roach have come from the Grantham canal, a portion of which, at this end, is open to the public.

Two extraordinary fine barbel have recently been killed in the Trent in the boundaries of the borough, and their capture has created quite a flutter of excitement in local angling circles, especially in the various clubs. The heavier of the two, which weighed 9lb. 10½oz., was caught on Tuesday, August 18, by Mr. T. Davis, who lives within a stone's-throw of my own residence. Employing a bunch of caddis grub as bait, he hooked the fish from the bank immediately below the landing-stages of the pleasure steamers running between the New Trent Bridge and Colnick trees. The bank is awkwardly situated for landing any kind of heavy fish, and the one in question showed determined play for nearly twenty minutes. Then it began to show signs of distress, and a youth, who was with Mr. Davis, sought to get the landing-net under it. In doing so he in his excitement broke the tackle, and the much-coveted prize was about to disappear, when the angler himself sprang forward, and seizing the fish at some personal risk, succeeded in throwing it ashore. Subsequently he disposed of it, and there can be little doubt that it has been weighed in by unprincipled "splodgers" at a number of the local clubs. Shortly before the capture Mr. Davis tried the same spot, and, with the same description of bait, hooked and landed a fish of 7lb. 9oz.; and a second, supposed to be even larger, was hooked and lost from the landing stage by Mr. J. Taylor, of Arkwright-street. Years ago the late Mr. William Bailey killed a fish —of course I refer to barbel—from Cavendish Bridge, at Shardlow, of 11¾lb.; and at about the same period, Mr. William Trivett, of Mansfield—better known among his numerous piscatorial friends as "Marvellous"—caught a couple, weighing 17lb., in Mr. Wilson's field, immediately below Thrumpton weir. These fell to the caddis grub in the early part of the season, and I believe that Mr. George Bates, a prominent member of the Nottingham Wellington Society, once landed, within a few days of each other, two of 21lb., in the gully hole at the foot of Averham weir, now rented, with other portions of the fishery, by Mr. D. Slater, the well-known fishing-tackle manufacturer, of Newark. The late notorious and renowned William Thompson, alias "Bendigo," had the credit of killing several tremendous barbel from the niches of the old Trent Bridge, at Nottingham, and in Mole's Hole, at Wilford, with Chandler's greaves; and about four years ago, in the very depth of winter, Mr. Miles Leek, of Lenton, surprised himself and friends by taking one of 9lb. odd in the Shardlow length. Others, ranging from 8lb. to 13lb., have also occasionally been caught in the noted Fitchett's Hole, at Wellington. Reference to Wellington reminds me that this season the issue of day tickets has been dispensed with. The fishery is in the right of Sir Francis Burdett, of Foremark Hall, and is extensively stocked with all kinds of fish, including salmon, although in recent years very few of these lordly fellows have been killed. The yearly tickets are fixed at half-a-guinea and a guinea each, the latter including the salmon fishing. That the water is cheap enough in all conscience is proved by the fact that it extends for nearly nine miles. Mr. W. Newbould, of King's Newton, near Derby, is the agent to Sir Francis, and strangers anxious to try the water cannot do better than drop him a line, as he is a thorough all-round sportsman, and will willingly supply every information. Tickets may also be obtained from Messrs. Peach and Son, fishing-tackle makers of Derby, and from Mr. W. Collier, of the Green Man Inn, Wellington, who can put up any reasonable number of gentlemen. Dace and roach of great weight are frequently caught in the length, and having fished it for years with varying success, I can thoroughly recommend it.

WHILST on the "champion question," I cannot do better than mention the capture of an extraordinary roach in the King's Mills (Mr. T. Wood's) subscription water. This fish, which weighed 2lb. 6oz., fell to the rod of Mr. George Wood, on Thursday last. Mr. Wood was using the worm, and being a member of the Wellington Society, I hope he has weighed it in, and that he has taken the trouble to have it "set up." Roach of even 2lb. are very few and far between on the Trent, and Mr. Wood's fish is certainly the largest that I ever heard of in local waters. One of 2lb. 1oz. was caught two winters ago in the osier bed at Barton, and the late Mr. James Woodward, of Nottingham, once killed one of 2lb. odd from the footway of Wilford Bridge. This fish I sent to the *Field* office, in anticipation of securing a premium offered for a roach of 2lb. by the late Mr. Greville Fennel. The premium, however, never arrived for the deceased, the reason assigned being that fish of the specified weight had already been received from other parts of the country.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

THE silvery (?) Severn is now a swollen and discoloured stream, and angling is almost useless; but should the weather change and the constant rainfalls cease, we may expect better sport.

IT is understood there is a probability of a conference being arranged between the Shropshire representatives on the Severn Board of Conservators and the Executive Committee of the Shropshire County Council, to discuss the vexed question of the decrease of Severn salmon in the upper waters. Should this desirable conference be brought about, a powerful combination might be formed and wise recommendations made to the Board of Conservators in regard to the questions of the impassable state of the weirs, river pollution, and such questious which are now being raised in connection with the problem. Up to the present time the county of Shropshire has taken, officially, a neutral and impartial view of the matter, and therefore any recommendations that may be made after a conference such as that suggested, would doubtless have due weight. In regard to the question of river pollution, which was dealt with in our columns last week, we have been reminded that, however desirable it may be to cleanse the river from pollution, there are difficulties in view which are well nigh insuperable. In the first place, there has yet to be discovered a really satisfactory method of dealing with sewerage, and until one is found, it is questionable whether the Local Government Board would attempt to force local bodies to cleanse the rivers. Again, if Shrewsbury was compelled to do so, all the small sanitary authorities would have to take similar steps, and the undertaking would be a gigantic one. If sewerage farms were to multiply to a great extent in the county, there might be considerable danger of spreading disease. However, it is highly desirable that something should be done to remove the worst pollution from the river, and it is hoped that the Board of Conservators and the County Councils of those counties through which the river runs, will take decisive steps in the matter.

THERE is a strong feeling among those interested in the salmon fishing of the upper waters of the Severn, that the navigation weirs, near the mouth of the river, are responsible in a very great measure for the decrease of salmon in the upper waters. It is argued by the lower water representatives that there are many weirs equally impassable in the higher waters; but admitting this for a moment to be the case, it is obvious that attentian must first be turned to these below, for it would be useless to better the condition of the weirs up-stream, before those below Gloucester are made passable. It is the belief of the upper water fishermen, that the navigation weirs downstream obstruct the passage of the fish, and that they are captured while waiting for a rise of water to enable them to run; and this being so, it is gently hinted that the lower water fishermen look upon them with favour, as it enables them to make better catches of fish. But if this be the case it is certain that they are defeating their own interests, as if the mature fish are not allowed to pass to the upper waters for spawning, the supply of fish must rapidly decrease, and the river be impoverished.

NOTES FROM WORCESTER AND DISTRICT.

RAIN, rain, nothing but rain lately, the result of which is a considerable rise in the Severn and the Teme, the water in the latter rolling down the colour of marl, and in considerable volume, and angling is out of the question at present; but sport should be considerably improved when the water settles down again, for the streams much wanted a clearing out. There had been some capital sport enjoyed in the early part of the week, and some capital baskets of fish were taken—Mr. Henry Tyers, of the Izaak Walton Club, 24lb. of coarse fish, and four brace of trout; C. Wall, a big lot of eels, the largest weighing 3lb. 8oz., and measuring 37in. long. There were also a lot of fine chub, taken with the maggot and wasp grub, one specimen taken by A. Bozward, weighing 2lb. 10oz.; several others over 2lb.

THE Malvern Club had their third contest on Thursday on the Teme, at Lulsley, the secretary, Mr. L. Higgs, winning first prize, 10s. 6d., with 4lb. 5oz. (including two and a-half brace of grayling), being the highest aggregate take; Mr. Warner, 10s. 6d., for the best catch of dace; Mr. W. Jones taking 10s. 6d., best average, with four fish (roach and dace); Mr. W. Gatfield taking 5s. 6d., for the second aggregate; and Mr. Tanner, 2s. 6d., for the third aggregate; Mr. Higgs won 5s., for the best catch of grayling—which was not taken, no competitor being allowed to take more than one prize. No fish under 3oz. being weighed. A good dinner finished up this very pleasant day's outing, and the health of the winners most enthusiastically drank.

THE Izaak Walton Club have their second club contest on Thursday next, and are expecting some good sport; but unless it takes place on the Severn, which is in excellent condition for bottom fishing, I fear they will be disappointed.

ANGLERS and the net fishermen are thinking and talking a great deal about the river pollution, but it is a curious thing that at the place where the two main sewers of this city empties into the Severn there is an abundance of fish, and anglers fishing for them; and the largest chub, roach, and dace that I have heard of being taken in the river this season has been caught there. Query: Does it affect one kind of fish and not another? Anyway, there is a prospect of it soon being removed from the river in this locality, which most persons will say will be a good thing done.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

ANGLING matters have this week been so decidedly inanimate, that in writing my Notes I am almost reduced to the unthankful position of "making bricks without straw." Rain and wind have been the only features of the weather which will bear record.

SUCH a state of things is far from encouraging, and the misfortune is especially felt in York, in that it being the race week most of the large manufacturing places have been closed for three half-days, and the opportunities afforded to working-men fishers of having a short time with their beloved art, has been denied them. The week had, moreover, been looked forward to with considerable interest by many a local angler; and several of the clubs had arranged excursions and matches. The North-Eastern Angling Association had agreed to hold the second of their matches this season on Wednesday, but with the outlook the event might well have been abandoned. Look how the members of the Fulford Friendly Angling Society fared last week! Seventeen competitors entered to fish their third match, but the Derwent was in such a state, that the first prize, secured by Mr. J. E. Wilkinson, weighed in for under 2lb. of roach and dace. The second award was secured with a couple of eels. What next? But it all lies at the door of the weather.

THE Yorkshire salmon fisheries, I hear, have suffered considerably for the too great volume of water which has entered the rivers of late. The flood of filth from the Aire poured into the Ouse in such a degree as to destroy numbers of fish, and drive those which were ready to ascend the river back to the sea. The County Council is understood to have taken up this question; but they would show a little more sympathy with the grievance of the fishermen if they undertook the purification of the river with a little more despatch.

BAD as the river-angling has been, the sea fishing on the east coast has been maintained in every sense. Scarborough and Filey have afforded sport to the endless streams of visitors, while Bridlington has been patronised very largely by the sea-fisher.

THE York Angling Society held the second match of the season on Wednesday in the Derwent, at Kirkham Abbey, and, as at the opening competition which took place at Buttercrombe, the river was in flood, and, therefore, very unfavourable. Considering the circumstances, however, and the time to which the competition was limited, the catch was much beetter than might have been expected. There were seventeen competitors. The first prize was taken by Mr. Coop, with 3lb. 7¼oz.; second by Mr. Chapman, with 1lb. 1oz.; third by Mr. Gibson, with 11oz. Next to these in order came Mr. Broadley, Mr. Wood, Mr. Smith, Mr. Schumacher, Mr. Lund, and Mr. Foster.

NOTES FROM IRELAND.

[FROM OUR DUBLIN CORRESPONDENT.]

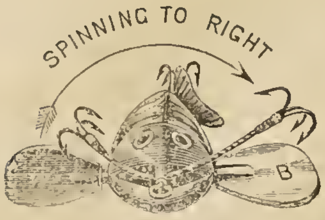
AS the present angling season all over Ireland is gradually drawing to a close, sport has, generally speaking, been pronounced to have proved in many respects, superior to last year; in fact, we have it on the authority of the Premier Inspector of Irish Fisheries (Sir Thomas Brady), that salmon, during the present season, in the prominent fishing grounds, have not only been in profusion, but the run has even exceeded expectation. Many districts of course yielded poorer encouragement than formerly, but on the whole, so far, judging from the weekly returns of capture by rod, anglers in Ireland have had little to complain of when it is remembered that we have been, and are at present, passing through a season most unsettled, and too frequently for sport, of extreme severity. Some of our foremost fisheries have, I regret to say, to be classed amongst the comparative failures throughout the season. The Westmeath Lakes for instance, those magnificent loughs which always formerly proved the acme of perfection for the angler, has suffered much from adverse weather, and that alone; yet, in spite of this, they continue to be fished, and the rise of trout may be said to have preserved itself remarkably. Loughs Ennell and Belvidere have, I am told, yielded the best baskets of the season, the fish scaling up to 6lb. each, whilst Lough Owel has suffered from otter fishing, but the latest reports to hand concerning Westmeath, states a marked improvement has taken place, and last week the attendance of anglers was better. I have no doubt that under favourable circumstances sport there will be excellent during the remainder of the season.

TURNING southward we have a more pleasant state of affairs existing even to the present. The Waterville Fisheries, Co. Kerry, have been wonderfully successful both in capture and patronage, and at the close of last week a report says: "The rush of anglers is unprecedented, and further hotel accommodation is required. Waterville, however, possesses many charms, and one great drawback for the angler. Sport there has always been amongst the foremost, and the spot is a great health resort, surrounded by scenery most picturesque, but it is twenty or thirty miles from a railway station. A railway is however in construction now, and when the district is opened up Waterville will be found an irresistible magnet to the angler.

IN the eastern Irish districts sport has latterly been of a mixed nature, good here and indifferent there. Trout fishing in Dublin district proper has been comgaratively speaking, abandoned, owing to the inclement weathes; whilst in Co. Wicklow fishing is better. Big Lough Dan, up in the Wicklow mountains, is always fishable, and is always being fished. Some fine trout up to 3lb, or 4lb. weight, were taken by Mr. Oscar May and Mr. Geo. Kennedy a few days ago, but for real good sport Woodenbridge and Anglerun "takes the cake." Plenty of worm fishing is going on daily just now. Col. Bayley's two sons and two friends are out every day, and on Tuesday (yesterday) they had baskets of from one dozen to three dozen each of plump small brown trout. Many others are on the river. White trout are turning up well on the Arklow stretch now. Major Walshe had a couple of good ones the other day. The water has kept very high for some time, and in consequence many white trout and salmon have got up, one latter weighing 15lb. was landed near Ballenglen on Friday, and another 17lb. on the "big river." Many others are seen; the water being constantly strong and fresh they are working well up. There is an enthusiastic old lady at Woodenbridge this week (whose name I have) fishing the district and my informant writes:—"You would die laughing to see her standing up to her middle in the river, rod in hand. The season in that district terminates on September 12.

⁂ Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.

MAZAWATTEE TEA



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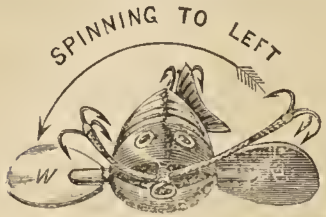

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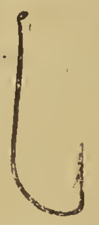

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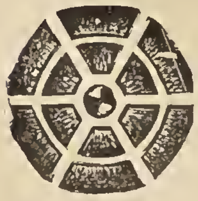

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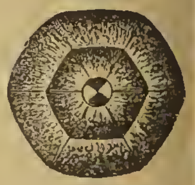

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1891.

THE SUMMER FISHING IN SCOTLAND.—2.

By Mac.

As stated towards the conclusion of our previous week's paper, the real summer angling on the salmon rivers of the East Coast of Scotland proved of but trifling account, in consequence of the almost continual too low state of the water during the seasonable or natural time, which is between the beginning of June and the middle of July. The former month, it will be remembered, was cold and dry throughout, and albeit few fish ascended, or rather got past the netters (who found it an easy matter to sweep all in the low waters), to afford angling on the fairly lower and middle reaches, yet on the more inland sections of the larger long-run rivers, sport with the earlier ascended or spring fish, of which there was an unusually strong head, proved and kept exceptionally good until much farther into the summer than usual, owing, we doubt not, chiefly to the fact that these fish did not deteriorate and become "potted" nearly so soon as they would have done had the water been of seasonable warmth. This, however, by the way. A quite common experience in summer is to find, at one and the same time when the water is low, spring fish taking freely in the livelier water of the upper reaches, and steadily refusing everything in the slacker water of the middle and more seaward beats. True, they are vastly more numerous in the former waters; but why since they take freely in them should they not, in proportion to their number, take as freely in the other? In a large measure it is the temperature that has to do with it. Undoubtedly a high temperature for summer—and the higher the more marked the effect—keeps them from taking so well as in its absence they would do, and accounts (as borne out by the fact stated above concerning this year's summer angling) for the poverty of sport on all but the upper waters, when the fish of the summer migration do not seasonably early commence to ascend, or cannot manage it by reason of low waters and obstructions. When this is the case, these upper waters contain about all the stock and are not so heated up as the water of the nether reaches, which the fish have long since left behind them. Or to put it so that it will be better understood, the water after having run many miles exposed to the sun, through less elevated and better sheltered country, possesses a temperature very much higher than it registers in the uplands, where the feeders rush their cool water down from the mountain and hill sides, and where, by the beginning of summer, the bulk of the stock of spring fish have pushed and are congregating.

Even should a very fair head of quite fresh-run fish be "up," frequent showers or heavy falls of rain now and again are required to freshen the water before, on the more seaward reaches of long-run rivers, sport can be of much account during the summer months, when heat-produced matter and other filth having a most prejudicial effect accumulate rapidly. But towards the sources of the rivers and at high altitudes there is nothing like the same necessity for such frequently occurring pluvial descents. And why? Because there the water, less impaired in volume through drought, exposure to the sun, and other causes, fills the (in general) relatively narrower channels better, and, having a greater average fall, is sharper with, accordingly—as a prevailing characteristic—the much more frequent occurrence of those rocky holds, rushes, and streamy small casts which are the most certain "finds" for fish during low water in summer. Moreover, between having travelled but a short distance and the ordinary rough and rapid character of its flow, it possesses, to the enhancing still further of the angler's chances, a less high temperature and a more clean channel. But all this by the way.

For the larger fish—*i.e.*, salmon and grilse, the past summer angling season, spoken of generally and all along, cannot be said to have exceeded the average of recent years in results. For sea trout it has been a failure, a failure more complete all over than has been experienced for a great many years; and with the common *fario* on loch and river, reports from all quarters indicate that very gratifying sport for any length of time has, on most waters, been quite an exception to the rule. The abnormally cold weather of early summer, while it answered specially well for the angling on far inland stretches of river for spring-run fish, suited but ill for trouting. Unlike for salmon, it is required for trout, early in the season especially, that the weather should be of seasonable warmth, since otherwise the natural fly, upon which they feed, and at that time prefer to bottom food, will not come out in full strength to cause them to rise properly.

The angling on the East Coast and North East coast rivers—numerous though these rivers are, and collectively yielding for the year of fish native to them a far greater market supply than the whole of the rest of Scotch waters—is, nevertheless, but a mere patch of the whole real summer salmon, grilse, and sea-trout angling in Scotland. In greater or less strength, there are of each species—salmon (*Salmo salar*) with its adolescent, the grilse, and sea trout (*Salmo trutta*)—fish of a real summer migration, having the instinct to ascend if they could, belonging to the whole of the rivers, from the cruelly used and sadly degenerate Tweed in the south, to the Wester and abominally polluted, odoriferous (!) Water of Wick in the north. But what with low sun-heated water (not to mention other causes), existing as the usual state of things, in consequence of the prevalence of land winds, which are seldom accompanied with sufficient rain, the fishing at the best is precarious, and only on the off-chance of a spate during the flush of the season's short continuance, is it possible for anglers to do much for even the brief space of a few days on end, save on the more reliable and earlier grilse waters, which are but a small proportion of the number within the area indicated—to wit, Dee, Spey, Beauly, Conon and Blackwater, Carron, Oykel, and Shin. But with respect to the numerous rivers of the North, the North-West, the West Coast and the Isles, which are about two-thirds of the whole in Scotland, the state of matters as regards weather conditions is different, the greater and usually more constant humidity almost every year experienced giving a plentiful flow of water—sometimes rather much—during most of the real natural time for the strength of the summer head of fish—which in most districts, leaving out part of Sutherland, the Lochy-Spean and the Awe-Orchy, is the only pronounced migration of the year—coming to the coast and ascending.

Having, in the main, hitherto confined to ourselves to speaking of the summer angling in a general way, and indicating how physical characteristics and climatic conditions account for the habits and moods of the fish. it is our opinion that we have now led up to the point where for the sake of continuity of the review it is most fitting to link the particular to the general. This assumed, it is an easy task that we find before us; and first, then, because it is reckoned the "grandest" and most dignified sport, though not the most general, we decide to deal with the angling for the migratory *Salmonidæ*.

To take the "circuit"—working round from the Tweed to the district of the Solway compassing the isles of the West on the way is perhaps the best and most intelligible plan; and this leads us to commence with the "old border river." On this once famous summer angling stream sport was not a moiety of what it should be, and indeed would be were the netting less cruel, that is kept within such bounds as would be evidence of a due regard being had for the future yield of the fishings as a whole. This applies to the Forth with its angling tributary the Teith, to Tay with its salmon-affected feeders, and to all the other rivers to the northward whether dyke obstructed or not till the Dee is reached. For this river there was not water enough at the right time, and besides there was far short of the usual strength of fish seeking to ascend. Accordingly on the best, or middle and fairly upper sections, as also on the Feugh, a noted angling tributary, the season proved a disappointing one. Nothing need be said of Don and Deveron, as for reasons which are obvious to those who know them there cannot be summer fishing worth a doit. A very fair fishing for finnock with some sea trout amongst them was had on the tidal waters of the Ythan, which as usual have been tried by many anglers from the south. Since the rainy time (which does not yet seem to be past) commenced both the Ugie and water of Cruden have now and again done fairly—considering their reputation. Of the Spey the same has to be said: its true summer fishing, owing to low water, was a sort of failure, but since about a month back there has been such sport as has somewhat made up for the poor results in June and July. Already, which is considered very early, some finnocks have been got. There is not on Findhorn a chance for the rods in summer in consequence of the netting; and as regards the Nairn and the Ness, which are early autumn waters, nothing need be said further than that on the latter river some very fine grilse fishing has been had since the advent of August. There were a few fair days on the Beauly, but nothing very special that we have heard of was done by any of the rods.

The rivers of Ross and Sutherland-shires, whose waters flow into the Cromarty and Dornoch Firths, have yielded better salmon and grilse fishing than has been had on them for several years past, partly in consequence of having been in fuller volume, and partly through most of them not having been netted to the same extent as they were up to a few seasons ago. In the improved angling, and in the enhanced netting at the *fewer* stations, there is good proof of the wisdom of the policy of treating the nurseries of the fish well. From the hotels at Strathpeffer some anglers have done very fair on the Conon and its better fishing affluent the Blackwater; while on other reaches of the same waters lessees of fishing have in some cases had days of what must be called gratifying sport. Some years ago all the river netting was bought up and put a stop to by the rod fishers. For it, the Carron, Easter Ross, has fished very well, yielding both on the Balnagown Hotel water and most of the other beats a greater total of grilse than for several years. The sea trout fishing on the Kyle of Sutherland, patronised chiefly by anglers from Inveran, Invershin, and Bonar Bridge hotels, seems to have proved less gratifying than usual. The repeated floods drew the fish, of which there did not appear to be an average stock, away from the tideway to the higher reaches. For this reason, in respect of salmon and grilse, Shin, Oykel and Cassley fished well—better than for years past; but then it must not be omitted to mention that the praiseworthy action of the Duke of Sutherland in giving up his netting in the Kyle at Shin mouth is undoubtedly doing much to better both rod and net fishing since, before, the nets at the station mentioned effectually swept the Kyle, which here contains the united waters of Shin, Oykel, Cassley and Eanig on their way to the Dornoch Firth. The anglers, from Inveran Hotel, on the Shin below the Big Falls did famously for Shin *now-a-days*, and among the successful rods were several of the fair sex. The blasting of the falls, or the application of a salmon ladder, which is contemplated, is expected to do wonders for the Cassley, on which this summer some nice fish—both salmon and grilse—were got. On the Oykel, at Langwell, from Oykel Bridge, on the upper waters, and inland as far as Loch Ailsh sport exceptionally good for summer was the rule.

The Fleet, at the Mound, whose reputation for sea trout is great, although yielding a good deal of very fine sport, yet from, like most waters, having had an under-average head of fish, and the water latterly having been unsettled, seems not to have fished quite so well as usual. A little with sea trout was done on Lower Brora and Loch Brora, but no summer fishing for grilse or salmon worth speaking of is ever got on Brora, Helmsdale, and Thurso, although all these rivers afford, when conditions suit, remarkably fine spring fishing. The smaller streams between Brora and John o' Groats do not fish, as a rule, their best till about August, when scarcely can the sport be called summer fishing. With water enough, the Berriedale and Langwell, the Freswick and the Wester with Loch Wester are, however, good angling streams in the proper season for them. For grilse or salmon on the Halladale, which soon floods and soon runs out, a season rather good for it was experienced in consequence of the abundance of rain. The Borgie afforded a fair fishing, and so did the Naver. Both these, with everything favourable, do splendidly in spring. From Bettyhill Hotel some anglers out on the tideway of the latter river did well amongst the sea trout. Trolling with the sand-eel before the rainy time came on, anglers had more than average sport on the Kyle of Tongue, the most famous tideway in Scotland for large sea trout in early summer. A season reckoned not quite so good as usual was experienced on the Hope and Loch Hope. The Upper Hope, or Strathmore river, did very fair after a bit, but on the loch, which is the best inland water on the Northern seaboard for fly-fishing for sea trout (of a great size), sport on but very few days came up to expectation. A little fair sea trout fishing was got on the Polla, succeeding which are the Kyle of Durness and the Dionard river (or Grudie), near Cape Wrath, the last of the salmon affected waters (westward) on the North Coast. On the kyle the sea trout fishing by trolling the sand-eel has not been of its standard excellence. It is the best fishing of the kind in Scotland, but this year, in May and June, owing perhaps to the abnormally cold weather the fish did not come "in" in usual strength, and later on, which usually is a fine time for fishing, the frequent floods tempted them to leave the trolling waters and push up the river Dionard, on which, nevertheless, but a poor sea trout fishing was had, although with salmon and grilse the anglers at the Gualin did remarkably well both on the upper sections and Loch Dionard.

On the North-West Coast, from Cape Wrath to the Polly, a season marked by many vagaries has been experienced. The Rhiconich Hotel fishings have not yielded of salmon and grilse so well as last year; but of sea trout a greater number. The small waters, like Achriesgill and the Duartmore, which jump up and down with great quickness, have afforded beyond the average amount of sport in consequence of the exceptionally great rainfall. But on the Laxford, which naturally is the best salmon, grilse, and sea trout river in the dukedom in summer, a season much less prolific than last has been the result of the fluctuations and frequent thunder-pelts. Loch Stack yielded of salmon and grilse a gratifying head through these fish by the frequent freshenings being drawn up from the Laxford; but of sea trout it gave a poor fishing, considering, of course, the reputation it possesses of being the best sea trout loch in Scotland. On the Inver, Kirkaig, Polly, and all the rivers through Cromarty, and Ross (on the west) southward to the Carron of Loch Carron, the fishing generally, albeit it was not up to satisfaction, was better than during the few years before, which were particularly dry. On Loch Maree and several other lochs very fair sea trout fishing was got. It is reported that, with an exception or two, the small rivers of the West Coast of Inverness-shire did tolerably well, the Guiseran, as usual, being to the front for sea trout. In this district, and in Argyleshire, the lochs, owing to the later frequent freshets, had the fish pushing up to them and so, for their merit, did better on the whole than the streams. There is evidence that Loch Shiel in a few years will have its rod fishing improved considerably through the taking off of nets which took place the other year. Lord Abinger's fine river, the Lochy-Spean, has yielded well, but better in respect of salmon than of grilse and sea trout. Of both the latter there seemed rather a poor show; but it was noted that grilse came up early and were *early* large, while all the season through they averaged above the usual weight. For the Awe a good season was had both by anglers on the Taynult Hotel water and the upper beats. On the numerous streams and lochs in the Western Isles it would seem that the angling for sea trout up to date has been below the usual standard mostly everywhere, and even for small salmon and grilse the marvellous sport of last year and some recent years has in but few cases been repeated on the splendid—because particularly well cared for—waters of the Lews and the Uists. The rivers of the Ayrshire coast as is their wont, yielded but little sport; but on the rivers of the Solway a late summer angling season has been had, such as has not for years been approached in point of excellence. Of sea trout and herling on the Annan and Esk, in particular, the run has been the feature of the year, and considering that nearly everywhere else these fish have been very scarce it may well be called phenomenal.

Since the Tweed has been "done for" no streams of good size in Scotland can now equal Don, Deveron, and Findhorn for early trouting, having regard both to the size and quality of the fish. The prime season is late spring and early summer, and, despite the damage resulting from poachers and pollutions, many fine baskets are made when conditions are propitious. But this year, taking it all round, the sport has been inferior, and since all through the seasonable time for the fish taking best the weather was abnormally cold and dry what else was to have been expected? For the same reason the angling on the early lochs was unsatisfactory; whilst later on too much rain, stirring up the peaty sediment and making the water flush with the heather, fairly played up with the anglers' chances on the later summer fishing lochs of the Northern Highlands and the Isles. On the whole the best loch fishing was got in July before the rainy weather had long set in. Later summer fishing on hill brooks and upland burns proved almost the only exception to the rule in a season of poverty of sport with trout. The much rain colouring the water so often enabled the votaries of the worm to do more damage than has been done in any one season for a good many years by-gone. But this sort of sport is scarcely an art, and is not to be mentioned alongside clear water worm fishing, of which, as can be understood by the initiated, there was little or none worth mentioning.

THE YARMOUTH UNITED LAMBS have just given an impromptu concert on the sands, and as a result have sent a cheque for £7 10s. to Mr. Woodrow, the honorary secretary of the Norfolk Broads Protection Society, as a contribution towards the defence of the public rights. A meeting on the subject took place at Yarmouth Town Hall yesterday.

Notes

WE would again warn our advertising friends that many fishing tackle makers and others have been robbed by persons who have obtained goods under some specious pretext, and under various names, and decamped without paying for them. Messrs. W. H. Foster and Co. ask if we know the whereabouts of a Mr. L. M. Haigh, who had £9 worth of goods from them in the spring, when he was staying at Addingham, near Leeds. They can only learn now that he "left for Scotland" last March, and that many people want his address. For many years past this man has wandered about the country seeking whom he may devour in this way, and seems to thrive on it.

TROUT fishing on Loch Leven closes for the season on the 5th instant (to-day).

EVERYWHERE in Scotch waters, except Tweed, Ythan, and a few of the unimportant later districts, the net fishing for the migratory *Salmonidæ* is now ended for the year. A remarkably productive season has been experienced. For July—usually the month of the heaviest fishing—the aggregate result was under that of last year; but since the closing week of that month, or, during what is called the "tail-end" of the season, the head of fish caught nearly everywhere was found to be almost unprecedentedly great. Not for many years has so abundant a crop of salmon been secured, and taking this into account, as also the fact that the grilse fishing was a good average nearly all round, it is remarkably strange, unaccountable, that a great scarcity of sea trout should have proved a widely prevailing circumstance for the season throughout.

AT one of the netting stations on Tweed an extraordinary haul of fish, numbering one hundred and eight, recently obtained with one sweep of the net, was extraordinary in another sense, in that of the whole batch only one or two were grilse. Usually—and holding good about everywhere—between the advent of July and the middle of August the grilse far outnumber the salmon of the net catches.

NOW is the time for anglers, who can take a prolonged holiday, to go to Shetland for the sea sea trout fishing. From friends come reports that "big fellows are biting well." In *Ultima Thule* the sport, whatever its quality, can be depended on to prove best in September unless something very crowning in the nature of unseasonable weather be experienced. When fresh "come in" the sea trout take best, and with a sufficiency of rain early, they early run in strength. Accordingly a part of August may be very good for sport some years on the earlier voes.

DURING the week before the netting closed, over a score of fish between 30lb. and 40lb. weight apiece were caught on the Aberdeenshire and Kincardineshire coasts.

QUITE recently some very fine grilse and salmon fishing was got by several rods on the Ness, which, of the principal rivers of Scotland, is the latest in affording its best angling for true summer season fish.

LAST month an angler on the Spean caught an eel with the fly; and on the same river a better though not so remarkable a capture was a 36½lb. salmon, which fell to another rod.

AN *over* sanguine angler on a well-known autumn salmon river writes: "The autumn angling is insured: it will be capital; there is plenty of water, and already, which is much earlier than for common, lots of fish have ascended and are ascending." How, friend—how can this *insure* the autumn season being a good one? About two months' time of it is still to go, and who knows but that nearly all along the weather may be as dry as a hielanman!

ONE day last week two Reading gentlemen had each a good salmon on the Inveroran Hotel water of the Orchy, Argyllshire.

Considering that the nets are but newly off, the autumn rod-fishing on the North Esk has begun auspiciously. With the spating, as a consequence of the heavy rains, the smaller fish seem to be pushing rapidly forward. On the Panmure Arms Hotel water, Edzell, on Saturday, a Mr. McKenzie had two grilse, two trout (1lb. each), and several smaller fish.

Lady M. Grosvenor landed a fine salmon on the Laxford last week.

Dee, Don, Deveron, and Spey, all have had a good many salmon ascending since the netting ended, and on each a little sport has been had with good-sized fish—the pioneers of the great autumn migration.

It is reported from most of the East Coast rivers, from Findhorn and Spey southward that in the tidal and lower reaches the autumn run of finnocks which commenced with the spates sometime ago is very well forward for so early in the season. Accordingly there is encouraging indication of a good season to anglers, who no doubt will fervently wish for the sport-conducing adjuncts of suitable weather and "right" waters.

Since the season is quite past, anglers from the south need not now visit Scotland in the expectation of good sport on loch and river with the common trout.

It is for sea trout and finnock with the chance of a salmon or grilse that they should look, and when on this quest—as many will be—the later waters of the West Coast, those of Shetland, the Uists, &c., the rivers of the Solway, and the many East Coast rivers having an autumn migration, are recommended to their notice.

A little time ago, "a great haul" of the Scotch netsmen of the Solway, had to appear for alleged infringement of the weekly slap, and but last week another batch were "up" charged with having fished on the English side.

Recently there has been some splendid sport on Loch Stack, the most productive sea trout loch in Scotland. The trout are now coming to prefer the "Zulu" to any other fly. This pattern did far the most execution last year, fairly putting into the shade the "Claret and Mallard," which had for many years previously been the prime favourite.

How it does rain! Scores of Scotch rivers are this day (Tuesday) in roaring flood.

Since the weather is cold and breezy—a favouring circumstance—the heavy waters may draw up a good few of the larger autumn fish.

ANGLING WITH WORM FOR EELS.

Every part of the tackle should be strong, in fishing for eels, to bear the strain of a really hard pull should the eel take the bait into the weed, &c. The gut should be strong, for the eel, in endeavouring to rid itself of the hook, uses its body as a pulley, and will break, in this way, even the strongest gut. Fine-wired trout-hooks cannot be used—a strong pull will destroy the bend of hook. Do not be content with a portion of gut fixed to the reel line; the eel is apparently wary, like most fish, and better sport will be had with more cunning tackle. When the bait is put into the water, the rod should be left (unless the water is really thick, when standing near can do no harm). But the rod must not be left too long; the disengagement of the eel from the hook, when he finds himself fast, is usually only a matter of time. It is, however, a curious thing that, whereas almost all eels of an ordinary size make every effort to get loose, the very largest may remain still on the line. A keeper told me he had observed this in lake fishing with night lines.

Having baited the hook, there may be some difficulty in throwing the line far enough (especially with a short rod). It may be thrown behind and forwards, in the usual way, or the weighted bait may be "lobbed" out the hand, holding the rest of the line loose. As soon as it has sank, more line should be drawn from the reel, and shaken through the top ring, in placing the rod down on the bank, so as to give the longest line possible, and not drag the thrown bait any closer to the bank. The rod may be placed on some elevation, so as to throw the top up, and sideways, so that a bite may be seen easily from a distance.

Another method of fishing is dispensing with the rod, to use a heavy weight at the end of a stout line, and a mounted hook secured above a knot some way from the weight; the whole thrown out far, especially if it be a loch, or if some special place has to be reached. In loch fishing it is very desirable to find a place where it is a simple mud bottom without weeds. If in a river, look out for a place where there is a dark shade of trees opposite, roots, &c. This is not always enough. The suggestion of rush, water-weed, &c., indicates mud—the likeliest chance for the eel's home. The objection to the hand-thrown line is, of course, that you get no play in pulling the fish in, whereas with a rod, the play of a good-sized eel is good sport. One also gets more chance of success with a rod and finer tackle, though the advantage again with the hand-line is that, if fast in the weed, the stronger tackle allows of the strongest pull for extrication. The grand point, of course, is to know when to strike.

But, first, a word about baiting, as this is intimately connected with the hooking. The more worm there is for the fish to swallow (*before* getting the hook in his mouth) the more chance against the hooking: therefore, not too large a worm, and sometimes two small joined head and tail together is attractive. This should be tried if all the larger worms are used up. Leave just enough only of tail to wrigggle. All is prepared. Now to strike quickly. But the eel is hardly ready to strike directly on the first pull. Moreover, a sudden premature pull frightens him away. But to wait for the second try and then half strike, or, rather, twitch the line, or give it a gentle trail; his generally acts as a stimulus to Mr. Eel, who attacks and runs with the bait with greater energy. A strike then is pretty sure to hold him.

If the rod has been left, and the line is found drawn out fast, the probability is the worm is gorged and the eel in the weed; but it is best as a rule to strike and draw suddenly, if you can, as this may take the eel by surprise, if it has not already fastened itself up in the weed. Keep up a steady very strong pull on the line if he is fast, and after a time, still keeping up the strain, draw the line in another direction. As a premature strike puts an end for some time often to the eel's biting, it may be that either the eel is wary, like other fish, or that the line strikes its back, &c. When you have an eel on, drag it up the bank as quickly as possible; it is not uncommon for an eel to be only in a general way entangled in the line, and not hooked in the mouth. Set your foot hard below the neck, pull the line on the head, transfix just below the head fin, and cut outwards through spine with a sharp knife.

A. C. H.

Notes and Queries

Metal Bridge.—Miss Cartner, the courteous landlady of the Metal Bridge Hotel, says that the fishing in the Esk this season is the best she has known during her twenty years' residence at that famous angling resort, and that she has *unco guid* accommodation for baith man and beast, and a hearty Cumberland welcome for all who enter her hostelry. I have certainly much pleasure in endorsing Miss Cartner's statement, and cannot do better than repeat what I said anent the Metal Bridge Hotel and the worthy hostess a little over two years ago: "It is an old-fashioned farmhouse-looking place, one of a class now fast disappearing in the north; indeed, it is both a hotel and a farmhouse, where the guests are supplied with the produce of the landlady's own ground. Situated within fifty yards of the Esk, seven miles from Carlisle, and three from Longtown, it is handy for all parts and close to one of the best stretches of water for angling purposes in Cumberland." The best casts between the hotel and Longtown are the following—viz., Iron Rail Flat, the Roost, Lyne Foot Flat, the Sheep's Wash, Birrel's Weir, Burnfoot Flat, and Wilkin's Pool. The river is easy of access, and fishing from the banks can be indulged in without interruption by rock, bush, or promontory. With the exception of the Cauldron and Willow Pools, there is no portion of the Esk to be compared to this three-mile stretch of water. I therefore give the Metal Bridge water my heartiest recommendation. Besides, it is not over fished, like some portions of the river.—G.

Old "Boatie" Stephen says that there have only been three really good autumn seasons on the upper reaches of the Dee within his long experience. The present season just begun he thinks promises to be the fourth. He is quite confident of a glorious back end, and his beloved old master, Sir William C. Brooks, Bart., M.P., the worthy proprietor of Glen-Tana, fully shares in this belief too.

Arrival of a Whaler at Lerwick.—The steam whaler Active, of Dundee (Captain Robertson), arrived at Lerwick on Saturday afternoon, from the Greenland seal and whale fishing, after a fairly successful voyage. She has secured about thirty-five tuns of oil, and about a ton and a half of whalebone. The latter alone at present price will yield nearly £3,500. This is the last vessel to arrive from the whale fishing this season. The Active proceeded after landing her Shetland crew.

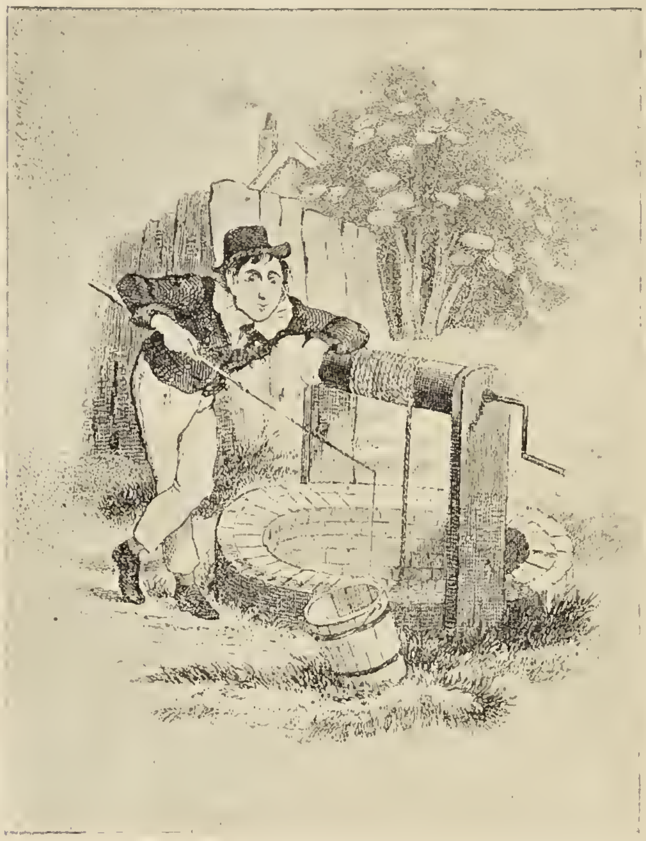
Capture of a Large Salmon on the Solway.—One of the Whammet net boats, belonging to Annan, took a large salmon, 50½lb. on Saturday. Length from snout to tail 4ft. 6in., girth round the shoulders, 2ft. 1½in. There were good runs of salmon in the Solway last week. Many of the drift nets had great hauls of autumn salmon, and hundreds were captured by the boats, the Scottish boats having the heaviest catches. All the salmon were in prime condition.

A Good Thames Roach.—Fishing close to the floating bath at Surbiton, on August 30, Mr. J. R. Richardson, the fishing tackle maker, 67, High-street, caught a splendid roach, weighing 2lb., in grand condition. He also caught several nice bream.

Minnesota Bass.—"Duluth, Minn., August 4.—I returned a few days ago from my second fishing trip of the season, and a short note may not come amiss to future fishers. On the first trip I could only stay one day, and decided to try a small lake three miles south of Aitkin, on the N. P. R. R., and hunting up a former companion we reached the lake about noon and at three o'clock commenced fishing. Black bass and rock bass took the bait as fast as it reached the water, and at eight o'clock we went ashore and counted our string and found we had one hundred and fifteen fish, nearly all black bass. The bass are very gamey and make a good fight, but this country is not a good one for flyfishers. The fish will not rise to the fly but take frogs, minnows, and worms, at any hour of the day until late in the evening. The country here is full of small lakes, and there is, undoubtedly, finer bass fishing here than at any other point in the country east of the Mississippi. Our catch was considerably over the average, but it is nothing out of the common to take twenty or more bass, weighing from 2½lb. to 5lb. apiece, at this lake any morning or evening. A party of nine of us were out last month at a lake twenty miles north of Aitkin and enjoyed a week of the finest kind of sport. The bass were all very large, from 3lb. to 5lb. each, and fought nobly against coming in out of the wet. I must not write any more at present, and will save the account of our happenings for some future time.—*Edward J. Luther, in "Forest and Stream."*

Holloway's Pills and Ointment effect wonderful cures of bad legs and wounds. If these medicines be used according to the directions which are wrapped round each pot and box, there is no wound, bad leg, or ulcerous sore, however obstinate, but will yield to their curative properties. Numbers of persons who had been patients in the large hospitals, and under the care of eminent surgeons, without deriving the least benefit, have been cured by Holloway's Ointment and Pills, when other remedies had signally failed. For glandular swellings, tumours, scurvy, and diseases of the skin there is no medicine that can be used with so good an effect. Though potent for good, it is powerless for harm; and though the cure it effects is rapid, it is also complete and permanent.

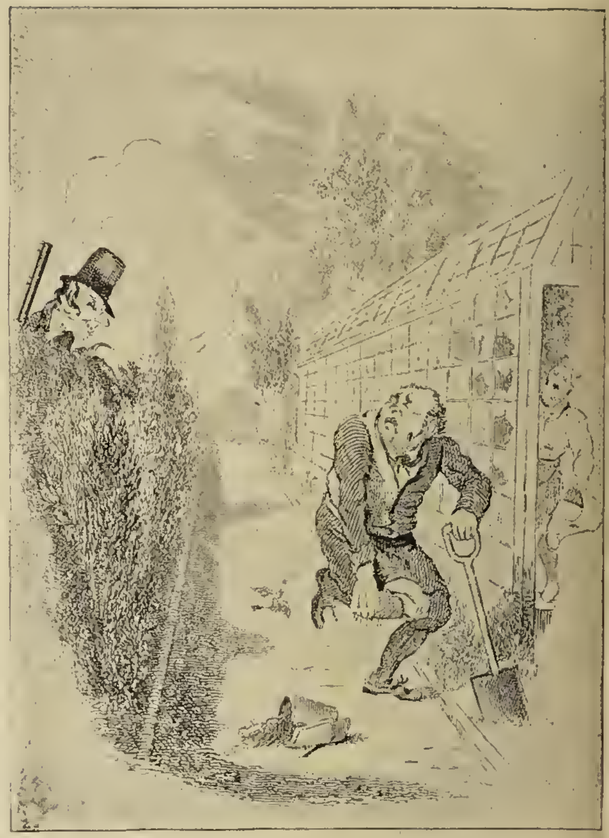
SKETCHES BY SEYMOUR.—III.



No. 9.—"Mother says fishes comes from hard roes; so I chucked in the roe of a red herring last week, but I doesn't catch any fish yet!"

"WHATEVER was the cause of Mr. Seymour's melancholy end, whether the old vexations of *Figaro*, the new ones of Pickwick, a profitless law-suit, the constant pressure on his brain for fresh invention, losses in Spanish bonds, in which he had invested his all, or anxieties which have not transpired, it would be fruitless to inquire; but we think it very likely that all these causes tended in one and the same direction. Though full of humour and geniality, a lively and agreeable companion, fond of the drama, races, and sports of every kind, he was nervous and highly sensitive, and one moody moment to a man of such temperament may easily prove fatal; and so it was with Seymour. He died by his own hand on the 20th April, 1836." So writes Mr. Bohn, in his biographical notice of Seymour. A paper of the day, in recording his death, adds :—

"Poor Seymour, the caricaturist, with all his relish for fun and quick perception of the humorous, was subject to dreadful fits of melancholy and despondency, in one of which he committed suicide. The contrast is strange, but not inexplicable, nor indeed so strange as it may appear, since literary biography affords abundant proof of such conditions. He was undoubtedly a man of considerable talent, and his premature loss is greatly to be deplored."



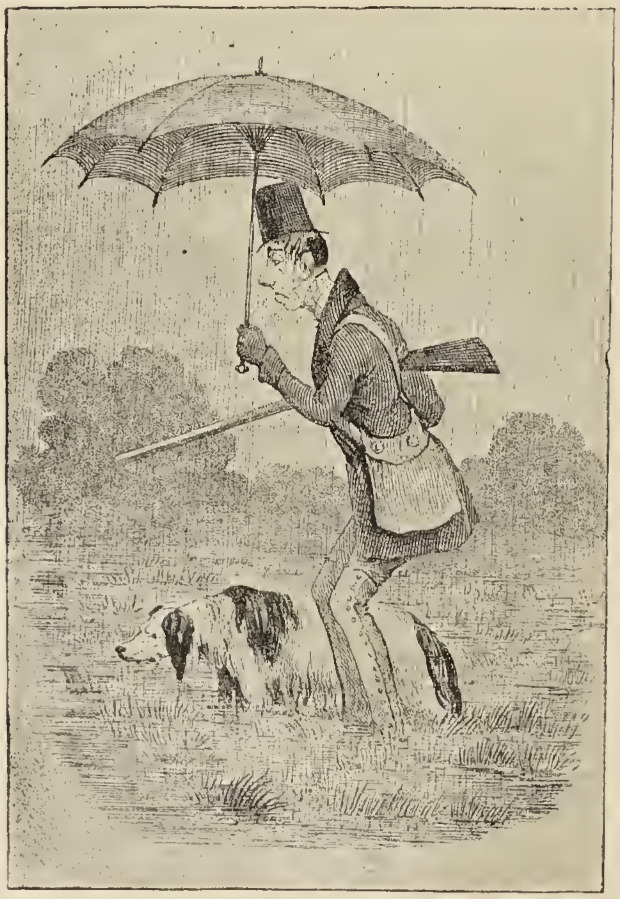
No. 12.—"Will you have the goodness to hand me that little bird I've just shot off your hedge?"

Mr. Charles Dickens' feeling tribute to the memory of Seymour—which appeared with the second number of the Pickwick Papers—may well be produced here :—" Some time must elapse before the void the deceased gentleman has left in his profession can be filled up; the blank his death has occasioned in the society which his amiable nature won, and his talents adorned, we hardly hope to see supplied. We do not allude to this distressing event in the vain hope of adding, by any eulogium of ours, to the respect in which the late Mr. Seymour's memory is held by all who ever knew him."

Probably the unhappy feud which existed between Seymour and the proprietor and editor of *Figaro in London* (Gilbert A'Beckett), preyed most on his mind, and eventually proved fatal. Seymour constantly contributed drawings and engravings to *Figaro* from its commencement—in fact Bohn asserts he did all the drawing and engraving for that popular predecessor of *Punch*. Things ran smoothly enough until Mr. A'Beckett got into difficulties through theatrical speculations, when Seymour, failing to obtain payment of Mr. Beckett's note of hand for a debt of some forty pounds, refused to proceed further without cash payments.

"This," says Bohn, "must have occurred just before August 16, 1834, as that number has no woodcut, which is an exception to all the others. Mr. Beckett thereupon, although he had constantly and lavishly praised Seymour's sketches in the previous numbers of *Figaro*, calling him 'the justly celebrated comic artist,' and 'our illustrious artist,' suddenly turned round upon him and attacked his artistic reputation with intense virulence, telling his readers, among other things, that he 'must procure first-rate talent,' &c., thereby implying that Seymour's talent was only second-rate."

We quote from No. 154 (Nov. 15, 1834) of *Figaro* an unwarrantable attack upon Seymour, published among the "Notes to Correspondents" :—"It is not true that Seymour has gone out of his mind, because he never had any to go out of. That he has lost his senses, as our correspondent states, we can believe, though if he should have let them fall anywhere, they have doubtless been removed as a nuisance by the scavenger.—Another correspondent wants to know 'how it is Seymour can't write his own name?' We reply: Upon the same principle that a donkey can't quote *Metastasio*—ignorance, *gross and beastly* ignorance! We are told that *in* the year 1815 a subscription was raised among a few friends of civilisation, and enemies of idiotcy, to teach Seymour to spell; but his hard and obstinate bit of brain rebounded from the process in its infancy, and the result was he never got beyond words of one syllable. Poor man! now that he is deprived of our benevolent and condescending patronage, we understand he is obliged to speculate on his own account in miserable caricatures, which don't sell, and which of course are not worth purchasing. The fact is, Seymour never had an *idea* of *his* own, though he was sometimes happy in the execution. But it is a well-known fact that the *ideas* for the caricatures in *Figaro* were always supplied to him by the editor, Seymour being a perfect *dolt*, except in the mechanical use of his pencil."

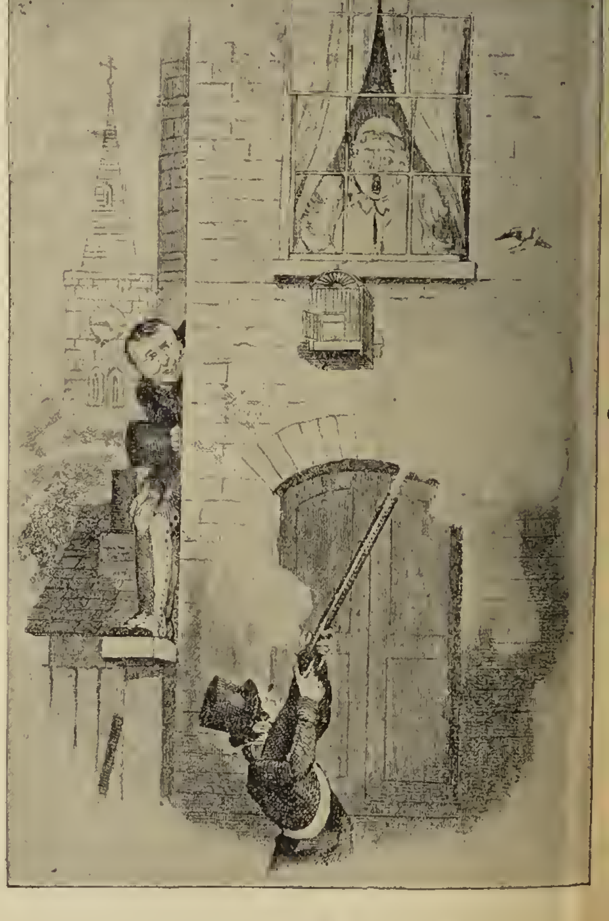


No. 10.—An Only Opportunity.
"I begin to think I may as well go back."

The public, however, so much resented this scurrilous and disgraceful treatment of Seymour by A'Beckett, that he ultimately had to retire from the editorship of the journal. Within little more than a month of the attack we have quoted, Mr. H. Mayhew became sole editor, and immediately restored Mr. Seymour with all courtesy, printing his name in conspicuous letters on the title-page, where it had never been placed before. Notwithstanding his reinstatement, there is no doubt this feud told very severely upon Seymour's sensitive nature.

In our impression of July 11 we promised to give our readers four more of Seymour's humorous sketches, and this week we redeem that promise. We also give Mr. Alfred Crowquill's illustration in prose and verse to Nos. 9 and 10. Nos. 11 and 12 tell their own tale, and Crowquill includes them in his description of "A Day's Sport," and "Every-day Scenes," which is too lengthy for reproduction here.

No. 9.—"Mother says fishes comes from hard roes, so I chuck'd in the roe of a red herring last week, but I doesn't catch any fish yet!" How beautiful is the simplicity of unsophisticated youth! Behold with what patience this innocent awaits a bite,



No. 11.—A Lark—Early in the Morning.

trusting with perfect faith in the truth of his affectionate mother's ichthyological knowledge. Wishing to behold a live fish dangling at the end of his line, he has with admirable foresight, drawn up the *bucket*, that in the ascent the fish may not *kick it!* It must be a hard roe indeed that is not softened by his attentions; but, alas! he is doomed never to draw up a vulgar herring, or a well-bred fish.

Folks who are a little deeper *read* than the boy —(or the herring!)—may smile at his fruitless attempt, but how many are there who act through life upon the same principle, casting their lines and fishing for—compliments, who never obtain even a nibble—for why? Their attempts at applause are like his red-herring—smoked. He does not know that herrings are salt-water fish—and, in fact, that the well-water is not the *roes-water*!

But after all, is not such ignorance bliss?—for he enjoys the anticipated pleasure; and if anticipation be really greater than reality—what an interminable length will that pleasure be to him! Ever and anon he draws up his *line*, like a militia captain for a review—puts fresh bait on the crooked pin, and lets it slowly down, and peeps in, wondering what the fish can be at!—and is quite as much in the dark as his float. But he may at last, perhaps, discover he is not so deep as a well—and wisely resolve to let well—alone; two points which may probably be of infinite importance to him through life, and enable him to turn the laugh against those who now mock his ignorance and simplicity.

No. 10.—Sept. 1st: An only opportunity.—"I begin to think I may as well go back."

"My vig! vat a pelter this is—
  Enough all my *hardour* to tame;
In veather like this there's no sport,
  It's too much in earnest for game!

A ladle I might as well be
  Chain'd fast to a *hold* parish pump,
For, by goles! it comes tumbling down
  Like vinking—and all of a lump.

The birds to their nestes is gone,
  I can't see no woodcock nor snipe;
My dog he looks dogged and dull,
  My leggins is flabby as tripe!

The moors is all slipp'ry slush,
  I'm up to the neck in the mire;
I don't see no chance of a shot,
  And I long—how I long for a fire!

For my clothes is all soaked, and they stick
  As close as a bailiff to me;
Oh! I vish I vas out o' this here
  And at home vith my mother at tea!

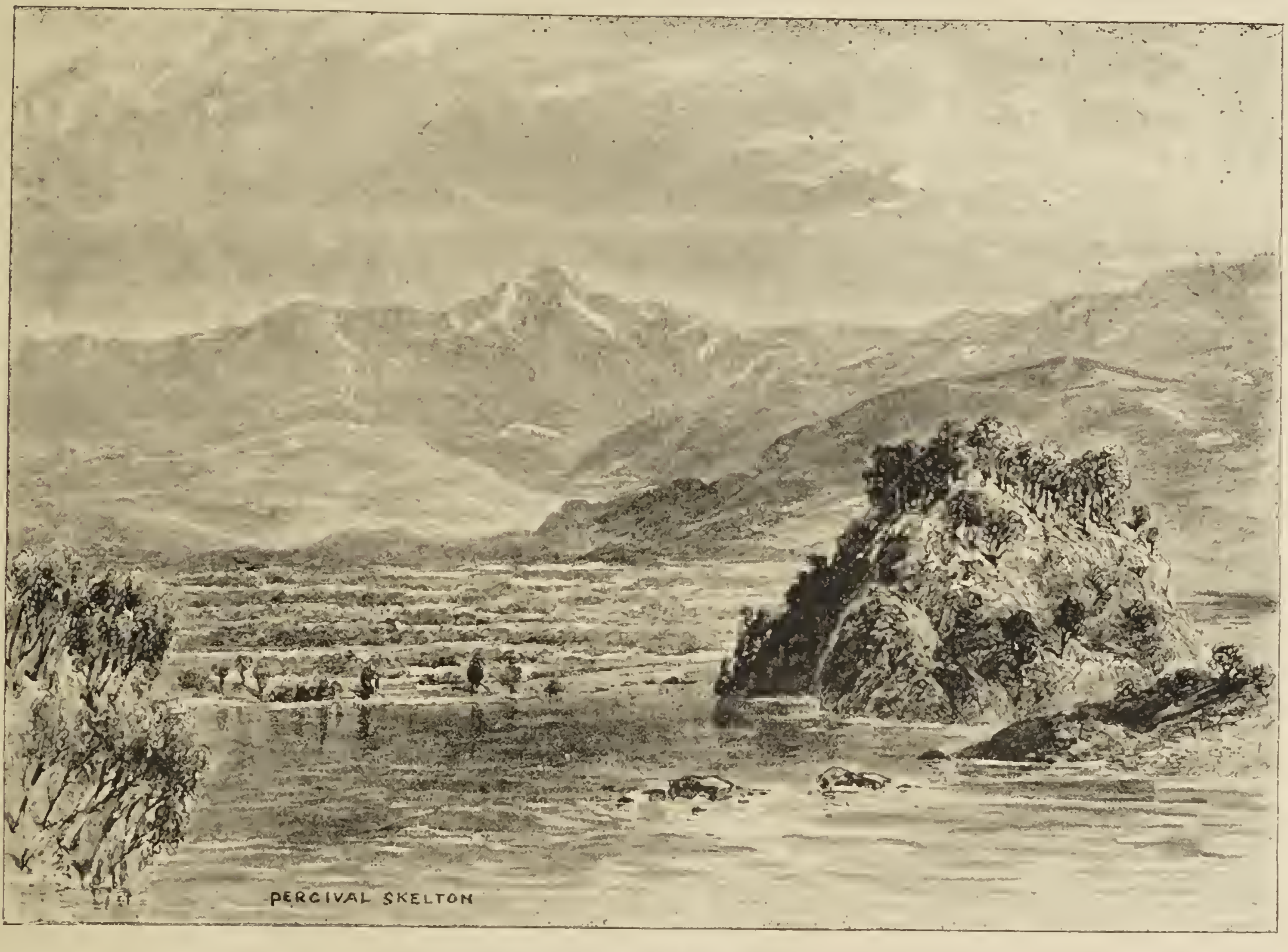
This is the fust as I've got
  Permission from uncle to shoot;
He hadn't no peace till he give
  This piece and the powder to boot.

And vat's it all come to at last?
  There isn't no chance of a hit;
I feel the rain's all down my back;
  In my mouth tho' I haven't a bit.

Oh! it's werry wexatious indeed,
  For I shan't have another day soon;
But I'm blow'd if I don't have a pop
  ——My eye! I've shot Dash—vot a spoon!

Oh! here's a partic'lar mess—
  Vot vill mother say to me now?
For he vas her lap-dog and pet,
  Oh! I've slaughtered her darling bow-wow!"

THE SPEY.



THE SPEY NEAR AVIEMORE.

Among the great rivers of Scotland, none can lay claim to greater diversity and charm of wood and landscape than the Spey. Rising in the bare hills of Inverness-shire, it flows, gradually growing in volume, over the table-land of the Grampian Hills, passing in its earlier course through Loch Spey and Loch Insh, and skirting the base of the lofty Cairngorm, till, with a headlong plunge, it starts on a wild race through Morayshire and Banffshire to the German Ocean. The Tay stands first among the northern rivers in point of magnitude as regards volume of water; but there can be little doubt in the mind of anyone who is familiar with the Spey that the latter discharges more water into the sea. A casual observer is apt to be misled by the fact that at many points the stream, after leaving some mighty pool formed by its contact with an outstanding rock, or where by a sudden turn it is thrown against a precipitous "craig," appears to be almost inferior in size to some of its larger tributaries. At not a few such points a deft angler might even with a single-handed rod throw a line from bank to bank. But the rate at which the water rushes along, with no great apparent depth, in these narrow declivities—for they are no more—supplies the explanation of a seeming contradiction. To put the matter as one of statistics, it may be stated that throughout its whole course—which has been computed, with its many windings, at one hundred and twenty miles—the average fall per mile has been estimated at ten feet. Between Loch Spey and the sea the fall is upwards of twelve hundred feet, and this on a direct course of ninety miles indicates a fall of over thirteen feet. Again, from Ballindalloch to Fochabers—a distance, roughly speaking, of some five-and-twenty miles—the average probably exceeds twenty feet to the mile; so that it is when the principal tributaries have swelled its bulk that the stream runs at its swiftest.

Looking to the fact that the Spey drains considerably over a thousand square miles of mountains, the bases of which are more than 1,000ft. above sea level, it is small wonder that it has been described as "not only the most rapid, but also the wildest and most capricious of the large rivers of Scotland." And yet, strange to say, there is nothing approaching a waterfall in all its windings from the wilds of Badenoch to the foot of Ben Aigen; or anything that can be dignified by the name of rapids, such as are to be found in other large rivers on the Scottish side of the Border. It is when the stream is swollen by one of those mighty "spates" that come at times "on the shortest notice," that it most fully bears out this character. Much might be written, or quoted, about memorable floods in bygone days —for have they not practically a literature of their own?—at the head of which stands Sir Robert Dick Lauder's "History of the Moray Floods," those great inundations of the year 1829. Readers of that famous work will remember the graphic descriptions of the havoc caused by the sudden rising of the river, and the extraordinary effects produced by the flooding of even the smaller tributary streams—such as, for instance, the immense gully of some sixty feet deep, and twice that width at top, scooped out in a single night by the burn of Alderdar.

But it is time to say something of the Spey as an angling river, though circumstances preclude anything but the merest generalisation in dealing with it as a field for the sportsman. Salmon angling on the Spey is an undoubted luxury, as its various stretches are, as a rule, let in conjunction with the shootings by the riparian proprietors. There are no hotels with fishings attached, such as are to be found on other large Scotch rivers. It is not within the scope of these notes to enter into the controversy which has of recent years been raging over the deterioration of the rod fishing in this magnificent stream. Various have been the causes assigned for the falling-off, and as various the cures put forward. Even the distilleries have been blamed by one indignant scribe, who must have been sadly at his wit's-end for a theory. But though the distilleries have within the last decade or so nearly doubled their number, the cause must be sought elsewhere. The refuse from these manufactories of potent spirit may—indeed, do—sadly pollute the small tributaries on which, as a rule, they are built, but to contend that it injures to any extent the inhabitants of the greater stream into which they flow is the merest of moonshine. All the same, the distillers should, and that speedily, be brought to book for what they are now doing at their own sweet will. Curiously enough, as if to "gravel" all these disputants, the present season opened with better prospects and actual sport than have been experienced, according to the local *cognoscenti*, for thirty years; and the later fishing foreshadows an autumn's record which should equal that of the spring. Be the reason what it may, the Spey has of late years been as "capricious" in its yield of salmon as in its floods; but it has been rare that good sport has been wanting at some part of the angling season. With the last Christmas number of the *Fishing Gazette* was given a plate, illustrating a famous "bit" on the lower part of the Spey, under the title of "The Laird's Pool." The present illustration represents a view near Aviemore, with the Grampian Hills in the distance, where the river is comparatively placid in character.

(To be continued.)

WITH THE DABS AND FLOUNDERS.

By Goosequill.

A short time ago an old piscatorial friend of mine suggested that we should have a day's sea fishing together. On the plea that variety is charming, I at once fell in with the idea, and as I had lately read in the *Fishing Gazette* of the successful exploits of some of the members of a well-known London angling society at Southend and Leigh, I thought we might do worse than pay a visit to the town noted for its famous pier. So the day was arranged, and upon arriving at Fenchurch-street Station early one morning last month, I found friend B. had preceded me, and was signalling me with a bundle of rods some half-way down the platform. Punctual to her time the train steamed out of the station, and it was not long before we pulled up at Dagenham, which I may here mention is, or rather used to be, a famous resort of the London angler. Sometimes on Sundays the well-known lake was almost besieged with the knights of the rod and pack, and, if I am not mistaken, as recently as last year an enterprising publican ran a brake there, starting from the Metropolis on the stroke of midnight. The occupants were generally a merry party, and the journey is, I understand, quite an "experience." Some fine takes of bream have been made in the lake, and many specimen roach have been landed, likewise some goodly-looking jack. As I heard of this from friend B., I had a kind of longing to alight at this pretty Essex spot, and try if there were any of the big bream about still. However, it was not to be, and on we rushed to Benfleet and Leigh, past the purple-coloured clover fields, and through the railway cuttings, where the yellow crowfoot and the wild geranium delight the eye. When we arrived at Benfleet—a funny little place—the tide was out, and many barges, shrimpers, and other craft were heeled over on their sides. The dykes and creek were dry, and the place might not inappropriately be styled "Little Holland." At Leigh there was more mud, and I should imagine that some capital wild-fowl shooting is obtainable both here and at Benfleet during the winter months. Arrived at Southend, we made for the pier, and very enjoyable indeed was our mile and a quarter walk along its course. I ascertained that many persons fish off it during the angling season with hand-lines, and no doubt they are able to do pretty good execution amongst the whiting. By the way, these sportive gentlemen arrive here about August, and as many as eight dozen have been taken to a single rod during the day. Great Yarmouth also affords some good whiting fishing from the pier, and I have witnessed some excellent catches there.

The sea was calm, and there was hardly enough breeze to fill the sails of the shrimper which had been waiting for us off the pier-head as we steered for the fishing grounds. The skipper was an old salt, as brown as a berry—a most courteous, civil, and obliging man. He steered for Leigh Swashwey and past the oyster beds, near which, stranded on the mud, was a peculiar-looking vessel, belonging, so the skipper said, to the owner of the beds. It put me in mind of Noah's Ark with masts up.

"I think we'll try here, gentlemen," said the skipper, at the same time letting go the anchor and vouchsafing the encouraging information that we should get hold of some dabs and flounders. Now for our tackle; and this having been put up, we drank success to our sea-fishing excursion, not forgetting the skipper, of course. What sort of tackle was it, you say? Well, I had no use for the goosequill this time, neither had I any need of the family clothes-line and the local butcher's spare meat-hooks. Our tackle was much the same. Friend B. used his jack-rod, and I fell back on a punt rod with a leger top-piece. Each had a good pike line, and our hooks consisted of No. 6's on stout gut. My friend paternostered, and I used a flat leger lead. The bait was composed of sea-worms and shrimps. The sea-worms are most obnoxious things to handle, and to a delicate, effeminate kind of young man would mean serious consequences. The tide had just commenced to flow as we threw in, in about 8ft. of water. "Here's something," said B., and sure enough there was his rod bobbing away at the top. It proved to be a dab, the advent on deck of which was the excuse for "just a wee drap" more each. I heard my friend strike again, and then I felt a jerk, and struck to——miss! I quickly put in again, two hooks being baited with worm and the third with shrimps. Another vibration of the line, another sharp, quick strike, but still no fish. Just as I was about to bait again I heard a splash, and there was B. with a fine flounder on. One, two, three! Not one, but three flounders! Greatly excited at the sight, I sent my leger to the bottom again, but it had not been there very long before there was another vicious tug. "Gently, my boy," I said, as, instead of striking as if about to "hit" a roach, I made a quiet, deliberate side strike with the rod and up came a plaice. In again, a bite, and other plaice. It was friend B.'s turn now, and a nice eel was pretty soon in the toils of the angler. We were among them, and the sport was certainly very fascinating. On the flats I landed three dabs at once, and B. also performed the "dab trick." As for crabs they did their best to hang on to the shrimps whenever they could, and it was not always in "language pure and sweet," that they was dragged to the surface, perhaps one on every hook. After fishing the flats, we proceeded to that part of the Swashwey called, I believe, Whitestone Bay. At this spot a monument marks the place, where the mouth of the Thames begins, and here years ago, according to the skipper, the Lord Mayor of London "used to come down and scramble threepenny pieces," amongst the children of the neighbourhood. We did well here, too, and when it was time for us to get under weigh for Leigh sea fishing was loud in our praise. It was my first, but I hope it will not be my last fishing excursion to Southend and Leigh. And my friend is decidedly of the same opinion.

When rivers are out of condition and fresh-water fish off feed, a day by the briny should be tried by the London club anglers. Cheap excursions are now running to Southend, fare there and back 2s. 6d.; and if a party was made up, I am sure the London, Tilbury, and Southend Railway Company would only be too pleased to assign them a special carriage to themselves. A good train to catch is the one leaving Fenchurch-street at half-past six a.m. I have no doubt that our skipper would do his best for the Londoners, and should any club entertain the idea of a sea-angling trip into Essex, I will guarantee to put them in communication with him. I should add that the New Albion Piscatorials recently fished a match with rod and line at Southend, which resulted in the capture of between 30lb. and 40lb. of eels, plaice, dabs, and flounders.

Waltoniana

Switzerland is to have a fishery exhibition, the first of the kind in that country. A feature of the show is to be a restaurant, where native fish are to be cooked in various ways. It is to be hoped that one result of the exhibition will be to rouse an interest in trout preservation in the land of mountains.

One of the results of this wet weather is an enormous run of fish on that most excellent river, the Usk. Many good salmon have been caught, and local people say they are having a record season. Better salmon fishing is often obtained on the Usk than on some of the Scotch rivers which are let at extravagant rents, and friends of mine who fish the water are loud in its praise. The charge for fishing is very moderate all things considered.

The Henley Fishery Preservation Association has decided to give up offering rewards for information of offences against the bye-laws, and intends paying a water bailiff a *small* annual sum to look after the river. It would be a pleasant post for any one with a small independence who might wish to add to his income, and to spend most of his time on the water, and I mention it in case any reader of the *Gazette* might feel inclined to go in for it. Applications should be made to one of the honorary secretaries, Mr. C. H. Cook, of South Stoke, Wallingford, or to Dr. Jeston, Bell-street, Henley-on-Thames.

Trout are so very rarely taken in the reach between Streatley, or rather Cleve Lock and Wallingford, that the capture of one last week is worthy of record. It was taken on fine Nottingham roach tackle, and weighed 4½lb. I would commend to the notice of those persons who sneer at the results obtained by fish culture, the fact that where no associations exist on the Thames for the purpose of protecting and stocking the river, there is practically no trout fishing, while in the neighbourhood of Reading, Henley, Marlow, and Maidenhead, a number of fine trout are taken every season. From Streatley upwards, where there are no associations, the trout is a very rare fish indeed.

I was talking the other day to the honorary secretary of the Reading Angling Association, whose opportunities for fishing do not come very frequently. He assured me that during the present year he had hooked twenty-seven trout, of which he had retained five, the largest weighing 6lb. I have not the least hesitation in saying that before the Reading Angling Association stocked the Thames, no such fishing was to be obtained in that district. Marlow is another place where the fishing was very distinctly improved by the local association, and it is the greatest pity in the world that there is no one with sufficient public spirit in the place to revive the association which came to grief not very long ago. Anglers who fished in the district did not support it as they should have done, and as for the local tradespeople, who financially speaking benefit most by these societies, they gave very little indeed. Every angler who spends a week or two on the Thames ought really to give at least a trifle towards the cost of protecting and stocking the river. But not one man in fifty does so, and the result is that those who carry on gratuitously the work of Thames fishery preservation get discouraged, and, as was the case at Marlow, throw up the sponge. An association which in particular is worthy the consideration of London anglers is the one at Henley. It has just been reorganised, and if only anglers who fish the district will support it, is likely to do valuable work in the future. Its members have the privilege of fishing the lower portions of the Loddon and the whole of St. Patrick's stream. A very cheap guinea's worth. Since the death of the old keeper certain persons have been making rather free with the water, but a new man has now been appointed to the post, Mr. Giles, of London-road, Twyford, and persons trespassing are likely to have a bad time of it.

I would remind bottom-fishers that in this period of floods the most likely spots to find fish are the eddies and quiet water close to the bank, and that in most cases the worm will be found to be the best bait. There is considerable art in fishing an eddy with a worm—I mean a small eddy, perhaps not more than a couple of yards in length. In the first place many anglers commence by scaring all the fish out of it by walking too near it, for not everybody understands how very close the fish are to the sedge. The poacher knows it, however, catching many fish by placing a flue-net a yard or less from the bank, and beating the sedge with a stick. A long rod should be used for angling—not for poaching—and a very light leger may be dropped in close to the bank. Another plan which is, I think, better than the leger when one has some idea of the depth, is to use light float tackle and humour it round and round the eddy. I remember seeing a cunning old fellow fishing in that manner below Streatley some years ago, and saw him catch out of a small swirl close to the bank—where one would hardly expect to find a fish—a 2lb. perch. Perch and roach are the fish most likely to be taken in this way, but an occasional chub will take the worm, and, more rarely, a barbel. Barbel, like most other coarse fish, shift into shallow water when the river gets at all muddy. I suppose it is too dark or too stifling for them at such times in the deep water. A flood in a river is to the fish, so far as breathing is concerned, very much as a London fog is to us. In other respects the simile is not a good one, for London fogs certainly do not bring with them an abundance of food.

TEMPLAR.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. S. G.: If you use live minnow you must let it swim about, and not work it like a spinning bait, as that would soon kill it; a light quill float is necessary. Any of the London fishing tackle makers will supply a good general rod for coarse fishing at prices varying from 10s. 6d to 30s. or more.

W. M.: Thirty-seven pounds is Mr. Jardine's largest pike.

J. G. PARKER: A 1784 edition of "Walton," in good condition, is worth about 12s. 6d. or 15s.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

ANGLERS (SO-CALLED) DESTROYING FISH.

SIR,—I read in a contemporary, "Cannot something be done to stop this kind of thing?" "this kind of thing," meaning the utter destruction of small fish. Unfortunately, "this kind of thing" is going on on probably more rivers than I should care to mention, but for the past three or, say, four years I have not seen a solitary angler return a single fish in the Witham, Trent, Bedford Ouse, Yare, Wiltshire Avon, Welland, and all the Lincolnshire drains.

All the anglers I saw operating on the latter waters never took the trouble to return a solitary fish, and it appeared to me that they would *rather* leave them on the bank than return them; and, mark you! many of these fishermen were club anglers, and when I suggested the return of these very small roach, I perceived that, if I pressed it, I should probably hear something that would not add to my comfort.

In this respect nine out of ten of the London anglers appear to great advantage. When one considers the *totally useless* destruction of exceedingly small fish by so-called anglers, the only wonder to me is that there are any fish left. I may just mention, in passing, that, when fishing in the Bedford Ouse, a local angler stared in astonishment on seeing me pitch back some small perch.—I am, &c.,

YNOTNAKRAM.

A DACE OVER A POUND.

DEAR SIR,—A friend of mine took a dace last month from the Lea, weighing 1lb. and *one penny*. This is authentic. It is now at Cooper's, to be set up.—Yours, &c.,

J. T. P. PECHEY.

59, Mark-lane, London, E.C.

WEIGHT OF DACE.—BLUE QUILL.

SIR,—It would seem that some one claims for the dace a greater weight per inch than the trout. Surely this is a bold claim. A twelve-inch Hampshire trout does not weigh a pound.

Blue Quill.—I have long been under the impression that the Quill was an invention of the Seventies. I remember the "Quill Gnat" being spoken of as something new in (I think) 1874. But turning over the pages of the *Sportsman*, of July, 1841, p. 13, I find, in an article on "Angling on the Borders of Devon and Cornwall," the following sentence: "If the water is fine, a small fly with the body of the peacock haro, striped with two whisks at the tail, and a small smoky hackle as like a cobweb in colour as possible, is a rare killer." Can anyone take the history of the Quill back farther than that?—Yours, &c.,

VAL CONSON.

SHORT QUANTITY IN FISHING LINES.

SIR,—I visited a tackle-maker's shop in Nottingham the other day, and purchased for a juvenile angler a line, which was computed by the maker to be 28yds. long. Now I have never before measured a line in my life, nor perhaps should I ever have done had it not been for a hint thrown out by one of your correspondents. I took the line home and measured it, and found it to be two good yards short—not much to shout about, certainly, but sufficient to indicate that the mistake was not made by miscalculation, but was the result of pure and unadulterated roguery. And the manner in which the tackle-maker received the intimation of my discovery led me strongly to the belief that the system of selling lines shorter than the length actually marked on them is far more widespread than nine-tenths of the anglers of the present day suspect; and it behoves them to keep a sharp look-out ahead.—Yours truly,

Nottingham. E. BURROWS.

ANGLING IN SOUTH UIST.

SIR,—By advices from South Uist, I hear that the outer Hebridean season has up to this point been a complete failure so far as sea trout are concerned. *Not a drop of rain has fallen for three months—hinc illæ lachrymæ.* This morning, however, I received the following wire: "Very stormy and wet; *not a single sea trout been got in Lower Kildonan* and in *Bharp only six* this season." "Season" refers only to the late summer and early autumn angling, for plenty of fish were killed in spring. It seems incredible that no sea trout should have been killed, but communication with the sea has actually been cut off owing to the long drought. Now that the rain has come, later visitors to the outer islands should have good sport. The above is such a unique occurrence, both in the angling and weather annals of the island of South Uist, that I deem it well worth recording. By this time last year between six hundred and seven hundred sea trout had been killed.

In 1889 the lochs at the south end of the island were too low for fishing, while I found those at the north, if anything, too full. In that year when the rain did come the sport was first-rate, so there is time yet for the leeway to be made up.—Yours truly,

DUINE MÔR.

ARUNDEL PARK.

SIR,—Does Mr. Eldridge think that I go about with my ears shut? It was a common topic of conversation amongst the natives the last time I was at Amberley. A very intelligent native—and one, as far as I could judge, who ought to know—told me that the gates to *certain portions* of the park were closed, are closed, and are likely to remain closed for some time; and the same individual also told me that there were other portions over which even the duke had no power to keep the public from entering. I do not refer to these portions; and several other natives told me most distinctly that the former portion was closed to *London anglers.* "The duke has shut his gates—at least, so I hear."

I do not suppose *London anglers* care two straws whether they are closed or not; but with reference to the edict to the cottagers, and which I have *seen*, I received a letter from a London angler, on whose word I *can* rely, and he says: "I have seen more than one female, to say nothing of men, walking about *all night* unable to find accommodation"; and as this sort of thing may occur again, I think that notices informing anglers and the public generally of the new regulations might have been posted at London Bridge and the chief stations down the line to Littlehampton.

The real sufferers will be the cottagers; and if one compares the position of many of these people now to what it was *before* these excursions commenced, I think even Mr. Eldridge will agree with me that further comment is unnecessary—duke or no duke, County Council or no County Council.—I am, &c.,

M. A.

P.S.—I did not intend to refer to this unpleasant subject again, but I find further comment is absolutely necessary. The following conversation took place on Houghton Bridge between a native and a London angler *re* the cottagers taking in London anglers and the closing of the park. "*He*" is employed by a C.C., and therefore, one would think, ought to know for certain about the former subject, at all events.

He: "This is a bad thing for the Londoners, sir."

L. A. (taken completely by surprise): "What is a bad thing?"

He: "The duke won't allow any of the cottagers on his estate to give lodging to a London angler."

L. A.: "Oh! won't he? Well, all I can say is, there are plenty of places besides this where London anglers can go; and I should say it will be a bad thing for the cottagers, and not the Londoners, my friend."

He: "But they say the duke intends to close the park" (*i.e.*, the private portions: see remarks mentioned above).

L. A.: "Yes, but he can't close up the road."

This, I imagine, is that portion over which the duke has no control, as previously stated. Several natives told *me* the park *was* closed, but if "*He*" would come forward and say who "they" were, this gentleman would greatly oblige.

Can Mr. Eldridge tell me why the duke does not reply?

PULBOROUGH (AND TWELVE MILES RADIUS) FLOWER, FRUIT AND VEGETABLE SHOW.

DEAR SIR,—In connection with the above show I have suggested that three prizes should be given for "best sack of wheat" grown in the radius, namely—First prize, £2 10s.; second, £1 10s.; third, £1; also 10s. for "oldest farm labourer," and that this sum should be provided by the *London Anglers*. Although the Central Association rent a portion of land, there are a number of smaller farmers who have land joining the river Arun, who allow fishing gratuitously; and this small sum amongst so many would be a nice way of appreciating their kindness. I am told that 2s. 6d. from each of the clubs whose members fish the Arun would be amply sufficient. By inserting this letter and starting the subscription with a small sum you will be *doing good.* Subscriptions will be received by Mr. Metcalf, and Mr. Wade (Central Association), Mr. Eldridge, and, yours, &c.,

G. H. NUTT, hon. sec.

P.S. — (Pulborough, Tuesday, 7.45 p.m.)—Water gone down considerably, and if no more rain, will be in splendid condition by the 6th inst. for Mr. Eldridge's contest.

RE CAMM FUND.—APPEAL TO CLUB ANGLERS AND FRIENDS.

DEAR SIR,—In thanking all those clubs who have so kindly responded to this deserving case, I may state that due notice will appear in the *Fishing Gazette*, when our committee will attend the Cobden Club to hand over the money.—I am, yours truly,

B. ABRAHAMS.

25, Silver-street, Notting Hill Gate, W.

[Mr. Abrahams has sent us a complete list, from which it appears his appeal in our columns has produced for the widow £21 13s. 3d. less 6s. postages. We have not space to give the list in detail again.—ED.]

A SALMON FIGHT IN THE DARK.

SIR,—I think the following account of a two hours and a-half's fight with a salmon may interest your readers. I left my son one night standing in the river, at about half-past six, spinning for trout, the water being too low for salmon. His rod was a light one of about nine feet; his line, two pieces tied together with—(Oh! lesson to all young fishermen)—"a common knot," only some thirty yards in all, and on a very small reel; the minnow, a small Devon. It is my son's first year at salmon fishing, and he shall tell his own tale.

"Shortly after you left me," he said, "a salmon moved, making a tremendous boil in the water—so close to me, the ripples broke against my legs. I never even thought of his having taken my minnow, and believed, when my rod straightened, I had caught a weed; but when the reel began slowly turning I lifted my rod, and off he went—with such a rush! My head went too, and how I got to the bank I cannot remember. When I came to myself I was racing down the river-side, dimly conscious of my short frayed line and 'the knot,' which, however, had passed through the rings in some miraculous manner. As my eye fell on the reel, I gasped; there were but seven or eight turns left. Just in time he turned. I followed wildly, reeling up as best I could—now in the water up to my waist; now running at top speed, my rod held high above my head to clear the low fringe of bushes; whilst a faint memory of stakes on the opposite side made me use all the power I dared to keep him to my bank, forgetting altogether that there was a perfect *chevaux de frise* almost across the river at this point (on my own side also), with only a clear run of a few yards in the centre. How the salmon ran through so many times without the line catching remains a mystery. Light was failing, and the rain pouring down, but for an hour the salmon never quailed; then he began to grow a little quieter, and I could guide him to some extent, and made him follow me up and down; but any attempt to get him to the bank always resulted in fresh mad rushes. I had no gaff, and knew my only chance of landing him was to kill him in the water. I began reeling up, when, with twenty yards of line out, "the knot" stuck in the top-most ring, and the salmon himself, as if conscious of this last chance, seemed to wake up, and try to get across the river. My only course was to make frantic runs away from the bank; and in this fight another hour passed, until I felt so done, I feared, unless help came, the salmon would yet win. But at last he went down into a deepish pool, and sulked. Breathlessly I waited. He remained still. I passed my hand to the middle of the rod with trembling fingers; I reached the knot, and passed it through ring after ring; then I raised the rod, and for a moment thought he was gone—the weight felt so dead, I dreaded he had rubbed out the hooks, and fixed me in a log. But a sudden fresh rush showed he had been resting, and I now exerted more power. I dared not let that knot pass again. At last I saw his side; but he was still game, and made a last rush, then sailed slowly round in a circle, which became smaller and smaller, until he allowed me to draw him in to the bank. Slowly I passed my hand down his back, seized him by the tail, and heaved on to the bank a fourteen-pounder. I looked at my watch by the light of a match (half-past nine)—a long two hours and a-half from start to finish!"—Yours, &c., TREFOIL.

ANGLING CLUB COLLECTING BOXES.

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me to acknowledge and thank the members of the Seymour Brothers Angling Society, for the receipt, through our good friend, Mr. W. J. Wade, of 12s. 6d. from their collecting box, in aid of the funds of the Thames Angling Preservation Society.

I am anxiously waiting for other clubs fishing the Thames and who are constantly having competitions in it to make application for a collecting box.—Yours, &c., W. H. Brougham, Sec.

62 Charing Cross, S.W.

PIKE FISHING IN IRELAND.

Dear Sir,—"I have in my mind some of the large Shannon lakes," are the concluding words of "Templar" in his interesting notes in "Waltoniana," on the above subject, in last week's *Fishing Gazette*, meaning, no doubt, that in the vast expansions of the mighty river good pike fishing may be had. I quite agree with our sport-loving friend, and as Lough Derg is the largest of the lovely lakes which are strung like pearls on the silver threads of the Shannon, I will tell my angling readers something about the big pike which abound up there. "Abound" is the correct word, for the lake is teeming with the fish of all sizes from 1lb. up to, I firmly believe, 40lb. and upwards. I can speak with authority on the matter, for I have myself seen a giant pike of 90lb., which was taken in a net at the Killaloe end of the lake, some forty-seven years ago. Monsters of 84lb., 60lb., 50lb., 40lb., 37lb., and 32lb. have likewise been captured from time to time on the lake.

Not later than September or October last year two English gentlemen who stayed with me for the pike fishing, had some excellent sport. On some days they killed as many as eight or ten fish from 4lb. to 13lb., besides losing several up to 25lb. or 30lb. One day, when the wind was high they lost ever so many huge pike. See *Fishing Gazette* for the period mentioned.

Spoons, phantoms, and other artificial baits answer very well on Lough Derg, but natural baits, trout for choice, work miracles. These must be caught fresh every morning before going up the lake, but it is not everyone who knows the right size to get, or where to get them.

Perch of splendid proportions are also very plentiful on Lough Derg. Brown and gillaroo trout ditto.—Yours faithfully, S. J. Hurley.

Abbey View, Killaloe.

SALMON AND SEWIN FISHING.

Dear Sir,—"Silver Tinsel" can obtain salmon and sewin fishing on the Dovey in Wales, at the Buckley Arms Hotel, Dinas Mawddwy, on the main line to Aberystwith, changing at Cemmes Road. The charges are very moderate, and gentlemen staying in the hotel have the fishing free. A Mr. Gray, there, on August 24, took two salmon, before ten a.m.—one of 15½lb., and the other 13¾lb. Further particulars can also be obtained at Nutting and Co., of Birmingham, or from the hotel.—Yours truly,

Alfred S. Tyler.

58, Summer-row, Birmingham.

E'elish.—It is said that he who first swallowed an oyster must have been a brave man. I once knew a butcher who got so "off" from cutting and handling of meat that he had no appetite for anything except a red herring. Cooks have said that if epicures could only see the preparation and "mixture" of the materials for a "mess," or prized dish, they would quail ere gloating over the *entrée*. Half-rotten roast pheasant, wild-fowl, with the eyes sunk deep in the birds' heads out of sight; a haunch of venison black from "hanging," and with a lot to be trimmed off ere the dainty "cuts" could be got—these things are for the most part seldom seen by modern disciples of Lucullus. But where is the Scotchman who has got the moral courage to eat eel? Hampshire golden-bellied eels are good and prolific. The Kennet silver eel is an e'elish sight nicer than the conger eel, or those small things sent from Holland, and perhaps from some of the lochs of Scotland and Ireland. Few men tire of a young "roast 'bird';" some never tasted woodcock or even snipe; hare is the tenderest of all, and wild rabbit good. But where is the Englishman who knows what is good for himself, who ever turned up his nose at stewed Thames, or Kennet, or Itchen, or Colne eel, or fried, or in a pie? To calmly or otherwise chuck a 5lb. eel back into the water, only shows that where the prejudice is strong, the judgment is sadly at fault.—Savour.

Bitten by a Pike in Esthwaite Lake.—Numerous pikes have been caught in the above lake recently. Last week Mr. James Postlethwaite and a party of friends were following the sport, when a monster specimen was hooked, and after some difficulty safely hauled into the boat. Mr. Postlethwaite was in the act of taking the hook from the pike's mouth, when the fish snapped savagely at his hand and succeeded in fastening well on to it. Notwithstanding all efforts to force it to loose its grip, it held on tenaciously for a considerable time, Mr. Postlethwaite suffering acute pain, until at length his hand was released, badly wounded.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

ALLCOCK'S CHAMPION SPINNER.

This novelty, introduced by Messrs. Allcock and Co., of the Standard Works, is designed with the view to holding the bait securely, without damaging its form. It consists of the usual flight of triple hooks (no lip-hook is necessary), and a straight needle, having the usual projecting metallic fins. The head of the needle is bifurcated, and pivoted between the two flattened sides are the two hooks for securing the bait in position. A milled screw in the fore extremity of the needle, when screwed down towards the fins, causes these hooks to lie wholly within the needle (Fig. 1) and the bait is then drawn on; when in proper position, the screw is turned a few times, according to the size of the bait, and the hooks opening, as in Fig. 2, it becomes impossible for the bait to move until the hooks are again compressed by turning the screw. The speed and ease with which the baiting is effected, and more particularly the secure fixing of the bait in position, will make this spinner a favourite with all who use natural bait. Its advantages appear to be such that it may justly claim a good trial from anglers who spin with natural bait. It is well made, of neat appearance, and attractive finish. The usual sizes for salmon, trout, and pike are now being supplied, and a card addressed to any good fishing tackle maker will procure prices and particulars of same.

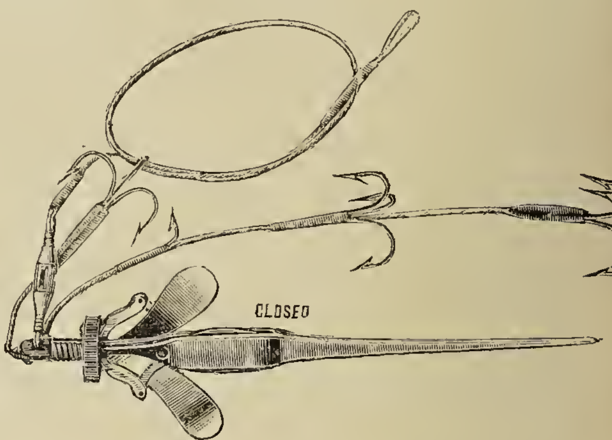


Fig. 1.

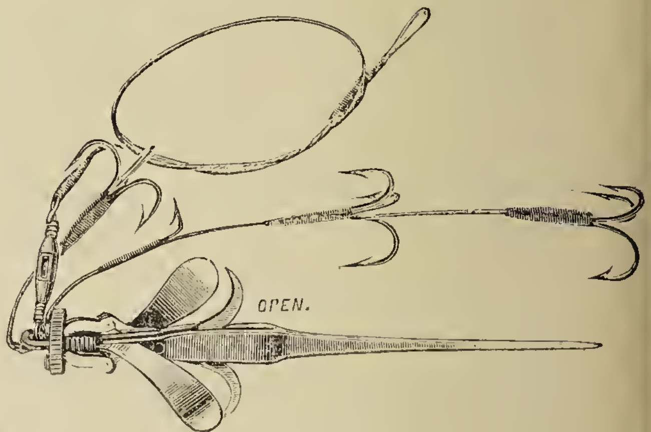


Fig. 2.

Carlisle Otterhounds.—The Carlisle otterhounds had a merry run last week on the Lowther. The meet was at Askham Bridge, near Lowther Castle, at an early hour, and a large field turned out, including Lord Churchill and several of Lord Lonsdale's party. Almost immediately a drag was hit on, and followed rapidly along through Lowther Deer Park. On reaching Butterwick Green the foil was very strong, and the hounds were hunting keenly. Passing Bampton Grange, where the river Lowther divides, it was decided to first try that branch which runs out of Haweswater, but this part was dragged up to the lake without success. Returning to Bampton Grange, the hounds were cast off in the other part of the Lowther which sometimes is called Swindle Beck. The trail was again taken up, and, after hunting about a mile farther, the game was marked in a large tree root. On being bolted by the terrier Dash, the otter at once made downstream, taking refuge in a stone wall. The varmint was repeatedly viewed as it made its way downstream until it retreated into another old stone wall. Soon it received notice to quit, and was viewed by Lord Churchill crossing the river, but before it could get over it was caught by Ringwood and Maxim, and worried in mid-stream. It was a fine bitch otter weighing 15lb.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1891.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly meeting of the General Committee will take place on Monday evening next, Sept. 7th, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT NO. 2.—The next return visit on the above list will take place at the Funny Folks Angling Society, on Monday, September 7. A cordial invitation is extended to all, and I hope to see a good muster.—F. THORLING.

Anglers' Association.—SOUTHERN DISTRICT VISITING LIST.—A return visit on the above list will take place on Tuesday next, the 8th inst., at the Rodney Angling Society, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road. As this club is always represented at every visit, I hope all clubs will rally round and give them a bumper.—G. W. ARMSTRONG, district officer.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of 13s. 6d. from the Seymour Brothers Angling Society Donation Box. The next meeting of the committee will take place on Friday evening, September 11, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, secretary.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—Notice to anglers enrolled on the Anglers' Association *re* the competition at Langley, which takes place on September 13, as previously announced.—The prizes will be on view at the Allason Arms, from Friday, the 4th, till Saturday, the 5th inst.; on the 6th inst. they will be removed to the North Star, Langley, and remain there till the competition on the 15th inst.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—Our trays were well filled on the 30th ult., and the competition at Taplow was a great success. The seven prizes fished for were won by the following members: H. Seymour, J. Windsor, H. Wilson, J. Pailes, J. Scott, G. Marriott, and J. Whiston. The following also weighed in: J. Fairbairn, W. Steward, and J. Drew, who weighed in bream, carp, perch, roach, and dace, the largest bream being 2¾lb. On Tuesday we had a good muster of members present, when it was decided that our brake outing should take place on the 20th to Cobham, Surrey. We also elected three new members. I wish to remind secretaries of societies that the next return visit on the Central Association takes place to the above-named society (date to follow), —J. PAILES, sec,

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—I wish to remind members that we fish a roaming match at Fiddleworth on the 13th September, for a series of prizes. On the 30th ult. Messrs. Moir and Potter weighed roach and bream. I trust those members who are going to compete for the above prizes will show up on Wednesday next and make themselves eligible. We had a good muster of members on Wednesday last, when some important business was done.—W. H. POTTER, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 30th ult., our members were out in good force and a very fine show of fish was put on the trays by the following members: Mr. J. Nunn, sen., having a very fine show of bream and roach, the largest bream weighing 2lb. 7oz.; Mr. W. Hake, some good roach; Mr. Loosely, roach; Mr. Lambarth, jun., roach and bream; Mr. G. Merry, roach and bream; and Mr. Whitebread, a nice show of bream, winning the monthly prize for the gross weight.—E. R. EMBLETON, secretary

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—On August 30, the members of the above society fished their first sea fishing competition in splendid weather, with the result that Mr. Watkins took the first prize, with 7lb. ¼oz.; Mr. Wade, second prize, with 5lb. 9oz.; Mr. T. Bowling, third prize; Mr. F. Davis, fourth prize. Mr. Simpkins had a show of dace, from the Ravensbourne. Members are requested to attend next week to make arrangements for the September outing, and I hope they will turn up early. The second grand annual fishing contest, in connection with Mr. Eldridge, will take place at Pulboro', on September 6, when I hope to see our members to the front.—A. G. SMITH, sec.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, Great Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—Several members had good shows on the 30th ult., Messrs. Scott and Tucker having had a nice take of roach. Messrs. Brown and Clark were duly elected working members of this society. I hope members will give a call on Wednesday for important business.—J. TUCKER, hon. sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Battersea.—Twenty-three members of this club fished a pegged-down match for eight prizes at Pangbourne, on August 30, with the following result: Mr. W. Himes, first; J. W. Hopkins, second; R. Wellman, third; F. Anstiss, fourth; C. Starsmere, fifth; H. Martin, sixth; G. Searle, seventh; T. Gloster, eighth. The honorary members, prize was won by Mr. C. Crimmins. The punt competition will take place at Twickenham, on Sept. 13, for three prizes. Members are requested to attend on Tuesday next to arrange another outing and to give names for punt match.—GEORGE MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—We had a fair show of roach and bream on the 30th ult., contributed by the following members: Messrs. James Smith, H. Patman, D. Dodson, R. Smith, and J. Warman. Total weight, 28½lb. On the 25th ult., Mr. W. Streeton had a capital take of bream, 42½lb., all of them good fish.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—On Wednesday the election of Messrs. White, King, and Green, was confirmed. Gentlemen are reminded that the dinner will take place at Woking, on the 13th inst.; honorary members are invited. I should like to have the names of all gentlemen who are going, by next Wednesday. On August 30, the following gentlemen weighed in: Mr. F. Barker, Mr. Hacker, roach and dace; Mr. Wheelhouse, bream; and Mr, J, Barker, carp,—F, ROBERTS, hon, sec,

Bostonian Angling Society.—The following members have had fish since my last report. Mr. Rundle, roach; Mr. Jamieson, dace, heaviest dace, 9¼oz. Annual general meeting next Wednesday, the 9th, all members will oblige by attending for important business.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On August 30, Mr. J. Hall saved us a blank with a show of roach and dace. On Wednesday evening, Mr. Goodger brought up a very nice take of chub, roach, and dace, one of the dace turning the scales at 10¾oz. —H. ROACH, sec.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—Our members fished for six prizes at Burnt Mill, which were all won. The takes were small on account of the water being low. The following members were the successful competitors: Mr. J. Pethee, first, 1lb. 3oz. of perch; Mr. A. Burton, second, 11oz. of perch; Mr. T. Carter, third, 10oz. perch; Mr. Pert, fourth, 8½oz. perch; Mr. Millor, fifth, one roach, 6¾oz.; Mr. Pope, sixth, 3¾oz. perch; Mr. Andrews, 2½oz. perch; Mr. Gurney, 8oz. roach, 4oz. dace, 7¼oz. perch. —J. PETHER, sec.

Buxton Brothers' Angling Society, Walthamstow, Liberal and Radical Club, 4, Buxton-road.—On the 29th ult. some of our members were out, when Mr. M. Stephens had a good show of roach. On the 30th ult., there was a good muster for a match for prizes, when Messrs. W. Bellingham and G. Gager had some good specimens of bream. The result of the judging, which took place directly they reached the club-house, were Mr. W. Bellingham, first prize; Mr. G. Gager, second prize; Mr. C. Goulbee, third prize. Members are requested to be present on the next meeting-night, on Wednesday, September 9, at nine o'clock sharp, as we have some important business to transact.—A. SHUKER, sec.

Caledonian Angling Society.—On Thursday, August 27, a few members and friends of this society journeyed to Burnt Mill for the annual dinner and tea, and although the elements at the latter part of the day were unfavourable, an enjoyable time was spent. Mr. Rooke, our photographic member, took a most excellent group outside the Lock House immediately after our arrival in the morning and then the majority went angling; but the water was then very low and bright, consequently only a few fish were taken, with the exception of Mr. Rooke, who had a few nice perch. Since then Mr. A. Knock has weighed in one take of 19lb. 14oz. roach and dace, and included in the day's fishing was twenty-four dace weighing 13lb. 7oz., one roach of 1lb. 8oz. and another 1lb. 6½oz.—A. GEORGE, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 23rd ult. the following members weighed in: Messrs. A. Chapman, perch; King, roach; Langton, roach; Marshall, roach and bream; and W. White, bream. On the 30th ult., Messrs. Boxall, jack; C. Chapman, jack; Leslie, roach and dace; C. White, roach and dace; and Mr. King, roach. On September 6 we go to Weybridge by brakes from the above house. To start at 6.30 sharp.—E. T. WHITE, sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—A general meeting is convened for Monday next, September 7, to decide where the competition arranged for September 20 shall take place. Mr. Harry Dunn was unanimously elected chairman for the ensuing month, and a hearty vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. J. Depledge, as chairman for the past two months. The shows of fish during the past week have been more than satisfactory, especially those of Mr. Harry Dunn and Mr. Tom Keeble. Mr. Dunn has in active preparation a paper on "Barbel Fishing," which he will shortly read before this society.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

Central Association.—The usual monthly delegate meeting will be held at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden, on Monday next, at 8.30.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—Mr. MacDonnell, on the 26th ult., 5lb. roach and bream from Edenbridge; on the 27th, 7lb. of roach, from the barge cut at Tottenham; and on the 31st ult., 6lb. 10oz. of bream and roach from Amberley; Mr. Castell, roach from Woking, on the 31st.—CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.—On the 1st inst. the return visit on the South London Visiting List took place at this society, and I am pleased to say it was a grand success, fifteen clubs being well represented. On August 30 the following members weighed in fish: Messrs. G. Jameson, 5lb. 3oz. bream; A. Painter, 15½oz. roach; A. Bowater, 5lb. 3oz. roach (winning 1lb. gross weight prize, Pangbourne); A. Turner, 3lb. roach (second); and H. Collis, roach. Our next match takes place at Cookham on the 6th inst. All members to be at Battersea station by 8 a.m.—A. TROWBRIDGE.

Clarence Angling Club, Red Lion Hotel, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.—A large number of members were present on Wednesday night, when the secretary announced that the club had secured a seven years' lease of a splendid stretch of the river Colne and other water about four and a-half miles in all, for the exclusive right of fishing. Several members have been out, Mr. T. Nelson having big takes from the Broads, of rudd, roach, dace and pike, Mr. J. F. Dawson taking roach and dace. A new member was elected by ballot, the name of another one being placed on the books for election on Wednesday next.—ALF. E. EVANS, sec.

Clerkenwell and District United—A combined visit on the Clerkenwell and Central Lists was paid to the Seymour Brothers on the 31st ult. The following twenty-four societies were well represented—viz., Great Northern Brothers, Lincoln, Crown and Buckland, City of London, Independent Brothers, Seymour Brothers, Eustonian, Amicable Waltonian, Funny Folks, Islington Brothers, Bloomsbury Brothers, Alma, Burton Piscatorials, North London, Camden, Anchor and Hope, Cliftonville, Mitre Brothers, Patriotic, Royal George, Phœnix, Bostonians, Midland, and Waltonians. The next visit on the C. and D. list will be to the Amicable Waltonians, held at the Sun Tavern, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—F. CASTELL, hon. sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—Only one member weighed in fish on August 30—namely, Mr. A. Duncan, with roach. The match takes place on the 13th instant.—A. SMITH, sec.

Crown and Buckland United Piscatorial Society, Middlesex Arms, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.—A pegged-down match will take place at Harefield Fisheries, on Sept. 13, by the members of the above, for the following prizes: Mr. J. Penn, a handsome time-piece under glass shade; Mr. Horrox, a pair of oil paintings in gilt frames; Mr. Kirby, 10s. 6d.; and Mr. Plaistead, the owner of the Fisheries, a handsome prize. All to start by first train in the morning. The following members weighed in fish on August 30: Mr. H. Long, 11lb. 9½oz. of roach; Mr. C Walters, 10lb. 5oz. roach and bream; Mr. W. J. Long, 6lb. 10oz. roach; Mr. Penn and Glover weighed in roach.—E. ROGERS, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On August 30, we fished a pegged-down match at Harlow, for seven prizes. Result as follows: Mr. Webber, first; Mr. Slade, second; Mr. Eagles, third; Mr. Towndrow, fourth; Mr. Baldwin, fifth; Mr. Wild, sixth; and Mr. Killick, seventh, Messrs. Spong, T. Midson, J. Edwards, Cogswell, Mott, Legge, Rodwell, Barson, Venour, and W. Midson, also had fish. On September 13, a match will be fished at Cheshunt; full particulars to be had at the club house.—S. MALBY, sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On August 30, Mr. F. Vanhegan saved us a blank with a few nice bream, winning the monthly prize. The next return visit on No. 2 Eastern District will take place on Monday, Sept. 7, when I shall be glad to have the company of as many as possible. Any secretary not receiving a notice, kindly accept this as one. A few friends met at the above on Wednesday last to organise a benefit for Mr. G. Watling. The meeting was adjourned till Monday, Sept. 14, when we shall be pleased to see any gentleman who would like to join the committee.—J. W. BIGGS, sec.

Glasgow District Angling Clubs Association.—This association, which was formed three years ago in Glasgow, was promoted for the purpose of holding an annual competition amongst the various clubs within a radius of ten miles of the Glasgow exchange, for an association trophy, to be held during the year by the most successful club at the annual competition, each club being represented by four members, one of whom is appointed captain over each team. The annual competition of the above association took place on Loch Leven on August 31, when eight clubs were represented by thirty-two competitors. The weather was pretty favourable during the forenoon, being overcast, with occasional sunshine. The wind, which was very light when the boats started, veered several times and came up very strong and blustering in the afternoon, while rain fell in torrents, and very little sport was got after two p.m. On weighing at six p.m., their total capture was found to be two hundred and nineteen trout, 143¾lb., the most successful club team being that of the Rowbank, from Paisley, to whom the association trophy was awarded. The heaviest basket was got by Mr. Wallace, of that club, with ten trout, 9lb. 9½oz., while the heaviest trout was got by Mr. Watson, of the Coatbridge Club, with 2lb. 6oz. The names of the successful club team to whom gold badges were awarded being Messrs. Wallace, McKenzie, R. Cochrane, and A. Cochrane. The total captures of each club arranged in their order of merit were as under: Rowbank, thirty-one trout, 23lb. 15½oz.; Wanderers, forty-four trout, 23lb. ½oz.; Pollokshields, twenty-nine trout, 21lb. 8oz.; Bothwell and Blantyre, thirty trout, 18lb. 14½oz.; Uddington Waltonians, twenty-five trout, 17lb. 1½oz.; Dodgers, twenty-five trout, 16lb. 4½oz.; St. Mungo, twenty-five trout, 14lb. 6½oz.; and Coatbridge, ten trout, 8lb. 8oz. Two sweepstakes were also awarded for the most successful boats, as under: First, Rowbank C., Wallace and McKenzie, twenty trout, 18lb. 8½oz.; second, Wanderers C., Robertson and Miller, twenty-seven trout, 14lb. 11½oz.—R. B. LAING.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had a moderate show of fish on August 30—10lb. 2¼oz. of roach and bream and one chub, taken by Messrs. Caborn, W. Lawrence, Slade, Stebbings, and Riggs.—A. PAYNE, sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road.—We had another fine display of fish on August 30. Mr. Bouring, a very fine show of bream, roach and perch; Mr. Bailey, a handsome show of roach; Mr. Ellins, a capital show of trout and roach; Mr. Elton, a fine show of trout, roach and chub; Mr. Clark, dace; Mr. Monk, roach and dace. On Tuesday a sweepstake was arranged to come off on September 27, to take place at Goring, from Streakley Bridge to the Church at Malsford. Members can obtain all necessary information on our next meeting night. I hope members will turn up in good force, as several good prizes are already given.—A. STOKES.

Good Intent Angling Society.—There was a grand show of fish at our club on August 30, brought in by Messrs. Philpott, Lyte, F. Grey, Whitmore, Huggett, Maybury, and many others. On the 1st inst. there was a good attendance of members, when it was decided to fish for ten prizes at Shiplake on the 13th inst. All start from Paddington by the nine o'clock train. Mr. Manning opened our benevolent box; there was £2 16s. 5d. in it.—R. MURPHY.

Grange Angling Society.—During the last week the following members have weighed in: Messrs. Sandilands, bream and roach, 9lb. 6½oz.; Gibbons, roach, 8lb. 8oz.; Wood, roach and dace, 6lb. 8¼oz.; W. Rich, roach, 2lb. 14½oz.; and Green, roach, 1lb. 2¾oz. On Tuesday, Mr. Jones sent up from Wroxham a very fine perch, scaling 2lb. 11oz. Mr. Jones has kindly given this fish to the society, who are having it preserved.—W. K.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Robin Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 23rd ult., the following members weighed in some good bream, dace, and roach, from Pulborough: H. Watling, 5lb. 6oz.; C. Large, 5lb. 5oz.; C. Watling, 12lb. 1oz., one bream 3lb. 2oz.; J. A. Fitch, 2lb. 1oz. From other waters, A. Hambridge, 4lb. bream; W. Barnes, 1lb. 13oz. roach; J. Birch, 6lb. 15oz., roach; J. Hewitt, and H. Proehl, roach. On the 30th ult., we had a very poor show; very few members were out: Messrs. H. Proehl, jack, 2lb. 15oz.; C. Watling, two bream, 6lb. 15oz.; W. Parkins, roach, 2lb. 9oz., all from Pulborough.—J. A. FITCH, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, with Mr. G. H. Field in the chair. Mr. Bentley reported having been to Kelvedon, and inquired into certain matters affecting the society's waters there, which were tolerably satisfactory; but it was thought desirable to make some better arrangements as to the tenure of the waters, and the better preservation of the fish in them; and the secretary was deputed to go to Kelvedon for that purpose. Mr. Bentley was thanked for the trouble he had taken. A letter was read from the Thames Angling Preservation Society, stating that action had been taken with regard to the recent poisoning of fish in the Thames. On the motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Bentley, it was resolved that a subscription of a guinea be sent to the Thames Angling Preservation Society. Some further arrangements for the sea fishing competion, to be held at Leigh on the 16th inst., were made. First prize, tackle, worth a guinea; second and third prizes, tackle, each worth half-a-guinea. Members can introduce a friend or two to fish, but not to compete. It was resolved that a fishing competition be shortly held from punts on the Thames, and a committee was appointed to make the arrangements. Mr. Young exhibited the trout taken by him in the Thames, weighing 5lb. 5½oz., which he had had set up. Mr. Bramley reported having caught 47lb. of fish, chiefly roach, in Fritton Decoy, in two days. Mr. Turpin had been netting for eels two nights on the Stour, and taken 25st.; Mr. Parker, eel pouts, flounders, and plaice from Southend; and Dr. Brunton, four trout from the Lea, weighing 7½lb. The secretary read a paper entitled "The Humane Angler," in which he advocated the abolition of live-baiting fishing, more particularly the live-gorge, and strongly recommended the greater use of dead baits, and also of artificial baits that should resemble the natural, not only to the sight, as at present, but also to the taste, touch, and smell. Considerable discussion took place on the subject, and the opinion in favour of abandoning the live-gorge was almost unanimous. On the motion of Dr. Brunton, seconded by Mr. Fletcher, a vote of thanks was accorded to the secretary for his paper.—James Tayler, sec.

Havelock Angling Society, General Havelock, West-street, London Fields, Hackney.—The fourth annual dinner of this society took place on August 30, at the Old Highway Tavern, Hoddesdon, when twenty-four members and friends sat down to an ample repast provided by the worthy host, Mr. Haywood, who had the dinner served in a spacious marquee, erected in a very pleasant garden attached to the house. We were fortunate in having a fine day, which added greatly to the enjoyment of the company; returning to London by road, which was reached about ten o'clock, having spent a most enjoyable day, long to be remembered by the members of the Havelock.—G. Manning.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On August 30 many of our members were again out, being the last day to fish for two of our prizes—viz., one for the heaviest gross weight on any one outing during August, jack and eels barred; the other for gross weight of dace only, under the same conditions. Mr. A. Fish was the successful one in the former, and Mr. Braham, jun., in the latter. Messrs. Geeves, jun., Russell, and Calcut brought roach and dace; Saalfield and Rider, perch; A. Fish and Bagshaw, jun., chub; and Braham, jun., dace.—W. Fenner, sec.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—We have had some excellent shows of fish this last week. Messrs. J. E. W. and Monte, in one day having five to six dozen fine dace and chub; Messrs. Shaw, Gill, and Burton, some fine roach. I wish to call all members and friends attention to the annual dinner, which is fixed to take place on Sept. 17, at the club-house, the Hornsey Wood Tavern, at eight o'clock sharp, when our worthy host will provide an excellent repast. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each.—J. T. Griffiths.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—On the 30th ult., Mr. T. Huntley weighed in some nice bream, and T. Gardner roach.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—Several of our members were out on Aug. 30, the following weighing in: Messrs. W. Davies, barbel, roach, dace, and gudgeon; A. Pain, roach; and A. Pope, roach, dace, and gudgeon. The brothers Fletcher were elected honorary members of this society.—A. Pain, sec. *pro tem.*

Islington Angling Society, Jubilee House, Hornsey Rise, N.—At the meeting on Monday evening last, a new member was duly proposed and seconded, the ballot to take place on September 21. In the absence of special business, discussions of several subjects of piscatorial interest occupied the rest of the evening. The next meeting will take place on Monday, the 7th inst.—X.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—One new member was elected on August 27. We fished a roving match at Cookham on August 30, for six prizes. The following had fish: Mr. Holder, first; Mr. Key, second; Mr. Leach, third; W. Stretch, fourth; H. Herbert, fifth, and winning a specimen roach prize. We have room for a few more members.—J. H. Herbert, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—There are three special prizes to be competed for on Wednesday next, 9th inst., and four ditto on the 13th inst. Competitors may choose their own fishing waters for these prizes. No competitor to leave London before five a.m. on either days. Mr. Chas. Layton saved us from a blank on Aug. 30 with a nice chub weighing 2lb. 3oz. Mr. F. Savage, a member of the North Eastern Angling Society, exhibited four barbel he had succeeded in taking from the Thames, on Wednesday, 2nd inst.—H. B.

Jolly Anglers, Cambridge.—The above club fished a pegged-down match at Upware on Sept. 1. This being the annual match, sixty-six members entered. The total amount, which was in money prizes, the committee offered with specials, was £9 14s. All the prizes were won except 22s. 6d.—viz., for fly-fishing. Logan's boat, *Victoria*, conveyed the members to the spot where the swims were pegged out, twenty yards each, some twelve miles down, stream. When we started it was raining, wind blowing to a western gale. On our arrival rain ceased, but the wind was so strong that hats were blown into the river, floats driven out of the water, lines curling round like a half-moon, in fact it was with great difficulty the rod was managed. One angler was blown down stepping back to land a fish, 6oz. weight, so strong was the wind. However, over twenty members weighed in. Heaviest take was 4lb. 1oz. to one angler, and the total weight weighed in was 30lb. 2oz.; good for so bad a fishing day. Every praise is due to the secretary, W. Cornwall, and the committee for the arrangement of the match. The boat, which was a covered one, was very acceptable for so long a journey. The company were enlivened by a string band; singing and other pleasures were indulged in.—John O. George, auditor.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—On August 30 the following members weighed in: Messrs. Mathews, Croxford, Warner, Wheeler, H. Challen, roach and tench, and Mr. E. Challen, perch. We had the pleasure of enrolling another new member on Tuesday last.—A. Ide, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—At a committee meeting held on Friday, the 28th ult., one new member was elected, bringing our total number up to one hundred and fourteen. Two competitions were arranged for September. First—for the heaviest and second heaviest take of fish on any one single day, punt fishing (Thames) during September: First prize, £1 1s.; second, 10s. 6d. Second—for the heaviest and second heaviest take of fish on any one single day, bank fishing (Thames) during September; first prize, £1 1s.; second, 10s. 6d. During the past week the following members have weighed in: Messrs. Hollyman, junior, 10lb. 8oz. roach and dace; Master, 8lb. 13oz., roach and dace; Wilmot, 7lb. 1oz., roach and dace; J. Hollyman, 5lb. 12oz., roach and dace; Cotton, 14lb. 3½oz., roach and dace; Harvey, 1lb. 9½oz., barbel; Edwards, 2lb. 12oz., rudd; H. Salter, 1lb. 11oz., roach; Newcombe, 2lb. 14oz., barbel; Carter, 4lb. 12oz., roach; and Mason, 1lb. 14oz., dace. Messrs. Hollyman, junior, and Master were the successful winners of the first and second prizes in the punt competition, which took place on the 27th ult.—T. Salter, hon. secretary.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road.—On August 30 the following members weighed in some good fish: Messrs. Ellingham, Porter, Watling, Webster, and Belton, roach and dace; More, bream; Beesley, a nice show of roach and dace on Sept. 2. I hope to see a good muster of members on Wednesday next (quarterly night). Mr. Clark and Mr. Findley were proposed working members of the above, and will be balloted for in the usual way at our next meeting. —W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—Our last weeks meeting was a good one. The outing on the 27th turned out fairly successful though the weather was unsettled and uncomfortable. Most of the competitors had more or less fish, the weighing in giving Mr. Haughton first, Mr. Woolfall second, and Mr. Bennett third. We have arranged for a day's fishing in the river Vyrney on the 10th inst., going over night (Wednesday), from Lime-street at 6.15. This will be a very nice out indeed, and if the weather settles at all (it is very fine this Wednesday afternoon) there are almost sure to be some big takes both of trout and grayling and coarse fish. The Chairman's Challenge Clock for trout and grayling, and Mr. Mason's ditto for chub and roach can be won on this occasion.—R. Woolfall.

Liverpool East End Friendly Angling Association, 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool.—We had a fair attendance on September 1, when it was proposed that the match take place at Mollington Canal on September 13 between the Iron Bridge and Stoke Bridge to be the standpoint, for three prizes—viz., Bottom-rod from club funds; a handsome dulcimer, kindly presented by one of the members; also bottom tackle case, presented by a member. The heaviest to have the first choice, the second heaviest having the second choice. All competitors to meet by the 8.35 train at Woodside Station on morning of match. Any member not abiding by these rules will be disqualified. 2oz. fish to weigh in. pike and eels barred. Several members have been out and have had fair takes of roach, &c.—T. C. Segar, sec.

London United Anglers' Societies.—Fourth Annual Angling Competition, in aid of the Funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—At a meeting of representatives of several angling societies, held at the Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell, E.C., on August 14, a committee was formed (with power to add to their number) to carry out the arrangements for an angling competition, to take place at the Rye House on November 15, in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. Resolved that it be a roving competition; the boundary to be named according to the number of entries on the morning of the competition. Several valuable prizes were offered, which will no doubt be considerably increased, lists of which will be published in the fishing and other journals weekly. Competitors to meet at the Rye House on arrival of the train that leaves Liverpool-street Station at 9.8 a.m., to start fishing by signal, and to weigh fish in the gardens at five o'clock. Any competitor failing to attend to weigh his fish at that time to be disqualified. One rod only to be used. All fish to weigh (according to Lea measurement), with the exception of jack, eels, bleak, gudgeon, and minnows. No live-baiting or raking allowed. Tickets, one shilling each, to be had of any member of the committee, and at the various angling clubs. Competitors must be members holding privilege tickets from the Anglers' or Central Associations, or cards of membership of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. Tickets will be shortly supplied to all angling societies. Due notice will be given as to distribution of prizes. The committee meetings will be held at the Foresters' Hall, E.C., on the second and fourth Fridays, in the month at 9.30. The following gentlemen form the present committee: Messrs. C. A. Medcalf (Amicable Brothers), chairman; S. Malby (Dalston), secretary; R. Ghurney (Hoxton Brothers), treasurer; R. Murphy and W. H. Beckett (Good Intent), A. Conn (Bermondsey Brothers), S. Cane (Seymour Brothers), G. H. Field (South London), E. Clark (Marylebone), G. Watling (Funny Folks), H. Patman (Bermondsey Brothers), G. Manning and H. Butt (Izaak Walton), G. Franklin, G. Norris, and C. Glover (Crown and Buckland), W. Baildham (Globe), B. Abrahams (Allason United Brothers), J. W. Harris (Prince Arthur Piscatorials), J. Edwards and F. Legge (Dalston), W. Wade (Anchor and Hope), J. Comber (Mildmay), and E. Brockett (Original Alexandra).—S. Malby, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—Our trays were again well filled with bream, roach, chub, perch, dace, and jack, contributed by the following gentlemen: Messrs. Penfold, Melbourn, Butler, W. Pearce, Tilley, Mellish, Gray, and A. Clarke.—T. F. Penfold.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road.—Several of our members were out on August 30, but were very unsuccessful, not one of them bringing home a fish, thus making this the first blank of the season. We had our return club visit on Monday, and was well attended, considering the wet evening, thirteen clubs answering the roll call. Mr. Tibbatts, of the Citizen, Houndsditch, took the chair for the evening, faced by Mr. S. Malby, of the Dalston Angling Society, and after some good songs had been sung, the evening wound up, having been most enjoyable.—John Comber, sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 108, Westminster Bridge-road, S.E.—Several of our members were out on September 30, but met with very indifferent success. Members are reminded that several competitions are on hand.—F. Wallis, sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W.—We had a fair muster of members on the 27th ult. Mr. Schultz, jun., weighed in roach. On the 30th we fished our match at St. Margaret's, when a most enjoyable day was spent; but sport was very tame, only two prizes being won, Mr. Lambert winning the first prize, and Mr. Billings the second; Messrs. Harris and Grindley also had jack and roach respectively from other waters.—G. S.

Original Alexandra Angling Society, Green Man, Cambridge-road, E.—We had a capital show of fish on August 30, the best takes coming from Dagenham Lake. Mr. H. Gable had a nice lot of bream and roach, weighing 9¼lb., largest bream, 2lb.; Mr. Poore, a fine perch, 2lb. 6oz., and some good bream and roach; Mr. Preston, three jack from the Lea, 9lb. 3oz.; Mr. Aarons, a barbel from the Lea, 3lb. 8oz., on a tight line, and other takes too numerous to mention. Our trays were full. I wish to remind our angling friends that on Monday next, September 7, a smoking concert will take place at the above house in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Fund. Many well-known angling friends have promised to attend.—E. Brockett.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Mr. Steedman had a fine show of roach on August 30, some of the fish weighing over a pound. Mr. Daniels also weighed in some nice roach. Our next series of prizes will be fished for at Pulborough, on September 13. Members to leave town on the morning of the competition. Mr. Mayes was elected an honorary member of this society.—A. G. Duke, sec.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Old St. Pancras-road, N.W.—On August 30th three prizes were angled for at Windsor, the first being won by Mr. Keen, Mr. Mares second, Mr. Heelas third. Messrs. Raymond, C. and F. Dove, Homnan, Elbourne, Brown, and Carr having a few fish each. On September 13th three more prizes will be angled for at Bourne End.—W. Elbourn, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—The following members of the above weighed in on August 30: Messrs. Ivermee, jack and tench; Scott, roach; Wheeler, roach; Buckland, jack; Axworthy, chub; French, jack and roach; Hayden, roach; and Davis, roach.—Wm. Bowyer, sec.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—On the 30th ult., Messrs. Comely and Sharpless had a nice show of roach and dace. A special meeting is called for the 7th inst. Members please attend, as some important business was postponed in consequence of the small attendance on Monday last.—F. Bradley, hon. sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The next visit on the Anglers' Association Visiting List takes place on Tuesday, September 8, when I hope to see a room full. Thirteen members of the above society fished for four prizes on August 30, at Wateringbury. Only one member succeeded in getting fish—Mr. P. Martin, bream, 2lb. 1½oz. Members to go where they like; all to go on the morning of September 6, for the remaining prizes.—F. T. Lamberton, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—On the 30th August we had the best show of large fish on our trays since the commencement of the season, being weighed in by the following members: Messrs. Webber, jack and roach; Gibbons, barbel and roach; Longland, bream; and Trotter, chub. The prizes won at the last outing on August 16 were distributed to the successful members, Messrs. Webber, Holder, Bacon, Harris, jun., and Gibbons. —F. C. Longland.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—On August 30 we had a fair show of fish, consisting of perch, roach, and dace, from the Lea, by the following members: Messrs. F. Barclay, Parsley, J. Yeo, Henson, A. Barclay, W. Wells, W. Smith, E. Perry, J. Holden, J. Stanley, and Cox. Total, 32lb. 1oz., being only 1oz. more than the previous week. On Tuesday, September 1, Mr. G. Barclay weighed in three jack from the lower Lea, averaging 3lb. each, which were in fair condition.—A. Barclay, sec.

School Board of London Angling Association, Victoria Enbankment, W.C.—The secretary and a member of this association have returned from Denver Sluice, Norfolk, having had excellent catches of roach and bream, Roach 1lb. 14oz., 1lb. 12oz., 1lb. 8oz., &c.; bream 2lb. and upwards were taken. Some trout can also be seen at times during the day.—A. A. H. Millam.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—On August 30 we had a very good show of fish from various waters by Messrs. J. Wright, Stone, Wood and Forrester. Other members had fish, but when they arrived home were too tired to bring them up to the club-house.—J. Wright, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On August 30 a good many members were out, with the following result: A very nice tray of roach and dace weighed in by Mr. W. North, 17lb. ½oz. (six dace. 8¼oz. each). The above member also had a very fine specimen bleak, 3¼oz., which is going to be put up. The following also had fish: Messrs. G. Giles, jack; E. Wright, bream and roach; J. Petrie, roach and dace, 5lb.; J. Barnes, roach and dace, 4lb. On Monday last we had a very successful visit paid to us by the members of the various angling societies. Twenty-four clubs were represented—Alma, Amicable Brothers, Amicable Waltonians, Anchor and Hope, Barbican, Burton, Camden, Cliftonville, Clerkenwell Piscatorials, Convivial, Crown and Buckland, Funny Folks, Great Northern, Lincoln, Phœnix, Independent Brothers, Islington Brothers, Mitre, North London; Patriotic, Royal George, Seymour Brothers, Waltonians, City of London, and Bloomsbury Brothers. I wish to thank those gentlemen who so kindly attended. On September 6 we fish a match at Pulborough for six valuable prizes; Central waters only; two rods; all to go same morning only. Those members who have not shown up lately are requested to at once.—S. E. Cane, sec.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.—On the 30th ult. we had another good show of fish, about 40lb., Mr Phillips just on 20lb. of tench; Messrs. Clark, Geale, Curtis, Cherry, O'Callaghan, and Smales, bream, roach, tench, perch, and dace. September 1 being quarterly night the election of officers, &c., took place. Mr. Frank Griffin was elected president, and Mr. O'Callaghan, vice, for the ensuing quarter. Members are reminded that our next outing will take place on September 6, at our society water, fishing to commence on the arrival of the first train from Waterloo, main line. Usual conditions, pegged down. To leave off fishing at seven p.m. A special general meeting will be held to consider the question of life members, on Tuesday, September 15, at 8.30. All members interested are particularly requested to attend.—Pelican.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—A silver watch to be fished for during September for the best specimen roach. The members weighing in on August 30 were Mr. T. Jones, a nice show of bream and roach; A. McQuinn, roach and dace; M. Marks, bream; D. Marks, bream; R. Spenceley, roach; H. Spenceley, roach; Mr. Dean, rudd; J. Brown, rudd.—R. S.

South Belgravia Angling Society, Duke of Clarence, Horseferry-road, Westminster, S.W.—Our members fished a match at Chelmsford, on August 30. Mr. Wheeler took first prize with a good show of bream, roach, perch, and dace. Our worthy host, Mr. J. Evans, weighed in some nice perch from the same place.—F. Taylor.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—A return visit of the clubs enrolled on the above list was paid to the Clapham Junction A.S., on the 1st inst., and I am pleased to say was a fair success. Although there were only fourteen clubs represented, most of them turned up in strong force, making up for the absence of others. On the roll being called at eleven o'clock sharp, the following clubs responded: Bermondsey Bros., Second Surrey, Rodney, South London, Wellington, Anglers' Pride, Grange, St. George's, St. Thomas's, Amicable Excelsior, Cliftonville, Causton, and Clapham Junction. After calling the roll, Mr. J. Wright, vice-president of the list, presented the half-guinea given by Mr. George George, for the largest roach taken in the late competition at Amberley, to the successful competitor, Mr. Gordon, of the Wellington A.S. The next visit will be to the St. Thomas's Angling Society, held at the Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, on Tuesday, the 15th inst., when I hope to see every society on the list present.—A. Conn, hon. sec.

St. Andrew's Piscatorial Society, Turk's Head, East-street, W.C.—The members of the above club held their annual dinner and tea at Mr. Henly's, Black Dog and Duck Inn, Bury, near Pulborough, Sussex, on August 30. Mr. Chevalier officiated at the head of the swim, faced by Mr. Roberts, sen. This proved the best outing the above club have had, great credit being due to Mr. Henly for his admirable catering.—B. Chevalier, sec.

St. George's Angling Society, Prince of Wales, St. George's-road, Peckham.—We fished our third series of prizes on August 30, when only two out of the four were taken. Mr. Etherington, first; Mr. J. Beard, second. Members can go where they please for the other two prizes. I wish members would turn up stronger on meeting night, as we have special business on.—G. Etherington, sec.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—The members of above club visited Harlow, Essex, on August 30, when Messrs. C. Fisher and J. White were successful in taking prizes, with some very fine roach; others not so successful had also some fine roach. The next visit on the South London Anglers' Visiting List comes to us, and will take place at the above club on Tuesday, September 15, when we hope the clubs enrolled on the list will give us a bumper. —G. Morton, sec.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Rhodeswell-road, Stepney.—On the 30th inst., our competition at Dagenham took place; and although the day was fine, and wind and water all right, only five out of the eight prizes were taken by the following, as placed, viz.—Willsher, Gerrard, West, Chambers and Nash. The remaining three prizes will be fished for by the unsuccessful divisions.—E. N. P., hon. sec.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—Several members of the above were out on the 30th August, of whom the following weighed in: Messrs. Harwood, Reaves, and Taylor (roach and dace); Mr. Carpenter, specimen bream, Mr. G. Boreham, specimen roach; and Mr. Lewis, specimen dace, each having a fair show of other fish, and Mr. C. Boreham a show of roach. Our "Sunlight Soap" competition is arranged to be fished on Sept. 6, at Staines, members to start first train same morning. The first prize is a case of "Sunlight Soap," kindly presented by Messrs. Lever Bros. —H. Reaves, sec.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above were out on August 30, with the following result: Mr. W. Wood, bream; G. Marshall, bream; S. Cockerton, bream and perch; W. Windred, club and roach; F. Beak, roach; B. Champion, roach; D. Hayden, dace. Several other members were out, but did not show up.—H. Tyler, secretary.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall-cross.—We had some fine shows on the 30th by the following gentlemen: Mr. Bird, senior, Mr. Clegg, and Mr. Ilsley. We had a fair attendance on Sept. 1, Mr. Philips in the chair, faced by Mr. Smith, *pro tem.* Mr. Philips was elected chairman in place of Mr. Moring; Mr. Pethy was elected vice-chairman in place of Mr. Smith, for the ensuing quarter.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walham Green and Fulham Angling Society, Stansford Arms.—At the usual weekly meeting Mr. Cobble and E. Smith were proposed to become members. Since my last several of our members have been out, with the following result: Messrs. Callow and Templeman, at Richmond, roach and dace; Mr. Allder and Warner, Bourne End, roach; Mr. G. Smith, on Wednesday, a brace of rudd, from Potter Heigham weighing 2lb. 1oz. I have to remind members that a pegged-down match takes place on Sept. 6, at Kingston, when all members are requested to attend.—E. Sutchall, sec.

Waltonian Angling Society, the Cape of Good Hope, Albany-street, Regent's Park.—On August 30, most of our members were out, but the weather as usual was anything but what we should have liked; it was quite cold, and the fish were not very plentiful. Messrs. Morris, roach and dace, 6lb., one dace 9¼oz.; H. Putnam, roach 1lb. 1oz.; Waltham, roach, 2lb. 5oz.; Miller, roach, 2lb.; R. Dodge, W. Dodge, Dodge, senr., and Marriott also weighed in.—J. Packman, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 30th ult., Mr. C. Newbery showed 25lb. of roach and dace; Mr. A. Cooper, roach and dace; Mr. Dartnall, bream and roach; Mr. Bryant, bream and roach; Mr. Enover, roach and dace; Mr. Gordon, roach and dace. The September competition will take place on September 6, at Sunbury, from the Cherry Orchard to Sunbury-lane; all to go down by eight o'clock (Waterloo); cease fishing at six o'clock; show fish at bridge, and return by seven o'clock train from Sunbury. There are two slight alterations to Rule 15.—R. J. Dartnall, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—We had an outing at St. Margaret's on August 30, the prizes being taken by the following members: Messrs. Parslow, first, with roach, largest fish 1lb. 6oz.; Blyth, second, roach; Hertland, third, roach; Dessert, fourth, roach; Maples, roach; Mercer, roach; and Francis, a nice show of bream, largest fish 3lb. 1oz. I hope all members will attend so as to get the books clear by quarterly night.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford. — Our members were out on the 30th, and the following weighed in fish: Mr. C. Beckett, 1lb. 13oz. of rudd; Mr. T. Smart, 1lb. 3½oz. of rudd; Mr. R. Lowther, 1lb. 1½oz. of roach; Mr. F. Horner, bream. I wish to remind our members that it has been decided to have a photo group of the members taken, and we hope all that wish to be in the group will attend on the evening of the 6th inst. to arrange the day and place.—R. Lowther, sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—The members of this club held their quarterly meeting on the 27th ult. Mr. M. S. H. Digby was elected a member, Mr. S. W. Digby was elected chairman, and Mr. Leaf, vice-chairman, for the ensuing quarter. Messrs. R. Mallinson and H. Lidgard volunteered to act as delegates to the Central Association. Mr. R. Dean, our host, was unanimously elected co-trustee of the club with Mr. J. B. Holloway. The second match of the season will take place on September 24 or 27, bank or punt, in any public or daily subscription water, for three prizes, weights, 5lb., 3lb., and 1lb. Members are allowed to start the day before, but not to fish or ground-bait previous to the day of match, and all fish to be weighed in on the day of capture. Members fishing on the 24th inst. must give notice at the club house.—J. J. Hunter.

Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, Earl Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday last, Mr. Hesse in the chair, when routine business was transacted. Messrs. Monro, Hesse, and Burne, fishing on August 30, had fair sport with the roach.—H. Richardson, hon. sec.

CLUB UNION ANGLING CONTEST.

Prizes: 1st, Value £2; 2nd, Value £1 5s.; 3rd, Value £1; 4th, Value 15s.

The entrance fees will be divided into consolation prizes of 7s. 6d. each.

Conditions.

1.—Each competitor must have been a member of some club in the Union for at least three months immediately preceding the date of entry.

2.—Intending competitors must send their names and addresses to the secretary of the Union not later than Sept. 14, 1891, and a fee of 6d., together with a certificate from the secretary of their club that they are qualified under Condition 1.

3.— The contest will take place on Sept. 20, from Burnt Mill Lock to Harlow Lock.

4.—Each competitor entering will receive a numbered ticket, which must be produced to the judges on the morning of Sept. 20.

5.—Fishing will commence by signal, and all fish must be weighed in by 5.30 at the Lock House, Burnt Mill.

6.—The contest will be a roving match.

7.—One rod only to be used. Jack, eels, and bleak not to weigh.

8.—The judges will be—R. Gaston (Borough of Hackney), W. Anderson (Clapton Park), W. Starr (Paddington), F. W. Theobalds (N.-E. Bethnal Green). They will search all bags and boxes, give the necessary signals, weigh the fish, check tickets, and act generally as referees. In case of dispute, their decision to be final. The judges shall not be competitors.

Live bait prohibited. Fishing must take place from the towing-path, and the contest be under the Lea Conservancy rules.

Note.—All entries must be received at the Union office on Sept. 14.

AFTER A DAY'S FISHING,
Call on TIBBATTS,
AT "THE CITIZEN," 70, HOUNDSDITCH
(opposite Bishopsgate Church),
Two minutes walk from Liverpool-street and Broad-street Stations.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* Fishing Gazette, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add { 30 min. for Chelsea.
40 ,, ,, Putney.
45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.
50 ,, ,, Barnes.

Add { 55 min. for Kew.
75 ,, ,, Richmond.
80 ,, ,, Twickenham.
85 ,, ,, Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

Time of High Water at London Bridge.

		Morning.	Evening
Saturday, Sept.	5	3.9	3.24
Sunday, ,,	6	3.39	3.53
Monday, ,,	7	4.8	4.21
Tuesday, ,,	8	4.38	4.52
Wednesday, ,,	9	5.7	5.21
Thursday, ,,	10	5.37	5.56
Friday, ,,	11	6.16	6.37

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—General Remarks.—It will be well to remind the anglers, that Thursday next, the tenth of September, is the last day of the trout fishing season, and that whether those fish are caught afterwards either in barbel or jack fishing, they cannot legally be retained, as they after that time become unseasonable fish; and if found in the possession of an angler he renders himself amenable to the law. At the last meeting of the committee of the T.A.P.S. Mr. W. H. Jackson, one of the members of that body, whose business premises are at Brentford, and who had previously offered his services as a honorary river keeper for that important district was duly appointed; and complaints having been made of some illegal practices going on in the neighbourhood of Staines. Mr. John Keene, jun., who had expressed a willingness to serve in the same capacity, it was unanimously agreed to accept of his services, and instructions were given to apply to the Conservators for a deputation for each. Such assistance in various points of the river, in conjunction with the wholly paid keepers must be of undoubted value in the work of Thames Preservation. In visiting different portions of the Thames in our own district, I find many of our anglers are gone to the rivers and broads of Norfolk and Suffolk; and some who have returned speak in the highest terms of their sport, and of the facilities afforded by the Great Eastern Railway, with the unerring punctuality of their trains. I heard one angler, last week say, he had been down six times, and in no instance was the train five minutes late; and this has been my own experience. I am constantly receiving letters asking for information as to the fishing in the broads, and it is always a pleasure for me to give it. There is at the present time plenty of sport in the Thames, but anglers like other people want a change, and if they can get some good fresh water fishing, and enjoy the briny ocean as well, all I can say is let them have it. It is much to be regretted the old Surbiton sewer still gives great anxiety to the river keepers; and although it is to a certain extent filled up, the sandy matter still oozes through—and discolours the water, attracts the fish, and snatching continues to be practised when there is a chance, but the keepers hope soon to make an example.—B.

Richmond.—H. Heward, in four days, 30lb. of roach and dace. Job Brain in five days, 40lb., and H. Mansell during the week a similar quantity.

Twickenham.—C. Brown, in four days, 35lb. of roach and dace, and eight bream. S. Cole, in four days, eighteen dozen, and two bream. George Coxen, in three days, 42lb. and three bream. R. Coxen, in four days with Mr. Tarrant, 70lb., and two barbel. J. Coxen, jun., during the week, 34lb. J. Coxen, sen., in two days, 20lb. J. Dunn, in two days, 45lb., and one bream. J. Frost, in two and a-half days, 38lb., four barbel, two bream and one jack. A. Hammerton, in two days, 35lb., and five bream. A. Hennesy, in three days, 30lb. J. Jackson, in two days, five dozen, two bream and one barbel. Richard Moffat, in five days, 75lb., and seven bream. John Spong in six days, 70lb., six bream, and seven barbel; and F. Wiggins during the week 75lb., one barbel and a couple of bream.

Teddington.—Joseph Baldwin, in two days, four jack, the largest 8lb., two barbel and seven dozen of roach and dace. Benjamin Stevens, twelve bream, and W. McBride, in three days, twelve bream, and twenty dozen of roach and dace.

Kingston.—J. Wright, fishing from the bank during the week, fifteen bream; the largest 4lb.—and fourteen dozen of roach and dace; another bank angler in one day, four bream, and three dozen of roach and dace. N. Belton, in four days, twenty-five dozen of roach and dace, two barbel; the largest 5¼lb., four bream and one jack. John Johnson in four days, twenty-three dozen and nine bream; and J. Knight in two days, ten dozen, four bream, and one barbel.

Sunbury.—Messrs. T. and A. Stroud during the week, eighty-four dozen of roach and dace, fifty barbel, and seventeen jack. Mr. Butt with Snowball, eight dozen of roach and dace; Mr. Edward Clarke during the week, forty dozen of roach and dace, and twenty barbel. A gentleman caught a barbel of 3lb. with a live dace.

Chertsey.—John Poulter, one day, with Mr. C. Nastell, six dozen of roach; another day with Mr. Arthur Hebburn, of the Cricketer's Hotel, in four hours, four dozen of roach; another day with Mr. A. E. Armstrong and Mr. Cartwright in two hours, four dozen; and another day with a gentleman, seven dozen. L. Hackett, in one day, six dozen of roach and three barbel; another day, eight dozen; and another day, five and a-half dozen; H. Purss has been getting some good roach and dace.

Staines.—John Keene, jun., says he has been out the whole week, and done well amongst the roach taking from six to twelve dozen per day, but has only caught nineteen barbel during the week.

Upper Thames.—The continued rain storms have at last had the effect of bringing on a miniature summer flood, but this will last but a short time, for the management at the now workable weirs is so excellent, that superfluous land water is passed away as fast as it gets into the river. The water although high and somwhat coloured is in grand fishing trim, jack especially being well on the feed, and good roach rewarding those who use tail of lobworm or a bunch of gentles for bait. As the river drops and fines grand all-round sport will accrue to those who are lucky enough to be spending a late holiday at the Thames side. In the Temple waters lately Mr. J. Cox and friends have done well with roach, on one occasion when it was pouring with rain getting 16lb. of beauties in some two hours. Mr. Burling of Stratford, also amid much "heavy wet" greatly surprised himself and the roach. Thursday night—rain falling fast.—Marlow Buzz.

Thames (Datchet).—River is in the best of order. The barbel feed first-rate.—G. Lumsden.

Thames (Windsor).—Most extraordinary weather fot time of year prevailed during the past week throughour the Thames Valley. That it must have been equally rough in other parts, especially on the coast, is proved by the numbers of gulls which have been seen, as many as eighteen in one flock being noticed on the 31st ult. hovering over Clewer Point, which is about a mile from Windsor Bridge. Several anglers, in spite of the elements, succeeded in getting good baskets of roach and dace, also a few barbel and jack. The best basket was eighty-two roach and dace and one barbel by Mr. Vesey, of Windsor, and a friend out with James Gray. Mr. A. E. Harbard had six roach in a short time weighing 3lb. 2oz., largest 14½oz., but the handsomest roach during the week which I weighed was one of 1lb. 7oz., caught by Mr. C. H. Harbard, of Eton, a member of the local angling club. Rough rider Corporal Major Roberts, 2nd Life Guards, and Mr. Howard, of Windsor, in a short time (31st ult.) had a good basket, comprising roach and dace, forty-two fish in all. Mr. Howard, of the Friendly Anglers, London, and a friend (31st ult.—the roughest day so far this *winter*) had a handsome tray of roach and dace—forty-seven fish. Mr. Groves, of Chalvey, has had a nice brace of barbel, 6½lb. and 2lb., also a chub of 2lb.; and Mr. H. Sargeant, of Slough, a basket of roach, 4½lb. Another Slough expert, on a No. 10 fine-drawn "sneck" bend roach had on one occasion a pretty barbel of 4lb., besides fifteen roach—a handsome lot. I weighed a chub on the 2nd inst. 2¾lb. But few large ones have been caught; in fact, they could not be fished for. A few jack have been caught, best basket being four largest 3½lb. Water little discoloured, in favour of all-round angling.—B. R. Bambridge.

Ancholme District.—In one or two becks hereabouts, where new hatcheries of trout have been introduced, the same are getting very forward with spawn, in fact, the abdomens are quite distended with ova. This marks the approaching end of the season. The native trout are, as usual, backward, and are in splendid condition. One of the best flies for September is the Orange Dun, made as follows: body, light orange wool or silk; legs, amber red hackle; wings, dark starling's quill. The Needle Brown is also a good killer at the end of the season, as it is then in the very best condition. The week has been too tempestuous one for the Ancholme, but a few good bream and other fish have been taken. Sport should be good with finer weather, as the water is in fair colour.—Thomas Ford.

Barle (Dulverton).—Heavy baskets are being, and have been killed with the worm. Salmon running up to the higher waters. Colder, cloudy, with steadily falling glass. River still very full; if it runs off, the fly and minnow should prove killing.—Iron Blue.

Chichester and Sussex Rivers.—After several stormy days the weather as I write (Thursday) has materially improved. Those who have braved the elements by the water side have been fairly successful. Some bream up to 3lb., and roach to 1lb. have been taken from the Arun above the town. Mullet have been seen in quantities but are not feeding. Rag-worms in the lower portion of the river is the leading bait, and I think would tempt the fish in the higher water. Roach and dace afforded sport in the tidal portion of the Aden on the 30th. A basket of 10½lb. was taken by a visitor, several fine roach among them. The Rother is high and a shade discoloured. A few good roach, perch, and a trout of 1½lb., are notified, and gudgeon to those who are fond of this delicacy—are numerous near Selham. A few small pike have been taken with gudgeon as bait. From the Ouse, roach and chub, and a pike of 6¾lb. The Canal at Chichester is in excellent trim. The basin near the station is the best spot at present; the recent stormy weather has driven the larger fish into this deeper water. A few small pike, bream up to 2¾lb., and roach weighing ¾lb. have been landed. Mr. Paul Bedford, on the 29th, with live bait captured a perch weighing 3lb., which was sent to Mr. George Moore, the well-known naturalist, of Chichester. Anglers should take advantage of the change in the weather, as fish are plentiful in all districts and are now well on.—George F. Salter.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—With plenty of water, plenty of fish, and a decided improvement all round in the weather, neither anglers or tourists have anything to grumble at. During the past week most of the streams have been too heavy for fly, but are now in excellent order, as are the fish. Any fly with a bit of tinsel will kill sea trout now. Sea fishing is exceptionally good. The mackerel, though small, are plentiful professionals getting from ten to twenty dozen in one tide's fishing; amateurs from four to five dozen, but the pros are up and off before daybreak, and go about five miles off, whilst the amateurs do not care for more than a mile or so, where they get much larger fish but not so numerous. There are plenty of splendid haddock, up to 12lb., in Laxey bay. Best bait, mussel; whilst all other sorts of fish are numerous and hungry.—Stormy Petrel.

Dove and Tributaries.—The water has been coloured nicely for days' but, as rain has fallen incessantly, almost few if any fishermen have been out. We hear of some good fish being taken from Bently Brook with the spinning bait. If the weather proves dry during the next two days or so, the water will be in condition for the fly. At the rate the rain is and has been descending all to-day (Thursday) the river and streams hereabouts will get bankful by to-morrow.—D. and W. H. Foster, Ashbourne.

Eden (Armathwaite).—River running very high. Prospects seem very good in a few days. Weather seems settled. Netting went out on the 31st. Some good baskets of trout have been made off the bank with the worm. Mr. Higgin, Armathwaite Castle, twenty-six trout; Miss Dixon, Armathwaite Hall, sixteen splendid trout.—Armathwaite.

Eden (Carlisle).—After last week's flood fell about 3ft., anglers had rather a good innings with the worm among the herlings. Baskets from 10lb. to 16lb. were made by Messrs. R. Strong, Joseph Fox, Thomas Little, William Routledge, and others, and the fish were remarkably fine. The river was again in flood yesterday, and is to-day (Friday) the right height, but too clear for bait-fishing. Net-fishing in the river closed on Monday, and on the whole the season been a good one. There was another heavy run of fish last week, of which the Solway fishermen got the lion's share, the river nets being kept out for many hours by the flooded state of the river. A great number of salmon have run through to the higher reaches above Armathwaite. Mr. Raine, the Edenhall headkeeper, has already killed five with the rod, and another gentleman the same number. Given good fishing weather, the rods should have more sport than is usual in September. By October the fish already up will be getting rather stale.—Silver Grey.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—During the past week the Esk has been in capital order for fishing, for there has been plenty of water, and with the improvements that have been made in the passes—the design of Mr. John Dickson, Glaisdale—fish have got up readily. The upper streams are now well furnished with salmon and salmon trout, and the next week or two should afford plenty of sport for anglers; indeed, no ordinarily good hand with the rod need fear returning home without some result of his enterprise, for, given a fair day, he is bound to be successful in a more or less degree. The river was never so full of fish as it is now. Mr. C. J. Keighley, son of Mr. Keighley, Spring Hill House, tops the record this week with eleven salmon, the weights being respectively 2lb., 4½lb., 5½lb., 5½lb., 5lb., 5½lb., 3½lb., 5lb., 2¼lb., 2½lb., and 5lb. Mr. J. W. Nicholson, Talbot Hotel, nine salmon, of 5lb., 5lb., 7lb., 4lb., 8½lb., 6½lb., 6lb., 4lb., and 6lb.; Mr. D. Green, Grosmont, five, of 13lb., 9½lb., 5lb., 7lb., and 5lb.; Mr. J. H. Keighley one of 10½lb.; Mrs. Keighley, one of 8lb.; Mr. Jeaffreson, Leamington, one of 16½lb.; Mr. Ward, one of 11lb.; Mr. J. R. Ansdell, Hull, two, of 12lb. and 6lb.; Mr. J. R. Bulmer, Hull, three, of 17lb., 3lb., and 12lb.; Mr. R. Linton, nine salmon, one of 13lb., six averaging about 5lb. each, and two, of 6lb. and 4lb. respectively; Mr. John H. Leng, five, of 11lb., 5lb., 6lb., 7lb., and 4lb.; Mr. J. Dickson, one of 5lb.; Mr. F. Lloyd, one of 4lb.; Mr. Robert Hay, Grosmont, four, of 3lb., 4lb., 4lb., and 3lb.; Mr. R. B. L. Johnston, one of 8lb.; Mr. E. Chapman, one of 13lb.; Mr. J. W. Wheldon, Pickering, three, of 7lb., 6lb., and 4½lb.—Jno. J. Jackson.

Idle (North Notts).—There have lately been complaints that the water of the Idle has been too fine for successful fishing, but the unsettled weather, prior to the last day or two, has been more responsible for the poor takes. It has been altogether too windy this week for trout fishing; but as a change has come over the weather, we may expect better things. In the lower waters weed-cutting is interfering with the chance of sport. Up to the time of writing very little sport is reported. A few small roach are the lot of the bottom fishers mainly, but several nice pike have been taken by the trollers. One, a nice fish of 10lb., was caught a few days ago near to the Carr bridge at Retford. I hear the canal has now been cleared of weeds in the favourite places, so probably there will be better reports in that direction. Eels are again running, and good hauls may be made.—L.

Lake District.—The rain that has proved so disastrous to agriculturists has in one sense been a boon to fishermen. The floods have rendered otherwise impassable obstructions easy to surmount, and a fair number of sea fish are now in the rivers. Mr. R. B. Lee, of the *Field*, fishing on his reserved water at Low Levens, has had some heavy baskets, including a 9lb. salmon. Mr. R. Chorley, Mr. J. Whitehead, and Mr. R. Garnett, each have taken a number of mort on the lower reaches of the Kent; the former gentleman landing five at one fishing, two of which scaled 2½lb. each, and the other three 2lb. each. With more settled weather the prospects are bright indeed.—Westmeria.

Lea.—There is not much to report in the way of angling successes this week, with one or two exceptions—Waltham Abbey being the prominent one. Here angling has been very good. One day Mr. Jim Finley had four jack, weighing about 20lb.; Mr. Webber, member of the local club, had two jack, and amongst others a London angler had some nice roach, some of them weighing from ½lb. to 1lb. each. The Waltham Brothers Angling Club brought off their contest on the 30th ult., the winners being Mr. Appleton, first; Mr. Beach (secretary), second; and Mr. Dean, third. The match was for roach only. Last week an amusing obstacle race was brought off here. The conditions were that the competitors had not only to surmount the ordinary obstacles incident to a fisherman's cross-country race (to catch a train, we will say), but had to swim across two rivers as well. Mr. A. G. Beach, the energetic secretary of the Waltham Brothers Angling Society, was the winner. The race was promoted by Mr. H. Avis, of the King's Arms' fishery, who acted as starter and referee. The affair was a decided success, as such fishermen's races should be. From the waters above I have not been able to get much information, for an unreasonable reason, which is, that anglers will not let the innkeepers on the spot know what sport they have had. This I call a "dog-in-the-manger" sort of style of doing business, to those who cater so well for them. Presumably, an innkeeper, whether lessee of a fishery or not, should have the chance given to him to advertise and make public what sport has been had in his immediate vicinity. For successful anglers to give particulars as to the baits used or the swims is not necessary or expected, but still there ought to be a sort of Freemasonary amongst the brotherhood, and let the gentle precepts of dear old father Izaak Walton prevail. In the lower reaches there has been little doing. At Sewardstone, in some of the pools I saw plenty of good roach. Ponder's End: Some good roach have been taken bottom fishing, and a few nice dace with the fly. Cook's Ferry, Games's, and Ferry Boat, Tottenham, only a few roach and perch, with a small jack or two.—Spliced Joint.

Leicester.—Owing to the suddenness of the storms, almost daily, anglers have not ventured far away from Leicester, the resorts at Narborough, Blaby, the Wreake Valley, and other places, not receiving anything like the amount of patronage usual at this part of the season. Pike fishing has been extensively pursued lately, but mostly at the private lakes, the *locale* of which anglers reserve strictly to themselves. Good lots were shown at the clubs. At the Leicester town waters the fishing has been very successful for a week or more. From the north end of the town up to Aylestone, the waters have yielded large quantities of roach, and in several instances fine specimens of chub; and at the Twelve Bridges lots of baskets averaged from 6lb. to 9lb. per rod. A few of the more successful were Messrs. H. Prime, A. Bacchus, W. Tyler, and W. Manship. Eels—owing to the flushing of the waters—were biting well, and several of the silver-bellied samples shown were capital fish. From the higher reaches at Aylestone splendid results are obtained, and although fished continually, the sport among the roach, perch, chub, and dace has been of a superior kind.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams have now gone down and cleared again, and are in order for either fly or bottom fishing. The weather has been rough and very windy, and angling has been slow. The rush of water has improved the fishing, and the fish have been moving well at the fly. The flies used are the Willow, August Dun, and Pale Dun. In the Lugg a few good fish were taken on Tuesday. The Pinsley is clear, no fishing in it at present.—Gwynne.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Strong gales and heavy storms of rain have for the past fortnight caused these rivers to run high and muddy, completely out of order for grayling fishing. Yesterday and to-day (Thursday) it has been much finer, and if the present weather continues, by Monday the waters should be fit for the fly. Flies, August Dun, Red Tag, Green Insect, Silver Dun, Mid Blue, and Pale September Dun.—R. T. Williams.

Medway (Tonbridge).—The recent rains have made the water as thick as possible, but the heavy run of water will soon clear it if we have a few days find weather, and then there will doubtless be plenty of sport. The stock of of fish is plentiful, but anglers cannot expect to do much till the water clears.—Ye Medway Water Rat.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—Wind, gales, rain, and hurricanes have been the order of the day here for nearly a fortnight; still, for all that, anglers have been out in good numbers, and a lot of good fish taken. I certainly never remember such weather. River-banks and lands near the river have been flooded, and run off and flooded again time after time, and it's only by dodging at the corners of rivers and broads you can get a line in at all, and it is only the hard and determined angler that has any chance of sport. I counted nearly twenty members out on Wednesday last. Some of them had beautiful lots of bream and roach from the Ouse, at Littleport, and Queen Adelaide swims. One gent took a lot of fine dace at the Branch Bridge—real good ones. I had a try myself with Mr. T. Clark. We took 13lb. between us. This water is now in good condition. I had a run down to the Brandon river on Monday. There were several anglers out, but the rain came down in such blinding sheets you could not fish. Three fortunate anglers I sent down to the cross waters at Burnt Fen had rare good takes of perch, baiting with gudgeon. Several good trays of roach were shown me on Saturday, taken from the Lark, at Mildenhall, and West Row. Dace are in fine condition now from this stream; red worms and gentles are the best baits. Near Barton Mills, one mile from Mildenhall Station (G.E.R.), there are some beautiful swims, full of very large roach, dace, and chub from Buckenham, Reedham, and Cantley. On the Yare fish are well on; the water very high and coloured. I must request my angling friends to use a good deal of discretion before taking a long journey in the present unsettled state of the weather. Some good quiet swims can be found at Brandon, and friend Ralph will see you are taken care of. Weather at time of writing very windy, wet, and dull; not at all tempting to go on. Wind is certainly a curse on all angling. Great damage has been done all through the districts here by the gales.—William Howlett.

Ouse (Brandon, Norfolk).—I never knew a more uncomfortable time for anglers as the last two months have been for the summer. Host Ralph's expectations have been, as far as the angling is concerned, with his every attention and care, most discouraging and disappointing. Now St. Swithin has gone, thank goodness, and a new moon has set in, I hope and trust it will bring anglers' much lost pleasure with it. There is no mistake the fish are here, and swims have been cut out for the anglers' comfort. Since my last report, and during the week up to Wednesday, not much done. I am happy to state for the information of new anglers, especially the juniors, this is a free river, and as one of the most practical anglers remarked to me at the fishing match of the Cambridge Jolly Anglers, who fished himself in various waters, there are no roach to beat Brandon for gameness and quality. So we are looking for a good autumn season for all coarse fishing, viz., roach, perch, dace, and pike. Boats at the Ram Hotel. Railway service excellent for a long day's fishing.—John O'George.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—The weather has been unsettled and put fishing almost at an end. Nothing important has been done, although the water is in primo condition. At the time of writing the weather has changed, which will bring fish on the feed, and it is to be hoped that sport will be good with the bream. Jacking has commenced, but only a few small ones have been taken and returned again. Prospects very good.—H. Rout.

Plymouth.—The rivers are in first-rate condition, and the salmon are well up the rivers. Several good baskets of trout have been taken, and they are above the average in size. The sea fishing has been interfered with on account of the boisterous weather, but when a fine day could be got, pollack and bass were well on the feed; Penlee and the Rame Head seem the favourite haunts for them. Blowing hard now from west; weather fine.—William Hearder.

Pulborough.—Two fine days; water gone down considerably. One catch on the 3rd inst., fourteen bream and two roach, weight, 6lb. 4oz. Water now in splendid condition. Glass gradually rising.—G. H. Nutt.

Scarborough.—(Sea Fishing).—Boat anglers have been having excellent sport with mackerel (which run unusually large this season). One angler caught about thirty during one afternoon last week, and besides whiting, and flat fish. Gurnard are very abundant in the bay just now.—H.

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—Both streams very high, and during the past week all but unfishable. The water is running down fast now, and will be fit for sport in a few days. Some few baskets of roach and eels have been taken during the week, but nothing of importance. All are anxiously looking for the bright beams of the sun to shine on us again.—Wingfield.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—The recent heavy rains have risen the river very considerably, and the water is much discoloured; until it clears fishing will be useless. Before the rise, one or two good fish were taken. Mr. Humphreys took a 5lb. pike near the town, and some of his companions were also successful. Mr. Goodman fishing at Tern mouth, last week, took a small pike, and a few chub and perch have also been captured, but angling on the whole is dull.—Piscator.

Teme (Ludlow).—The water in this district has now run down and cleared, and is in order for either fly or bottom fishing. The weather has been very windy and rain has fallen. The fish are now moving better and are taking the Whirling Blue, Willow, Red Ant, Green Insect, Pale Dun, and August Dun. For bottom fishing, worm and Wasp Grub are the best baits. Minnow fishing has been dull. In the Burway water, at the end of last week, a gentleman took three good grayling, one scaled 1½lb. and the other two 1lb. each, with the Wasp Grub. With the fly, five nice trout were landed. Below Burway House, a gentleman landed eleven eels with the worm. Under Whitcliffe, some nice trout have been taken with the worm. The Ony, Corve, Clun, and Ledwyche are all clear and in order for fishing. There has been a few anglers on the banks. In the Ledwyche, ten brace of trout were caught with the Wasp Grub. In the Corve, sport has been good. —S. Ludlow.

Teme (Tenbury).—The Teme in this district is now lowered, cleared, and in a day or so will be in capital order for angling. The weather has been very rough and rain has fallen. The fish have moved better since the rain and take the fly and wasp grub well, and some very nice fish have been taken this week. The Rea, Kyre, and Ledwyche, are all in order, fishing quiet in them at present.—Worcester.

Torridge (Torrington).—We have had two big floods since last week's report. Many salmon have been taken in the Mid Torridge. G. Parton took four salmon, four peal, and five large trout, all with the salmon fly in one day's fishing, and he has taken eight salmon before this season, making twelve. Trout have been sporting well in the small streams, both with fly and minnow. R. Skemp took thirteen trout with the fly on Thursday.—Practical Angler.

Wharfe, Yore, Swale, Nidd, &c.—It is very many years since these there have been such heavy floods in the Yorkshire districts as during the past fortnight; the roads between Middleham and Legburn were impassable one day last week, and the damage done to the crops is enormous; no sooner does one flood subside than another comes, rendering any kind of angling an impossibility. As soon as the weather does settle, however, we may look forward to the best sport of the season.—Francis M. Walbran.

Witham (Dogdyke, Lincolnshire).—Anglers wishing for good bottom fishing should not miss the present opportunity. Some good takes have been had during the last week. Mr. W. H. Robinson, of Sheffield, caught about 4lb. of very fine roach; Mr. Ashton, of Manchester, Mr. Bibby, and several gentlemen from Leeds have had capital sport. All the fish were caught with creed wheat on very fine gut. A gentleman from Leeds caught several pike, the largest weighing 14lb.; Mr. W. J. Sinclair, of New York, caught 2st. 9lb. of roach, averaging 12oz. each. I may add, the water is in splendid condition. All the above were caught in the water opposite the Packet Hotel from a punt. Anglers cannot do better than try this place, as it is not over-fished. Excellent accommodation can be obtained at the hotel mentioned above, kept by mine host, Mr. Ben Watson.—H. T.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—Those who had arranged to visit this locality, on Monday, were sorely disappointed, owing to the heavy and continuous rains. Some who dropped down on the Saturday were even worse off, and nearly all returned on Monday night. A few who braved the elements did well, and I hear a club from Echington, Derbyshire, had the opportunity of fishing in the Boston end of the south Forty foot, one of the Back Sluice Drainage Commissioners' preserved drains, and among them bagged upwards of 200lb. of fish, chiefly roach. In all seventy-five fished, and all but four caught something. H. Webster had 6lb. 8oz. for first prize; G. Green, 5lb. 10oz., second, J. Green, 5lb. 4½oz., third, and so on downwards. Of independent fishing there was little done. Prospects, however, are much improved. I hear that a match under the auspicies of the Sheffield Angling Association, is being arranged for at Sarilby, on the Fossdyke, in about a fortnight. It is anticipated if the day is favourable there may be six hundred or seven hundred engaged in it.—LUCI.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire).—These rivers are in too high a state to afford much sport for fly fishermen, consequently little has been done. The Wye will not be in a fit condition before Saturday. Some good sport has been had at Darley and Matlock by the bottom fishermen, from four to six brace, Messrs. Else, Clay, Whyman, and Farnsworth, being the most successful. Should the present fine weather continue, we may look for good sport to the end of the season. Killing flies are Ash Dun, Claret Bumbles, Pale Evening Dun, and Little Blacks.—DOTTEREL.

Yare (Cantley).—Anglers have been doing very badly here in consequence of the rough weather, but on Wednesday sporting prospects looked more promising. Roach up to 1lb. have been taken with the boiled-wheat bait, but in no number, and very few bream have been secured. Jack between 5lb. and 6lb. have been weighed in at the Red House, and these much-sort-after fish are now beginning to leave the dykes for the open river. Spinning seems most popular.—GOOSEQUILL.

Yare (Norwich).—Some fair catches, I believe, have been had at Brundale and Buckenham, but lower down sport seems to have been at a standstill. On the Bure, better luck has been experienced, and in one case a take of 7st. of bream was had on a small Broad. Myself and a friend tried on Saturday last, but were only rewarded with about fifty or sixty small roach and bream, and some eels. The keeper at this place says sport had been very poor this past fortnight. I must confess I do not understand the cause, as fish are plentiful, and the weather has not, on the whole, been unfavourable. Perhaps September may see better luck.—R. MOLL.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire).—The rivers are now in splendid order, and good sport is anticipated for next week, with possibly a few chance salmon, as well as sewin.—H.

Lake Coron (Bodorgan, Anglesey).—Four anglers from Bolton in two and a-half days' bottom fishing took over forty trout. This time includes a blank day when nothing but eels were taken. The Rev. W. W. Thomas Pentrevoelas in worming the brook in a high flood had a very heavy basket of good sized trout. Fishing on the shore in very thick water one evening I took three trout about a pound each with a bluebottle. On Saturday evening in a boat with Mr. Coles I had three half-pounders with a sedge. The wind suddenly dropped as soon as we pulled to the end of the lake. On Sunday there came a sudden change, terrific wind, rain and hail. It has been blowing a hurricane ever since, and fishing is out of the question. I cannot advise anyone to come fishing this neighbourhood till these boisterous winds take their final flight. Men repairing the banks of the Cefui river, which flows into Malltraeth Bay, tell me that a large number of salmon were seen ascending. A license is required on this river which can be obtained, I believe, at the Bull Hotel, Llangefni, or from the secretary, Board of Conservators, Carnarvon.—W. H.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—Although anglers have experienced another week of gales and floods in which boats could scarcely live, yet good sport has been obtained, yesterday and Thursday being the best days. On the whole Mr. J. B. Davison has been the most successful taking twenty-nine trout, 23½lb., closely followed by a keen angler from Norfolk with twenty-seven, weighing 19lb. Captain Stevenson has again done very well with twenty-four trout, 16lb. 2oz.; Mr. G. Ward, who has been on the lake very little this week got twenty-one, weighing 17lb., his basket of yesterday containing eleven lovely fish 9½lb., being the best individual day's catch for the week. Mr. Davison also had a very even lot of nine, weighing 7lb. Heaviest fish, Mr. Ward 1lb. 11oz., and 1lb. 10oz., the former was a unique specimen from this water being to all appearance a gillaroo with the exception of the so-called gizzard development. Mrs. Hollins and Mr. Davison two, 1lb. 9oz. each. Best flies, Alder, Claret and Grouse, Golden Dropper. The water is now in capital order, and anglers report fish rising plentifully, though coming short at times. Season close 15th September.—LONG DRIFT.

Teifi (Lampeter, Cardiganshire).—After a considerable amount of flood water during the past week or two, and, we may add, a good run of salmon, the water settled down on Saturday last into splendid fishing order, and several good fish were taken, viz., two by Mr. Peel (13½lb. and 8lb.); Mr. Evans, one (9lb.); and Mr. Davies, one (12lb.). Several good catches of trout were made a few days previously with the running worm, one basket slightly exceeding 8lb., and others from 4lb. to 7lb. each. We have again had a heavy fall of rain, quite enough to keep the river in good ply for another week or more.—H.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—We only had some two or three days last week, on which fishing was worth attempting, when Miss May and Miss Maud Hughes, Trigib, took small baskets of trout. Our local anglers, Mr. Edwards, and Mr. Savill, each landed a few sewin (heaviest 2½lb.), and the former a salmon of 14lb., besides sundry baskets of trout, with the running worm. The net season closed on the Towy, on the 30th August, so we shall probably have a further run of salmon, and, let us hope some good sport to follow.—H.

Usk (Abergavenny).—In consequence of the late heavy fall of rain the river has been bank high for some time. It is now beginning to fall and getting a good colour. Anglers are consequently expecting some fine sport with the salmon. The river is now well stocked with fresh-run fish. Some very fine trout have been taken during the past week with the wasp grub. On the 2nd inst., three salmon weighing 15lb., 11lb., and 9lb., were caught in the association water by Mr. Wm. Davis.—JOHN CLARE.

Usk (at Usk).—Excellent sport is being had in the Usk during the past couple of days. Mr. F. H. Browne, on Wednesday, landed nine salmon besides losing eleven others; Mr. H. G. Cole caught three; Colonel Rocke, five; General Mignon, three; and Sir C. L. Barnard, three. To-day (Thursday), Mr. H. Humphreys caught five; Mr. Brown, four; Mr. Seymore, three; Mr. Harper, one, Mr. H. E. Cole, three; and many others have succeeded in capturing from two to six. The water will remain in order for at least a fortnight.—T.

Scotch Reports.

Altnacealgach Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—Angling has been much retarded by the inclement weather which has prevailed more or less for the past two months. Since last reported the following baskets have been made—viz.: On Friday week, Surgeon-General Smith fished Loch Cama, and got twenty trout, aggregating 7lb.; Dr. Saundby, Birmingham, on same loch, landed one dozen fine trout, which averaged ½lb. each; and Messrs. Cook, on Loch Urigill, fifty-two trout, weighing 12½lb. in all. On Saturday, August 22, the only anglers out were Dr. and Mrs. Rose, London, who fished Loch Cama, and made a basket of thirty-one trout, weighing 12½lb. On Monday, Mr. Braggins fished Loch Urigill, and caught two and a-half dozen trout, 9lb. in all; and Mr. Clark, Bedford, on Loch Cama, three and three-quarters dozen, 12½lb. On Tuesday, Loch Cama was fished by Mr. Braggins, who landed one dozen trout, 4lb.; and by Mr. Clark, who made a basket of one and a-quarter dozen trout, averaging over ½lb. each, and a *Salmo ferox* of 2lb. On Wednesday, Dr. Rose, London, was out on Loch Urigill, and got over four dozen trout, weighing 15lb. in all. On Thursday, Mr. Braggins, on Loch Urigill, two and a-quarter dozen trout, 6lb.; Dr. Rose, on Loch Boarlan, two and a-half dozen, 10lb.; and Mr. Clark, Bedford, on Loch Cama, twenty-three trout, 8½lb. On Friday, Mr. Squarey fished Loch Boarlan, and made a nice basket of fourteen trout; Mr. Braggins, on Loch Veyatie, fifteen trout, 6lb.; Dr. Rose, on Loch Cama, two and three-quarter dozen trout, weighing on the average over ½lb. each, and a *Salmo ferox* weighing 3½lb.; Mr. Clark was on Loch Urigil, for half the day only, and landed three and a-half dozen trout, aggregating 12½lb.—McB.

Ayrshire Lochs and Streams.—The weather generally has been too stormy and wet for successful angling on the lochs of this district during the past week. In some of the hill streams capital sport has been had with worm bait.—HEATHERBELL.

Border Esk.—This river still continues high, and bait fishing is still continued. Some good kills have been made with the minnow in the Broomholm water, one basket of thirteen sea trout being the best haul, and Mr. E. Connell several sea trout, some herling, and a number of yellow trout. In the Canonbie water Mr. W. Byers, Thorniewhat, had four sea trout and ten herling. Mr. D. Armstrong, Byreburn, six sea trout and a creel full of herling; Mr. Doughty, seven sea trout; Mr. Walter Park, Brooklyn, a basket, 19lb., of sea trout herling, and yellow trout, in the Double water; Mr. J. H. Park, March Bank, a basket 16lb.; and Mr. Walter Scott, Holmfoot, 15lb. in the same water; Mr. J. Morrison, Langholm, several sea trout of 3½lb. After the great flood of last week a large number of herling were found in a field in Canonbie when the water fell in. Fair sport is being had in the Metal Bridge water by Colonel Whyburgh, Mr. Bradshaw, Mr. Campbell, Liverpool, Mr. Hall, Sheffield, and Mr. Yates, Liverpool, the latter gentleman landed a salmon 20lb, two grilse, 12lb. and 8lb., and a sea trout 2½lb. Water a little too high for successful angling in the lower reaches. In the Langholm water Mr. J. Archibald Jedburgh landed a salmon 13lb., With the worm in the Wash Pool, Mr. Brown, London, a sea trout, 4lb., and several smaller fish; Mr. C. Glendenning a basket, 8lb.; Mr. Walter Scott, Ashley Park, three sea trout; Mr. Thomas Bealler, four sea trout and a number of herling; Mr. Joseph Anderson, three sea trout and six herling; C. B. Scott, a good basket of herling; Mr. James Telford, four sea trout, one about 3lb., and six herling; Mr. W. Sanders, a dozen herling and several sea trout; Mr. W. McLellan, two sea trout; Mr. J. Telford, seven sea trout and two herling; Mr. J. Charlton, a number of herling; Mr. H. Dodds, Langholm, two sea trout; Mr. J. Harkness, two sea trout, one of 3lb.; Mr. T. Hounam, a good basket of sea trout below Langholm, and in the Bush Burn Mr. D. Elliot had thirteen dozen yellow trout; Mr. St. George Tucker, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, a number of sea and yellow trout, the sea trout averaging 2½lb.; Mr. J. Fleming, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, a sea trout 3½lb.; and Rev. J. Bed and Rev. E. Smith, staying at the same hotel, have made good catches of sea trout and herling.—GILNOCKIE.

Breadalbane Arms (Aberfeldy).—On Tuesday, Mr. Christie fished Loch-na-Craig, and got eleven trout, 3lb., and on Thursday, nineteen, weighing 5lb. 3oz., and on Saturday, Mr. Cornillon, got twelve trout.—A. N.

Braemore (Duke of Portland's).—The duke's guests have had excellent sport on the Berriedale and Braemore rivers. On Friday of last week, Lady Gore captured seven fine salmon.—J. Y.

Carron (Easter, Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—So far as can be ascertained not a single salmon or grilse has been landed during the past week. Fish are plentiful in most of the pools, and a number of anglers have been out, but owing to some cause or other, inscrutable to all but the fish themselves, they will not take. Mr. Mervyn King, Clifton, Bristol, while fishing the Balnagown Arms Hotel water on Tuesday, this week, got a beautiful sea trout, weighing 2lb.; Miss King, Clifton, Bristol, has been having good sport in trout angling on the Kincardine mountain streams. On Saturday last she landed two dozen, and on Monday, this week she made a basket of thirty-five trout. Up to Wednesday evening the weather was still unfavourable.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire). — The autumn prospects have seldom been so bright. In the experience of the oldest fishermen on the Dee, this is only the fourth season within their memory when there was so lively a look out for the middle and upper reaches during the "back-end." Just in the nick of time the floods came away last week and fish have been running freely, and as this is only the advent of September, two months good angling is in store for the lower and middle reaches at least. On the Balmoral and Birkhall waters, the officers of Her Majesty's Guard of Honour and others, have been fairly successful. The Queen has graciously caused the spot where the late Lieutenant Barret was last seen alive, and who it may be remembered was drowned whilst angling on the royal waters in early summer, to be marked with an obelisk stone, with a suitable engraving. On the Ballater water, Messrs. Webster Glenmick are having fair successes; while Mr. Frank Gaskell, on Friday last, landed a magnificent fish of 26lb., and another of 8lb. On the Glentana Water, a few red fish are being had, but no autumn fish. On the Aboyne water, on Saturday last, Mr. Upcher landed a salmon of 28lb. On the other sections of the Dee, Admiral Fane and others have lost one or more after most exciting runs. On the Drum water, Mr. Francis Irvin landed one of 8lb. on Monday, and another of 16lb. on Tuesday; while Mr. Hugh McDonald had two of 11lb. and 12lb. respectively, on the Park water. On the tidal reaches splendid finnock fishing is now being had.—DEESIDER.

Deveron (Banffshire).—The close of the salmon net fishings on the river Deveron and coast district, last week, was the heaviest during the last three days experienced for many years. At all the stations the hauls were exceedingly heavy, and no less than a total of ninety boxes that week were consigned to the English markets, the largest quantity for any week since the opening of the fishings. The fish, both grilse and salmon were of heavy weight. The salmon fishings on the coast westward from that of the Deveron we hear, have been the opposite way, and have been the most unproductive of any season since 1883. The volume of water was so strong on the Deveron by the continued rains, that it was the beginning of this week before the cruives were removed. Numbers of fish were observed sporting themselves in close proximity to the dykes impatient to get through. Although the water is not yet in too good fishing order, a grilse of 7lb. was killed on Monday, on the lower water, and last week several salmon and grilse of 4lb. to 12lb. were killed on the upper waters. The weather is not at all settled. Barometer continually falling, and on Wednesday it was rough and wet.—H. W.

Dunbeath.—The Lower Dunbeath party made some very fine baskets of yellow trout and sea trout last week. Lady William Call killed several fine trout. A local angler caught a dozen nice trout on the Achorn Burn, a feeder of the Dunbeath water. Weather unsettled.—J. Y.

Forsinard Hotel (Sutherland).—There is a possibility of anglers having too much water even for trout or salmon fishing. The uniniated would have thought that such could not be the case that the more rain the better for trout and salmon fishing. But such is not the case, as the experience of the past month will prove. During the last two weeks Mr. Ratcliff and Mr. Dun, and Mr. Kirwan having been trying the lochs but could only make baskets of thirteen dozen, up to two dozen trout, but good sport was got in the brooks and upper reaches of the Halladale with worm. Several sea trout were caught and the latter gentleman while fishing for trout with stewart tackle caught two grilse of 4lb. each. On the Halladale river nothing is done with fly as salmon wont rise, though the river is swarming with them.

Glencoe (King's House Hotel).—Mr. Myers fished Lochnastang, from King's House: Wednesday, 4doz., 10lb.; Thursday, 10doz., 20lb.; Friday, 7doz., 25lb.; Saturday, 8doz., 30lb. The lochs are in good order for anglers.—DUNCAN MACKENZIE.

Inveran Hotel Waters (Invershin, N.B.)—The past week's sport in salmon and grilse angling has but a poor record to show. Mr. Hall, from the Sutherland Arms Hotel, fished the lower reaches on Thursday, and caught a grilse, weighing 6½lb. on Angus Pool. On Friday, the same angler grassed a salmon of 8½lb. on Poll Clarag, and Mr. Farmantle, one of 7½lb., on Angus Pool. On Saturday Mr. Lewis Hall was out and landed two fish. Monday was blank.—McB.

Kenmure Arms Hotel (New-Galloway).—The fishing has been better in this district this week. The rivers and burns have been in flood. Several salmon have been caught in the Ken and the Dee during the week. Dr. W. H. Fenton, of London, fishing from the Kenmure Arms Hotel, on Monday, had good prospects of sport, killing over a dozen in the course of an hour, but the water came down in flood, and he was compelled to give it up for the day. Wednesday, Dr. Fenton had a basket of about a score of brown trout, the heaviest weighing 1½lb. I hear of other good fish having been got this week, one weighing 2½lb., caught by Mr. Grierson, jun.

Lairg (N.B.).—Monday of last week was wet and unfavourable for sport. On Loch Beannoch, Messrs. Allen killed four fine trout, heaviest 2¼lb. On Shinness Bay, Mr. J. Gray, Newcastle, caught fifty lovely trout. On Tuesday, Mr. C. Shaw-Lovell, London, fishing the lower end of Loch Shin, landed a grilse of 6¼lb.; Mr. Macleod, on Loch Shin, caught forty-five trout. On Thursday forenoon almost continuous rain fell. Mr. C. Shaw-Lovell, London, fished Loch Shin, and caught seven trout, 4¾lb. Thursday was fair and bright. Mr. Lovell killed five trout, scaling 5lb., on Loch Beannoch. On Friday rain fell in torrents; Mr. Lovell made a basket of nine trout, 4lb., on Loch Shin.—J. Y.

Liddle.—This river has been affording good sport during the recent floods. Mr. May, Liverpool, had a grilse, 5½lb.; Mr. Tom Cairns, Newtown, one, 5lb; Mr. J. Graham, Crookholm, one, 8lb.; Mr. Harper, London, a basket of sea trout and herling; Mr. C. Byers, Langholm, one grilse, three sea trout, and several herling; Mr. J. Elliot, one salmon, 13lb.; Mr. A. Nicol, a dozen herling and sea trout; Mr. W. Armstrong, nine sea trout; Messrs. A. Little and W. Hope, seven each; and Mr. W. Tait, six sea trout. Mr. J. B. Balfour, Mr. G. Cumming have had good baskets of trout, and Messrs. Green, Sunderland, have had good takes of herling and sea trout; and Mr. T. Armstrong, Wetheral, a creel of herling weighing 15lb., in the Kershope Foot water.—GILNOCKIE.

Loch Carr (Rielonie, N.B.)—This loch has of late been yielding capital sport to Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Coupland, Station Hotel, Invershin. A great proportion of the trout caught weigh over 1lb. each.—McB.

Loch Leven (Kinross).—The angling season closes to the public to-day (Saturday), and but little sport has been got during the past few days, owing to the weather, which has been the stormiest we have had this season. On Tuesday the wind blew with such violence that none of the boats could go out, and occasioned great disappointment amongst the numerous anglers forward, who were unable to book for the following day, owing to all the boats being previously engaged. Wednesday, although scarcely so boisterous, was, nevertheless, most unfavourable, although anglers, rather than lose the only day on which they could procure a boat this season, were glad to try their deftness for the last time this season, but with little success. The final club competition took place on Monday, by the Glasgow District Angling Clubs' Association, a report of which will be seen in another column. The usual competitions for the patron's prize and the championship will take place here on Monday and Tuesday, first after the loch is closed to the public.—ROBERT B. LAING.

Loch Rannch (Kinloch Rannoch).—Subjoined is the angling report and list of takes by parties resident at the Dunalastair Hotel during the past few days:—On the 24th ult., Captain Budd, of London, succeeded in capturing ten pretty good fish, on the loch; Dr. Banks, secured a basket of 5lb., on the same water; Mr. Marriage, of London, captured six trout; and Mr. Taylor and Mr. Kyd, of Edinburgh, had a take of 7½lb. On the following day, Mr. and Miss Kingsford, of London, secured a basket of 3½lb.; Mr. and Miss Marriage both obtained pretty heavy baskets; Captain Budd killed thirteen; Messrs. Taylor and Kyd, on the river, captured sixteen fish (all heavy trout); Dr. Holden and son, of Kensington, on the same water, obtained a basket of fully 7lb. On the 26th ult., Captain Budd, captured twenty-four very good fish, on the loch; and Mr. Fleming, of Greenock, secured a take of 7½lb.; on the river, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Kyd killed fifteen fish (all good trout, and in sound, healthy condition). On the following day, Messrs Taylor and Crockheart, captured eleven fish, on the lake; and Dr. Banks killed eight. At present the weather is anything but favourable, and light baskets are the result; and of late, owing to its unsettled condition, the most persevering disciples of Izaak Walton have encounted but varied success.—J. K.

Naver (via Thurso, N.B.—In common with most of the northern rivers sport has been at a low ebb since last last reported. This is in a great measure accounted for by the cold, wet, and boisterous weather of the past weeks. In the course of the past week an angler from Dalvina Lodge grassed a salmon of 11lb. Among the other fish caught was an eleven pounder, landed by Mrs. Stubbord Lyre Lodge, and two fish by another angler from the same lodge. Excellent baskets of sea trout on the tidal waters are still occasionally made by Mr. John Stewart, Bettyhill Hotel.—McB.

Ness (Inverness).—Excellent sport continues to be had on all the reaches. Water in splendid condition, and fish very plentiful. On Ness Castle water Mr. F. Walker landed twenty-seven grilse and salmon. On Holm water Mr. Godman killed thirty-one grilse and salmon; on lower waters General Grant killed nine grilse, Captain Conliffe five grilse, Mr. Scott, three grilse. Reports from the upper Dockfour water did not reach me in time to send this week.—D. WATSON.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—The weather has been so unpropitious that angling on the mountain lochs has been carried on with difficulty. On Thursday last week Mr. Stuart fished the Merkland river, and landed a fine salmon weighing 10lb.; and Messrs. Ainslie, London, on Loch More, nine sea trout, averaging about 1lb. each; Mrs. Hutchison fished the Garvie river, and hooked a grilse, which unfortunately got off after considerable play. On Friday, Mr. Stuart was out on Loch More for a few hours, and got three sea trout, 2¾lb.; Messrs. Ainslie, on Loch Shin, twenty trout, 7lb.; and Mr. Hutchison, on River Merkland, one salmon weighing 9½lb. On Monday, this week, Loch More was fished by Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison, who made a first-rate basket of one and a-half dozen trout, aggregating 19lb., the heaviest weighed 4lb., and was landed by Mrs. Hutchison; General Murray and Colonel Butler fished Loch Griam, and landed between them twenty-three trout, weighing 11lb.; Mr. Kirkbride and Mr. Hind, Nottingham, tried Loch Shin, and got ten trout, averaging ½lb. each,—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—Owing to the continuation of wet weather, the lochs are still too high and fish "dour." The baskets made during the past week have been as follows: On Monday, Mr. Hutchison, Glasgow, caught a 2lb. sea trout on Loch-na-Caillich; Col. Butler fished Loch Inchard, and got nine lythe, aggregating 51lb.; and Mr. Dugdale, London, on same loch, seven lythe, 41lb.; General Murray, Worthing, fished Loch Garbetbeg on Tuesday, and got three sea trout, weighing 3lb., and another which weighed 2lb. On Wednesday, Messrs. Milles and Dugdale, London, on Loch Inchard, seven lythe, 44lb.; and Colonel Butler, London, on Loch Sandwood, had a 6lb. grilse and a sea trout weighing 3lb. General Murray fished Loch Garbetbeg on Thursday, and landed a 7lb. salmon, besides eight sea trout, which averaged close on 1lb. each. On Friday, Mr. F. Maitland, Dover, on Loch No. 1, one dozen trout, averaging ½lb. each; General Murray, on Loch Garbetbeg, four sea trout, 3lb.; and Col. Butler, on Loch Inchard, ten lythe, 58lb. On Saturday, Mr. Miller, London, tried Loch Bervie, and got one and a-half dozen trout, 6lb. in all, and a sea trout of 2lb.; while Mr. Maitland, Dover, on Loch Garbetbeg, grassed a salmon weighing 7lb.—McB.

Shin.—On the upper reaches, on Monday, Mr. Eden killed a grilse of 7lb. The Tressady Lodge party got a grilse of 8lb. on Tuesday. River in flood on Saturday. Weather unsettled.—J. Y.

South of Scotland.—In the South of Scotland the rainfall during the past fortnight has been quite phenomenal. The Annan has overflowed its banks on two occasions during the past week, and the heavy floods have wrought considerable devastation on low-lying grounds. It is noteworthy to remark that during the heavy spates a large number of salmon appear to have been carried back from the rivers to the Solway, as many salmon were captured by the nets in a condition that showed that they had been in the fresh water for a considerable time. Splendid sport has been obtained in the Annan. Mr. Johnstone, Ecclefechan, caught about twenty herling; Mr. Wilson, twenty-five herling, and a number of sea trout. Other anglers had baskets ranging from 20lb. each of herling and sea trout. Indeed one angler was credited as having killed in a single day over 50lb. of sea trout and herling in this water. Mr. D. Tweedie, Ecclefechan, landed twenty-six herling; Mr. Stewart, Ecclefechan, twenty herling; Mr. Shannon, twelve herling. Sir Robert Jardine's water, Castle Milk, sport has been had. Mr. Rae, The Firs, Ecclefechan, about a dozen herling; Mr. David Tweedie, one sea trout, six herling, and a number of yellow trout. In the higher reaches, Mr. Richard Rolfe caught, on Tuesday, a fine basket of burn trout, the largest of which weighed 3lb., an unusually heavy trout for these waters. Angling in the Johnstone part of the river on Tuesday, Mr. Thomas Jardine, Lockerbie, killed one of the finest yellow trout caught in this part of the Annan for years. The trout weighed 1oz. under 6lb. Mr. Jardine had several other large burn trout and a few herling. In the Wamphray section, Mr. Gilmore, Irvine, Ayrshire, caught a grilse weighing 4½lb., three sea trout, about 2lb. each, and a number of yellow trout. In the Jardine Hall water, near Millhouse Bridge, Messrs. W. and D. Wightman had a combined basket of 14lb. of yellow trout. Near Dormont Bridge, Mr. Gardiner, Lockerbie, caught two sea trout and two herling, and Mr. Borthwick, Lockerbie, had a good catch of sea trout and herling. Mr. William Carruthers landed one sea trout and several yellow trout near Johnstone Bridge. In the Duke of Buccleuch's water, Mr. McLean killed a sea trout of 3lb. In the tributaries of the Annan some capital baskets have been secured this week. Fishing in the Milk, Mr. Byers, Shawhead, had a heavy basket of sea trout and herling; Mr. A. Wilson, two sea trout and four herling; Mr. Cowan, two sea trout of about 2lb. each and a basket of yellow trout; Mr. Haugh, a couple of herling and a few large burn trout. In the Dryfe water, Mr. Little landed two sea trout and a herling; and in Æ water, Mr. P. Graham caught seventeen yellow trout and a few herling. On Monday, Mr. James Dixon, Annan, had nine herling, and two sea trout, in a very short time; Mr. Robert Bonner, Hare's Den, had six herling and a few yellow trout; Mr. John Lauri, four herling, and a sea trout; Mr. Thomas Tweedie, Moat House, ten herling; Mr. John Iveson, Wigton, four herling; Mr. Gibson, Bridgend, two yellow trout, and four herling; these fish were all caught in the first of the flood. On Tuesday morning, the Annan was placed in an unprecedented flood for the time of the season, the like of which has not been experienced for over twenty years. Generally all the best casts were unfishable on account of the height of the water. Mr. James Thomson, Port-street, killed a large yellow trout of 2½lb., one sea trout of 1½lb., six herling, and a number of yellow trout weighing from ¾lb. to ½lb. each; Mr. John Laurie, two sea trout, a yellow trout of 2lb., and several herling; Mr. James Dixon, a sea trout, and a basket of herling and yellow trout; Mr. Robert Irving, five herling; Mr. Tweedie, Moat House, sixteen herling and a sea trout, weighing 1½lb.; Mr. Rae, a dozen herling; Mr. Hall, a good basket in Galabank and Northfield waters; the Rev. Mr. Kennedy, Newington Lodge, had a nice catch in the Warmanbie water in the fore part of the week. Many other anglers had catches varying in weight, and counting srom six to a dozen herling each; Mr. James Steel, had a fine basket of herling and two sea trout; In the Warmanbie water, Mr. McGiverin, postmaster, Annan killed on the 2nd inst. two large sea trout and a basket of herling, weighing 14lb. Mr. John Laurie, Bank-street, had one sea trout, twelve herling, and a number of yellow trout, one of which weighed 1½lb. Mr. Thomas Gibson, Bridge-place, two sea trout and twelve herling. Messrs. Peter and James, London, had on the 2nd inst., a combined basket of eight sea trout and over 20lb. of herling and yellow trout. Mr. James, London, hooked a large salmon in the pool above Annan Bridge, but lost it. Mr. John Iveson, Wigton, killed nine herling; Mr. Wallas, a few nice ones and a sea trout; Mr. Thomas Tweedie landed twenty herling and two sea trout; Mr. James Dixon, three sea trout and over twenty herling; Mr. David Dinwoodie, The Cemetery, one sea trout and nineteen herling and yellow trout; Mr. James Thomson, ten herling and one sea trout; Mr. Robert Dixon, baker, eight herling; Mr. Robert Bonner, nine herling, and a couple of native trout; Mr. Carr, a good basket of herling and sea trout; Mr. John McLean, Johnstone-street, Annan, one sea trout, 1½lb., and half-a-dozen herling; Mr. R. Graham, twenty-four herling, three sea trout, and six yellow trout. Among a very few of those who have caught baskets within the past few days, mention may be made of Mr. James Morrison, Langholm, who has had several heavy catches of sea trout and herling, some of his sea trout weighing up to 3½lb. In the reserved water of Broomholm a basket of thirteen sea trout was caught, and in the same water Mr. E. Connell had several sea trout, a number of herling and yellow trout. Mr. Telford had a basket of seven sea trout and two herling in the Langholm portion. Mr. J. Fleming, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, had a nice basket, one of his sea trout weighing 3½lb. The Rev. Messrs. Bell and Smith out from the same hotel have also had good sport. Mr. St. George Tucker had several sea trout of 2½lb., and good herling and yellow trout. Mr. W. Dodds, two sea trout, one of 2lb. Mr. J. Harkness, a fine basket of trout and herling, one of which scaled 3lb. In Longtown, the sport was also excellent, and many hundreds of herling and sea trout have been killed here since last week's report. All the tributaries have yielded the finest of sport. In the Liddle, Mr. T. Armstrong Wetheral, Carlisle, had a basket of herling and sea trout weighing 15lb. In Bush Burn Mr. D. Elliot caught thirteen dozen yellow trout. Fair angling has been had in the Nith and its tributaries. Capital catches were made on Tuesday and Wednesday in the Duke's portion of the Nith at Thornhill. From the Dee sport has everywhere been very good, and from the Fleet and Urr the reports that reach me to-day show that good baskets of herling and sea trout have been killed since Monday. In Mount Annan, on Thursday, Mr. Dirom, of Mount Annan, killed a beautiful and fresh run salmon of 7½lb. In the Back of the Wood pool, the fish rose at a medium sized Brown Turkey Fly with a white tip. In Haddon Castle water, the following additional catches are reported: Mr. Geo. Wardrope, Ecclefechan, had one dozen herling; Mr. David Tweedie, Ecclefechan, a beautiful basket of five sea trout, and twelve herling; Mr. J. Tweedie, Ecclefechan, two sea trout, and ten herling; Mr. Robt. Beattie, caught over a dozen herling, and one sea trout; Mr. Wm. Steel, Shortrigg, had a capital basket of herling. In the Upper Mount Annan water, Mr. Charles Inglis, Commercial Hotel, Ecclefechan, had a heavy creel of sea trout and herling; all these fish were caught with worm bait.—HEATHERBELL.

South Uist.—Out from Lochboisdale on Monday, Dr. Tuckett, Maidstone, had three sea trout, weighing 4½lb., heaviest 2¼lb., on Loch Bharp; Messrs. Milne and Paterson, Edinburgh had fifteen brown trout, on Loch Bornish, scaling 8¾lb.; Mr. Poole, Annaud, had twenty-five brown trout, on Stulibhal. Dr. Shields, London, eight trout, 5lb., on Loch Crogovat; Mr. Preston, Chester, one sea trout, and six brown trout, on Squaith; while on Tuesday, Messrs. Preston and Mill, on Loch Bharp, landed three sea trout, 7½lb.; Dr. Reid, Glasgow, thirteen trout, two of which scaled 2lb. and 3lb. each respectively, on Lower Kildonaw; and Dr. Shields had fifteen trout, on Bornish; another gentleman having a basket of eleven trout the same day.—W. S.

Spey (Elgin).—Owing to the rain of last week the Spey is now in good condition for angling. Lord Algernon Gordon Lennox had two grilse of 6lb., on the river at Fochabees. On the same water, on Friday, he had a salmon of 16lb.; and one grilse, on Saturday. On the Carron waters, on the 27th ult, Mr. D. Calder, keeper, had a fine salmon of 22lb. On the 28th ult., Mr. T. H. Jervis, had a fish of 13½lb. On the 25th ult., the Earl of Elgin, had three grilse, of 6lb., 5lb., and 5lb. respectively; next day, he had one of 6lb.; and on the 29th ult., Mr. D. Calder, keeper, had a grilse of 5½lb. On the Aberlour water, Mr. M'Kenzie, fisherman, had a salmon of 8lb., and a grilse of 4lb. Owing to the stormy weather, it is a remarkable fact that salmon have gone further up the river this year than they have been known to do for many years back. As a rule salmon have scarcely been got on the Spey as far up as Cromdale, but this season they have been plentiful miles above that point, and even as far up as Kingussie some seventy miles from the mouth of the river. The Duke of Richmond and Gordon has arrived at Gordon Castle, from Glenfiddich Lodge, where he will commence rod fishing on the Spey.—H. LOGIE.

Tay (Perth).—A heavy flood in the river has put a stop to angling during the past few days, but the river will now be well stocked with fish. On the Stanley water, Mr. Charles Holland killed eight last week, 19lb., 18lb., 13½lb., and 12½lb.,, the rest being grilse. On the Stobhall water, on Monday, Mr. B. Field and party, killed nine on the upper beat and fourteen on the lower. On the Barchill water, Sir John Millais killed 4lb., 19lb., 9lb., 9lb., 6lb., and 7lb.; and on the Langcarty, Dr. Fife, one, 20lb. On the Fen water, Mr. Ireland killed a grilse: Mr. Hunter, one, 9lb.; Sergeant Morris, two; Mr. Wardrope, two; Mr. Pierri, one grilse, one sea trout, and eight whiting. Earn.—On the Trinity Sack water, Mr. H. Kelsall killed three, 17lb., 12lb., and 10lb. On the Drummond Castle water, Mr. Bell killed one, 8lb.

Terry.—A local angler hooked a fine fish on one of the pools a short way from Loch Shin. Mr. Macleod landed a fine fish of 10lb. one day last week.—J. Y.

Thurso and Lochmore (Caithness, N.B.).—There is always as much rain falling daily as keeps the river in fair fishing height, but comparatively few fish are taken. The water is very brown and peaty coloured, and its temperature at three p.m., is generally from 60deg. to 65deg. F. Salmon never take well in such a high temperature in this river, the water being dark coloured leaves it more susceptible to the heating effects of the sun than clear water. This, in my opinion, is the reason they don't take, and I have given the matter a good deal of attention. On Brawl Castle water on August 19, Mr. Part got two salmon, 6lb. and 7lb.; on the 21st, Mr. Nevett got two, 8½lb. and 9lb.; on the 22nd, the same gentleman got one, 7½lb.; Mr. Haygate, one, 12lb.; the keeper, one, 8lb.; and a gillie, one, 9lb.; on the 24th, Major Nicholson got one, 6½lb.; Mr. Haygate, two, 7lb. each; Mr. Cunningham, two, 8lb. and 7½lb.; and Mr. Nevett, one, 7½lb. Beats one and three have given most fish.—A. H.

Tongue Hotel.—The following is angling record for the week: On August 24, Messrs. Elkington and Nevill, on the Kyle, nine sea trout, 18lb. On August 25, Mr. Todd, on the Kyle, three sea trout, 6lb.; Mr. Pollock, on the Kyle, one sea trout, 2lb.; Mr. Elkington, on the Kyle, two sea trout, 3lb. On August 26, Mr. Nevill on Loch Loyal, four trout, 2lb.; Mr. Todd, on Loch Craggie, three trout, 2lb.; Mr. Elkington, on Loch Na, Hakel, six trout, 3lb. On August 27, Mr. Elkington, on the Kyle, four sea trout, 7lb.; Mr. Nevill, on the Kinloch river, one salmon, 6lb. On August 28, Mr. Nevill, on the Kyle, five sea trout, 16lb.; Mr. Elkington, on Loch Loyal, six trout, 5lb. On August 29, Mr. Nevill, on the Kinloch river, one salmon, 5lb.—A. CAMPBELL.

Ythan (Tidal, Aberdeenshire).—Splendid sport continues to be got on this famous sea trout reach. Mr. Ritchie's accommodation has all been taken up till the end of September. Good weather is the only requisite necessary to secure good sport.—G.N.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—Flood after flood has put the Ballinderry out of fishable order; but no angler will regret this, as the tremendous downpours of rain have swept away the flax-water, so that when the river fines down a little, angling can be renewed after a long delay, provided that the pest does not occur again. There is a good head of salmon in the lower reaches at present. On Monday evening, at Coagh Corrie, I counted eighteen going over inside a very short time. Keepers are on the look out for gaffers at these corries. The river is almost two feet above the usual September level at present, but, at the height of the flood, it was more than six feet above the level, consequently it got a good cleansing.—J. A. B.

Erne and Lough Melvin.—The weather during the past week, was very wet and stormy, in fact it has rained almost incessently for the past month, and in consequence the river is overflowing its banks, still the following anglers had very good sport. Mr. F. T. Green, Mr. Gamble, Mr. E. Green, Mr. S. O. Thomas, Captain Greer, 1st Bt. H.L.I., and Mr. M. Alexander. The weather still continues very wet and stormy, and no appearance of change for the better. —M. ROGAN AND SONS.

Lough Currane (Waterville, County Kerry).—The weather has been wild and wet, and sport poor in consequence. On a few favourable days, however, baskets of from four to nine white trout were got. On Saturday, in addition to a nice dish of white trout, Mr. Merryweather and Dr. Coates had a fine grilse. Sport continues good on preserved waters. On Coppal lake (free), white and brown trout have afforded good sport, on odd days to a few gentleman.—T. J. DENNEBY.

Lough Neagh.—The heavy rains have raised the Lough about 4ft. The runs of salmon up the Bann are splendid, and the netters are making good takes. I hear that trout netting on the Antrim shores is improving. Bream, perch, and pike fishing continues steady, so that the local markets are glutted with these fish. The pollen latterly taken are improving in size, and in prime condition. In the many little burns that enter the Lough on the western shores, such as the Clonol, Duckinstool, Buck, and Holy, all of which are very high at present. Brown trout are taking very well on the red worm, but this is a sport chiefly confined to country yokels.—J. A. B.

Moy and Lakes (Ballina).—On Friday, last week, the river cleared off a little, and the only one out, Mr. Willie Vincent Heley, killed two nice salmon, 11½lb. and 9½lb. On Saturday the water was better. Dr. Carpenter had a nice fish of 8½lb.; Mr. Boyle, one grilse, 7½lb., one salmon, 10lb., two sea trout, 2½lb.; Mr. Willie Vincent Heley, one grilse, 7½lb. one sea trout, 2½lb.; Mr. Attenborough, one sea trout, 2½lb. On Monday, Mr. Parker, one grilse, 7lb., two sea trout, 3½lb.; Mr. Willie Vincent Heley, one grilse, 6½lb., two sea trout, 1¼lb.; Mr. Boyle, two grilse, 6½lb., 7lb., three sea trout, 4¾lb. It rained all the afternoon of Monday, and now the river is in flood again. The boisterous weather of the past week has greatly interfered with trout fishing in the loughs. The few days that boats could reach the fishing grounds some nice baskets were brought ashore. On August 29, Mr. Frank Morris and Mr. Teetham had nineteen fish, weighing 18lb.; the Rev. Mr. Pearson and Dr. Patterson (of Oldham), in three days killed fifty-eight trout, averaging over ¾lb., the largest trout, 1¾lb. Some grand sport would now be had on river and lakes if we only hae some fine weather.—FRANK HEARNS.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

A GENERAL meeting of the Birmingham Anglers Benevolent Society, was held at the headquarters of the Association on Friday evening last. The meeting was not so well attended as it should have been, considering the important business down on the agenda for discussion. Mr. T. Coles presided, and Mr. C. White occupied the vice-chair. The president, in formally opening the meeting, strongly commented upon the absence of the representatives of the various societies, and at the same time welcomed those who had attended to assist in the transaction of the important business before them. The minutes of the last general meeting, held February 27, were read and confirmed, when the whole of the minutes passed by the committee upon April 23, May 1, May 29, June 26, and July 31, were received and adopted in their entirety, These minutes were chiefly connected with the forthcoming contest in aid of the funds of the society. The next important item was the balance-sheet of the financial year ending June 30. The total income amounted to £45 10s. 10d. and the expenditure £13 11s. 11½d., leaving a balance in hand to be placed to the credit of the society of £31 18s. 10½d. The auditors, Messrs. Titter and White, gave in their report, which was satisfactory, when it was formally resolved that the balance-sheet, together with the auditor's report, be adopted. The important question of fixing a salary for the secretary, was next discussed at some length, when it was finally resolved that the question remain over until the next general meeting, which will be held in the immediate future, when it will be hoped that a larger number of delegates will be present, so that the matter may be decided upon. This concluded the chief of the business, when the president thanked the delegates for their attendance, and the meeting terminated.

SINCE my last Notes, we have had a lot of rain, which to a great extent benefited the fishing around Birmingham, and some very decent catches have been on view at the majority of the club-houses. At the Tenby Club, on Friday evening last, a first-class show of fish were on view, which were taken from the Avon near to Warwick. Five of the club members had been out to this water and succeeded in having some rare sport. The largest catch weighed 25lb., and the smallest 12½lb. The fish consisted of bream and perch, and were all taken chiefly with the gentle. At the time the fish were taken the river was on the rise, and is bank high at the present time of writing, and slightly discoloured. The roach in the Avon have also been well on the feed, and during the short spell of fine weather the anglers have made the best use of their time and have had some decent sport. These fish are taking the stewed wheat; the perch are well on the feed, and when the river begins to fall some first-class sport will be had with these sporting fish. The Severn has been bank high owing to the heavy rains, but a few days' fine weather will put it all right again. The pools around Birmingham have been well patronised of late, and have afforded some first-class sport. Some of the anglers fishing the Earlswood reservoir have had some very large takes of bream. I also saw some splendid roach, on Monday last, taken from a private pool at Harbourne, about ten of the fish over 1¼lb. each.

BIRMINGHAM CLUB CONTESTS.

THE Leopold Society held their annual contest at Bidford, on Monday last; the contest was fished on the left-hand side of the river in Gardner's water. The prizes contested for were not very numerous, but the value made up for the quantity. The first prize was a valuable English timepiece, there was also a mahogany loo table, electro-plated tea service, China tea service, and a pair of pictures, &c. A novel prize—if I may be privileged to term it a prize—was given by a neighbouring hairdresser, and consisted of a free shave and hair cut for twelve months; this fell to the lot of Mr. Horne, senr. The contest was of three hours' duration, at the end of which Mr. W. Green was declared the winner of the first prize with 3lb. 10¼oz. of fish all roach; Mr. J. Pee was second; Mr. E. Mayfield third, &c. Mr. West acted as referee. At the close of the contest the members adjourned to the Mason's Arms Inn, where a good substantial dinner was done justice to, the whole of the expenses being defrayed by Mr. J. Hopkins, the host and treasurer to the society.

THE Vine Unity held their first annual contest at Brearley, near Stratford-on-Avon, on Saturday last. Thirty-one members competed, twenty-nine of whom caught fish. The contest was of the usual two hours, duration. The result of the contest was as follows: First, Mr. F. Addicott; second, Mr. A. Burgess; third, Mr. C. Marklew; fourth, Mr. A. Goode; fifth, Mr. H. Dodd: sixth, Mr. W. Shellis, &c. Mr. F. Starsmore acted as referee. The prizes, which were of a valuable kind, were distributed on Wednesday evening last, Sept. 2nd.

THE Bird-in-Hand Society fished their annual contest at Croxall, on August 30. The prizes fished for were of a first-class description, the first prize being a splendid cup specially made by one of the members for the occasion. The other prizes consisted of a small silver cup, table lamp, tea service, toilet service a pair of oil paintings, and twenty other valuable prizes. The result of the contest was as follows: Mr. Mark Bollason, first; Mr. Robinson, second; Mr. Cattermole, third; Mr. A. Berkin, fourth; Mr. Wittin, fifth; Mr. F. Dudley, sixth; &c. After this contest had been decided, another contest was held for a silver medal, given as a special prize; this was won by Mr. C. Fitter. The prizes will be distributed on Sept. 11 next. Mr. Jays, of the Old Green Man Society, gave great satisfaction as referee.

THE St. George's held their annual contest at Wyre, earn Pershore, on Monday last, under the supervision of Mr. A. Keeling. The contest was of three hours' duration, during the whole of which time it rained, and the wind blew great guns. About twenty-five took part in the contest for prizes that numbered about forty, and were of the value of £20, independent of the club challenge cup. Owing to the bad weather, only thirteen of the members succeeded in taking fish above the standard. Mr. C. Wainwright secured first honours; he will be entitled to the first prize, and will hold the challenge cup for the ensuing twelve months, when, should he win it again, it will become his property; Mr. Randford was second; Mr. C. Cottrell, third; Mr. Rose, fifth; Mr. Callaway and Mr. Avers a tie for sixth prize, &c. The prizes will be distributed at the annual dinner, which will take place shortly. Another contest will be held in the immediate future for the remainder of the prizes left from this contest.

THE Oak Piscatorials held their annual contest at Croxall on August 29 last, in splendid weather. A first-class selection of prizes were set up to be contested for, and the members of this little club turned out in full force. Mr. Cox, the referee, lost no time upon the arrival of the train to get the members to work, and soon had the ground marked out for the thirty competitors. The contest was, as usual, of two hours' duration, at the end of which time the weighing in took place, when Mr. F. Jesson was declared the winner; Mr. C. Wainwright, second; Mr. W. Watten, third; Mr. A. Wainwright, fourth; Mr. S. Forrest, fifth; Mr. T. James, sixth. The prizes will be distributed at the next meeting of the society.

THE Anglers' Pride Society held their first annual contest on Monday last, at Fernhill Heath. This society is the latest acquisition to the Birmingham Association, and considering the small time that it has been in existence, great credit is due to the officers and members in getting so many good prizes together in so short a time. The contest was fished under very unfavourable circumstances, as the wind and rain made matters very uncomfortable. Twenty-one took part in the contest, but only seven members succeeded in taking fish for weighing in. Mr. T. Bates proved the winner, when the weighing in terminated; Mr. G. Swain, jun., second; Mr. C. Bevan, third; Mr. J. Bird, fourth, &c. Mr. Tom Kimberley, of the Brothers Well Met, acted the part of referee to the satisfaction of all. The prizes will be distributed at a special meeting, when it will be decided when and where the consolation contest will be held.

THE Plume Society held their annual contest on Monday last, in the club water at Bidford, but owing to the weather only a small number of the members turned out to fish for the fourteen prizes given by the members. Eight prizes only were won, the chief winners being Mr. Dormant, first; Mr. Tallas, second; and Mr. Cook, third. Mr. Tallas also takes a special prize for the best specimen fish. Mr. T. Gordon acted as referee. The prizes will be distributed at the annual dinner, which takes place towards the latter end of the present month.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

THE rain has descended, and the floods have come to such an extent that many local waters have overflown, and in consequence angling is very much "off side" just at present. Bottom fishing has been possible at intervals of the deluge, but fly fishing has been out of the question.

THE Isle of Man is still gaining in popularity, and Ireland has received attention from several parties of anglers, who have been stimulated by the glowing accounts of Mr. Allsop and friend. Mr. F. Bibby, and another member of the Buckland, have been to the Witham for a week, and when the fish are spoken of by the stone weight, and the familiar brace discarded, some idea of the sport falling to their lot can be formed. While speaking of the Witham, it may interest Lancashire anglers to learn that the pike, which has been so eagerly tried for by many of our local rods, has at last fallen to the skill of a clergyman in the immediate neighbourhood, its weight being 18lb. How many will now retract their former statements of its immense size? Mr. W. F. Scott, Longsight, has taken a fine pike of 13lb. in the Flashes this particular water at Northwich is at present affording good sport with this kind of fish.

A NEW club recently formed at Gorton, in connection with the M. S. and L. Railway Locomotive Department, will be known as the Gorton Lank Angling Society. Mr. W. Hathway is the first president. Evidently business is meant, for already a contest has been fished. Mr. W. Ashley took the first prize; Mr. G. Gray the second; and Mr. J. Leadbeater the third.

THE Buckland have just concluded their season's engagements with a very successful contest, in which twenty-three members competed. The prizes were awarded in the following order of merit: (1) J. Coates, (2) F. Bibby, (3) J. Craven, (4) B. Allen (5), A. Craddock, (6) G. Oliver.

THE Palatine Club has recently fished a contest in private waters. Mr. Sam Brooks won the special prize presented by D. Murray, Esq., in a brilliant manner, all anglers would do well to emulate the style of this ideal fisherman, who in addition to all the worry and excitement of acting as captain and referee, could give such an excellent exhibition of our favourite sport. The other prizes were won by Mr. Gartside (first); second not yet awarded; and the third Mr. J. S. Richardson.

THE Hulme Crown fished a contest at Lostock Graham, on the 22nd Aug., for a splendid lot of prizes, and the following is a complete list of winners: (1) W. Maxwell, (2) J. Atherton, (3) J. Hill, (4) J. Brickley, (5) J. Pickering, (6) G. Yates, (7) A. Atherton, (8) J. Hampson, (9) P. Leonard, (10) J. Lloyd, (11) J. Miller. As many prizes were unawarded from the last contest, the following members secured them in this contest: Messrs. J. Atherton, A. Atherton, J. Hampson, J. Lloyd, J. Miller, J. Hill and J. Pickering. The greatest praise is due to the officials of the club, headed by the jovial host for the excellent arrangements of the contest, and the varied and valuable prizes.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

THE weather generally has been extremely boisterous since my last Notes, and fewer anglers than previously have ventured out. The Trent, through heavy rains, has almost daily fluctuated in height, and on Saturday the rise amounted to 3ft. 9in. above the normal standard of summer. But the influx caused a plentiful run of eels, and at Wilford nearly every subscriber returned with a substantial bag; whilst in the free waters of the borough a fair number of perch were killed by tight floating underneath the bank opposite the Gravel House. At Willington, Mr. J. Theaker and Mr. W. Dupe, of our town, got well amongst the dace, and on the following day Mr. G. Sollory, of Derby, bagged several remarkably fine roach, including one of 1lb. 3¼oz. Willington has always been noted for its specimen fish, particularly roach, dace, and barbel. Mr. Baker, of the Nottingham Wellington Society, has recently weighed in a roach of nearly 20oz., and other members have showed up with leviathan bream. Many bream of fair dimensions continue to be caught in the Cotgrave section of the Grantham Canal, and not long ago a privileged fisherman took four chub with cheese, of about 2½lb. apiece. Whilst bream have afforded sport in the still water named, some scores have come from the Canal at Shardlow, the principal exponents with the rod being Mr. J. Bailey and Mr. H. Dakin, of Lenton, and Mr. F. Baker, of the Wellingtonians. On Monday, Mr. Pogson, Mr. P. Wilson, and Astronomer Joseph, of the Nottingham Bowling Green Society, killed, with the assistance of friend Theaker, a variety of perch, roach, dace, and eels, in the river above Cavendish Bridge; and, on the same day, Mr. J. Boyd, Nottingham, landed a barbel of 5lb. 2oz. from Mole's Hole, at Wilford. All these fish were secured with the tail end of the female lob worm. During Tuesday a further influx to the extent of 2ft. 4in. was experienced, but happily there was very little colour associated with it. High winds, however, prevailed, and what few anglers were out soon wished themselves at home again. Bread paste accounted for sundry roach in the Wilford length, and an eel of 2lb. 11oz. was caught in Mr. H. Green's fishery, at Holme, Pierrepont. Numerous lots of eels have come from Mr. W. Parr's reach, on the opposite bank, and I hear that he is now issuing day tickets at the rate of 1s. 6d. per rod. How the ordinary subscribers will appreciate the innovation remains to be seen. Some people have an idea that any private fishery in our neighbourhood is worth a fabulous sum. Without weighing the *pros* and *cons*, they make a rush for it, and find ultimately how grossly they have been taken in.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Nottingham Bowling Green Inn Society was held at Host Pogson's, on Tuesday night, for the purpose of making arrangements for the holding of the annual pegged-down match. Mr. P. Wilson presided, and, after discussion, it was decided to bring off the match in the Shardlow waters above Cavendish Bridge on Monday next, Sept. 7. The society, I might add, is in a most flourishing condition, and is well looked after by Mr. Pogson himself. He takes great delight in angling pursuits, and will be a "hard nut" to crack in any future throwing competition from the reel. Of course I refer to the Nottingham style.

THE recently-formed "Shoulder of Mutton" Anglers' Association, at Host Higginson's, on Smithy-row, Nottingham, continues to make satisfactory progress. At the last meeting, a number of new members were admitted, and very shortly the executive hope to secure the private water of the Hon. E. N. Curzon, M.P., at Trent Lock, on the Trent. Communications have passed between the hon. gentleman's agent, or son, and the committee, and should they bear fruit, the members will be able to congratulate themselves on possessing one of the best winter waters to be found in the neighbourhood. Potter's field alone is a treasure of the highest order, and, higher up the stream, plenty of heavy chub are frequently met with.

COMPLAINTS are rife as to the abuse of the Shardlow subscription length by numbers of working men anglers from Long Eaton and Castle Donington. Many, it is alleged, have no tickets at all, and on a Saturday they take good care to appropriate the choicest swims. Representations on the subject ought at once to be made to Mr. T. Wood, of Chapel Bar, Nottingham, who leases the water, with the fisheries of King's Mills, and Weston, from Lord Donington, of Donington Park. Mr. Wood stations a really excellent keeper (Holmes) at Weston, but he cannot be expected to be everywhere at once, especially on a Saturday. On that day many gentlemen visit King's Mills and Weston for the purpose of angling, and it would scarcely be the correct thing for "George" to be out of the way. But there is no doubt that something must be done to supply greater protection to the *bonâ fide* subscribers at Shardlow.

FOR a quiet day's fishing the Barton water will be found difficult to beat. It is only a fourpenny-halfpenny ride by Midland train from Nottingham, and day-tickets are issued at a most reasonable rate by Mr. Roadley, who resides at the ferry house on the actual banks of the Erewash, which enters the main stream immediately below the ferry itself. The fishing includes barbel, chub, dace, roach, perch, and bream, and is well looked after by the lessee and his son. Boats for fishing the "parlour"—the bream slack—may be obtained on application.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

ANGLERS with one accord have raised their voices in one long grumble at the wretched weather we have been experiencing, and the constant run of ill success which is characterising the close of an unfavourable angling season. Week after week have they waited throughout the summer for a few weeks of good angling weather, but their hopes have ever been disappointed, for no sooner had a few sunny days allowed the water to become clear after a heavy storm than another heavy downpour would discolour the stream again, and make it unfit for piscatorial pursuits. This has been the state of things almost the whole of the season, and the river has scarcely been in good condition for a fortnight together. At the present time the water is high and discoloured, and has been so since the heavy rain of a week ago destroyed the good prospects which were before us. If the water should perchance clear, and we were by accident to be favoured with a few days of nice weather during the coming week sport should be good.

A COMMITTEE meeting of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society was held at Messrs. Jones's Restaurant, on Tuesday, when there was present: Mr. J. H. Morris, Mr. G. Groves, Mr. R. Ellis, Mr. Jones, Mr. Nescall, Mr. J. Williams (hon. sec.,) &c. There was some discussion initiated by Mr. Geo. Groves, in regard to the devastations of pike in the river in the neighbourhood of the town; and the requisite permission from the Severn Board of Conservators having been received, it was decided to net the river within the limits of the borough, with a view to exterminating as many as possible of these destructive fish. That "they never will be missed" there is no possible doubt whatever, for there are more in the many large lakes in the neighbourhood than will provide sport for "pikists" for many years to come. The questions when and where the next outing of the society should take place was discussed, and it was eventually decided that the place this time should be Hawkestone pool, in which water, by the generous permission of Lord Hill, the members of the society, it will be remembered, held a very successful and enjoyable outing last year. This excursion will take place on Thursday next.

THE Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society might take a useful hint from the interesting correspondence which has been recently occupying a place in the columns of the *F. G.*, in regard to marking fish. Some thousands of trout fry have been turned into the river by the society for the last ten years or more, and although many heavy fish of undoubted Loch Leven and other imported breeds have been annually captured, the return still nothing like represents the expenditure; and it would be well, if possible, to ascertain whether the fish travel or are destroyed by pollution, by the ravages of pike and other rapacious fish, or other causes. If a few hundred fish were marked and turned in, it might be ascertained whether the members of the society really derive the benefit of their labours, or whether the fish, instead of making their home with their legitimate owners, travel up-stream to fill the creels of anglers around Welshpool, Llanymynech, and the upper districts of the Severn.

"RED ANT," in a letter to the *Fishing Gazette* last week, asks for a definition of a navigable river and the privileges it affords to anglers. There seems to be a general want of information among anglers with regard to these questions in England, as well as in the land of the "bonnie Scot," and in Shropshire there are but few who thoroughly understand the law on the subject. The Severn, as I take it, is a navigable river as far as the point to which the old barges used to travel, and unless the ancient tow-path rights have been allowed to lapse for want of vigilance on the part of anglers and the general public, there should be a direct right of way, not only up the river by boat, but also along its bank. Around Shrewsbury, however, this path has unfortunately been stopped at many parts, without interference on the part of the public. "Red Ant," referring to the Scotch rivers, asked whether the Tweed would come under the category of a public river up to any fixed point, and adds that it would scarcely be considered so over its whole course, else fishers would claim to fish for trout, notwithstanding any rights of holders and renters of land on the banks of the river. This being so, I presume the Scotch law differs from the English very materially, for, as I understand it, no angler has a legal right to fish the Severn, even from a boat, in this locality, without the consent of the landowners. The main principle in which the recently-formed Shropshire Severn Angling Association (about which, by-the-bye, we have heard so little of late) was inaugurated, was that the riparian owners might combine to assert their powers for the protection of the river, allowing no one to fish for trout and grayling from a boat without a ticket from the Association. Shropshire anglers would be grateful for authorised information as to the legal rights they possess.

MR. GEO. KEMPSTER, who has taken a prominent part in the movement set on foot in the upper districts of the Severn to obtain a better supply of salmon in those waters, writes an interesting letter this week to the Shropshire papers upon the matter. His words bear out our recently-expressed opinion that Mr. Jeffrey Poole, in bringing the question before the notice of the Shropshire County Council in the manner he did was scarcely discreet, if justified, and says: "I am of opinion that Mr. J. Poole certainly cannot wish to deprive the conservators of their duties: on the other hand, I fancy he desires that the council should support them with all the power they can command in procuring for these counties what measures seem necessary to improve the fisheries in the said counties. 'Union is strength,' and we may rest assured that if the Shropshire and Montgomeryshire County Councils will back up the conservators of these counties in their efforts to procure what is necessary, their exertions are more likely to succeed than if the conservators acted alone." Proceeding, he says: "The Montgomeryshire County Council on Friday last unanimously appointed a committee for the purpose of assisting the conservators, and also to report to the council any pollution that may be taking place in this county, which is essentially necessary, for it does not matter what efforts we may make in improving the fisheries if the fish are all to be poisoned after we succeed in getting them into the rivers. I think the public will agree with me that the time has arrived when measures must be taken to prevent mill and mine proprietors emptying their poisonous fluids direct into the river, without any means being used to prevent thereby the unnecessary destruction of an incalculable amount of one of the cheapest and most nutritious of human food. I trust at the next quarterly meeting of the Shropshire County Council the executive committee, to which the matter was referred, will see their way to recommend the council to appoint a committee to work with the Montgomeryshire committee in supporting the action of the conservators, and also to put a stop to pollution in their county. It is very advisable that the Shropshire Conservators should take example by the Montgomeryshire Conservators, and appoint from amongst themselves a secretary to act, in case of need, in calling them together, and bringing before them any business requiring their attention. Would it not be possible for the conservators of Salop and Montgomeryshire to meet, say at Shrewsbury, in the course of next month, to take into consideration the necessity of having a better staff and better supervision over the upper and middle reaches of the river, taking into consideration the amount of money paid in these two counties for rod licences. I think the conservators must be of opinion that we are deserving of better treatment in this respect from the board than we get. Once more I would impress upon the Shropshire Conservators the necessity, if we are to succeed in improving these rivers, to use their utmost endeavours in prevailing upon every proprietor upon the river, having the necessary qualification, to qualify before November, so that we may secure their vote for next year."

THE Ironbridge Severn and District Angling and Protection Society held its second prize outing of the season on Saturday, Cressage being chosen as the rendezvous. Only about twelve members took part in the competition owing to the unfavourable state of the weather. Rain fell incessantly throughout the day, and completely spoilt the outing. Mr. W. Waghorn landed a splendid roach, weighing 1¼lb. The following are the prize-takers in order of weight of fish caught: Messrs. J. Norry, T. B. Rowley, W. Waghorn, W. Bennett, A. Nicholas, W. Wilson, H. Aldred, and E. Jarratt.

NOTES FROM WORCESTER AND DISTRICT.

HIGH wind, much rain, and swollen streams, have kept most anglers in this district at home during the week. A few have been out and had respectable catches of roach and eels, and a few large trout; and a favoured few who have had access to private water have brought home large baskets of fish. Both Severn and Teme are fining down nicely, still there is a large volume of water in each river, and it will take another week to put it in good order for angling.

THE Izaak Walton second club competition was to have taken place at Lulsley on the Teme, but was postponed on account of the swollen state of the river. The event came off at the same place on Thursday, the 3rd inst.

THE competition among the Worcester Angling Societies for the fifteen guinea challenge cup, presented by the president, E. H. Bowen, Esq., has been arranged to take place on Tuesday, September 8, on the water of the Tenbury Angling Association, and is looked forward to with much interest. The cup has to be won three separate times, or twice in succession by one club before it becomes their property. No fish under 4oz. to be weighable; no wading or trolling to be allowed; and as only five of the most expert from each club are selected to compete, if the water is in order and the fish on the feed, there should be an exhibition of good angling and some good takes of fish registered.

SALMON fishing by nets closed on the 31st of August in this river (Severn), and has been, on the whole, a better season than has been had for years. Still, there is much room for improvement in respect to numbers, for as long as the fishermen are allowed the means of sweeping the fish out of the river wholesale, in the manner they at present do from Tewkesbury downwards, there is no possibility of many fish getting farther up the river, and the take of salmon in this district will never be large, and will be less in the future than in the past. The Severn Board of Conservators have added another month to the annual close-time in the early part of the season, when the best early clean-run fish are in the river, and will do no good, but harm, by increasing the price of Severn salmon and keeping the poor fishermen idle another month.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

ALL the streams are swollen to considerably above their summer level, but at the time of writing they appear to be settling down to the normal condition. It goes without saying that the floods at this time of the year will do an amount of good to the fish. They may cause no little inconvenience to the fisher for the time being, but in the end there is no doubt he will profit by the more than usual supply of water. Assisted by the floods, the fish have been enabled to make their way up to the higher reaches of the streams. Salmon, I know, have been seen in large numbers coming up the Ouse; and the fact of their having passed the confluence of the Aire argues well for the future. The prospects for salmon fishing are, in consequence, very good; and if the rain should hold off next week there will no doubt be a good catch.

THE Aire having had a wash out, is in capital condition, or at least it will be when the waters subside a little, and the Nidd both at Pateley Bridge and Knaresborough presents excellent prospects. The river Ure is suitable for bottom-fishing, and the Swale is still very full. Prospects all round, however, are very good; and should the weather but take up, there will be plenty of sport for both rod and gun. Fly-fishing of course has been practically suspended. What little has been done is with the Dark Snipe and Purple; though the Light Snipe, Plout Bloa, and the Orange Partridge have proved serviceable, and the Cinnamon and Fog Black had been recommended. During the short time last week when the Foss had lowered, many anglers were out, and some fairly good fish were caught. In the Ouse the paternoster has been used to excellent advantage, and several capital specimens of perch have been captured; and grayling have been caught with the maggot. The season for this fish is just about coming on, and local anglers may anticipate a good time. With a good supply of ground-bait, barbel may be caught in the neighbouring streams, and this favourite pastime is taken advantage of by many York piscators.

I HAVE received particulars of numerous angling competitions in the district, but owing to the bad conditions under which they were fished, they do not present much interesting matter. Perhaps the most interesting competition which has taken place recently was that of the City of York Angling Society, which took place at Cottingham-with-Ings, through the kindness of Mr. J. J. Dunnington-Jefferson, J.P. The water was in very bad condition, nearly overflowing the banks, but despite this, fair catches were made. The premier prize-taker was Mr. R. Broadley, with 2lb. 11¾oz., he being followed in order by Messrs. W. Bell, J. Neale, R. Jackson, W. Brown, T. Bellerby, and W. Foster. There were twenty-two competitors in all. Mr. Broadley secured the award for the largest fish, which weighed 8¾oz., and he was also the "victim" of a facetious sportsman's prize for catching the smallest fish. This specimen turned the scale for a quarter of an ounce. Comment is needless.

THE George the Fourth Angling Association, by the kind permission of Mr. Lysaght-Knight, fished their second match of the season the other day in the Derwent, between Stamford Bridge and Battercrombe. Considerably over £6 was offered in money prizes, whilst several in kind were also forthcoming. A goodly number of competitors turned out, but the old tale in the account of the match reads far from encouraging: "The weather was most unfavourable, and the water in shocking condition, consequently the catches were only light." Mr. T. Horsley, of the noted fishing tackle depôt in Coney-street, had offered a substantial prize, and this, together with a guinea, was secured by Mr. T. Rawdon, for 2lb. 1oz. of fish. The other prize-winners and their catches were as follows: Mr. Harrison, 2lb.; Mr. T. Benson, 1lb. 3oz.; Mr. W. Alderson, 13½oz.; Mr. T. Badger (secretary), and Mr. E. Walker, tie, 12¾oz.; Mr. H. Baker and Mr. J. Hill, tie, 12oz. The Navigation Angling Association have also held their second match. This came off at Tadcaster, on Saturday, but owing to the flooded state of the river Wharfe, the catch was small. The first prize was secured by Mr. T. Conner. The members were afterwards entertained to dinner by the president of the association, Samuel Smith, Esq., of the Brewery, and a pleasant day was spent.

ILLEGAL FISHING AT CHERTSEY.—At the instance of the Chertsey Angling Association, a summons was heard at the Chertsey Petty Sessions, on Wednesday, against Alfred Cooper and Alfred Butt for attempting to take fish from the Abbey river on August 12. The private right of fishing belonged to Messrs. James and William Webb, who made over the right to the Chertsey Angling Association, and Mr. James Webb proved the offence. Mr. A. E. Armstrong, hon. sec. of the Chertsey Angling Association and honorary keeper for the Thames Angling Preservation Society, said he had cautioned Cooper twice by letter and Butt once verbally. Each defendant was fined ten shillings, including costs, and one of the magistrates told defendants that they had no right to fish even from the bridge on the public footpath.

⁂ **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

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munications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

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TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH, 1891.

AUTUMN ANGLING ON NORTH-EASTERN RIVERS.

By MAC.

SUMMER, with the yellow trout in their primest idition gaily sporting in the waters, is past, l autumn, with the migratory *Salmonidæ* push- inland to their winter abode, is speeding on. ese words I would have anglers take note of; y indicate the actual facts, and ought to be the ans of preventing disappointment. Every sort fresh-water fish should be sought for in the son best for it in the waters which it affects, l, accordingly, since the common trout is no ger an edible and sporting fish of any merit, it nly with salmon, grilse, or sea trout that the gler need now have any hopes of doing much d on the waters to which it is my wish to draw ention.

Rivers of the North East of Scotland, from rfar to Moray-shires, have two sorts of sport cially good for Scotch waters *nowadays*—early uting for common trout, and back-end angling salmon and sea trout. The former kind of rt in the best waters, which are those that tain the largest trout, is usually had in atest perfection from a fortnight to three eks prior to the commencement of the great y-fly carnival in England; but on the more and waters, at high altitudes, and bordering on mountains, it is not generally obtained until late about concurrent with the latter event. yhow, wherever or whenever got, it does not g continue very fine. The period for the ural fly being out in great abundance is short, l for this reason the season is but short- ed. At its finish the trout are in their most fect condition, and then it is that in clear water they take worm, and at night minnow and parr tail, with avidity. But very soon after on Don, Deveron, Findhorn, Dean, and fine tributary trouting streams of the two former rivers they fall off in condition, and the advent of August sees them a thin, flabby, insipid lot, not taking well, nor indeed worth taking, affording only wriggling play like an eel—such play, forsooth, as those accustomed to fish for them when, in their primest condition, they are as gamesome and active as fresh-run sea trout, cannot but despise. Being facts, the above ought to make it evident that it would be misleading to hold out inducements of really good sport with good-sized yellow trout after this time of the year. Since, therefore, this sort of angling is now unseasonable, I dismiss its consideration for the present as uninteresting, and proceed straightway to speak of the other sort—namely, salmon and sea trout angling.

The streams I have decided to commence with are the North and South Esks in Forfarshire, which fall into the sea at Montrose. In both there is a strong seasonal migration of true, bright-coloured, autumn fish. The North Esk is undoubtedly the superior of the two for salmon angling, and on it there is fishing on a good seaward stretch to be had by arrangement with Messrs. James Johnston and Son, fish merchants, Montrose. On this section a good deal of very fine sport is had some years. When the water is high, Phantoms and other spinning baits work best, but when in fair volume it is seldom that anything beats fly, of which the most approved local patterns are Dalhousie, Member, Carnegie, &c. On all Messrs. Johnston's waters in the neighbourhood of Montrose, a ticket for salmon carries with it the right for finnock and sea trout. After this season, however, it is very unlikely that a right to fish for the latter *only* would be granted. Mr. David Murray is the great fishing tackle artificer for the Esks, West-water, and Bervie, and from him all suitable gear can be obtained at his place in the small town of Brechin. Mr. M., who has all the information about the fishings at his finger-ends, is frequently able to put anglers in the way of something good. At Edzell, on the North Esk—"Northie," or "North Water," by which names locally it is known—there is a fine stretch of water rented by Mr. Keith Knowles, of the Panmure Arms Hotel, whereon hotel visitors have the privilege of fishing free of charge. This is about twelve miles from the sea, and so is a sufficient distance up for fish resting well, apart from the consideration of dykes or other obstructions blocking their way. In this respect it must be known that the North Esk is rather an unfortunate river, but this year, with the heavy spates which already have been frequent, the river has been in volume sufficient to enable strong-swimming active fish to quite readily surmount the barriers, which when the water is in certain states effectually check their upward progress. Already, and in proof of my statement, a good few nice fresh-run fish have been got on the Edzell water. In connection with the hotel there is shooting, which those inclined that way can avail themselves of when the angling is not encouraging. On the West-water, one of the North Esk's tributaries which is no great distance away, a grilse or a few sea trout may be got any day between the present time and the end of the season, when the water is biggish. In the back end the fish of smaller size show a marked disposition for pushing up this feeder in preference to holding on along the main stream. The Bervie has fallen off greatly, but on it, as also on the Carron and Cowie, near Stonehaven (northward) there is still a little fairish finnock and sea trout fishing now and again to be had when the water (to use a localism) is in "ripping" order. This has no allusion to the practice, which I have heard of, of "sniggling" or "ripping" the fish.

By the often and heavy spates of late Dee and Don have been thoroughly scoured out, and already in both a strong run of the migratory *Salmonidæ* has taken place. Not for a number of years has a run of such good strength been known to come on so early in the back-end. Accordingly there is great jubilation amongst the local lower sections and tideway anglers, as there is decidedly at present the prospect of a much longer season with sea trout and finnock than "for common." On the tideways and nether reaches of both rivers "finnocking" usually is best between this date and the middle of October. Later on the fish move up river and spread over a greater extent of water, and besides are not so keen on the bite. On Don for a couple of miles from the sea, and on Dee for about five miles up, there is fishing for all sorts of fish which the angler can catch at prices, varying for the season, and according to the beat selected, from 2s. 6d. up to £4, which latter figure is for Nether Don—the best of the lot for salmon—a ticket or two for which I have reason to believe, can still be obtained. Both on the Heathcot Hydro. Water, and on part of the tideway close to Aberdeen, there is free fishing, and not amiss it is sometimes: as for instance last week, when, with the "tailing-off" of a strong spate, anglers were out in force and getting (some of them) as many as fifteen to twenty good finnocks and sea trout in a few hours. But, as the initiated well know, be the water what like it may, finnock may be madly "on" or entirely "off" the feed in a moment's time according to their caprice: they are fickle beyond fickle! On the lower sections of the river indicated the best sport with salmon and backlying grilse is had when the water is low and the weather rather cold, as then the inclination of the fish is more for lying in than holding on upward. In their order the sections (by name) on which the chances of sport are best are Nether Don; Heathcot, Inchgarth and Waterside (in Dee). Above the footbridge at Cults there is a rattling good pool which already this back-end has yielded a number of fine fish. Everybody fishes it, and they say, like Robinson Crusoe, "*their* right there is none to dispute." The last fortnight of the back-end—from 16th of October—is not on the whole so good a time for these lower fishings as the earlier portion, more especially if previously a low state of the water has been of prolonged continuance for the fish when the flood comes push through to the upper waters very quickly, seldom resting till they are many miles inland.

There is salmon fishing on the good one-mile length of Don at Kintore. Day tickets cost two-and-sixpence, and season ones £1. The hotels at Alford (also on Don) have connected with them stretches of river which guests can fish free of charge. The fishing on the Invercauld Hotel water at Ballater is good as a rule during the last fortnight of October. Mr. Lamont, of the New Inn, Ellon, has the fishing (which is free to his guests) for salmon, back-lying grilse, and sea trout, on the Auchterellou beat of the Ythan, which contains several good fair pools for salmon towards the end of September and during most of October. When conditions are wholly right for angling the sport with finnock and sea trout is grand on the Ythan, at Newburgh, from the 10th of September (when the nets go off) till the end of the month. The water of Cruden, when moderately spated or running down after a heavy spate, gives good sport with sea trout in the back-end. Here also (connected with the Kilmarnock Arms Inn, Port Erroll, near Slains Castle, the family seat of the Earl of Erroll) good shooting can be had. When the water is fining down two tributaries of the Ythan—the Ebrie and Brorie—frequently are good for weighty baskets of sea trout and finnock in October. Another, but much more "out-o'-way" tributary—the Water o' Gight—is good likewise, and in addition one or two of its pools yield a number of salmon and grilse every autumn.

For next week my intention is to give fuller particulars concerning several of the fishings named; speak of those not already mentioned, but which come within the scope of this paper's heading; describe some local lures of acknowledged merit on the several fishings; and from personal experience, and what I have gleaned from others, put the uninitiated stranger angler up to a few wrinkles that should stand him in good stead.

ON SOME USEFUL FLIES FOR NORTH COUNTRY TROUT FISHING.

By E. M. TOD.

So far as my experience goes there is no fixed law whereby a north country fisherman can, with any degree of accuracy and certainty, define what are the best flies to use. With the floating-fly school the imitation must necessarily present itself very much as it appears to ourselves in form and colour, and, therefore, a close imitation of Nature would seem to be desirable; although at times, I dare say, as in wet-fly fishing, a fly wholly unlike the natural fly on the water will kill better than the closest imitation thereof.

I suppose that even trout can have too much of a good thing occasionally, and that even the best of flies may be too long "on," and your epicurean trout may say, when he sees a strange fly—"I have grown tired of partridge" (*toujours perdrix*); "welcome this mutton chop!" as he chops down your Wickham, or whatever else it may be. But in wet-fly fishing conditions are different. Sometimes, indeed, the fly is taken floating, but very rarely; generally say ¼in. under water. At times it is nearly half-a-foot under. Now it is in the hurly-burly of a strong stream, now in the swirls of an eddy, and again tumbling about in the waves of some pool, where the wind and stream are contrary; or it may be that a mere zephyr is blowing across a thin pool, and the trout feeding gently at the far side, under the trees, or by the edges of some bushes lining the banks.

It will thus be seen that the fly must be viewed by the trout under a variety of conditions, which render it most unlikely that the form of the fly is retained, or even the colour seen as when fished floating. But even the natural fly must appear a sorry object when tumbled about by the waves; and one can understand, when thus viewed, the trout taking our flies even when unlike the natural fly. And it is instructive in this connection to see how "doctors differ," and how no two men hold quite the same views.

Mark Aitken—a man only known on the Teviot and Tweed, but, for all that, the best fisherman I have ever seen handle a rod, and who taught me the little I know—very seldom or never had a pattern fly in his book, even a March Brown. His flies were not, perhaps, quite works of art, but they were so good that I always preferred to fish with his flies to all the flies I could purchase. To begin with, he used fine light wires (Hutchinson's round-bend), and as fine gut as he could procure. Moreover, his wings—or rather wing, for he used but one—were not heavy, his bodies thin, and hackles light. He made his flies somewhat near the colour of the natural fly—that was all he needed, and he could fill a creel when rivers were low and clear in the most masterly way. Wherever he went, he became famous, and he seldom used more than two flies, well apart; and when trout were unusually hard to take, he at times fished only with one, holding that the dropper only "gliffed"—*i.e.*, scared—the shy trout. He laughed when he paid a visit to the upper waters of the Tweed, where the locals used what they were pleased to call "a shooer o' flees" (six or eight), and he became to them a regular eye-opener when they compared his baskets with their own.

Again, the question of wing or no wing has had, and always will have, its supporters. I confess to like winged flies on the whole; but I like the wings to be light, not bulky; and I declare that, where trout are hard fished, however beautiful the fly, it is only second-rate as a killer on our northern rivers if possessing too much wing hackle; indeed, I frequently use my scissors before I use a fly at all, unless the water is dark, or the day boisterous.

Stewart always preferred the Spider to the winged fly; but it must be borne in mind that Stewart generally fished tributary streams ("waters," as we Scotch call them) more frequently than rivers. For instance, he would seldom fish the Tweed, save in its higher reaches, and nearly all his large takes were from the Gala, the Leader, the Whitadder, the Blackadder, &c. Also, he fished up-stream; and this is an essential to success when using Spiders or hackled flies, as they open out, and the delicate, tiny legs give an appearance of real life when floating towards the fisherman who is wading below. In large rivers one usually wades down and throws across, or across and up, and sometimes, in a low state of the river, one fishes entirely up; but in a full water—say, in the Tweed at St. Boswells, Maxton, or Rutherford—it is not unusual to allow the flies to float downwards before repeating the throw, and in this way, when trout are not hovering near the surface, but a foot or so beneath it, the fisherman may be doing well till the "birth" of flies brings the fish on the surface, and then this sinking of the flies is exchanged for something approaching to floating the fly. For such rivers, therefore, I hold that a winged fly is generally to be preferred. Still it is very remarkable to find men like the late famous Dickie Routledge, of Carlisle, using almost nothing else but wingless flies, even on the Eden, which has a considerable body of water, and yet he was a splendid performer!

I fished the Eden for some years, and was often told that winged flies were of little or no use on that famous Cumberland river. I believed it at first; but as I began to know the river better I gradually introduced some old favourites of mine, such as Greenwell's Glory (and I did very well with that), the winged March Browns (so well dressed by Mr. Forest, of Kelso renown), the Cow-dung, &c. Not that I wholly discarded the Spider flies, but I found that the winged flies were also very deadly, if properly placed before the trout.

Again, throughout Yorkshire, I believe hackled flies are very largely, if not universally used; but many of the flies in that beautifully illustrated and admirable book, "North Country Flies," by T. E. Pritt, the genial and able secretary of the Yorkshire Angling Association, &c.—I say many of the flies portrayed in his book are utterly unknown over the border, and yet, in good hands, would tell a tale—even on the very water Stewart liked to fish so well. Some fishermen have only two or three pattern flies, and use them all the year round, varying the size only. Others have imitations of every known fly that ever floated down the surface of a trout stream, and many a fly besides, which has no counterpart in nature, but which have had their lucky days, and are therefore enshrined in parchment. The longer I live, the more do I like to possess a variety of flies when at the river, and if I find trout unwilling to take the fly or flies I begin with, I change and change until I have hit upon the fly wanted.

The same fly must appear somewhat different when viewed against a black lowering mass of clouds; against a clear, blue cloudless sky; and against a sky filled with dazzlingly white clouds; and so, even when I know that the March Brown is the fly, or the Olive Dun, or the Iron Blue, if I find the trout which took it freely yesterday, flash and splash at it to-day, I know that *that* fly is contra-indicated for this particular sky, or wind, and off it goes, and I try a smaller one. If they refuse this altogether, I try an equally large size as before; but I cut off much of the wings and hackle, making what is called a very "naked" fly, and this often succeeds. But sometimes I receive the straight tip from having, as a dropper, a fly unlike the daily birth of flies, and I never neglect the hint.

We may keep our theories for discussion with brother anglers; but when we face the foe, and he is "on the hop," we must cease to be scientific and be practical.

It is utter folly to go on fishing with a fly which appears to be the exact imitation of the fly on the water—if another fly fills your basket more quickly. Of course I need hardly say that the general rule is to do our best to imitate nature; but not always, for an angler would only be eternally walking in the footsteps of some revered author; whereas I hold that a man must very often get out of the beaten track, and boldly think for himself; and so, whilst I honour the scientific angler, I also hold the practical angler in high esteem.

I was once told a very amusing medical story of a worthy doctor practising in Dumfriesshire, and the story was told me by a medical brother of his, who said that, for all his quaintness, he knew few men whose opinion he thought more valuable. He had been called in to a puzzling case, and the symptoms not having yet fully developed, he had to treat the ones which presented themselves meanwhile—feverishness, &c. The girl was handed a prescription, and looking at its dog Latin without finding its meaning, she suddenly exclaimed, "Doctor, what will be wrang wi' me?" and he answered with his quaint smile, "I dinna ken; but if he tak that, it will dae ye good." Now I have often been in the position of the worthy doctor, and could hardly have explained to a tyro why I changed to a certain fly when bothered by the refusal of the trout to take the very medicine which I knew was the proper one, in the form of a Blue Dun or Cow-dung fly.

Mr. Walbran, of Leeds, possesses many of my pattern flies, and some of them, I think he will own, are an improvement on those he has had previously. I allude to the Cow-dung fly as an instance, which he dressed, I thought, from a pattern with too bright a yellow wool body. The pattern which I sent him he at once took a liking to. Any practical angler wishing to see the difference cannot do better than send to Mr. Walbran for a sample dozen of each, and I will be surety for the dressing, if he dresses all his flies as well as those he recently tied for me.

It seems a small matter this difference, but to me it is so great that I consider my pattern (for my own fishing) far the better of the two. In the same way Greenwell's Glory is frequently spoiled by what, at first sight, appears to be a small fault—namely, the body made of yellow floss silk, or even yellow tying silk unwaxed.

Again, some dressers wax the tying silk so heavily with cobbler's wax that it gives the idea of a black body. Now I hold that the body of a fly is most important, and that ordinary yellow tying silk moderately waxed with cobbler's (not pale) wax, and ribbed over with the finest gold wire, is the only and the true Greenwell's body; and then blackbird's wing for wings, and coch y-bonddhu hackles, complete the very best fly I know for general use, go where you will, on northern streams. The body and hackle are so thoroughly, so undeniably good, that, dressed with the inside of the woodcock's wing, or ditto the starling, it makes a most admirable fly: but it must not be called "Greenwell's Glory"; and I—who had a letter from Canon Greenwell on the subject—know. Indeed, Mr. Walbran, in his very practical work, "The British Angler," has fallen into an error as to the proper dressing of my pet fly, Greenwell's Glory; but when another edition is brought out he will put that right. The fly he describes (page 26) as Greenwell's Glory is, I have no doubt, a grand killer, but it recalls to mind the words of that lovely Scotch song, "Mary Morrison"—

> "Though this was fair and that was braw,
> And yon' the boast o' a' the toon,
> I sighed, and said, amang them a'
> Ye are na Mary Morrison."

It is even so with a pattern fly. It may be the fisher's boast, but it must not be named, unless it is the Mary Morrison, or Greenwell's Glory, since this kind of thing leads to endless confusion. I am a sinner myself, I admit, but when I alter the well-known pattern of a fly, I am careful to remark on it. For instance, last year I found that a long and rather lean March Brown hackle, with a ribbed quill body, did so well, that I have had some winged flies for next year dressed with quill bodies, and I am certain they will kill grandly; but, mark you, there are quill bodies nearly jet black, and, though these are simply splendid in their proper place, they would ruin my ideal of a March Brown fly. I have never tied a quill body in my life, though I have, in younger days, tied hundreds of flies; but the sort of quill I like gives an alternate light and dark rib, which is peculiarly attractive to trout, resembling, as it does, the ribbed-like bodies of several of the ephemeræ. Indeed, I think, it should be more largely used than it is for both winged and hackle flies.

I know no man who dresses the March Brown, Greenwell's Glory, Cow-dung, &c., better than my old friend, Mr. Forrest aforesaid.

In that admirable little book which every angler who has a shilling to spare should purchase, and he who has not should borrow from someone else, "How to Catch Trout," by Three Anglers. Edinburgh: David Douglas, 1890, you will find that this triumvirate of anglers gives the following:—

"March Brown, male and female.
"Blue Dun, and Iron Blue Dun.
"Greenwell's Glory.
"Woodcock Wing, with (*a*) hare lug body; (*b*) quill body, and red or black hackle; (*c*) yellow or orange silk body, and red hackle; (*d*) black silk body and black hackle."

And the writers add these words: "In one or other of these shapes, this is, in our experience, the most reliable of all winged flies." So much for the Woodcock Wing.

It indeed makes a very good fly, but I do not use it so very often, after all.

I may also add that I always prefer yellow silk to orange; for the body of a river trout fly.

"The Three Fishers" then enumerate a goodly t of killing flies, but as all fishers can, and ought have this shillingsworth, I shall not do more an refer them to the work itself.

I generally like to possess an assortment of es, which the experience of nearly forty years hirty-five anyhow) has taught me are luable:—

(1) March Brown, male and female (tied by orrest).
(2) March Brown hackle, with ribbed-quill dy.
(3) Greenwell's Glory, in all its glory.
(4) Ditto. but with wings from the inside ather of water-hen, or starling wing.
(5) Ditto, with inside of woodcock's wing.
(6) The Cow-dung Fly.
(7) The Olive Dun Fly.
(8) The Blue Duns, dark and pale.
(9) The Iron Blue Dun (and which *I* seldom use heu I have Greenwell's Glory).
(10) Starling Wing and hackle, body of yellow, ing silk *waxed* (cobblers' wax).
(11) Red Spinner.
(12) Here I should like to introduce a fly of my n invention, which has occasionally done very ell for me on the Deveron and elsewhere. The ck feather of the Himalayan pheasant, with splendid metallic lustre of changing green, akes a fine spider fly. Some feathers are of a autiful rosy bronze, but I much prefer the green. r. Walbran was much taken with some flies I nt him, and which, I think, were dressed with y old friends — inside of starling wing for ings, and well-waxed yellow silk body; but as a ckle fly it is well worth a trial. I got the athers out of a ladies' hat, and they are lmirably shaped hackles for the purpose of fly aking.
(13) A buff-coloured wing with a cinnamon ackle has its place, but I think that it only leads confusion to have too many patterns.

Besides these, the black and red, the plover, artridge, grouse, and dun hackles are all valuable, pecially on small rivers or riverlets; but it ould take up too much space to do more than add at no greater or better variety of hackle flies n be found than in Mr. Pritt's "North Country lies"; whilst those who consult Mr. Stewart's Practical Angler," and "How to Catch Trout," ill find all that are needed on the Scottish side the border to fill a good-sized creel, if only e fisher himself is "far ben" in the art.

One's memory is apt to fail at times, and I may ossibly have forgotten some good old killers; but e who has the flies I have already named, not in rder of merit, be it clearly understood, but as hey came to mind, will have enough and to spare r the next campaign to the North of England, nd more especially to our Scotch rivers, rivulets, nd even hill-burns.

The sizes of flies I generally find most useful re Nos. 2 and 3 (Hutchinson's, of Kendal) scale, lue steel and round bend; March Browns up to o. 4 now and then; but even March Brown flies ill well down to No. 2 at times. For particular ases (this in secret), I commend to the notice f brother anglers, who fish in June, or even in nd of May, some of the really lovely "double" lidge flies dressed on the smallest wires, Greenwell's Glory, dark wing and dyed yellow hackle, nd some buff wing and pale cinnamon hackle. hey have filled creels for me when other anglers ore sitting down in very despair smoking the eed; and they are tied perfectly by Mr. Forrest. know no other to whom I would entrust with qual confidence an order for these delicate, yet illing little fellows, "the doubles." Over and ver again have I been in utter despair — trout plucking" at my very finest flies—when suddenly I would remember the old whist rule, When in doubt lead trumps," and this trumpard I always have "up my sleeve." You can use whenever trout come short and shy at your ies; and when the natural fly on the water is of mall size, the water fine and "clear as gin," and he breeze light, then put one of these on as the nd fly, open out the two tiny hooks with your nger-nails, but not too much; single out a good rout, put the fly about a foot above him, and give he line a gentle motion, and if you have the roper colour you will feel a pull, and then strike ery gently, and let him have his head. He cannot asily get rid of the "little double" once well ome.

As a proof that my flies CAN do execution, I went as a perfect stranger to a certain northern river four years ago, and fishing short days—from 10.30 to 4.30 (or five at latest), and sometimes not beginning till eleven and twelve—I had, in thirteen days' fishing, basketted with the artificial fly alone 220lb. nett of good trout.

Notes

Mr. H. S. Foster, Sheriff-Elect of London, Mr. H. C. Richards, Barrister-at-Law, Mr. T. J. Woodrow, of the London Corporation, and others, are announced to speak at a meeting at Lowestoft, on Thursday next, on the question of the public right on the Norfolk Broads. The movement against closing these delightful resorts is increasing in strength.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of "Zeno," appearing in our columns this week. This is a rare opportunity for acquiring a complete salmon outfit, at a very moderate cost.

An excellent early autumn angling season being experienced by the rods pretty nearly all along the Ness, is reported by our correspondent, Mr. Donald Watson, tackle maker, 19, Inglis-street, Inverness. It would appear that, as usual, grilse bulk largely in the catches. The Ness's best angling time for salmon and grilse is considered to be between the beginning of August and the middle of September.

On the east coast of Scotland there was a great scarcity of sea trout in summer; but in the rivers, to judge from the strength of the run already, it seems very likely that there will be a more than average head of finnock or whitling, the adolescent sea trout, during the autumn.

For the gamesome, silvery little fishes alluded to, rarely does the "back-end" angling commence so early or so well as it has done this year. The angler's "cry-out" of "no water, no fish," so common about this date, is presently nowhere heard, as there is ample volume of water for once; but who knows?—the unexpected may happen ere long, and the cry be revived in all its piteousness.

Reports from the more northerly of the north-east coast rivers, whose best season is "on" about this time, indicate that of late sport has been good. On the Berriedale with salmon, grilse, and sea trout, and on the Dunbeath, Freswick, and Wester, principally with sea trout, anglers have had some gratifying days. At his place in Caithness, the Duke of Portland has been entertaining a large shooting and fishing party, and among his guests who have gone out on the Berriedale river is Lady Gore, to whose skill quite a number of salmon and grilse have succumbed.

His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, and a strong party of fishers, have arrived at Gordon Castle, Fochabers, for the salmon fishing on his grace's water of the Spey, which fairly beats every other fishery in Scotland for productiveness during the "back-end."

"Touring" anglers on the look-out for a bit of salmon fishing, might do worse than put up at the Traquair Arms, Innerleithen, for a short while before the Tweed's season for rod fishing ends.

This year the sea trout angling in the Kyle o' Tongue has kept up wonderfully until much later on than usual. Even yet it is moderately good.

Salmon angling bids fair to soon become quite a fashionable recreation for the fair sex, since it is mainly ladies of title that are leading and showing how it can be done. Within the fortnight we have heard of no fewer than six of them having fished on Scotch rivers with considerable success.

This is now the time to go to the Uists for the angling (often excellent) for sea trout of the late migration—the best sea trout of the year—numerous in these parts.

On the free water of the Tay, at Perth, several anglers have lately been getting some good fish. To farther inland stretches of the same river, whereon already the rods have done well, a great strength of fish is reported to have pushed up with the flood of last week. Off and on about the same time all the other rivers of consequence on the East Coast were in spate, and, to infer from the "leaping" and show of "back fins" and "tails," had numbers of good large fish ascending them. Since the netting season closed, some prime autumn salmon of a large size have been caught on North Esk, Dee, Don, Deveron, and Spey, which is proof of their having pushed up. In Dee, several autumn "runners" have already been seen beyond Aboyne—over thirty miles up-river.

In struggling with a 36½lb. fish, which he had gaffed, a fisherman had a very narrow "shave" in the Spean river some time ago. The gaff was sent "home" when the fish was in swift rough water some distance out from the bank, and in the tussle ensuing the fisherman was knocked over and the cast snapped. Fortunately in the *nick* of time he regained his footing, otherwise, instead of banking the fish, both he and the fish would most certainly have gone down into the deep dangerous pool immediately below.

The Earn seems to be doing "not bad at all." A couple of rods had each five salmon in one day towards the end of last week. It is years since the season has opened so early with such a good beginning.

Of late nice baskets of good-sized autumn-run sea trout have been secured on the Eden, Fifeshire.

This year, the season's fishing of one rod on the Brora, reaches the creditable total of one hundred and fifty fish—nearly all salmon.

For the season, the gross amount drawn by the Aberdeen Commissioners for salmon caught at their netting stations on Nether Dee and at Dee mouth appears to have reached the extraordinary sum of £8,964 12s. 1d.

From the Tweed Commissioners' report for year up to 30th June last, it appears that watching and protection expenses amounted to £2,568 9s. 5d.; that during the close time, consequent on the presence of a tug-boat to assist the bailiffs and seize nets, illegal fishing by fishermen on the coast at the mouth of the river decreased comparatively; that of criminal cases there was an increase in the number taken up throughout all the districts, the whole numbering one hundred and ninety-four; that, by a decision given in the High Court of Justiciary, "sniggling" was shown to be illegal; and that of the number of fish affected with the disease, which first appeared in October and continued until June, there was an increase, which was accounted for by the unusually strong head of migratory trout in the river between the dates stated, when altogether, of various kinds, six thousand four hundred and twenty-nine fish were taken out and buried.

Merrily the fishing goes on, on the rivers of the Solway, and a striking sight it must be to see the "forest" of rods sometimes out. Writes a friend: "Should the water be in ply, go down to the Willow pool on the Esk, and take the camera with you. This pool I have fished when there were nineteen rods, all "leathering away at it."

One boat's party fishing for a fortnight on Loch Stack, last month, got one salmon, three hundred and six sea trout, one hundred and twenty brown trout, and three char.

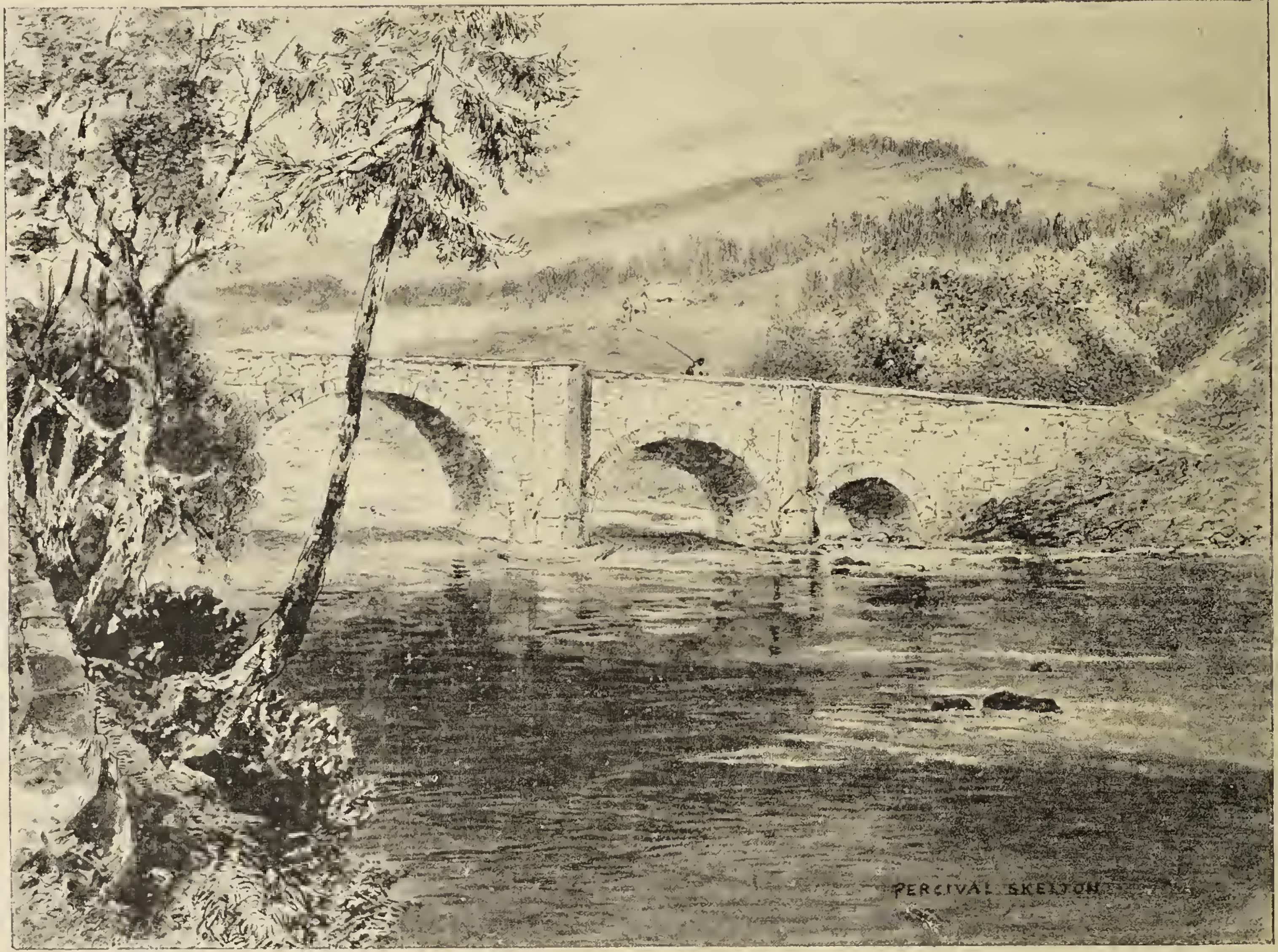
Mr. George Sim, A.L.S., naturalist and taxidermist, King-street, Aberdeen, reports a fine female specimen of the Scops-eared Owl (*Scops Androvandi*), as having been picked up dead on the Great North of Scotland Railway line, near Kintore, 2nd Sept. This is the second occurrence of this species in Scotland. The stomach was crammed with ear-wigs and beetles.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

THE SPEY.

(Continued from page 152.)

Trout fishing on the Spey is, on the whole, disappointing, or, at all events, only to be prosecuted with success by the dwellers on its banks who can choose their times and seasons. A good basket can frequently, however, be made by the flyfisher in the "March Brown" season, or later, when there is a full water; or, again, on those rare occasions when, as in other rivers, the trout will rise at anything without "rhyme or reason." Big trout there are indeed, though not very numerous, but they rarely rise to the fly, and only fall a prey to the more deadly minnow, or a bunch of worms presented in orthodox manner to them during a flood, or when "the water is growing." The right of "free fishing" for trout is another vexed question which may be discreetly passed by, save to mention that the claimants appear to have enjoyed a "wont and use" for many years beyond the term which is popularly supposed to give a prescriptive right.



POOL BELOW SPEY BRIDGE, NEAR GRANTOWN.

The subject of the illustration given this week is the old bridge at Grantown, locally known as Spey Bridge, where the river may be said to have just begun its wild race to the ocean. The bridge was built by the military road-makers in the reign of George II., soon after the battle of Culloden. It is constructed of the primitive rock, on which it is founded, and the three arches span respectively 86ft., 40ft., and 20ft. The village of Grantown is some three-quarters of a mile off, in a sheltered and salubrious situation—being, in fact, frequently recommended by the medical faculty as a retreat for consumptives. The trout fishing in the neighbourhood is as good as any on the river, and the right of fishing, even on the part of tourists, who frequent it in considerable numbers, has never been questioned here. The surrounding country belongs to the Grants, who were ennobled in the sixteenth century as Earls of Seafield and Barons of Strathspey; and Castle Grant, one of the family seats, is in the immediate neighbourhood. At the castle is held annually one of those northern "gatherings," at which the stalwart, if humble, members of the clan compete in such light sports as throwing the hammer and putting the stone; while the men of less weight show their emulation in the lightsome Gillie Callum and highland fling to the strains of the "great hieland bagpipe," played by a race of champion pipers.

Strathspey, though boasting of some of the finest scenery in all Scotland, is yet but little frequented by the tourist or holiday angler. If the Spey itself cannot be always depended upon for a basket, except by those to the manner born, some of its tributaries would repay a visit, as much for their beautiful surroundings as for the sport to be enjoyed. The principal of these are the Truim, the Trommie, the Feshie, and the Dulnain, on the upper part, and the Avon and Fiddoch on the lower. The Avon, the largest of them all, has its source in the perpetual snows of Ben Macdhui, so that it springs from the same fountain-head as the Dee. The scenery of the latter river is as well known as it is grand; but that of the Avon, where it flows in a rocky bed before reaching Glenlivet, through a glen overshadowed by mountains 4,000ft. in height, is more wild and magnificent still. The lower part runs over a limestone bed, and is as clear as a Hampshire stream when at its normal size. The trout fishing is preserved, but permission to fish is not difficult to obtain, and anglers are made very comfortable at the little inn of Delnashaugh, which is not far from the station at Ballindalloch.

The Fiddoch flows through the glen of that name, which, with its gently-rising hills, covered on their lower slopes with fruitful corn fields, has been classed as one of the most beautiful glens of Scotland. The fishing on the lower part of the stream where it runs in an immense gorge with a wonderful variety of rock and woodland scenery, is free, and anglers make Craigellachie their headquarters. The bed of the Fiddoch is also of the nature of limestone, and its trout are beautifully marked and quite distinct from those of the Spey.

Since the opening of the Forth Bridge, the Spey is easiest reached by the Great Northern and Great North of Scotland Railways, *viâ* Aberdeen; and an angler leaving King's Cross at eight p.m. might be "fast in a fish" by noon of the following day. The branch of the latter railway, which runs from Craigellachie, crossing and re-crossing the Spey to Grantown, and from thence on to its junction with the Highland line at Boat of Garten, follows the route of the river through its finest scenery; and anyone making a journey over this romantic country of the clans could scarcely refrain from at least a wish to make its closer acquaintance.

SOME NOTES ON THE BEDFORDSHIRE OUSE.

By an Old Hand.

Upon my word, I scarcely know how or where to begin. An angling friend, who is particularly sweet on Swavesey, or as it is called in the vernacular, "Swasey," gave me to understand some time ago that this village was admirably situated for fishing either up or down this peculiar, calmly-flowing, serene, rushy, and singularly unromantic, yet interesting river, and so to Swavesey I went. A river, as Cowper says (and says in his happiest mood)—

Here, Ouse, slow-winding through a level plain,
Of spacious meads with cattle sprinkled o'er,
Conducts the eye along the sinuous course
Delighted. While far beyond and overthwart the stream,
That as with molten glass inlays the vale,
The sloping land recedes into the clouds,
Displaying on its varied side the grace
Of hedge-row beauties numberless, square tower.
Tall spire, from which the sound of cheerful bells
Just undulates upon the listening ear;
Groves, heaths, and smoking villages remote."

I say peculiar, because in some portions the bowing and swaying bulrushes are so thick that viewed in the distance, they seem literally to block up the course of the stream; but a short space either up or down, one may come to a grand stretch or reach of deep, clear, quiet, sluggish, pondy, pikey-looking water (say from 5ft. to 8ft. in depth) within easy fishing distance from the side; and, in several instances, just opposite these deep runs are shallows in which both dace and chub are taken with the artificial fly; but more of this anon.

In some cases, again, the shallows reach across the river. Just such a deep run as that mentioned above is in the second field from the picturesque village of Holywell down stream, and called Ducker's Hole, and hugs the bank for some distance; in short, a stranger coming suddenly upon one of these exceedingly rushy portions of this unique river for the first time would scarcely believe that it contained either such pike haunts, or bream, perch, and roach swims; and with respect to fish, I firmly believe that it contains nearly every sort of fresh-water fish that swims, with perhaps barbel excepted. Salmon trout (one was caught at Brown's Hill, or Over staunch, last July, with a small gudgeon, that weighed 7lb.), pike, perch, chub, roach, bream, carp, tench, rudd, dace, burbot, bleak, minnow, miller's thumb, pope, stoneloach, sticklebacks, flounders, eels and lamprey (in season), and the first angler I came across informed me that only the previous week he had caught a rudd close to where I was fishing nearly 2½lb. in weight—a fish, as he observed, that "is not seen every day."

But I am afraid that I am digressing.

Starting-points: Either from St. Pancras or Liverpool-street Stations. In my case the latter was most convenient, so I caught the 11.55 train, a capital train, stopping at (first) Bishops Stortford, (second) Cambridge; distance fifty-five and a-half miles; fare, third-class, 4s. 7½d. Change here for Swavesey, eleven-and-a-half miles distant. River about fifteen minutes from the village. N.B. —A grand chop can be obtained at the Commercial Hotel, just opposite Cambridge Station, and Cambridgeshire bread, beer, and butter are splendid. Cross the line by the railway gatehouse, near Swavesey village, situated a little to the left of the old dock, and keep along the bank of the disused and choked-up drain which leads to the river at a point where a mill formerly stood, and the ruins of which still remain in the shape of a heap of bricks, &c. Then cross the flood-gate, and a short distance up the river are two swims much affected by the natives, and which they chiefly fish from the bank, using lines of immense thickness, and floats like young turnips, by the aid of which they not only get out good distances, but attach sufficient weight to "anchor her," and so prevent "her" from coming to the side. Such a proceeding is perfectly necessary, because if "she" was not anchored, the stream would gradually draw "her" (the float) and tackle so close to the side that one might just as well fish on the bank, more especially in a clear water; but keeping out a good-sized *quill* float placed deep enough and shotted heavily enough to keep its nose well out of the water, can be accomplished as effectually by drawing down a couple of lengths of *fine* line from between the rings, and casting in the Nottingham style, taking care that the *upper* length is allowed to go from the forefinger first; but there is one great drawback to this method—the bait is always lying up-stream, and the tackle and float hanging behind, not to mention loose line between rod top and float; the exact reverse of the method known as stret-pegging.

In my opinion, with very few exceptions, there is only one way to fish this river properly, and that is by the aid of a boat or punt. Then one can choose a swim, and light leger (with or without a float) or stret-peg; or swim a worm, caddis, &c., in places tolerably clear from weeds and other aquatic *débris*. The native with the clothes-line, &c., told me that he seldom legered without a float on account of the weeds.

I did not get down to the river until past five o'clock, and I fished on until I could no longer see my float. I waited patiently, expecting the native to pack up. The wind was crisp and cold; my feet wore damp; sport bad; I was hungry; and, in spite of myself, I could not help shivering. It was getting dark, and in sheer desperation I said, "Are you not going to pack up?" "Pack up! This is just the time bream begin to bite. I generally stay until half-past ten or eleven, for bream are seldom caught in this river in the day-time." And so without more ado I bade him good-night.

This was the cry from one and all—"Night is the best time for bream fishing"; but, as a counterblast, allow me to say that either last July or August I noticed that your reporter, Mr. Rout, told a very different tale, and why bream should not be caught in this river in the daytime is one of those things I do not quite understand; and if these fish can be caught in the neighbourhood of Huntingdon, and I think I may include St. Ives, I see no reason why they should not be taken at Swavesey, although I must confess that I did not see a bream taken with rod and line during my stay; but, to my surprise, I did see two boys fishing for bream by the aid of a lantern in a clear place in the drain previously mentioned.

Excellent takes of bream are obtained in the Trent, Yare, Medway, Thames, &c., in the daytime; then why should this river be an exception? But from all I can gather it is very *seldom* that any bream worth mentioning are taken, except at the time mentioned, and many anglers only angle for bream from dark until daybreak, or an hour or two later. I think that it is quite as well to mention this fact, because two or three anglers might go down, go to no end of trouble and considerable expense in baiting this, that, or the other swim, fish *only* in the daytime, fail to take a single bream, become utterly disgusted, and say all manner of unkind things about the river. All I know is, I soon came to the conclusion that if anyone had good cause to be disgusted it was myself, for the weather was simply detestable. Three days out of four I came home sopping wet, and perished with the cold. On one or two occasions I was nearly blown into the river. The wind blew with such force that the tops of some Lombardy poplars in the distance lashed the sky like whips, and the leaves were ripped off and driven along like unto a storm in autumn. I saw the sun at rather long intervals. Within the space of a few hours I saw every conceivable cloud in shape and colour—well, from driven snow to ink—changing, ever changing. On several days we had spring, summer and autumn, with thunder, lightning, and hail; and winter (*i.e.* frosts) in the evening. But having since that time had another fearful dose of this extraordinary, charming, singularly pleasant and balmy weather, I have come to the conclusion that it is only a waste of time to even think of being disgusted in matters appertaining to angling; and you can believe me or not, but I am just as eager to be off as ever.

This is one of the many peculiar charms of angling, that only your true out-and-out disciple of dear Old Izaak can possibly understand. A charm that is becoming more subduing, more powerful, and more irresistible every day; and this is the unfortunate result of mentioning a more unfortunate fact.

At the time of writing it is blowing and raining as hard as ever, and although I should like to get hold of some of those Ouse bream, I see no chance of fishing either in the day or night-time at present. *(To be continued.)*

CARP AND TENCH: AND ANGLING FOR THEM.

By Alfred Jardine.

(Continued from page 119.)

Cyprinus-carpio is one of the most widely-distributed of all British fish, and the remains of old carp ponds or stews are discernible all over the kingdom wherever a monastery formerly existed. In the days of the monks, sea fish could not be conveyed from the coast to remote inland places in an edible condition, no better means of transmission existing than pack-horses; and although it is probable the monks were in the habit of eating salted herrings, it was a matter of necessity to cultivate the carp and other fresh-water fish to provide for feasts and fasts. Referring to their longevity, there were carp existing at Fontainbleau up to a few years ago (previous to the lake being netted) known to be over a century old, grey with extreme age, and veritable monsters, some weighing as much 25lb. and 30lb. each.

The late Frank Buckland wrote about certain carp a hundred years old in a stew-pond at Windsor Park; and he instances one, weighing 21½lb., from which he made a plaster cast—to be seen, I believe, in his museum at South Kensington. The roe of this fish was estimated to contain no less than 1,310,750 eggs, and a smaller fish (weighing 16½lb.) contained roe of 5½lb.: giving the total of 2,059,750 eggs.

Among the specimens exhibited at the International Fisheries, 1883, was a carp, caught in the Thames, of 14lb. 10oz., and a fine one from the Lea, weighing 14¾lb. There were others also approaching these in size. In 1879 a monster carp of nearly 20lb. weight, netted in the lake at Burton Park, Sussex, was conveyed to Hendon, and placed alive in the waters of the Welsh Harp Fishery.

Mr. J. P. Wheeldon has given me the following interesting account of a splendid fish caught in July last by Mr. Robert Hazlewood, a member of the Eagle Angling Society, who, angling in the Lea at Day's Fishery, Tottenham, with a small live frog hooked through the skin of its back, and a lob worm with head nipped off, the frog brought down on to the worm—thus baited, legering for eels, Mr. Hazlewood captured and landed a fine carp of 13lb. 13oz. The following day two others of 7½lb. and 5½lb. were taken from the same waters, where, I am informed, are plenty of 10lb. to 12lb. remaining to tempt the angler, and test his tackle; but carp of 12lb. are seldom taken by rod and line, and a six-pounder would be considered a prize of which any angler might indeed feel proud. Mr. Cholmondeley Pennell gives instances of carp weighing 18lb. and 19lb.; also of a brace —netted in the lake at Gatton Park, Surrey—of 38lb. together, sent by Mr. Ladbroke as "challenge specimens" to Lord Egremont, to compare with the carp of Sussex. Mr. Pennell also speaks of one netted in the Mere, at Penn's Hill, Surrey, in 1836, of 22lb. weight,[*] as the largest ever taken in this country; but a larger one was taken in 1858 from Harting Great Pond, near Petersfield (the extreme length of this fish, including the tail, was over 36in.; its weight 24½lb.; and this grand carp ones was supposed to "top the record" of all large captured in English waters).[†] A 19½lb. carp was taken in "White Sitch Lake," near Weston Hall, Staffordshire, the seat of the Earl of Bradford.

From these data it will be seen that carp under favourable circumstances of location and food attain large dimensions and weight. Frank Buckland draws a comparison between carp and other fish. The salmon is built for speed, to live in very rapid waters, and in shape may be said to be like a racing yacht. The carp, formed like a Dutch eel-scoot, lives in quiet, oftentimes in stagnant waters, and swims slowly, but with ponderous momentum; so that it becomes necessary, when fishing for them, to use fine, though strong tackle, for, with "steam got up" and well "under weigh," if they gain a bed of water-lilies (their favourite haunt), then is likely to occur great discomfiture to the angler's gear.

Because of its extreme cunning, the carp has been called "the fresh-water fox."

> "Of all the fish that swim the watery mead,
> Not one in cunning can the carp exceed."

It is wily and crafty, with a brain weighing 1 in 500. The pike's is 1 in 1,300; and the *average* proportionate weight of brains in fresh-water fish to their bodies is as 1 in 3,000. Hearing, seeing, tasting, and smelling are faculties (to speak generally) showing higher developments in carp than in almost any other fish. Thus we may expect carp to be intellectual and subtle, and the older they get the more, of course, are their mental faculties expanded.[‡] But, nevertheless, they are capable of being tamed, and in some measure domesticated, so as to congregate at some specific corner or other place in a lake or pond to be fed—*i.e.*, to assemble together at the sound of a whistle, or I might say "the dinner bell," or the call of a human voice.

The late General Goodlake, of Denham, near Uxbridge, where I often fished—had some large carp quite tame, which fed from his hand. The large and ancient carp, inhabitants of the lake at Fontainbleau, already alluded to, many visitors there—(previous to twenty years ago)—will remember; and how a loaf of bread, baked hard (say the size of a penny roll), when cast into the water, would be immediately surrounded by many of these fish, who would push it to the nearest part of the wall surrounding the lake, and there "nozzle" and pound it, until, by repeated blows and the soaking, the loaf broke to pieces. But just as it was fit to be eaten, some of the patriarchs—grey with age—who had been watching these proceedings, would swim up, drive the lesser fish away, and appropriate the broken bread reduced to sizes small enough for deglutition.

To mention one other instance, from the many I know, of the way in which carp can be tamed, I borrow an extract from Mr. C. Fennell's work:[‖] "In a garden belonging to Mr. Eden, at Rotterdam, I saw some carp fed, which were kept in a moat of considerable size. The object was chiefly to satisfy me that they were capable of hearing. My friend, having filled his pocket with *spinach seed*, conducted me to the side of the water. We remained quiet for some time, the better to convince me that the fish would not come till he called them. At length, after calling in his usual way, the carp immediately swarmed from all parts of the moat, in such numbers that there was hardly room for them to lie one by another."

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[*] The Badminton Library, "Coarse Fish," page 282.

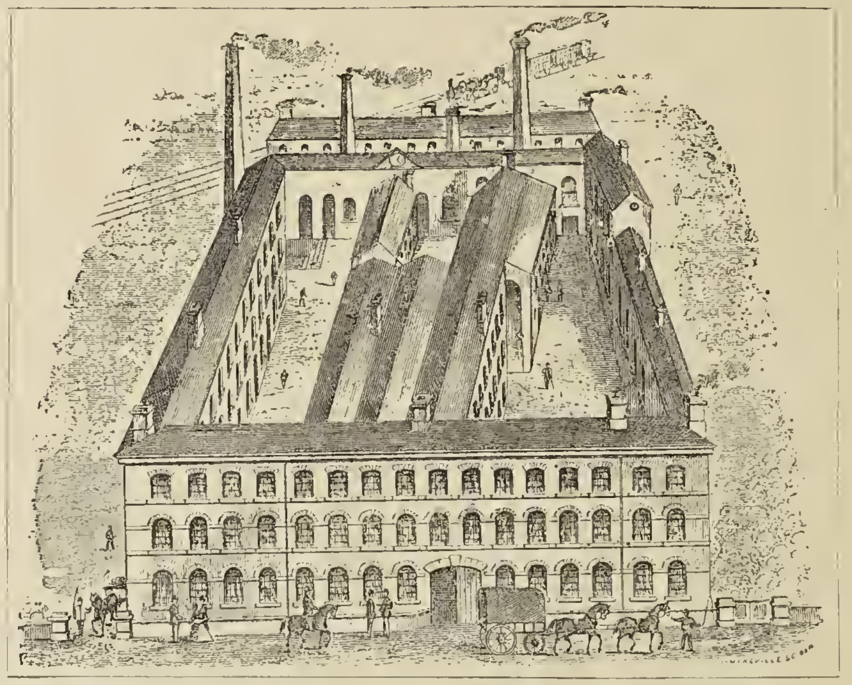
[†] "Fish and Fishing," Rev. J. J. Manley, M.A., page 212.

[‡] "Fish and Fishing," page 257.

[‖] The Badminton Library, page 274.

Carp are vegetarians, feeding on the delicate subaqueous sprouts of water-lilies and other freshwater growths. A small new potato, *semi-boiled;* broad beans, or large green peas, partly cooked, so as to be tough enough to keep on the hook, are excellent baits. Worms, gentles, wasp-grubs and fat caterpillars are at times greedily taken. Paste, sweetened with honey; or a piece of ripe old cheese, mixed with crumbs of bread into a stiff paste; the soft roe of a herring with the fibres of cotton wool well mixed in it; ripe cherries and mulberries may be used successfully as carp baits.

For "ground-bait," chopped worms, carrion gentles, or boiled potatoes and bran. Some anglers recommend the addition of coagulated blood, which can be got at slaughterhouses, but the compounding of this mess must be a filthy job. The way to "ground-bait" is to throw a little, for three or four days, into the place, or places, you intend to fish, but *not too much* bait; then wait a day without baiting, and fish the next. The carp will have congregated; and while you are fishing throw in *sparingly* a little bait, to keep the fish together and on the look-out for more food.



MESSRS, ALLCOCK AND CO.'S STANDARD WORKS, REDDITCH.

You cannot very well keep too far away from the float, and if possible manage to have the sun in front of you, so as to let no shadows of yourself, or rod, fall on the water.

Don't move about, and keep very quiet. Some old anglers I have known, when fishing from a punt, always put list slippers over their boots, so as to prevent any noise or concussion as they moved about in the punt; for water is a great conductor of sound, and carp, tench and bream are easily frightened by noises, and driven away from the swim. Therefore keep quiet, and pursue (as it were) the tactics of a burglar intent on robbing a house; for a carp is a shy fish, and a sly fish, and therefore has earned the name of the "water-fox."

There are two ways of fishing for carp—viz., float fishing and legering. The former is the best in quietly-flowing rivers, lakes and ponds; and as it does equally well for tench I will describe that method first.

The rod should be about 11ft. long, strong and flexible, but not too springy; those with butt and middle joint of solid cane and a lancewood top are excellent—much better, I think, than all lancewood or hickory. A "check-winch" (Nottingham pattern) large enough to hold eighty yards of *fine* (*though strong*) plaited silk line, which if waterproofed is an advantage, as that, in a great measure, prevents kinking; a small cork float, about two yards of gut, selected fine and *round*, thus ensuring strength (it is better stained a pale olive or green); a No. 8 round-bend hook for worms, but one size smaller for paste; the gut "shotted" twelve inches above the hook, and the depth of water accurately plumbed, so that *with the shot resting on the bottom* the float half cocks; then, when a bite is perceived, and the float begins to move away, do not strike until it goes under water. A tightening of the line is sufficient to imbed the hook over the barb into the carp's leathery mouth. Keep the fish away from weeds, play him in the open water, and get him to the landing-net as quick as possible, without risking a smash of the tackle.

Carp and tench are generally congeners in the same waters; and there are very few moats about old manor-houses, or ponds near country farms, but what hold good store of both kinds of fish. Twenty years ago, at an ancient farm in the Midlands, where I remained a few days, was a deep pond covered with duck-weed. No fish were suspected there; but during my stay I caught many brace of tench—some of them fine ones, between three and four pounds weight.

Among the best carp waters of the Thames, where good catches may be confidently expected by the persistent and painstaking angler, are the quiet reaches below Wallingford, and from Moulsford on to Cleve Lock. In these parts water-lilies—(favourite haunts of carp)—grow in profusion; and just before reaching Cleve, at Runsford deeps, is a splendid back-water, where, in the spawning time, I have "ladled out" tench with my landing-net, to return them again, however, to the water. When spawning, carp and tench will allow themselves to be almost handled, and seem oblivious to everything else than that they are engaged in. Mr. C. Pennell relates, in one of his works, how, at the great lake of Wimbledon Park, he once lifted from the water and captured with his net a carp of 19½lb. No doubt this fish was intent on spawning. In the deep portions of the stream near Mapledurham and the bend a little distance above the landing place for the Roebuck Inn, both carp and tench may be caught; but from Sonning on to Wargrave is without doubt the primest part of the Thames for these fish. At the large pool, by the five pollards, is a capital tench hole; and a half-mile farther down-stream, where some dwarf bushes grow on the north bank, a short way above where the Patrick stream flows from the river, is a quiet eddy; it was here Mr. Woodmass, fishing with Bailey, of Nottingham, one morning caught a brace of carp weighing 16lb.

Below the "eel-bucks" is an island. The channel on the right of it is much overgrown with weeds. The punt or boat must be pushed through the rushes, then a couple of open spaces of deep water will be found, and these, judiciously ground-baited and *quietly* fished, should yield a carp or two and a few brace of tench.

While mentioning Sonning, and remembering the successful angling I have had there, and the pleasant days passed in my punt with William Hull, late landlord of the *old* French Horn Inn, as my "Fidus Achates," I am very pleased to know that a great change for the better has taken place at the *new* French Horn. This hotel has recently again changed hands, and under its new proprietorship visitors now find every comfort, and receive attention from the waiters. The sitting and bed rooms are clean and nicely furnished; the *cuisine* is excellent, and charges are the *reverse of extortionate*—in fact, very moderate. These advantages, added to civility, make it worthy of the patronage of anglers intending to fish the Sonning waters.—(*To be continued.*)

THE MANUFACTURE OF FISHING TACKLE.

—— THE REDDITCH HOUSES. ——

BY EDGAR S. SHRUBSOLE.

(Continued from page 384.)

POSSESSED of indomitable energy and a large amount of commercial aptitude himself; assisted by skilful, steady, and industrious managers and foremen; backed up by able and satisfied workmen—Mr. Samuel Allcock has built up at the Standard Works, Redditch, not only by far the largest manufactory of fishing tackle in the world, but also one of the most remarkable and interesting industries of the present reign. One has to turn to the manufacture of needles, carried on in the same town; to the lace manufactories of Nottingham; the screw works of Birmingham; the numerous factories for the production of cutlery, &c., in Sheffield, and like industries, to find a parallel to the innumerable devices, deft fingers, and intricate machinery utilised in the production of fishing tackle at the admirably arranged and conducted Standard Works.

Not the least remarkable feature of this extensive business is its rapid growth; since that time in the far distant past, when worthy Joseph Tolly, of Sambourne, near Redditch, commenced to make fish hooks on a small—a very small scale—down to our own day, when this industry gives employment to many thousands of hands, no business has made greater or more rapid progress than that of Messrs. Samuel Allcock and Co. The name is known wherever votaries of the gentle art are to be found. Not only do they do an enormous home trade, but their goods are exported to every part of Europe, to all the Colonies, to India, and to the United States, in quantities calculated to make the uninitiated open their eyes very widely indeed. Large as the business is, however, it is like the giant at the fair, "still growing," and I noticed as I recently entered Standard Works the erection of new shops, capable of accommodating fifty or sixty hands in addition to the six hundred already employed in the various departments of the works.

To describe the Standard Works with any degree of minuteness in the space at my disposal would be an absolute impossibility. The numerous departments, the variety of goods made, the multifarious processes through which all the different articles have to pass, would, if adequately described, occupy a volume of no small bulk. Within the limits of this article it will only be possible to draw attention to the various branches of the trade in which Messrs. Allcock and Company are engaged, to convey some slight idea of the magnitude and extent of the business carried on at Standard Works, and to mention a few new or improved appliances designed for the destruction of fish that attracted my attention upon the occasion of my visit.

In the hook department they make hooks from 1lb. weight each to fifty thousand to the ounce! One hundred and eighty different kinds of hooks, each having from twenty to thirty sizes, are manufactured. I was struck with some fine large crystal-shaped hooks that, mounted upon reliable gut and baited with a lob-worm, would prove creditable to the firm, and a boon to the angler should a big barbel be fighting furiously for its life. How often have I gone into shops — shops supplied by Messrs. Allcock—and hunted through the hook books and boxes in vain hope of finding such hooks; and yet here they were in hundreds of thousands, just the very thing, not too thin in the wire, but just thin enough, tempered so beautifully that they sprung to a severe test like a sword of Damascus steel. I also noticed some very neatly brazed and finished treble hooks. In small-eyed hooks the firm have made great advances towards perfection, and the proportion of malformed hooks in a packet is considerably less than it was a few years back. I was also very pleased to notice that great care and good material was used in attaching the hooks to gut; each hook tested and the gut examined before being tied on. There is not the slightest doubt that immense strides have been made in the important matter of fish-hooks and their attachment to gut or gimp during the past few years, and Messrs. Allcock in this, as in other matters, have kept in the front rank.

The rod department is one of the largest departments in the factory, and employs some of the best rod-makers in the world, both in greenheart and split-cane. Messrs. Allcock's list of rods includes patterns suitable for any and every style of fishing in all parts of the world. I was permitted to peep inside the special pattern room, and was not at all surprised at what I saw there. Hung upon the walls—each duly labelled and noted—were patterns of rods from which many well-known firms in this country and abroad are supplied; and the names I saw there prove very conclusively that Messrs. Allcock are entrusted with the manufacture of fishing-rods for some of the very best firms and most fastidious anglers throughout the world. When I was there they had a magnificent stock of well-seasoned wood and canes, which unfortunately was partly destroyed by fire shortly after, together with the spacious wood-sheds in which it was stored. The expense and bother Messrs. Allcock have been put to consequently is incalculable; but I am pleased to hear from the firm that they have not only rebuilt the cane and wood sheds, but have been able to replace the stock by some very large purchases of old greenheart and other woods.

The fishing reel department is also a very large one and includes the manufacture of reels made of gun-metal, ebonite, brass, wood, &c. This is another department in the manufacture of fishing tackle that Messrs. Allcock have made many great improvements in during the past few years. Quite a new thing is the winch made of aluminium, marvellously light and strong. The old idea was to build rods and make winches to suit them, with the result that if the winch used with them did not suit—as was often the case—the action of the rod varied with the suitability of the winch. The modern idea is to make a rod perfect in action in itself, and then get the winch of almost imperceptible weight. Many anglers will say, "Oh, I like weight in my reel; it gives swing, action and power to the rod." And I must admit I have a sneaking regard for a winch whose weight makes an appreciable difference to the rod it is attached to. But fancy, ye of little faith—just fancy a 4in. metal winch of less than 10oz. weight! There will be more love and less labour about salmon and sea trout fishing if these reels prove a success, and there is no reason they should not. In this connection I would remark that my experience teaches me that a line of suitable weight is of far more importance in the perfect action of the rod than a winch of a certain weight is. It is wonderful how these modern double taper lines find out the weak part of a rod—if it has one—especially if the line is in the slightest too heavy. Given a line suitable to the rod, and *weight* in the winch is of minor importance; in fact, although as I have said I like to know it is there, probably the lighter it is the better. At any rate, it is less tiring. I should not be surprised to find these aluminium winches rapidly come into favour.

Another great improvement, in my way of thinking, is the new celluloid float. Innumerable materials have been requisitioned at different times in the manufacture of the necessary tell-tale used by the bottom and mid-water fisherman. The legion of shapes, makes, and materials used in the extensive float department at Messrs. Allcock were all familiar to me with this exception, and I must admit I at first looked "out of the corner of my eye," at the delicate working samples of the celluloid float submitted to my inspection. But, to my surprise, they proved quite unbreakable. The material, notwithstanding its extreme lightness, is wonderfully tough, so much so, in fact, that children's rattles and bouncing-balls, humming-tops, &c., are made from it! Celluloid floats can be made in any shape or size, and they are sure to become immensely popular.

Messrs. Allcock have for years been to the front, and still continue to rank among the largest manufacturers of silkworm gut. Mr. Samuel Allcock's practical and thorough knowledge of the breeding and rearing of silkworms, and detailed experience of the manufacture of silkworm gut has been of immense use to the firm. He is one of the best judges of silkworm gut living, and as he personally superintends the handling and making up of the superior and very valuable gut, it is needless for me to say that it is done as it should be.

I shall deal fully with the manufacture of artificial flies in another article, but I may say here that Messrs. Allcock in this, as in every other branch, have shown what industry, skill, and perseverance will do. Six large shops at the Standard Works are taken up by those engaged in fly-making, and those who are principally occupied in this task belong, as is often the case when deft fingers and artistic touch are necessary, to the gentler sex. I am a staunch supporter of feather, and silk as materials for flies, but a word of praise is certainly due to the latest production of Messrs. Allcock in the artificial fly department. It takes the form and name of the "Inimitable," and the firm are to be congratulated, and the dressers deserve all praise for the ingenuity and skill exercised in its production. The wings are of delicate silk gauze, supported by silk threads, small quills, and remarkably resemble the wings of natural flies. They are well waterproofed, and lately the wing has been strengthened by the addition of a strip of quill, and covered with a preparation that will not stick on the hottest day. Certainly the "Inimitable" is the nearest approach to nature I have seen, and even a wary old trout might be forgiven for sucking in such an artistic production, and becoming in his turn "sucked in"! In the form of an "Inimitable Stone-fly," it looks perfectly irresistible.

Geen's Spiral Minnow, the Ring Mounted Devon, Col. Clark's Landing Handle, Jardine's Plugless Float, the Imperceptible Spinning Tackle, Platt's Fishing Basket, the *Fishing Gazette* floats, the new patent Champion Spinner, and many other improvements, have already been noticed in these columns. It only remains for me to say that Messrs. Allcock are now busy with an improved Chapman Spinner, the idea of that ingenious angler, Mr. Emery, of Richmond, who will be known to many of my readers as the secretary of the last bait casting tournament at Twickenham.

It would ill become me to conclude this condensed notice of Standard Works, without referring to the courteous manner in which the principal and his partners showed me all there was to see, and told me all that was needful for me to know.

Thus have I passed in brief review the internal economy of the largest fishing tackle manufactory in the world. Everywhere in this great hive of industry are to be found evidences of the prosperity which enterprise and tact always secure; and as one emerges from the factory into the pleasant country road in which it stands, it is impossible to avoid expressing the hope embodied in the word familiar to all schoolboys—*Floreat!*

Waltoniana

ANGLERS should bear in mind that letters concerning the fishing to be obtained in various places, more often than not, do not come from entirely disinterested persons. Thanks to the enterprise of the angling Press, good waters are from time to time discovered and made known to anglers generally; but quite half the letters which appear, cracking up angling resorts are from persons who let lodgings or who are otherwise interested pecuniarily in anglers. It is next to impossible for anyone, whether reader or editor, to always distinguish between the sham and the real thing, so never act on such letters without making inquiries of really disinterested persons.

IN the *Gazette* of August 29, I commented on the difficulty of getting first-class pike fishing in Ireland, doubting if it was to be obtained at all, but recommended the larger lakes, particularly those on the Shannon, as good places for all-round sport. "Pat," said I, "is never tired of telling one of the monsters which have been killed; but how many of the thousands of anglers who have visited Ireland during, say, the last ten years, have any monsters to show for their pains?" To my great amusement, "Pat" himself, in the person of Mr. Hurley, of Killaloe, on the strength of the aforesaid remarks, rushes into print with the remarkable inference that I recommended the Shannon lakes for good pike fishing. I did nothing of the kind, but that charming lake, Lough Derg, on which I have spent many happy days, is certainly one of these spots. I would recommend for all-round sport such as I described on the 29th. Mr. Hurley speaks of monsters which have been captured in the lake from time to time, and no doubt he believes in them. I do not, and I know, moreover, exactly the sort of sport the angler is likely to expect, from having passed many months fishing the lake. I had the good fortune to catch one fish of 25lb., and I am almost certain that not another anywhere approaching that size was caught in the lake that year. My next largest fish was only 15lb. That was in about a year's fishing altogether on all parts of the lake, and in company with boatmen who knew the water thoroughly. "Pat," not Mr. Hurley, deluded me in going to Ireland in search of monster pike, and I, like many more, was bitterly disappointed so far as the pike were concerned, though in other respects I had no reason to regret my visit. No doubt there are a few very large pike in the large lakes, but they are very rarely caught. Having written with the express object of warning the readers of the *Gazette* against placing too implicit a belief in "Pat's" monster pike, it is somewhat comical to have to return to the subject under the circumstances.

AN attempt is being made to form a club to take over the water vacated this month by the Hungerford Flyfishers' Club. I understand that the commoners of Hungerford have received a very good offer for the water from a person living in the neighbourhood, but I have not yet heard that the offer has been accepted. The commoners are mostly men in business in the town, and it may very well be that they would prefer to let to a club, as the more people come to fish the water the more the trade of the town is benefited. The members of the Hungerford Flyfishers' Club paid a high subscription for the water, bearing in mind that the commoners reserved to themselves the right of fishing several days a week, and that the fly-fishing is rarely really good except in the May-fly season.

MR. HERBERT KEILY, who is endeavouring to form the new club, and whose address is The Acorns, Great Marlow, Bucks, proposes that the subscription should be very small—two or three guineas only—and at that rate the club would be well worth joining, for the late club systematically stocked the water for years. If he receives a sufficient number of applications for membership he will then be in a position to approach the commoners on the subject. Anyone who requires a little good fly-fishing for large trout once a year, I mean in the May-fly season—with fair sport during the rest of the summer—could not do better than communicate with Mr. Keily, for at three, or even four guineas, there would be no cheaper club water in England.

I RECOMMEND the following to professional fishermen and gillies. It is a method of making the "gentleman" hook a really good fish which is bound to break away with some of the tackle in its mouth. *On a very windy day* take the boat over fairly deep water, but where either a rock or two comes within about four feet of the surface or where there are some tough weeds. See that the trace is heavily leaded, on the plea that you are going to take the "gentleman" over deep water where there are some large fish. When you get to the locality mentioned, say that you would not be surprised to see a monster take the bait at any moment. With good luck, and a little dexterous management of the boat, the bait will soon catch in something, and you will at once exclaim excitedly, "Bravo, sir; you've got him." Turn the boat broadside to the wind, and she will begin to drift rapidly, and line will run off the reel. The angler, all attention on the fish, will not notice this manœuvre. When ten yards or thereabouts have run off the reel, say "You had better hold him, sir, or he will get in the weeds." If the angler does not take your advice, repeat it. Then check the boat a little by turning it stem on to the wind, and then let it drift again by turning it broadside. This will cause the fish to take out line in a very natural manner. Again exhort your gentleman to hold the fish as hard as he dare, then give a sly stroke with the sculls and snap will go the tackle, and on the face of your gentleman you will perceive a look of blank despair, which you must manage to reflect in your own. You may safely abuse the tackle, unless you made it; and you may hazard a guess at the weight of the fish, which you should continue to talk about at intervals during the day. By eventide your gentleman will be perfectly satisfied that he has hooked and lost the largest pike in the water. Not only will he fish repeatedly for that fish, but the story will get abroad and others will come and do likewise. This will be a source of income to you. You must live, you know.

TEMPLAR.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. PRITT.

FISHING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

DEAR SIR,—I may be going to King William's Town, South Africa, soon, and should be extremely obliged if any of your readers could give me any information regarding the fishing, if any, out there.—Sincerely yours, S. A. BISHOP.

Honor Oak Park, Brockley.

"HARLING" FOR SALMON.

SIR,—Will anyone of your readers explain the method of "harling" for salmon? Is it some local name for trailing? Just at present, I have only two angling books with me—Bickerdyke's and Walbran's—and neither of them mention "harling."—Yours, &c., CHARALAH.

FISHING AT SWANAGE.

SIR,—Will any of your readers kindly inform me what fish are to be caught in Swanage bay during the month of October, and what baits should be used?—I am, sir, yours faithfully, E. C.

THE RIVER WYE.

SIR,—I should feel very grateful if any of the readers of your paper, living in Hereford or its neighbourhood, would kindly give me any information as to how I could obtain good trout and grayling fishing in the river Wye. Do not so much object to club water, providing it is not over fished.—Yours truly, W. WOODWARD.

Ashdown Cottage, Tenbury.

SHOW FOR FOWLS USED FOR FLY-TYING.

SIR,—Will you allow me to ask for subscriptions towards a class or two for the above, at either the Crystal Palace or Birmingham coming shows?

I have the following kindly assisting me: Capt. Lambert, £1; Messrs. Allcock, 10s.; J. Henderson, Esq., 10s.; Rowe, Barnstaple, 10s.; and many others.

I would propose, if the amount is high enough, three classes—blues, greys, and honey duns. You will no doubt kindly assist us yourself, and these shows will be to many fishermen very attractive.—Yours faithfully, HACKLE.

ANGLERS (SO-CALLED) DESTROYING FISH.

DEAR SIR,—Having read the article under the above heading, I understand that our friend "Ynotnakram" means to say that nine out of every ten London anglers (which are mostly clubmen), do not return undersize fish. I will not say that at the river which he mentions it is not so, but I will say this, that, taking the whole of London anglers, they are not what I understand him to say they are—pot-hunters. They are mostly sportsmen, and scorn the idea of filling their bags with such miserable specimens. If I do not understand him rightly, I shall be pleased with an explanation, but I must defend the London sportsman (angler or otherwise).—Yours truly,

G. S.

SALMON RIVERS IN NORWAY.

THE following extract from a private letter gives some useful general information about salmon fishing in Norway:—

"I have just returned from Norway. I enjoyed my trip, although I had not much sport in the way of fishing; the weather was too fine, and as the river I went to was dependent on rain water, and there was no rain, it got gradually smaller, till at last there was hardly a pool that would hold a fish. When first our river failed us, we went off to another belonging to two friends of mine, and found that river unfishable, because it had too much water. Like most of the Norway rivers, it depended on snow-water, and the intense heat, thermometer at 80 deg., had melted too fast. The rivers in Norway may be divided into four classes. First, the big rivers, mostly in the North, such as the Alten, Tana, and Namsen, where very big fish are got, but where the fishing is done by rowing about and dragging flies or minnows after you from two or three rods stuck out over the stern of the boat, a very doubtful amusement, generally known as harling. Secondly, big rivers fed by glaciers and snow, such as the Rauna, Romsdal, Lierdal. Thirdly, big rivers also dependent on snow for their water supply, where the sport is chiefly from sea trout, of which you get about a dozen to one salmon. The sea trout, however, run very large, even up to 30lb., and 15lb. and 18lb. fish are not uncommon, and are more sporting fish than the salmon. Fourthly, the smaller rivers dependent, and which produce about one salmon to twenty sea trout. The river I went to was of the latter kind; the sea trout average about 3lb. or 4lb., but eight-pounders are not uncommon, and the salmon average was just 11lb. I start the day after to-morrow for the Spey, of which I hear a good account at present, so I hope to have some fair sport, but we never can tell. It depends of course on the rainfall, and the weather appears now to have settled down to fine."

AN ALL-ROUND ENGLISH SPORTSMAN.—It isn't every man who can afford to rent a moor at present prices. The all-round sportsman of the south of England can whip a trout stream, play cricket on the common or the village green, and can get up early to see the huntsman with his pack bustle up the fox cubs in spinney, gorse, and woodland. The harvest is a very late one this year; and yet the more ardent among sportsmen must needs kill a few brace of birds just "to keep up the charter," on September 1. Thousands probably go partridge shooting who never fired at grouse, unless it be in the west of England where an occasional covey of muirfowl are found on Dartmoor, and soon got killed. The reduction in the price of the shooting certificate is a boon, especially the pound licence for fourteen days. But this hardly affects your all-round, well to do sportsman in the south. As each branch of sport comes round, the sportsman who is not detained by Parliamentary duties, who lives the greater part of the year in the country, and is consequently always in good fettle. Athleticism has done wonders for the middle and lower middle class of young men and so has angling. We never hear the taunt "counter-jumper"; it is your fairly successful citizen "something in the city," who fancies he can fish, and "shoot of course!" He it is who more often than not fires at dabchick, or dog, or donkey, or any mortal thing, and helps to contract the rational pleasures of the real sportsman. But our all-round sportsman in the provinces thoroughly enjoys himself; he almost pities an acquaintance who had got himself elected to a seat in Parliament, "spending so much good time in the House, away from sport and fresh air." His friend tells him "to think of the ladies, position improved, &c., by having 'M.P.' tagged to one's name." The late Charles Kingsley, parson, novelist, and lover of natural history, would mark the subdued "'scape of passing snipe to their feeding ground in river, valley, or to the gulley on a neighbouring common." Perhaps the genial observer took his gun in the morning, and killed a couple or so. Many another country clergyman fishes and kills a few brace of "birds," either on his own glebe land, or by invitation of the lord or the squire. Educated Englishmen, lay or clerical, love sport as a favourite form of strong exercise, and let us hope no Puritan will say that a man is less a Christian minister, and fully alive to the needs of all his parishioners, because he "whips" the local trout stream, or shoots a little game.—RUSTICUS.

Holloway's Pills.—For the cure of debility, bile, liver, and stomach complaints this inappreciable medicine is so well known in every part of the world, and the cures performed by its use are so wonderful, that it now stands pre-eminent above all other remedies, more particularly for the cure of bilious and liver complaints, disorders of the stomach, dropsy, and debilitated constitution. In these diseases the beneficial effects of the Pills are so permanent that the whole system is renewed, the organs of digestion strengthened, and a free respiration promoted. They expel from the secretive organs and the circulation the morbid matter which produces inflammation, pain, fever, debility, and physical decay—thus annihilating, by their purifying properties, the virulence of the most painful and devastating diseases.

THE GREAT FISHING CONTEST AT PULBOROUGH.

THERE were no less than 232 entries on the Open Roving Fishing Contest, and prizes to be competed for in the Arun, at Pulborough, on the 6th inst., promoted by Mr. A. A. Eldridge (late Clout's), of the Rose and Crown, Goswell-road. Altogether there were twenty-seven money prizes, ranging from two guineas down to five shillings, and every piscator who had entered, punctually put in an appearance. Two special trains steamed out of London Bridge Station, early in the morning, containing between seven hundred and eight hundred anglers and their friends. On the arrival of the second train at its destination all the anglers had their tickets properly and authoritatively stamped, and a signal was given by one of the stewards for the start. It was a very pretty sight to see them all so eager and full of expectation, strutting down the river side merrily and loquaciously with their rods, and their panniers and fishing boxes on their backs. The weather, too, was magnificent and all that could be desired by the most fastidious person, and the water was in nice condition, but there was a north-west wind. During the day each one tried his utmost, in other words his level best with all sorts of baits and allurements to capture the fish.

At four p.m. the competitors began to arrive at Mr. Nutt's, the Swan Hotel, to weigh in their fish, and it was found there had been some splendid takes. The first prize of two guineas was won by Mr. W. Biggs, of the Funny Folks Angling Club, who had a total weight of 8lb. 5oz., composed principally of roach and bream; second, Mr. Webber, 5lb. 8oz.; third, Mr. Shakel, 5lb. 2¼oz.; fourth, Mr. Warman, 4lb. 8½oz.; fifth, Mr. Longe, 4lb. 7½oz.: sixth, Mr. Robinson, 3lb. 12¾oz.; seventh, Mr. Macdonald, 3lb. 11½oz.; eighth, Mr. Smith, 3lb. 3¾oz., these being the principal prizes. The other minor prizes of 10s. and 5s. went as follows: Messrs. Patman, Dockree, J. Smith, G. Watling, F. Guntrip, H. Watling, J. Newton, La Hunore, Vernett, Harding, and Messrs. Parkin, Forester, Shorey, Fellowes, Jarrard, Nelson, Fletcher, Fitch, and Hayes. The prize money was paid over immediately after the contest by Mr. Eldridge himself, and every competitor seemed highly delighted and satisfied with their sport and outing and the success they had met with or achieved. Before the anglers left Pulboro' a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Eldridge, Mr. Nutt, Mr. Reynolds, and Mr. Wade for the efficient manner in which the arrangements had been carried out. The next competition at Amberley on the 4th prox.

THE SALMON-LADDERS ON THE BALLISODARE RIVER IN IRELAND.

THERE are at this moment in Scotland five hundred miles of rivers and at least fifty thousand acres of lochs barred against the ascent of salmon by impassable obstructions, in the shape of waterfalls, the greater part of which might easily and profitably be opened up but for the claims of the Crown to all new salmon fisheries; the claims of certain proprietors, founding on old charters conferring upon them the salmon fisheries in a whole district of country, to follow salmon, in the event of certain obstructions being opened up, on to rivers where the riparian ownership and the *solum* of the rivers belongs to other proprietors; and, lastly, to the objections of proprietors of falls to have them made passable for salmon, on the ground of loss of amenity.

In Ireland, where these objections do not apply as in Scotland, some notable and successful attempts have been made to open up rivers naturally barred against the ascent of salmon, the most notable and successful of these being the Ballisodare river, which presented apparently insurmountable obstructions to the passage of salmon.

We understand that the Fishery Board for Scotland lately instructed the Inspector of Salmon Fisheries to visit and report on the remarkable salmon-ladders that have made the great fall on the Ballisodare easily passable for salmon, and that an arrangement has been made by Mr. Young, after carefully inspecting the ladders, to have working drawings of them sent from Ireland to the Fishery Board.

The Ballisodare river falls into Ballisodare Bay, a southerly branch of Sligo Bay, on the west coast of Ireland. It is about the size of the Earn or the Isla of Scotland, and is formed by the junction of two streams—the Arrow and Owell—the former of which flows into and out of Loch Arrow, a fine lake five miles long and nearly a mile wide.

The obstructions on the river are three in number, and are of the most formidable character—the least of them being more difficult to overcome than the Falls of Tummel. Previous to the erection of the ladders the Ballisodare river never contained a single salmon; since the erection of the ladders, it has produced from 8,000 to 10,000 salmon annually.

The obstructions consist of a perpendicular rock, 22ft. in height, stretching across the whole breadth of the mouth of the river, just where it falls into the sea. When the river is in flood, it dashes over the rock in a splendid cascade, which tourists come from a great distance to see. The ladder is on the right bank of the river. Its mouth enters the chief pool below the falls, where the principal lie of the fish is. It is on the pool-and-jump system, the stops, formed of stone, each crossing the whole breadth of the ladder, with the exception of about a foot, where there is a free opening down to the foot of the ladder. The gradient is so easy—about 1 in 10 or 11—that the salmon never jump from pool to pool, but swim up through the openings left at the end of the stops. As many as sixty-seven salmon have been counted going up this ladder in the course of an hour. The ladder is in two parts, which form an angle with each other. The pools in the lower part are very spacious—about 9ft. square.

A short distance above the first fall is the second, a perpendicular rock, twelve feet high, termed the "Pothole." Here there is a second ladder, on the same principle of construction as the first with this exception, that for a short distance above where it enters the pool below the fall it passes through a tunnel cut in the rock.

The third and last obstruction occurs at Collooney, about a mile above the "Pothole." Here there is a perpendicular rock, 22ft. 6in. in height, and a ladder of the same description as those on the two lower falls, with this addition, that at the junction of the two branches of the ladder there is a spacious resting pool about fifteen feet square. At the top of each of the ladders above described there are sluices regulating the flow of water.—*Scotsman.*

⁂ **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1891.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

A MEETING of the committee of the Birmingham Association was held at the headquarters on Thursday evening, September 3. Mr. T. Coles presided. The meeting was well attended. The following gentlemen were appointed to sell tickets at the various railway stations on the morning of the forthcoming great association excursion and contest. Bordesley Station—Messrs. Gumbley, Willock, Jones, and J. Holding; Snow-hill Station—Messrs. White, Hall, Attwood, and A. Mender; Hockley Station—Messrs. Allen, Goode, Eccles, and Keeling. These gentlemen will also be supplied with contest tickets, which will be one shilling each. The whole of the committee will be distinguished by the association badge. It was arranged that the signal to commence and cease fishing should be given by the aid of a quantity of police whistles, which will be distributed to the committee on the morning of the contest. The weighing of the fish will be done by two pairs of scales which the secretary was ordered to purchase, together with suitable cases for carrying the same. The final arrangements were left in the hands of Messrs. Coles, Dance, Gumbley, and White, who visited Pershore for the purpose of carrying into effect the resolutions passed by the committee. The gentlemen made a minute inspection, and were agreeably surprised to find that the contest can be fished on one side of the river, and the contest ground will be from the Anchor Inn, up the river towards Fladbury, the banks of the river in this direction being suitable to peg-down one thousand anglers without any obstacle whatever. The stiles will be removed along the banks of the river, so that the contestants will be able to get to their places with as little difficulty as possible. Two boats will be chartered to convey the fishing bags and umpires from the far end of the line to the Anchor Inn, where the weighing-in will take place. This will save the umpire the trouble of carrying the fish, as upon former occasions, and it will also facilitate the weighing-in of the fish. A large marquee and refreshment tents will be erected in a field near to the road, past the George Inn, and it is in this field that the Victoria brass band will discourse sweet music for dancing after the contest.

OUR Midland rivers are now in the best possible condition. On the Avon some good sport has been had with the bream, and some fine catches have been made in the neighbourhood of Eckington and Defford. These fish have been mostly taken in the morning and evening, very few being taken during the middle day. Stewed wheat has been the most killing bait. Very little fishing has been indulged in in the Stratford district, as the water has been drawn off for the purpose of repairing the locks. This drawback to the fishing has been going on between Tewkesbury and Stratford for this last two months; but I am informed that when the repairs are finished at Stratford, the whole of the locks will have been repaired, and the water will not be drawn off again for a long time to come. Let us hope that such may be the case. The Severn has been patronised to a great extent during the last four or five days, and some excellent sport has been had near to Hampton Lode and Highley. The chub, roach, and dace, have been feeding well, and the gentle has been the means of making some decent catches. The late rains have to a great extent refreshed the river, and I hope anglers will not be slow to take advantage of its present grand state.

NOTWITHSTANDING the increased entrance fee to the Birmingham Association, which now stands at four guineas, I have received information of two societies being formed, one, at the Turners' Arms, and the other at the Junction Inn, Sparkbrook, who are willing to comply with the new rule of the association, and pay all demands should they be accepted by the association. The two clubs just mentioned are within the half-mile radius of one club already affiliated; but should this club offer no objection, there is no doubt but that the two societies, which are composed of very respectable members, will be accepted.

THE Camden Society held their consolation contest on Saturday afternoon last at Kingswood, and were favoured with splendid weather. Twenty-eight members who were unsuccessful in the last annual contest took part, twenty-four of whom succeeded in taking fish and securing a prize. The chief honours fell to Mr. G. Padgett, first; Mr. Clarke, second; and Mr. T. Smith, third. Mr. W. Perry, the president of the Brookfields Society, acted as referee. The prizes will be distributed at the next meeting of the Society.

I BEG to inform the members of the Birmingham Angling Association that the whole of the prizes to be contested for on Monday next, are to be seen on view in the large meeting room at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield. The prizes are of a costly description, and number thirty-six, and are far superior to the collections of former years. The General Secretary will attend this (Saturday) evening, to issue railway and contest tickets, when he hopes the members and their friends will turn up in full force.

CAPTURE OF ALLEGED SALMON POACHERS IN THE SOLWAY.—On Sunday last an exciting capture of salmon poachers took place in the Solway by the Annan water bailiffs. It appears that the bailiffs learned that one of the salmon boats belonging to Annan, and containing two Whammellers, were seen to proceed down the firth with a long hang-net on board. As it was suspected they were bent on salmon poaching, the water bailiffs manned their own boat and went off in pursuit of the supposed poachers. The sea was exceedingly rough at the time, and the bailiffs experienced considerable difficulty in making headway after the poachers. After a chase lasting eight hours, the bailiffs got alongside of the poachers, and charged them with fishing for salmon during the weekly close. It is said that the poachers had concealed on board their boat over sixty large salmon. These did not fall into the hands of the water-bailiffs, but were subsequently brought to Annan and sold to the fishmongers. The poachers "lift" must have amounted to over £50, and as they will probably be fined a few pounds for the offence in the Justice of Peace Court, they can well afford to pay any small fine inflicted by the Justices. Until we have a more stringent law in Scotland for salmon poaching, these offences will continue to grow in magnitude year by year, and the law will be broken with impunity.—HEATHERBELL.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

BARBEL anglers in our district were, at the close of last week, buoyed up with hope of doing something out of the common amongst their favourite sporting fish. Weather and water conditions were all in their favour, and on the 6th inst. numerous well-known swims in the lower reaches were substantially baited, not only with worms, but with chandlers' greaves or scratchings. A party of Nottingham working-men fishermen attempted operations on a swim with the running float, but a strong wind suddenly sprang up, and they were compelled to fall back on the use of the leger-line. By employing a very light "plumb," they soon found the fish on the feed, and at the close of their labours in the evening, they counted over the contents of their basket, and found it contained no fewer than nineteen. On Monday they tried the same swim again, but, singularly enough, failed to get so much as a nibble from a barbel. They caught a few chub and dace, and something like sixteen eels, one of which weighed 2½lb. The reason of the falling-off amongst the barbel was not far to seek. During the early part of the day, the river began to rise rapidly, and before night there were fully ten inches of extra water coming down. Where the influx came from was a puzzle to a considerable number of anglers on various lengths of the river, but there is little doubt the Dove was the sole cause of the rise. Rain, it seems, had fallen heavily in Derbyshire and Staffordshire on Sunday, and the tributary named was quickly running at a great height. It is surprising how soon the Dove is up and down. Only last week I fished Sir Henry Every's private water at Egginton, and early had to beat a retreat through the heavy nature of the current. The river flows into the Trent between Willington and Burton-on-Trent, and, until the water settles down, barbel fishermen using the reaches below its out-flow stand very poor chance of enjoying sport. On Monday, Mr. Phillip Wilson and Mr. J. Theaker, Nottingham, visited the Shardlow subscription section, and although they resorted to every move on the board to induce the barbel to accept a bait, they failed to stir a single fish. Fortunately they were possessed of an ample supply of maggots, and by a liberal use of these as ground-bait they succeeded in bagging something like 20lb. of roach and dace. At King's Mills, Mr. T. Wood, the lessee, killed a rare lot of magnificent chub and perch with the worm, and a little higher up the river, or at Weston Cliff, Mr. G. Beeton, of Radford, caught, I understand, a perch of nearly 2lb., besides sundry bream and perch. On Friday, Mr. J. Greaves, of the Nottingham Wellington Society, excelled amongst eels at the celebrated Wenham Hole below King's Mills Ferry. By the aid of the leger-line he managed to bring to bank over 15lb., including an extraordinary specimen of 3lb. 14oz. In the same fishery, on Saturday, two other gentlemen gave creed wheat a trial, and were rewarded with a take of nearly 30lb. of splendid roach. Lower down the river, or at Barton, the roach contingent have of late fared remarkably well, using in turn such lures as bread, bread-paste, creed wheat, and maggots. The majority of the fish were caught at the mouth of the Erewash, and in mentioning names of the principal takes, I must not overlook those of Mr. West, of Radford, Mr. J. Taylor, and Mr. George Hall, of Nottingham, and Mr. W. Auslebrook, of West Bridgford. Dr. Higginbottom, Nottingham, was out in the Thrumpton private length on Monday with his trusted professional, A. Bull, but the two only succeeded in bagging a few perch, roach, and dace. Barbel was their object, and they were, like others, much disappointed at the sudden turn the river had taken. At Wilford, on Monday and Tuesday, the veteran Mr. John Boyd, Nottingham, caught a variety of roach, dace, and chub with the maggot, and the same description of bait answered its purpose fairly well in the deeps below the New Trent Bridge. During Monday night the river dropped six or seven inches, but even when my Notes were posted on Wednesday evening there was a peculiar tinge of colour associated with it. It is to be hoped, however, that barbelling may become general during the ensuing week. Given an open month, there is none like September for all-round fishing, and, what is better, the fish one kills are in the pink of condition.

INFORMATION reaches me that at daybreak, on Sunday, a gang of poachers hailing from the Radford district attempted to net the famous barbel and bream hole opposite the farm of Wm. Brewill, at the bottom of Lenton Lane. The hole last summer was pretty freely blown up with dynamite, and was also subjected to the vicious practices of the "skull dragging" or snatching fraternity. This season there has been an absence of the snatching business, and it is believed that the gang who sought to use their nets on Sunday retired from their unlawful work wofully disappointed. Various awkward stakes are driven into the bed of the stream on the lower side of the hole, and in these the nets, by all account, became entangled, and were only recovered with considerable difficulty. A great pity, indeed, they were not torn to ribbons, and the operators themselves washed away. A few of our so-called Trent otters would not be missed, I assure you.

A RARE bit of perch fishing has fallen to the lot of Mr. A. Whaley, of West Bridgford, near the new Trent Bridge. Mr. Whaley visited the "Forty-foot" in Lincolnshire, and returned with nearly thirty fish. Seventeen averaged a pound each, and two weighed within a fraction of 2lb. each.

ON Tuesday the members of the Nottingham Shoulder of Mutton Association fished a pegged-down match in the waters leased by Mr. T. W. Openshaw, of Newark, at Winthorpe, when the prize-takers were: First, Mr. G. Boales; second, Mr. J. Truman; third, Mr. T. Lee; fourth, Mr. Hustwayte; fifth, Mr. G. Roomo; sixth, Mr. T. Leak: seventh, Mr. J. Bell; eighth, Mr. F. Walker; ninth, Mr. J. Derrick; and tenth, Mr. Brotherton. Following the competition an excellent repast was partaken of at Host R. Higginson's, the Shoulder of Mutton Inn, Smithy-row, Nottingham, when, on the motion of Mr. C. Heald (secretary), a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Openshaw for the free use of his fishery.

ACCIDENTAL CATCH OF A HUGE TROUT.—Three Ipswich lads named H. B. Haskell, S. J. Haskell, and A. R. Matcham, had a novel experience on the Orwell on Tuesday morning. They were rowing about opposite the bathing place when a huge salmon trout jumped into the boat. They immediately attacked it with the first weapons that came to hand, and after a struggle, succeeded in killing and taking it ashore. On examination it was discovered to weigh 8½lb., and to measure 2ft. 6in. in length, and 13in. round the thickest part of its body.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

MORE heavy rains, and consequently more discoloured water and bad sport, have not tended to improve the patience and temper of anglers; but we are at length promised fine weather and a clear stream, so that angling should be a more profitable pursuit during the coming week if the weather continues fine.

THE voracity of pike and the unveracity of angling, correspondents are proverbial, and often form food for reflection in the columns of the *Fishing Gazette*, and under this double heading I have this week to recount an incident which cannot pretend to assume to take the matrimonial biscuit, except in regard to its strict truthfulness. While in company with a literary colleague, the other day, I chanced to meet a jovial friend—an Exciseman—of my acquaintance, and an ardent angler. In response to my anxious inquiry for angling news, he at once acquainted me with his recent exploits in the pike fishing line, and this led him to recount the story of how, *twelve months or so ago*, a local angler named Craddock, while sounding the depth with a large leaden plummet in the Severn near the Cherry Orchard ferry-boat at Shrewsbury preparatory to pike fishing, suddenly had the aforesaid plummet and the hooks on his lines seized by a 5lb. pike, and succeeded after a struggle in landing it. These particulars I carefully stored in my memory for future reproduction in my Notes, but to my surprise I found, on the evening following, in *The Midland Evening News*, with which my zealous friend and colleague is connected, a smartly written paragraph under a catching headline, the details of this extraordinary capture which, however, to insure the insertion of the item, he was careful to announce took place *recently*. This is not all. Glancing at the river reports from Shrewsbury, in the columns of the *Birmingham Daily Post* of the Friday following, my astonished gaze alighted on the following:—"An angler trying the depth of water one day this week had his lead seized by a pike, which he managed to get safely into his basket." This story has no moral, but if this is how the angling correspondents of the present day provide for the entertainment of their readers, I shall not despair of seeing some of the angling adventures of my forefathers gravely recounted in the same popular angling columns.

SINCE writing the above, I have been informed that Dutton, another well-known Shrewsbury fisherman, has had a similar experience to that of Craddock, in a pike taking his plummet, and this would lead me to suppose that such an occurrence is not uncommon.

IT is satisfactory to note that perch seem to be slightly on the increase in the Severn around Shrewsbury, for many fine fish have been taken with the minnow this summer. A few years ago there were many excellent perch fishing stations, notably at Emstrey, Uffington, Shrawardine, Monkmoor, and many other places within easy distance of the town, but latterly these excellent sporting fish have decreased to an alarming extent. More than usual, however, have been captured this year, and it is hoped that we shall not have any cause to fear their extermination in the future.

I AM informed that the Chief Inspector of Fisheries will, at the request of the Severn Board of Conservators, visit the weirs in the Severn Fishery District during the week beginning September 14, with a view to reporting upon the condition of the salmon passes and causing to be remedied any that are inefficient and prevent the passage of fish. Subject to any change that may be made in his arrangements, he will, I understand, visit Llanidloes, Clywedog, and Severn weirs to Newtown, on Monday, the 14th inst.; the Vyrnwy weirs, Llanfair, Pont Robert, Pontyscowrhydd and Llansaintffraid on Tuesday; the Tanat weirs on Wednesday; the Shrewsbury weirs, including those on the Rea, and, if time permits, the upper navigation weirs on Thursday; and the navigation weirs on Friday. Thus a very complete week's work is mapped out for the inspector, and it is hoped that as the result of his inquiry, many alterations will be ordered in these fish passes which, beyond a doubt, have much to answer for in causing the diminution of salmon in the river. Members of the Board of Conservators in the various districts are invited to accompany the inspector on his visits of inspection, so as to be able to point out to him any matter that they may desire to bring under his notice.

CLOSE OF THE SOLWAY SALMON FISHINGS.—The Solway salmon net fishing season closed last Wednesday night. Taken over all, the season has proved to be one above the average of recent years, while the great hauls of autumn salmon captured during the last four weeks in the firth by the drift-nets has been the best ever known in the history of salmon fishing in the Solway. In the early spring months, the Whammel drift-nets secured good catches of "grey" salmon—all heavy fish, running in the average over 20lb. These salmon, however, were decidedly poor in quality, and quite unlike the regular spring salmon that came on in the end of March and April. The April salmon were beautiful little fish, in very fine condition, weighing 8½lb. The stake-nets did not fare well at all in the spring fishing, as the drift-net boats picked up the fish in the deeper water before they made the rivers. Sea trout were pretty much of a failure, and there was only one good run, extending over a fortnight, in which sea trout made a good appearance in the nets. The trout were much smaller this year, and ran on an average of little over 1¼lb. A fine specimen, however, was caught weighing 12lb. The grilse season which followed was of a fair average character. These fish were in very prime condition, and weighed 5½lb. Prices for grilse ruled low this season in the local markets, falling during the season to sixpence, while the average price was eightpence-halfpenny per pound. The heavy floods in the Solway rivers during the last four weeks told seriously against the stake-nets. Many of the nets were considerably damaged in the Annan district and rendered useless and unfishable during the best run of the autumn salmon. While the lessees of the stake-nets had losses, the Whammel nets were reaping immense takes of fine salmon, and as the quotations in the south markets rose from tenpence to one shilling and twopence per pound in a week, the fishermen pocketed a mint of money during the last three weeks. The average weight of the autumn salmon ran about 15½lb. The season was notable for the capture of a few large salmon, the heaviest of which was 50½lb., caught by an Annan drift-net boat some ten days ago.—HEATHERBELL.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

WEATHER and water are both in grand condition. Owing to the cessation of rain for the last three or four days, the rivers have now sunk to their normal summer level, and fish are rising in almost all waters. In the trout streams, sport is proving capital, and anglers are anxious to avail themselves of the remaining days before the close season sets in. I learn from a correspondent that the waters in the Wensleydale district were last week in glorious condition; but this happy report has been amplified this week—for I hear that most of the streams in the North and East Ridings are yielding first-rate sport, and the West Riding rivers are even better. The Ovic, having been well stocked with the favourite Loch Levens, is producing "good fruit," and the Stockbridge and Eastburn Angling Club are to be congratulated upon the state of affairs. The Nidd, at Pateley Bridge and at Knaresborough, is in splendid form; the Rye and the Riccall have been eagerly fished, and the Derwent affords admirable sport, so that it is evident the recent heavy rains have done some good—"It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good."

ANGLERS may be counted by the scores on the banks of the Ouse, where they are in the generality of cases rewarded amply for the time spent there; and the Foss has received its contingents of piscators. The latter river is somewhat of a favourite resort for many Minster city anglers, and several weighty fish have been killed of late in its waters.

A QUARTERLY meeting of the Council of the Northern Anglers' Association was held on Saturday, at the George Hotel, Huddersfield, when, in the absence of the president (Mr. T. E. Pritt), of Leeds), the chair was occupied by Mr. J. Walter Sykes, the Huddersfield representative of the game-fishing clubs. The fact of the meeting falling in the holiday season militated against a large attendance; but amongst those present were Mr. Robert Burn, of Manchester, hon. secretary; Mr. W. P. Hellawell, Huddersfield; Mr. George Paley, Preston; Mr. J. E. Schumacher, York; Mr. T. W. Redford, Bolton; Mr. T. F. Wallwork, Bolton; Mr. J. W. Mason, Knaresborough, and others, to whom the business of the meeting might with safety be left. The report of the sub-committee of the council—who were appointed to inquire into the subject of railway concessions—was presented, and contained, *in extenso*, the three schemes which have already appeared in the columns of the *Fishing Gazette*. It was resolved unanimously to submit each of the schemes to the consideration of the railway companies, and to adopt the one which falls most in agreement with the wishes of the companies concerned. There are several companies who, up to the present, do not grant concessions to anglers, and it was agreed by the council that the N. A. A. should memorialised the companies, with a view of obtaining such reductions in fares. The petitions will be drawn up by the Central Council, and printed, and copies will be circulated to the local councils for signature by individual and club members. Such strong argument can hardly be gainsaid by the railway companies, and if the petitions are successful—as it is hoped they will be—it will be but additional evidence of the usefulness of the association.

ANGLING COMPETITIONS.

THE Old Ebor Angling Club held their second match of the season in the river Derwent at Scorehy, by the kind permission of Mr. S. Young. Ten money prizes were given, for which there were nineteen competitors. The water was in bad condition for anything like good fishing, consequently the catches ruled small. The following were the prize-takers: F. Young, first; W. Howe, second; W. Mitchell, third; E. Buckley, fourth; E. Suter, fifth; A. Simms, sixth; W. Thornhill, seventh; T. Clayton, eighth; R. Parkinson, ninth; F. Monkhouse, tenth.

A SWEEPSTAKE promoted by Mr. Hewson, of the King William the Fourth Hotel, York, who subscribed £1 5s. and three special prizes of the value of ten shillings, towards which the entrance money of one shilling each, was added, was fished on Saturday at Middlethorpe Ings, by kind permission of the Hon. E. Lascelles. There were fifty-nine competitors, the following being the principal prize-takers: T. Walton, first, 1lb. 15¼oz.; R, Broadly, second, 1lb. 12½oz.; G. Thompson, third, 12¾oz.; C. Darley, fourth; T. Simpson, fifth; T. Payne, sixth; J. Mennell and Green, seventh and eighth (divided); W. Smith, ninth; J. Cartwright and R. W. Thompson, tenth and eleventh (divided); Alderson, twelfth; G. Kay, thirteenth; Ridsdale, fourteenth; C. Rhind, fifteenth; C. Garnett, sixteenth; J. Lee, H. Martin, G. W. Henderson, and C. Judson, seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth (divided). The special prizes were won by T. Walton, for the largest roach, 5½oz.; R. Broadley, for the largest dace, 4¾oz.; and C. Slee, for the largest eel, 4½oz.

A MOST successful angling competition, promoted by Mr. George Goldie, Blue Bell Inn, Yarm, took place in the Tees, on Saturday afternoon. There were seventy-five competitors. The water was in every way favourable for sport, and a very large percentage of the competitors weighed in with good results. Messrs. T. Dawson, Yarm; S. Kendall, North Stockton; E. Veal, South Stockton; and J. Moore, Middleton-St.-George; each caught an equal amount and divided amongst them the first four prizes, amounting to £3 5s., and a fourteen-shilling rod. The rod was subsequently won by Mr. Moore, in a draw. The remaining fishers were counted off as follows: Messrs. W. Jones, South Stockton; L. Davidson, North Stockton; D. Dunn, South Stockton; W. Fisher, North Stockton.

NOTES FROM IRELAND.

[FROM OUR DUBLIN CORRESPONDENT.]

THE present week being the closing one of the season for rod fishing on the Aughrim (Co. Wicklow) has been signalled as a marked success—a perfect rush of rods kept coming since last Saturday and the takes of brown trout abundantly satisfied the patience of the anglers. Mr. and Mrs. Baker, who have taken up quarters at the Woodenbridge Hotel for the past three weeks, have been out every day. The water is now running rather strong for fly-fishing. Dr. Allan works the Wicklock rivers well and as a fly-fisher is remarkably successful; white trout are coming up freely, but only a few captures have been effected this week. The season on the Aughrim being now over, I am glad to learn it is to have protection more extensive than formerly. This is as it should be; I advocated it last year, for I feel convinced that with proper looking after, the Aughrim, with all its beautiful natural surrounding, will become one of the most popular and fashionable angling resorts in the eastern districts of Ireland.

SPORT in the Dublin district, although it has received an impetus this week, is far from the mark of perfection. The weather was altogether against it, but an improvement in this respect has happily arrived, and during the week members of clubs and others have been out: the takes are, however, not numerous. One particular incident is worthy of record; Mr. J. L. Long, a Dublin angler, who is very fond of trout fishing, was on last Firday evening up the Tolka river, and was fortunate enough to hook a "pound" trout with a green-bodied grouse fly; after playing it for some time his line got entangled in a bramble and he lost him. On Monday he again went to the same spot, and after catching two trout he hooked a third; in this one he found a fly similar to the one he hooked him on stuck fast inside his mouth, which on closer examination proved to be the same one he had lost with the trout on Friday in exactly the same part of the river.

As the season for angling for white or sea trout is now coming on, anglers should bear in mind the order issued by the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries, dated 26th November, 1890, which states that it having come to their knowledge that there is an impression prevalent that angling for white or sea trout does not require a licence, they give notice that in the Act, the word "*salmon*" includes sea trout and all other fish of the salmon species. Any person angling for white or sea trout without having first paid the licence duty payable on rods for salmon is liable to a penalty of not less than £2 and not more than £3. The Act also provides that every licence to fish with single rod and line shall have the name and address of the holder written thereon, and that such licence shall not be transferable to any other person; the penalty for such breach being the same as above. Rods used singly for trout, perch, pike, or other fish save and except salmon (which include trout) are not subject to the licence duty.

BAD weather prevailed all last week in most of the western districts; at Westmeath Lakes it was so severe as to deter many from seeking sport. A splendid rise of fish is reported from Lough Ennell.

THE Shannon too in most parts fared badly, chiefly owing to the weather, but several good takes of salmon and peal are recorded. Castleconnell keeps well to the front in this respect.

THE Watervill Lake is giving fair sport, brown and white trout occupying the principal attention of anglers. I have a long list of last week's captures, which include some very heavy white ones. Sea trout are running up in numbers, and during the remainder of the season, with favourable weather, sport there promises to be excellent.

NOTES FROM TYRONE.

THAT the past month, and the commencement of the present one, has been the wettest period of the year, goes without saying. Out of the thirty-one days of August rain fell in less or more quantities on twenty-six of them. This extraordinary state of affairs, after all, has been productive of good, and in this way. In the period mentioned the annual pest of flax water comes on, and if there be no floods in the affected rivers, it kills or sickens the fish at least salmon and trout—in them. Just at this critical period this season the rivers were foaming torrents, and flood after flood swept away the deleterious fluids with a minimum of damage to aquatic life, but the sweeping away of the fluid itself by no means insures a return of sport. Unless the bed of the stream is thoroughly cleansed of a certain sediment, which is precipitated from the flax water, the effects are felt for weeks after the flax water has disappeared. I am very happy to record that the beds of the rivers in this district (East Tyrone) have been thoroughly cleansed.

REPORTS to hand show that between the floods salmon fishing in the Strule, Mourne, Lunn, and Castlederg waters in North Tyrone was very good, and that there is a prime head of fish in all those rivers.

COMING nearer home, the Blackwater is in splendid order, and an odd brace of trout have been killed. The Ballinderry is rather high just now, but by the latter end of the week will be fined down sufficiently. Salmon are numerous in the lower reaches, and are commencing to run up-stream.

THE present season has been the best one for coarse fishing in my experience. The lakes of Eskeragh, Roan, Farlough, Stewartstoun, &c., have yielded phenomenal baskets of pike and perch to the multitudes of anglers who tried their luck. Bream is only to be found in the lower reaches of the Ballinderry and in the Blackwater. Of course, in Lough Neagh, their name is legion.

THE IRISH FISHERIES.—With regard to the inquiries held in Clonmel, Carrick, Waterford, and the different towns on the Nore and Barrow, the Inspectors of the Irish Fisheries have issued notices of by-laws, which they purpose submitting to the Lord Lieutenant for his approval, and which will become law unless valid objections are lodged with the Inspectors before the 20th of the present month. The petitions of the Conservators, as far as related to the estuary and tidal portions of the Suir, are being granted; the drift nets above the Spit of Passage, are to be limited to 210 yards in length (heretofore there was no limit); netting of any kind is to be entirely prohibited in the navigation canal or basin at Carrick, and 50 yards below: while draft or seine nets are not to be allowed to fish farther up than the Lingaun—the boundary stream between the counties of Kilkenny and Tipperary. This, so far, is all that the Conservators sought for. We learn that some changes are also to be made in the Barrow, but as they do not concern the Suir we need not deal with them. But there is one by-law (the first) which concerns seriously the anglers of all three rivers—Suir, Nore, and Barrow, and their tributaries—viz., to close the rod fishing at the same time as the netting (the 15th August). If not strenuously objected to by the anglers themselves, and at once—either as a body or individually—this proposed restriction will become law, and when once passed will have to remain so for at least three years. If, therefore, the rod fishers object to the proposed by-law, and intend to stir in the matter, there is no time to lose. We may remark *en passant* that there was no evidence given in favour of this change at any of the inquiries—on the Suir at any rate—either at Clonmel, Carrick, or Waterford.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association.—The general committee met on the 7th inst. at Foresters' Hall. Mr. W. H. Beckett, vice-president, occupied the chair. After the minutes of the last general committee, held on the 7th August, had been read and confirmed, an application by Mr. M. A. Mackie, the secretary of the Rippling Stream Angling Society, of 3, Upper Baker-street, W., for the enrolment of his society, was considered. The sizes of fish that might be taken being in accordance with the association's rules, and all other matters appearing satisfactory, the committee unanimously agreed to the enrolment. The society was complimented on its well-chosen name, which appears to be a departure from those ordinarily chosen by angling societies. Its members are limited to twenty-five. The Sons of the Sea, another new angling society, meeting at the Duke of Cambridge, Hackney-road, was next enrolled, after which several matters of importance to the association were considered. The meeting closed at the comparatively early hour of 9.45 p.m., with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.—HON. REPORTER.

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly meeting of the Renting and Preservation Committee will take place on Monday evening next, Sept. 14, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT NO. 1.—The next return visit will be to the North Eastern, City Arms, Bloomfield-street, London Wall, on Thursday next, September 17. Any friends who can make it convenient to attend will oblige.—G. MANNING.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT NO. 2.—A return visit on this list was paid to the Funny Folks Angling Society on Monday last, when seventeen societies were represented, and a pleasant evening spent. The next visit will take place at the Islington Brothers Angling Society. I will give date next week.—F. THORLING.

Anglers' Association.—SOUTHERN DISTRICT VISITING LIST.—A return visit on the above list took place on the 8th inst. at the Rodney A.S., Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road, where a most enjoyable evening was spent. On the roll being called, the following fourteen clubs answered: Anglers' Pride, Battersea Friendly, Bermondsey Brothers, Blackfriars, Clapham Junction, Causton, Peckham Brothers, Rodney, St. Albans, Excelsior, St. George's, South London, Burton Piscatorials, Funny Folks, and Eustonians. The next visit will take place at the St. Albans and Excelsior; the date I will give next week.—G. W. ARMSTRONG, district officer.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks, the receipt of £2 17s. 6d. from the donation box, of the Good Intent Angling Society.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

SPECIAL NOTICE TO CLUB ANGLERS ENROLLED ON ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION.—The following fourteen prizes will be given to be fished for, entrance fee sixpence, to be paid to the committee on the morning of competition, at the North Star; two rods; jack and eels barred. First prize, a magnificent meerschaum pipe and plush tobacco pouch; second, drinking flask and shoulder strap; third, cardigan jacket; fourth, a biscuit box (silver plated); fifth, a smoker's companion for cigars and tobacco; sixth, ebony stick (hall-marked, silver mounted); seventh, a handsome album; eighth, cardigan jacket; ninth, silver-plated cruet; tenth, clock; eleventh, carving knife and fork; twelfth, silver-plated sugar basin; thirteenth, leather tackle case, to hold a four-winder; fourteenth, a box of one hundred cigarettes. Any angler who goes down over-night will be disqualified. Anglers to start by the given signal from Langley Bridge, and cease fishing at six p.m. By the kind permission of Alfred Higgins, Esq., divisional superintendent Great Western Railway, a special train will be at Langley at nine p.m. to convey anglers to London. Messrs. E. Clark and T. Harris, Marylebone Angling Society, E. Wood and E. T. Lake, Campbell United Angling Society, B. Abrahams and H. S. Kelt, Allason United Angling Society, and J. Harris, Prince Arthur Angling Society, will officiate as the committee and stewards; B. Abrahams, secretary, who will be pleased to furnish all particulars of competition on the 13th. D. Pithouse, Esq., has contributed largely towards the prize list, and a further advance has been expended from the entrance fees, and all the surplus money left will be laid out in prizes, and given to Anglers' Benevolent Competition, which takes place at Rye House, in November.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—Our esteemed member, H. Davis, has presented the above club with a magnificent picture, framed, entitled "Very Fishy Behaviour," to be fished for on the 20th Sept., largest take of roach from Thames only. We also fish for three money prizes on the same date; Thames only; two rods; roving. I beg to inform members that the second prize, left from last match can be continued in any water till won. Hope members will show up on Wednesday next 9.15 p.m., for important business to get through. The Langley competition takes place on behalf of the Anglers' Benevolent Society, 13th September. A special train is arranged to convey anglers back at nine p.m., from Langley.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—On the 6th inst. several of our members fished in the competition at Pulborough, but not one of them was successful in taking a prize. The following members weighed in from other waters: Messrs. J. Fairbairn, T. Fairbairn, Sid. Cutbush, J. Scott, W. Hopping, W. Steward, H. Seymour, H. Wilson, W. Hasted, and J. Windsor. I wish to remind members that are not clear on the books that this week is quarterly night, and those members that have not booked their seats for the brake outing at Cobham, and wish to go, to do so at once. Our return visit on the Central Association takes place on Tuesday, Sept. 22.—J. PAILES, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—On the 6th inst., Messrs. Harding and Moir weighed in roach, bream, and dace. On the 13th we fish a roving match at Fittleworth for a series of prizes; all to go by the first train to Pulborough, and then proceed to Fittleworth by train. Next Wednesday being quarterly night, I trust all members will show up and clear the books. I must remind the members that we fish the tow-path only for the above prizes, and each member competing must only carry one rod.—W. H. Potter, secretary.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our fourth outing came off at Windsor on the 6th inst., when the prizes were all taken as follows: Mr. J. Jones, first, with 1lb. 10½oz. of roach and dace; Mr. G. Rich, second, with 1lb. 8oz. of roach and dace; Mr. J. Bell, third, with 1lb. 7oz. of roach; and the following weighed in: Mr. Band, roach; Mr. King, roach; Mr. Knowles, roach and dace; Mr. S. Lawrence, roach; Mr. Lovett, roach; Mr. Blyth, roach and gudgeon. Members are requested to attend next Wednesday to arrange another outing.—G. Rich, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—Our members were out in good force on the 6th inst., several of them fishing in the competition at Pulborough, with the following result: Mr. W. Embleton, jun., having bream; Mr. Lattimore, bream (both members winning a prize); Mr. Loosly, roach; Mr. Hazell, roach; and Mr. Munday, dace, bream, and perch. We have decided the return visit to the above, will take place the first Monday in October, of which due notice will be sent to our brother anglers.—E. R. Embleton, secretary.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—On the 6th inst., at Pulborough, fishing in the competition, Mr. A. Shakel took third prize, with 5lb. 2¼oz. bream, and I had the pleasure of receiving the eighth, with roach and bream, 3lb. 4¾oz. Messrs. F. Davis and H. Neve weighed in, but not enough to take a prize. I am very glad the association water still supplies some of the winners, as I know several of the prizes came from there. Mr. H. Palmer had 4lb. of fish from Pulborough. The match for the September series of prizes, will take place at Chertsey on the 13th inst.; members to go down by the 8.45 from Waterloo, A donation of five shillings was voted to be sent to Mrs. Nutt, Swan Hotel, Pulborough, to help to swell the funds which that gentleman is collecting for the farmer's prizes, and for which he has our good wishes.—A. G. Smith, sec.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, Great Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—Several members went out on the 6th inst., and had some good takes of roach and dace. Members please note quarterly night next Wednesday, and all books to be cleared or be fined. Election of officers, and place to be settled for next outing for prizes. Mr. Gargrave was proposed a working member of this society.—J. Tucker, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Battersea.—The members of this club will fish a match at Amberley on the 13th inst.; roving; three prizes. Competitors to start by 8.37 from Clapham Junction. The punt competition at Twickenham is postponed until September 27. On the 6th, Mr. J. W. Hopkins weighed in a nice show of roach; Mr. C. Wastell, dace.—George Mumford, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—Several of our members took part in the competition at Pulborough on the 16th inst., three of them being successful, namely—Mr. J. Warman, fourth; Mr. James Smith, tenth; and Mr. H. Patman, eleventh. On the 13th inst., the members will fish a competition for the September series of prizes, place and conditions to be decided at the meeting on the 11th.—A. Conn, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—Those gentlemen who are going to the dinner on the 13th inst., will meet on Waterloo Station, and go by the 8.30 train. Honorary members are invited. There are two prizes to compete for. On the 6th inst. there was a very good show of fish, contributed to by the following gentlemen: Mr. F. Barker, carp and perch; Mr. Smith, carp; and Mr. Hacker, roach and perch.—F. Roberts, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the 6th inst. several of our members were out, and Mr. Rich weighed in roach and dace; Mr. J. Newton, bream, roach, and dace—he being one of the successful ones in the Pulborough competition on the 9th. Mr. Hodkinson was elected an honorary member of the above society.—D. Warren.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—Several of our members were out on the 9th inst., but with very little success. On the 6th inst. Mr. J. Hall weighed in roach, chub, and dace; and Mr. Aitchison, roach and dace. We shall be very pleased to see some of those members who have not attended the club lately, as it is proposed to arrange a competition for this month.—H. Roach, sec.

Burton Piscatorials, Globe, Derby-street, King's-cross.—Very little doing during the past fortnight. On the 2nd inst., Mr. W. Hill, weighed in roach and dace; 6lb. 2½oz.; and Mr. C. Roberts, ditto, 6lb. 1½oz. On the 6th inst., Messrs. Brierly, Biggs, Jones, Richards, and Ashton, were credited with shows of roach, dace, and gudgeon. We have made two new members, and several important alterations have taken place beneficial in every way to our members. Anglers' Benevolent List now ready for enrolment. We should like to see a better attendance of those members who render themselves so conspicuous by their continued absence.—C. Roberts, hon. sec.

Buxton Brothers' Angling Society, Walthamstow Liberal and Radical Club, 4 and 6, Buxton-road.—On the 6th inst. some of our members were out and met with fair success, Mr. J. Stephens having some very nice roach. On the 9th there was a large muster of members at the meeting, when we transacted some very important business.—A. Shuker, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 6th inst., we had our brake outing to Weybridge, about forty members and friends going with us. The following weighed in on our return: R. Watling, roach and dace; Mr. Brothers, roach; Mr. Webster, roach; Mr. Leslie, dace. From other waters Mr. Baxall, jack; Mr. King, roach and perch; Mr. Elton, roach and dace.—E. T. White.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—Monday last, Mr. A. Sowerbutts in the chair, Mr. Burkitt, of the Earlsfield Angling Society, opened up an interesting discussion on the river Wandle in general, and at Earlsfield in particular, with regard to roach fishing. Messrs. J. S. Pulsford, Tom Keeble, C. E. Williams, and H. Guest, related some angling incidents. Since last report Mr. Tom Keeble and Mr. J. Deplidge have had a handsome show of perch from the Upper Thames. Mr. Harry Dunn will read his paper on barbel fishing, on Monday, the 28th inst.—John Smith, hon. sec.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—Three of our members took part in the competition promoted by Mr. Eldridge, on September 6, Mr. MacDonnell weighing in bream from Amberley, the best fish 2lb. 12oz., and winning the seventh prize.—Cas.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, Clapham Junction, S.W.—On the 6th inst., we fished a match at Cookham, with the following result: Mr. Turner, first, 4lb. 14½oz. roach, one fish, 1lb. 1¼oz.; Mr. T. Jameson, second, 2lb. 9¼oz., roach; Mr. Collis, third, 13oz., roach; Mr. Wellgoss, fourth, 8¾oz., roach. The next match will take place at Staines, pegged-down, in punts, on the 27th inst.; same conditions as last punt match. The following members have weighed in fish—viz.: Mr. Wilson, 6lb. 14½oz. roach; Mr. Painter, 2lb. 15¼oz., roach; G. Jameson, 2lb. 6¾oz. roach; and Mr. Wakeford, roach.—A. Trowbridge, sec.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—The ordinary weekly meeting was held at the club-house on Monday last, Mr. J. P. Connellan in the chair. One new member was elected, and another nominated. Several letters for particulars of our society were read. The outing on Saturday last to our private fishery, Rammey Marsh, Enfield Lock, was a very pleasant one; the perch were on the feed, and numbers were taken, none, however, of a size to comment upon; several small jack were also landed and returned to the water. Mr. Connellan at dusk had a stiff tussle with a fine jack, but owing to his landing-net not lying handy he was broken away. Many fine chub were feeding on the surface, but not one of the members present was armed with the needed tackle, so they remain there for future operations. We had a plain but bountiful dinner at the keeper's lodge, to which the members did ample justice. Our day was so thoroughly enjoyable that it is contemplated to make a fortnightly meeting for angling at Rammey Marsh, to take place on alternate Saturdays, a plain dinner to be provided during the remainder of the summer season, mid-day; when the days grow shorter, to have same after fishing. To those members who have not yet tried our fishery, I strongly urge them to pay a visit; if they require a ticket for a friend I shall be pleased to send them one; it is an excellent stretch of water (the old river Lea), and in the opinion of first-rate anglers full of fine fish of all sorts. I was pleased to have a chat with a gentleman on Saturday at the waters who had fished it for twenty-five years. What he said quite corroborated my preceding statement.—Henry Howse, hon. sec.

Clarence Angling Club, Red Lion Hotel, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.—A few members have been plying the rod, but with little success, Mr. J. Nelson having some nice fish from our private water. The member proposed on the 2nd inst. was duly elected on Wednesday last.—Alf. E. Evans, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—I have to report a blank on the 6th inst. We fish a match on the 13th inst., for twelve private prizes, at Denham Straits. Members to proceed how they like, start fishing at eleven a.m., leave off at seven p.m.; draw for swims at Swan and Bottle; fish to be registered at side of water; weigh in at club-house by 10.30 p.m. A pegged-down match; one rod only; jack barred; no raking.—A. Smith, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 6th inst. several members were out; but the only gentlemen who had any sport were Messrs. Webber, Wild, J. Edwards, Thornton, Cogswell, Killick, Parram, T. Midson, and Legge, who had a fine show of roach, bream, chub, perch, and dace. Messrs. Webber and Robinson competed at Pulboro', running in first and fifth. On the 13th inst. we fish a boundary match at Cheshunt; members to go down by the 9.10 from Liverpool-street.—S. Malby, sec.

Eastern Piscatorial Society, Spread Eagle, Gill street, Limehouse, E.—Our show of fish on the 6th inst. was by Messrs. Jones and Bartlett—bream, roach, and dace. We fish a match on the 20th for prizes, value two guineas. We have made two new members, and have one more proposed for election next meeting. We have still a vacancy for a few more.—J. Bartlett, hon. sec.

East London Piscatorial Society, London Hospital Tavern, Whitechapel-road, E.—At the committee meeting held on the 3rd inst., it was arranged that the next outing take place on the 17th inst. at Hampton Court; punt. First prize, £1 11s. 6d., 3lb. fish; second prize, £1 1s., 2lb. fish; third prize, 10s. 6d., 1lb. fish; special prize, 10s. 6d., 5lb. fish, Thames size. Train leaves Waterloo at 7.45.—F. Wood, secretary.

Eclipse Angling Society, Ledbury Arms, 40, Ledbury-road, Notting Hill.—Our second annual fishing outing will take place at Uxbridge, on Sept. 20. The match will be pegged-down, between Swan and Bottle and Denham Locks.—F. Reynolds.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—Five of our members fished in the competition at Pulborough, on the 6th instant, two winning prizes, Messrs. J. W. Briggs, roach, bream and dace, first; and G. Watling, roach and bream. On Monday last, our return visit on the No. 2 Eastern District took place, and was fairly well attended, seventeen clubs answering to the roll-call. The next visit goes to the Islington Brothers Angling Society. Members are requested not to forget Mr. White and Mr. Ball's prizes this month.—J. W. Briggs, secretary.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We were saved a blank on the 6th instant by Mr. Riggs and Mr. Ballard with a few roach and dace. Other members were out, but not successful.—A. Payne, sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, 49a, Castle-street, Oxford-street.—I am pleased to report our members are getting in excellent trim, as we are getting some really fine trays of fish. On the 6th instant, Mr. Bailey, a nice show of roach: Mr. Roach, bream, perch and roach; Mr. Dodd, dace and roach; Mr. Porter, rudd and roach; Mr. Chapman, bream and roach; Mr. Clark, rudd; W. Bowring, bream; Mr. Monk, rudd; Mr. C. Bowring, bream and perch. On Tuesday a fine show of bream and roach by Mr. Bishop. We elected another new member on Tuesday, which now makes our muster pretty strong.—A. Stokes.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—On August 30 our trays were well filled with fish; F. Bates weighing 23lb. 5oz. of roach, and Mr. B. Edwards, 6lb. On the 6th inst., Messrs. F. Bates, W. Carr, and J. Grande, weighed roach, perch, dace and bream.—G. Weaver, sec.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Robin Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville, N.—The following members entered Mr. Eldridge's competition at Pulborough on the 6th inst., and weighed in small shows of roach and bream: Messrs. W. Parkin, C. Large, H. Prœhl, J. V. and J. A. Fitch, J. Cooper, C. Watling, and H. Watling, who had a nice roach 1lb. 5¼oz. Messrs. C. Large, W. Parkin, H. Watling, and J. V. Fitch won prizes in the above competition.—J. A. Fitch, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting took place on Tuesday, with Mr. E. H. Bramley in the chair. The secretary reported that he had been to Kelvedon, and made certain arrangements respecting the tenancy of the society's two waters there for cutting the weeds, and also the better preservation of the fish. A letter was read from a friend, whose name did not transpire, offering a consolation prize of some article worth a guinea for the member who shall catch the fewest fish at the sea-fishing competition on the 15th inst. It was arranged that the member who should catch the five best fish should take the first prize, the next best five the second, and the next best five the third, and the lowest number the consolation prize. The members will leave Fenchurch-street Station at 8.23 a.m., on Tuesday, the 15th (not 16th, as stated in the *Fishing Gazette* last week), and return from Southend at 7.15 p.m. Not more than one rod or hand-line, and two hooks to be used by each competitor. Mr. C. S. Bentley presented the library with two books, "The Highland Sportsman," and a Latin book on fishing, printed in 1731. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Bentley for his valuable present. Mr. J. W. Hearn reported that he had taken first prize in a competition on the Thames. Dr. Brunton reported having taken nine trout from the Test, each weighing over 1lb. A new member was elected, and other business transacted.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 6th inst., several of our members went to Cheshunt for a roving match for six prizes, and in spite of the high wind, the whole of them were taken, the following being the winners:—1st, A Fish, with bream; 2nd, Levoir, with bream and perch; 3rd, Wells, with perch; 4th, Dinsdale, with roach; 5th, Brink, with pepch; 6th, Hunter, with perch. Messrs. Saalfield also brought roach, dace, and perch; Geever, roach; and Bagshaw, jun., chub.—W. Fenner, sec.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—We had an excellent show of rudd by a friend—twenty-five fish weighing 28lb. I wish to call all members' and friends' attention to the supper at the Hornsey Wood Tavern; it is fixed for the 24th instant, instead of the 17th as in last week's *F. G.* The day's outing is to be arranged the same evening.—I. F. G., secretary.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—On the 6th inst., C. H. Wood weighed in jack and perch, one handsome fish 2lb. 10oz.; J. Row, roach and perch; A. Hattemore, roach.—B. Ghurney, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—Several of our members were at Pulborough on the 6th inst., one being successful in obtaining a prize. Other members were out; Messrs. Norris and Hayes weighing in roach and dace.—A. Pain, sec. *pro tem.*

Islington Angling Society, Jubilee House, Hornsey Rise, N.—The meeting on Monday evening last was presided over by Mr. James Tayler, when it was reported that many of the members were out of town, most of them with the intention of fishing. At the next meeting we shall doubtless hear what the results have been. Members will also please note that a ballot for membership takes place on the 21st inst.—X.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—We met on the 3rd inst., when it was arranged to fish for our worthy host's prize for gross weight on the 6th inst, when the following weighed in: Mr. Croker, first, 3lb. 2½oz., roach and dace; Mr. Wilsher, 1lb. 6½oz., roach; Mr. Key, 1lb. 10¾oz., roach, dace, perch and gudgeon. Mr. Stretch had a very nice perch from Pulborough match, but was not successful, weight 14½oz. The next return visit on No. 2 District go to the above society; date will shortly be announced.—J. H. Herbert, secretary.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members competed for three special prizes on Wednesday, the 9th inst., only two were taken; Mr. T. W. Garrard was first, Mr. G. Rogers second. There are four special prizes to be fished for on the 13th inst. Competitors may choose their own fishing waters, but must not leave London before five a.m on the day of the competition. Mr. G. Rogers weighed in jack and dace on the 6th inst.; Mr. G. Washington had perch, and Mr. C. Layton had roach on the same day. There was a good display on Wednesday, 9th inst., Mr. C. Hayward had 8lb. 13¾oz. of roach, dace, and perch; Mr. H. C. Wheatley had 13lb. 15¾oz. of roach (heaviest one scaled 1lb. 5oz.); Mr. W. Wilsher had 15lb. 10oz. of roach and dace.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—On the 6th instant we had a fair show of roach, tench and perch, by Messrs. Wheeler, Beals, Tomkins, E. Challen, Sadgrove, and Ide. On the 8th inst., Mr. Hinton weighed in roach. We had a good meeting on Tuesday last, when Mr. Larter was elected a member of our society, and Mr. W. Wheeler was proposed. Several of our members intend taking part in the Langley competition, on the 13th instant.—A. Ide, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—At a committee meeting held on Friday, the 4th inst. one new working member was elected, and three honorary members became angling members. During the past week many members have been out, the most successful being Messrs. Master, Carter, Prote, and Newcombe. The latter caught a very fine conditioned barbel, with a live dace while jack fishing.—T. Salter, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 6th inst. several members fished in the Pulborough competition, Mr. Nelson winning a prize. The following also had fish: Messrs. Ellingham, Watling, More, and Holmes. On Wednesday last, Mr. Morgan weighed a very handsome perch, 2lb. 1oz. Mr. Clark and Findley were unanimously elected working members of the above. Mr. Richardson and Mr. Wallis were also proposed as working members, and will be balloted in the usual way at next meeting.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—A large meeting was held last week. The president—Mr. Leaman—put in an appearance after an absence of several weeks, caused by severe indisposition, and was warmly welcomed. Arrangements were completed for the outing to the Vyrnwy on the 10th, for the dinner to take place at the club-house on the evening of the 17th, and for the friendly contest with a picked team of ten members of the St. Helen's Angling Association in the Knowsley water on the same day (17th). Many of our members have been away fishing up and down the country, and have done fairly well, but it cannot be said that our success this year has been very pronounced; but in this we don't, from what I can read and hear, appear to be singular—in fact, it has been the worst season on record, so far.—Rd. Woolfall.

London United Anglers' Societies.—Fourth annual competition in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent

Society. A competition will take place at Rye House on November 15. Several prizes have been offered, which no doubt will be considerably increased, lists of which will be published in the various papers. The committee meet on the second and fourth Fridays in the month at the Forrester's Hall, E.C., at 9.30. Gentlemen who wish to serve on the committee will kindly let me know.—S. MALBY, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 6th inst., our members were at various waters, when we had some good shows of barbel, roach, dace, perch, and bream by Messrs. Milburn, Penfold, W. Pearce, A. Clark, Mellish, Bartlett, and Gray. W. F. PEARCE.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road.—Our usual meeting took place on Tuesday, with a good show of members. Mr. C. Oliver and Mr. H. K. Applin were out on Saturday, and had a nice take of fish. Mr. J. Feakes and W. F. Dyer have been to the disputed Hickling Broad, and did good business among the perch, on the 6th inst. Mr. A. Carse had a nice roach, scaling 2lb., and two tench, 3lb. and 2¾lb., which have all gone to Cooper's for preservation. Members please take notice that a special meeting will take place on Tuesday next.—McCOMBES, sec.

North Eastern Angling Society, City Arms, 9, Blomfield-street, London-wall, E.C. — The next return visit, No. 1 Eastern District, will be held at the above on Thursday, the 17th inst. Secretaries and members of other clubs not receiving an official notice, will please take this as such. All will be made heartily welcome.—G. T. FLETCHER, sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W. — On the 3rd instant, Mr. Schultz, jun., had roach; and on the 6th inst., Messrs. Harris, roach and jack; and W. Ward, jack and some nice roach. One of our members has had the misfortune to lose his privilege ticket, club cards, &c. Should any gentlemen have found the same, will he kindly return them to above address? A brake outing is in contemplation, to take place this month.—G. S.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—The next series of prizes will be fished at Pulborough on the 13th inst., members to leave town same morning only. Next Wednesday being quarterly night members are requested to attend, as we have important business to settle.—A. G. DUKE, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—Our members turned out in good style on the 6th inst. to fish for six prizes at Uxbridge, when the following gentlemen were the winners: Messrs. Wortham, first; T. Corney, second; J. Isaacs, third; J. Morris, fourth. The two remaining prizes stand over till next Wednesday. I hope anglers in general will not forget the competition at Langley on the 13th inst., when I hope to see a good muster.—J. W. HARRIS, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—Among the shows of fish weighed in on the 6th inst. special mention must be made of a fine bream, weighed in by Mr. Davis, which turned the scale at 5lb. There will be a special meeting on Sept. 23 to consider an outing. Mr. Slater was proposed as a member.—W. B.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The following members weighed in Sept. 6th, for three prizes left over from August outing: Messrs. J. Wigley: 2nd, J. Davis, 3rd; the 4th prize was not taken. Messrs. H. Mitchell, P. Martin also had fish. Mr. Naylor proposed a new member on Wednesday. Our return visit on A.A. took place on Tuesday evening, when fourteen clubs answered the roll-call—viz., Anglers' Pride, Battersea Friendly, Bermondsey Brothers, Blackfriars, Clapham Junction, Causton, Peckham Prothers, Rodney's, St. Alban's, Excelsior, South London, St. George's, Burton Piscatorials, Eustonians, Funney Folks.—F. T. LAMBERTON, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road. — On the 6th inst., our trays were filled with fish from the upper and lower Thames, but not so good a show as the week previous; but we thank the following members for doing their best: Messrs. Webber, Holder, Longland, Gibbons, Harris, Trotter, and Bacon. I should like to see some of our old members commence weighing in, as our prize list is pretty wealthy and strong. We have room for a few more gentlemen to join a good and old-established club on application to—F. C. LONGLAND.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—On the 6th inst. several of our members were out but owing to the strong wind our takes were much below the average. The following members weighed in fish in their respective order: Messrs. A. Barclay, roach and chub; J. Stanley, roach; G. Barclay, jack; F. Barclay, roach; J. Yeo, roach and dace; Parsley, roach and chub; Perry, roach and perch; Henson, roach; Cox, roach. On Tuesday, Sept. 8, G. Barclay showed jack from the Lea.—A. BARCLAY.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 6th inst. several members fished for six prizes at Pulborough, in the Central waters, when all the prizes were won by the following members: Messrs. C. Holmes, 10s. 6d. and bait-can, first; G. Sanders, 10s. 6d., second; E. Wright, 10s. 6d., third; H. Docker, 5s., fourth; G. Giles, 5s., fifth; H. Raine, 5s., sixth; Mr. T. Lovibond, jun., also weighed in, but did not win a prize. Messrs. J. Petrie and W. North weighed from other waters, the former having roach, 5lb. 8¼oz., the latter roach, 3lb. 12½oz. In last week's report a fine specimen bleak was said to weigh 5¼oz.; it should have been 3¾oz. On Tuesday we had a very poor show of members present, but hope we will have a full muster on Tuesday next. If this should meet the eye of Mr. John White, he will greatly oblige by coming or sending to the club-house as soon as possible.—S. E. CANE, sec.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—On Monday last Mr. C. J. Benwell had a grand show of eighteen roach and rudd, weighing 23lb. 7oz. The three largest roach went 1lb. 12oz., 1lb. 10oz., and 1lb. 3oz., and the two largest rudd, scaled 1lb. 8¾oz., and 1lb. 8oz. The heaviest roach is being set up by Messrs. Cooper and Son. Mr. Fountaine has secured a well conditioned barbel of 4lb. 4oz.—MULTUM IN PARVO.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.—Our pegged-down match took place on the 6th instant; but, in consequence of the rough wind and thick water, was not so successful as our previous competitions this season. Messrs. Frank Griffin and O'Callaghan, who did not take part in the match, weighed in about 12lb. of bream, perch and roach between them. All members interested in our next outing are requested to attend next Tuesday to make arrangements. —PELICAN.

South London Angling Society, George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell-road.—The match on the 6th inst. resulted in a blank. It will be fished off on the 13th inst. when there are seven prizes down for competition. On Wednesday next three prizes are to be fished off. Members have been out in all directions lately, but the shows have been very meagre.—J. J. F., sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on the above list will be to the St. Thomas's Angling Society, held at the Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, on Tuesday, the 15th inst., when I hope they will receive a bumper, as on the occasion of the last visit to this society. I am sorry to say very few societies were represented.—A. CONN, hon. sec.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Rhodeswell-road, Stepney.—We finished our competition at Dagenham on the 6th inst., for the remaining three prizes, Messrs. Marrows, Woodford, and Jolly, being sixth, seventh, and eighth, all with roach and bream. The following also had a good show of roach and bream—viz., Messrs. Ruston, Nash, Gerrard, and West. We have vacancies for a few more approved anglers. Apply early.—E. N. P., hon. sec.

Stoke Newington Angling Society, the Dun Horse, Kingsland-road, E.—The competition at Hatfield Peveril, on the 8th inst., resulted as follows: Messrs. S. Orrow (1lb. 4½oz.), first; T. Gretton (1lb. 4oz.), second; and H. Nayler (8oz.), third. The next competition will take place in October.—T. GRETTON.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—The members of the above club visited Pulborough on the 6th inst. to fish for the remaining prizes, but returned with blank. It has been agreed that we fish Cookham on the 13th for same. The visit on the South London United Anglers' Visiting List is held at the above club on Tuesday, Sept. 15, when the members hope to receive the attendance of the clubs enrolled on the list.—G. MORTON, sec.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—The members of the above society fished their "Sunlight Soap" competition on the 6th inst., Mr. H. Reaves taking first prize—a case of Sunlight Soap, presented by Messrs. Lever Brothers. He also took first prize in a sweepstake, and a prize of a case of cigars very kindly presented by the worthy chairman, Mr. J. Harwood, for the largest roach. Mr. Parker was successful in taking second; Mr. Hare, third; and Mr. G. Boreham, fourth.—H. REAVES, sec.

United Brothers, Deptford. — Several members were out on the 6th inst., but the takes were rather small. Messrs. W. Bennett and Windred, bream and perch; Messrs. Richards, Marshall, Millidge, W. Tyler, H. Freame, R. Champion, and F. Beak, weighed in some roach. The members will fish their next match on October 4.—H. TYLER, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall-cross.—Several members were out on the 6th instant, and had fish, but did not arrive. We had a fair attendance on the 8th, Mr. Philips in the chair, faced by Mr. Petty. I wish to remind members not to forget the 13th instant, as there is a prize on for the largest roach. A friend of mine, whilst visiting Richmond, saw a gentleman (Mr. Aledan, of Montpelier-street, Brompton), catch a winkle. This winkle had three gentles and a hook inside him, which can be seen at any time at our headquarters, the George and Dragon.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walham Green and Fulham Augling Society, Stansford Arms.—The members of the above held their usual weekly meeting at their club house. Mr. A. Glass in the chair. Mr. G. Cobble and Mr. E. Smith were duly elected members. On the 6th inst. several of our members were out at Kingston, fishing a pegged-down match, when Mr. A. Glass, being the only member taking fish, took both prizes. Mr. H. Templeman weighed in a nice show of roach and dace, from Richmond. Our open competition will take place on the 27th instant, for the prizes subscribed by Messrs. A. and T. Alder, and all members are requested to take part.—E. SUTEHALL, sec.

Waltonian Angling Society, the Cape of Good Hope, Albany-street, Regent's Park.—We had two nice takes of fish on the 2nd inst., Mr. Waltham, roach, &c., 8lb. 7oz.; Mr. Marriott, roach, 2lb. 9oz. This is better sport than we have had for some time. On the 6th we had a grand show, the best of the season, Messrs. Waltham, roach, 5lb. 4oz.; W. Dodge, tench, &c., 3lb. 7oz.; Wright, roach, 3lb. 6oz.; R. Dodge, roach, 8lb. 12½oz.; Miller, roach, 12lb. 4¾oz.; H. Putnam, roach, 5lb. 2oz.; Jukes, roach, 4lb. 13½oz.—J. PACKMAN, sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—On Wednesday, September 9, the final arrangements for the outing on September 13 were made, all the members to meet at Liverpool-street Great Eastern Railway Station, main line departure, at nine o'clock prompt, when a reserved carriage will be attached to the excursion train to Colchester and Clacton-on-Sea. Mr. Hardy weighed in nice show of barbel from the Thames. It is with deep regret that I have to announce the death of our old and esteemed member and friend, Mr. Fred Allard, a good angler and respected by all. Mr. H. Charek has kindly presented the club with £1 1s. prize to be fished for on Wednesday, September 23, making five prizes for that date. I beg to remind members that September 2 was quarter night.—C. HIBBLE, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Harper-street.—This society held their second contest on Saturday last, the 5th inst., at Jack Hill, Blackley (by kind permission of Mr. C. Thorpe and the Co-operative Society), the sport being unusually bad, as only two members caught fish out of thirty anglers, the successful members being W. Tinker, first, and E. Hibbert, second. After the contest, the members and friends sat down to a dinner provided by the host and hostess of the club-house. A very enjoyable evening was spent. There being fourteen prizes, we shall have a continuation for the other twelve on Saturday, the 19th, when we hope to bring it to a close.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 6th inst. there were only two prizes taken—viz.: Mr. F. Barnes, first, with roach, 1lb. 9½oz.; W. Gordon, second, also weighed in; R. J. Dartnall, roach, 8lb. 4oz.; and W. H. Bryant, bream and roach. The remaining prizes will be fished for (go where you like); members can leave on Saturday night next. Mr. James Diwell was proposed as a member, ballot to take place on Wednesday next, September 16.—R. J. DARTNALL, sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Since my last report the following members weighed in fish. Mr. Goodrich, 3lb. 15oz. of roach and dace; largest dace 9oz.; Mr. R. Lowther, dace. I wish to remind our members that it is quarterly night on Wednesday next, Sept. 16th. Hoping to have a good attendance; also, that it is decided to fish for five private prizes, at Hatfield Peveril, on Sept. 20th, and at the same time to have a photo of a group of the members taken; hoping they will attend in good numbers on that day.—R. LOWTHER, sec.

Woolwich Brothers Angling Society, Green Man, High-street, Plumstead.—On the 2nd inst. our members voted 10s. 6d. towards the Maidstone Anglers' Preservation of the Medway Fund. The following weighed in fish on the 5th inst.: Messrs. W. Brinton, roach; J. Howcroft, jack and roach; F. Cresswell, perch; J. Hicks, bream. A summoned meeting takes place next Wednesday at nine p.m. for the purpose of arranging another general outing.—J. R. HOWCROFT, sec.

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Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea. 40 ,, ,, Putney. 45 ,, ,, Hammersmith. 50 ,, ,, Barnes.	Add	55 min. for Kew. 75 ,, ,, Richmond. 80 ,, ,, Twickenham. 85 ,, ,, Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Sept. 12	7.4	7.34
Sunday,	,, 13	8.10	8.54
Monday,	,, 14	9.44	10.31
Tuesday,	,, 15	11.13	11.52
Wednesday,	,, 16	—	0.24
Thursday,	,, 17	0.51	1.15
Friday,	,, 18	1.37	1.59

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames. — GENERAL REMARKS. — The favourable change in the weather has caused the migration of mere anglers of the Thames into other places for their holidays, and the news is rather scanty, except in the matter of fish catching, which is of a satisfactory character. The youngsters on the banks are giving the river keepers a great deal of trouble, and being so young nothing can be done with them except taking their gauze nets away, and telling them, if they are found doing it again, they will be taken before the magistrates. The head river keeper reports this week he has taken a quantity of dead lines away from boys under fifteen years of age, but they did not know they were doing wrong, and he cautioned them against a repetition. There is a case of snatching at the Surbiton sewer coming before the county bench on Thursday next, and Mr. Armstrong, our active honorary river keeper at Chertsey, in addition to the conviction reported last week of illegal fishing in the Abbey river through his exertions, has got another against some bank fishers in the Thames, which I have now on hand. I simply refer to the latter case because the anglers put up the old plea of ignorance, and to express my astonishment in these days when so much publication is given of the sizes of fish, that such an excuse can be admitted or given. I do not for one moment suppose the delinquents are club men, and certainly the tackle used bore the appearance of constant usage, as against the plea of ignorance. From the reports it would appear the good old days of barbel fishing at Sunbury have come back again. One of the old anglers writes: "I had given up all idea of ever catching any more barbel at Sunbury, but from your reports I am inclined to have another try, and see if I can have some of my old sport." There are not only plenty of barbel but a fair quantity of jack found in the Sunbury waters, and as regards the latter fish for winter fishing, it is hoped the season, as regards the weather, will be more favourable than it was last year for jack fishing.—B.

RICHMOND.—Job Brain, in four days, 40lb. of roach and dace; Henry Mansell, in three days, 30lb.; and Henry Howard, in the same time, twenty dozen.

TWICKENHAM.—A. Annesey, in three days, 30lb. of roach and dace; C. Brown, in four days, 35lb. and eight bream; Samuel Cole, in four days, thirteen dozen and a couple of bream; George Coxen, in four days, 28lb. and nineteen barbel; Richard Coxen, during the week, with Mr. Tarrant and sons, 56lb. and a couple of barbel; John Coxen, in the week, 25lb. and four barbel; John Frost, in three-and-a-half days, 38lb., four barbel, two bream, and one jack; A. Hammerton, in two days, 35lb. and five bream; R. Moffatt, in five days, 57lb. and seven bream; J. Spong, in six days, 70lb., six bream, and seven barbel.

TEDDINGTON.—Joseph Baldwin, in two days, eight dozen of roach and dace; W. McBride, in four days, twenty dozen and eleven bream.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, during the week, twenty-three dozen of roach and dace, eleven bream, the largest 5lb., four jack, and a perch of 1½lb.; N. Bolton, in three-and-a-half days, seventeen dozen of roach and dace, one barbel, five bream, and a jack of 4lb.: J. Wilkes, in five days, twenty-five dozen, six chub, four bream, six dozen of gudgeon, and a jack of 5½lb.

SUNBURY.—Messrs. T. and A. Stroud, during the week, thirty-two barbel, twenty-six dozen of roach and dace, and seven jack, the largest 6lb.; Mr. Edward Clarke, in the same time, eighty-three dozen of roach and dace, twenty-six barbel, and three jack.

WEYBRIDGE. — Herbert Carr, in one day, with Mr. Roland, twelve dozen of fine roach.

CHERTSEY.—John Poulter, one day, with Mr. Hebburn, twenty-five dozen of roach and dace; another day, with Captain Grey, six dozen of roach; another day, with Mr. C. Wastell and Mr. Bedford, seven dozen of roach and one jack; Mr. Ryan and Mr. Allen, in one day, twenty-seven dozen of roach and dace.

STAINES.—John Keene, junior, one day, with Mr. Wilson and friend, 23lb. of good roach; another day, with Mr. Clarke, five dozen of roach and dace, and eight barbel; another day, with Mr. Menear, five dozen of fine roach. the largest 1lb. 2oz.; another day, with Mr. Foster and friend, eight dozen of roach and two barbel; and another day, with Mr. Mackerell, five dozen of roach and dace and four barbel, two of the largest roach weighing 2¼lb.

Upper Thames.—The river could not possibly be in better angling condition than it is in at the present moment. The late cleansing out has done much good, and I am pleased to report that roach, chub, perch, and jack, are all well on the feed. From all stations, from Staines to Oxford, come reports of fair sport, even the usually unproductive districts of Benson and Wallingford, contributing a quota of 25lb. and 30lb. of miscellaneous fish on two occasions. The weather with the new moon has turned over a fresh page, and the river surroundings just now are most enjoyable, and as fish are to be had for the asking, lucky are the anglers who have yet to spend their Thames-side holiday.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Windsor).—The glorious weather of the past few days will soon tell on the river, and cause it to get low and bright, when the very finest tackle will have to be used. Some very good baskets of roach and dace have been caught recently, but no extraordinary specimens, Mr. Harrison, of Eton, having the best roach I have weighed during the week; it went 15oz. In addition he had thirteen very good fish, all taken near Windsor Bridge, in one and a-quarter hours. Barbel have been shy, and positively refused worms, of which they have doubtless this season had plenty. Lumsden, of Datchet, on one occasion sat three hours taking one with worm; on using greaves, he quickly secured nineteen others, largest about 4lb. The Thames trout season being now closed, I am able to congratulate Mr. H. Sturton, of the Royal Windsor and District Piscatorial Society, on having won the first prize for Thames trout, with a nice specimen which, if I remember rightly, weighed over 4lb. Mr. Harvard, of Eton, takes second prize with a smaller fish. March 14 will close the coarse fishing competitions for specimen fish, of which a good number have been weighed in, and the contest promises to be very keen. Water at present in nice order, and gudgeon should feed madly if tried. Mr. Siddall Wright, of Windsor, in a short time to-day had just over eight dozen.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—We have real summer weather at last, and the water is in most excellent condition. The Hull Universal Angling Association fished a match in the most stormy weather before the change came. J. Wardle was first with 6lb. 7oz.; E. Earle, second, with 6lb. 5oz.; and T. Turner, third, with 3lb. 12oz. The total weights taken was 4st. 4lb. 12oz. On Friday Messrs. Summerson and Clark had three pike and thirty or forty roach. Mr. Broadhurst, Sheffield, two pike, and Mr. Teal, one pike. Since the change in the weather evening fishing has much improved.—THOMAS FORD.

Arun (Pulborough).—Some grand specimens of roach have been caught here recently, many being over a pound, and one I was shown weighing 1lb. 7¾oz. Anglers have landed bream up to 3lb., and this week one or two decent perch—largest a pound—have been obtained. This river contains good jack, and not so long ago one estimated to weigh 20lb. was observed in the fishery rented by the Central Association of London Anglers, and close to the spot where a fish of 18lb. was caught last season. Regarding the competition held here on the 6th inst. there were two hundred and thirty-two entries, and a very fair amount of sport was obtained considering the clouded water and the high wind. First honours was obtained by Mr. W. Biggs, who weighed in 8lb. 5oz. of bream and roach. In addition to the competitors in the match about four hundred other anglers were out on the river.—GOOSEQUILL.

Barle (Dulverton).—The river has been very high, but good baskets have been killed with fly and minnow. A friend last week killed six clean-run salmon with the fly on the Carnarvon Arms water. Killing flies, red, winged, hackled, Blue Upright, also rough hare's flex. Warmer, rising glass, and water finer and falling rapidly.—IRON BLUE.

Brighton.—SEA FISHING.—Boat anglers are having an exceptionally fine time of it just now. Favoured by summer weather and a calm sea, from twenty to thirty boats are off daily. Plaice have come in and are now fairly abundant close in shore. Pout are also plentiful, with a sprinkling of large silver whiting and small conger. The only difficulty is in the matter of bait. There has been quite a run on the fish shops for mussel, which, although abundant on the rocks below Black Rock Coastguard Station, are so small that three or four are required wherewith to bait a single hook. Lug worms are *the* bait, but rather difficult to procure here, the small supply coming from Shoreham, and sold at one shilling per pint, but have just been told that a small supply may be purchased of a vendor on the Old Chain Pier.—H.

Chichester and Sussex Rivers.—The hope of a fine September has been realised, and with the exception of a bad start on the 1st, the weather has improved and we are now grumbling at the intense heat. Angling has greatly improved, and the rivers are in grand condition. At Chichester Canal a number of anglers have met with good sport among the bream and roach, but bream are not so heavy as a few seasons since. Carp have been feeding well at the Decoy Ponds, Amberley. Mr. H. Howard has landed some excellent specimens, wheat corns and malt corns have accounted for good baskets. Dace and roach have afforded good sport on the Adur and from the Arun during the week several bream up to 3½lb., and roach exceeding 1lb. The weather has been too hot, and in many private waters too weedy and low for pike fishing, but several good eels some weighing 2½lb. have been taken with dead bait.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—Both ashore and afloat the sport is excellent, and to add to the comfort of anglers, the clerk of the weather has turned over a new leaf. It seems quite possible we may have an "Indian summer" yet. One of the nicest and gamest brown trout that I have heard of for several years was killed by Mr. Johnson, of Cooilbane, in the "Sulby river," not far from the site of the views published in the summer number of last year's *F. G.* It measured 18in., girth, 5¾in., and weighed when caught a trifle over 2lb. 8oz. It is just possible that a "Wandle" trout, caught by our excellent Editor, might have weighed less, although I know he has done better. Sea fishing is pleasant, profitable, and productive of pastime and pleasure, but angler's ought not to trust the boatmen's gear, but rather put their trust in the men who have made a life study of what is requisite to that particular branch of angling, and who all advertise in the *F. G.*—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—Sport has been pretty fair this last week. A dish of five brace, including a large grayling well over 1½lb., was taken by Mr. F. Wilson on Tuesday from the Birdsgrove length with the Needler fly and Apple Green; Mr. W. Bullock took a large trout, weighing 4½lb., from the same water with the minnow on Friday last; on Wednesday, Messrs. B. and L. Coxon took eight brace of grayling from the Uttoxeter Association water; Mr. R. Ward has been killing a few brace daily in the course of an odd hour or two's fishing (Birdsgrove). There are several other fishermen out, whose takes will be given in our next. Weather warm and genial.—D. AND W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourne.

Eden (Carlisle).—Very little is being done by anglers just now. It is generally a slack time. Two salmon were killed in the Rickerby water last week, one by Mr. John MacInver, and one by his keeper. Tom Bone landed a grilse below Carlisle yesterday, and two or three salmon have been caught in the Edenhall water. The netting season throughout the Eden district is now at an end, the Solway fishing having closed on the 9th last week, and showed a good instance of the value of the "Playground" lately instituted by the Board of Conservators. There was a fine run of fish on Friday and Saturday. They would get into the "Playground" during the weekly close time. As matters stood before, a fleet of nets would have massacred them there on Monday morning, but under the present restrictions they were safe, as the river nets were all out on Aug. 31, the fish would have a clear run for the spawning beds.—SILVER GREY.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—Again it is pleasing to report that there have been gratifying results on this river, for during the past week some excellent sport has been obtained. Anglers have been out each day, and though a few have been disappointed, others have done exceedingly well. The fish are, generally speaking, in fine condition, and afford first-class sport. As far as we are able to ascertain, the following takes have been made: Mr. L. Sutcliffe, two salmon, each weighing 6lb.; Mr. T. Mitchelson, Pickering, one of 6lb.; Mrs. Keighley, Whitby, one of 7lb., Mr. J. Mitchelson, Pickering, two, of 4lb. and 5lb.; Mr. W. Harland, Egton Bridge, seven; Mr. C. J. Keighley, Whitby, ten; Mr. J. H. Keighley, two; Mr. John W. Nicholson, Talbot Hotel, Whitby, six; Mr. Herbert Jackson, one; Mr. J. R. Bulmer, Hull, one, 7lb.; Mr. J. W. Wheldon, Pickering, seven. At the time of writing the river is getting rather low for first class sport, but a little downfall would soon put it in right fishing trim again. The river, so far as the present season is concerned, has never been so full of fish as it is now, and day by day it affords everything necessary for legitimate sport.—JNO. J. JACKSON.

Lake District.—Fly-fishing has been almost *nil*, owing to the swollen and discoloured state of our streams, and I have not heard of many takes worth recording, though there are one or two exceptions to this rule. Large numbers of salmon are now in the estuaries of the Kent and Bela, and some notable and illegal captures have been made. Large tracts of land in South Westmoreland have been covered with water, particularly the low-lying portions at the extreme head of Morecambe Bay: and, on the subsidence of the flood, many salmon were found in pools on the cultivated land, and fell easy prey to the farmers and their labourers. This was mild poaching indeed compared with the tactics of a gang who, by the use of nitro-glycerine in certain quiet pools, have caused death and destruction to fish innumerable. I have information of one man who took five salmon in a single day by this means; and it will be impossible to stop the practice so long as dealers afford such easy means to poachers for the disposal of their plunder. The stormy weather has caused a general exodus of visitors from the Lake District, and most of the waters have been too high for fishing. Windermere was last week the highest it has been for fifty years, the ferry-boats and steamers in some cases being unable to ply. On the Kent, the best basket I have heard of was eighteen fish, most probably averaging a pound each, taken by Mr. J. Shaw in Levens Park.—WESTMERIA.

Lea.—Angling generally has improved and will continue to do so if the present weather continues. I noticed to-day (Thursday), the weed cutters busily at work, they were employed on the length between Ponders' End and Enfield Lock, where the weeds are more prolific than in the other portions of the Lea where the water was drawn down; of course, floating weeds are an angler's nuisance, but at the same time it must be remembered that their removal has cleared swims that otherwise would be unfishable. Ponders' End—Mr. Geo. Hollingbery, of the Railway Hotel, has had good sport during the week; he tells me that chub have been feeding well, and that he had two very good specimens dibbing with caterpillars and natural flies; he also took a jack of about 3½lb., which was full of spawn, a most extraordinary occurrence at this season. Games's Fishery, Higham Hill—Some very good catches of perch and jack have been made lately, two of the latter fish weighing between 6lb. and 7lb.; the pike fishing here is two shillings for daily tickets; Mr. Games has about the longest rake I ever saw for clearing the weeds from swims. Waltham Abbey Fishery—Fishing here has been good; Mr. Finley has again been to the fore with a pike of about 11½lb.; a few smaller jack and roach have been taken. The Navigation Canal is in the best possible condition at the time of writing.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—The last few days has apparently launched us into tropical weather, and anglers have every reason to be satisfied--the late rains having put the waters in splendid condition. The town waters have received rather less patronage this week; but results have been quite up to the average, some capital baskets of roach being taken each day. Among the most prominent were Messrs. Dewick, Pinnock, Bacchus, and Prime, with baskets of roach and dace. Pike fishing has been quiet; owing to the extreme heat in the daytime fish would not feed. Late in the evening anglers have been obtaining some nice chub. and eels have again afforded plenty of sport. Messrs. C. Watson and A. Freer showed specimens up to 1¾lb. Away from the town matters have been quiet, although the fraternity continue to patronize the waters at Narborough, Bluby, and the Wreake Stations pretty freely. On Thursday the thermometer, during portion of the day, showed over one hundred deg. Fahr. A fair sprinkling of anglers were about the waters, and a delightful breeze getting up during the evening the fish bit well.

Loddon (Earley).—The water here is in capital condition for angling, and good sport has been had, the last few days. Some very fine takes of roach which are well on the feed, also chub; some nice pike have been got in good condition, going from 3½lb. to 7lb.—J. R. GOULD.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams have run down and cleared, and are in order for angling. The weather has greatly improved, and is now quite warm, and the fish is rising freely at the fly. The best flies are the Red Tag, August Dun, Green Insect, Mid Blue, and Pale Dun. Bottom fishing has been quiet. Some good grayling have been taken with the Willow. The Pinsley is in good fishing order. Sport in it quiet.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Rivers are now in capital order. The weather this week has been glorious for the harvest, but too bright for the angler. Flies are plentiful; the most successful have been the Late Brown, Silver Dun, Red Tag, and Pale September Dun. Other good flies are Blue Gnat, Female Willow, Green Insect, Mid Blue and Whirling. Prospects for sport in the coming week are good. Mr. Shaw Phillips' otter hounds have been hunting this district. On Saturday they killed, above the mill, at Kingsland, a fine otter, weighing 25lb., measuring 4ft. 2in.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—The river for the past three weeks has been in a most undesirable condition for the angler. A succession of rain has kept the water in a dirty state, and anglers have been much disappointed. I think the past month has been the worst August for sport in the Medway that I have known for some years, and nothing like the average of sport has been obtained. The weather now seems to show more signs of being settled and making a better state of things for all-round angling. I trust it may continue and give the anglers some chance of sport, to compensate them for the unpleasant start of the season.—W. SHRUBSOLE.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—The incessant rains of the last month, although the source of much grumbling at the time, have at last had a very beneficial effect upon the roach, dace, pike, and other course fish of the locality. At the present time, the river is literally swarmed with shoals of useful fish. On Saturday, Mr. Rowell obtained a useful basket of roach, about thirty, the best approaching half-a-pound. Master W. Rowell has also had good sport among the roach and dace. Some eels of a substantial size and dace, largest 7oz., have been obtained near Peterborough, by one of the most regular anglers of the district. Shall expect to hear of fine sport among the Nene pike shortly, as I have seen some fine specimens while enjoying a quiet walk along the river side. The annual competition of the Peterborough Angling Club was to have been held near the Town Bridge, on Saturday last, but was postponed on account of the swollen condition of the water. The entry is a large one, and the prizes valuable. Elements are favourable, but water is at present unusually clear.—NENEBANK.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—There is a marked improvement in the weather since my last week's report, and a great improvement in angling generally. I never knew fish feed much worse than they did all last week. It mattered not whether you tried the shallows or deeps—it was all the same. I saw on Saturday a lot of good anglers had been down to the Ouse, and the gross weight of fish they took did not amount to 10lb. the lot. The best takes I saw were made at Brandon, in the Little Ouse, and at Barton Mills, in the river Lark. There were swarms of good fishermen along the Yare at Buckenham, Cantly, and Reedham, but no good did they do: fish would not feed. Several good London men were down for the week and had no sport. I advise my angling friends to try the shallows more than the deeps, especially in the Ouse, at and below Ely. If fishing at Brandon, have some good strong clay and bran balls, not large, and try white paste and gentles—the same in the Lark. I know in any of these rivers there are tons of fish. A great deal of controversy has been going on lately in the columns of the *F. G.* respecting the weight of dace. I have frequently taken them over a pound, and I hope before next week to be able to send some grand specimens to one or two of the London clubs for their inspection. Anglers cannot do better than try at Brand Creek, Lakenheath cross-waters, Brandon, or Mildenhall this week. If they go to the Yare or Bure, both good rivers, but I think too early for them, they must try and find the shallow swims, and there they will get fish.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Ouse (Brandon, Norfolk).—During the week a splendid change in the weaber has set in, and with a continuance good sport must be had amongst the roach and dace. I have just received letters from two gentlemen fishing here for the week. One, E. Perry, Esq., of London, he is quite satisfied with his sport. The other gentleman states that host Rolph's prepared swims are in the pink of condition, and there plenty of roach about, "big 'uns." Good hooks are much required here, I mean strong in the neck and medium gut well leaded. The best sport has been had from five to seven p.m. as a rule, or early morning. Gentles for this week decidedly the best bait. The pike have been fairly on the move. Live bait at the Ram Hotel, also boats. It is well worth a visit to this place to take a row through that lovely vale up to the Downham Staunch where some good all round fishing can be obtained, especially if the services of H. Wolsey could be had. Letter to host Rolph will secure him on Fen water. Railway service, splendid for the angler. Just received another letter—Prospects good all round. Time writing, wind south, warm and bright.—JOHN O'GEORGE.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—The hot and bright weather has put the bream off the feed, but roach are feeding well. Evening is the best time for bream, they feeeding very fair on brandlings, and some good ones are being taken. The local anglers are having good sport late in the evening, but jacking is at a stand-still. I don't hear of anything being done during the week. Perch are to be seen feeding in many parts, but not anyone tries for them. Prospects very fair.—H. ROUT.

Ouse, &c. (York).—The river Ouse is gradually recovering its normal condition from the heavy floods we have been having for the past month or five weeks, but is yet far from a good angling water, owing to the thick muddy colour yet running. It is long since the fly-fisher has had such a rest at this time of the year in the Ouse, and many have gone farther away to the Upper Derwent and Rye streams, where the waters more quickly recover themselves. On the latter, and the Pickering and Driffield Becks, some good sport has been had chiefly with fly, and I hear of some of those heavy trout coming to the creel near Wansbeck. One good result of the floods is the large number of salmon that it has enabled to get into the higher reaches, and good fish have already been seen in places where least expected by the oldest fishermen. Grayling fishing in the Derwent is being followed with success with wasp grub and maggot. The most fish are taken with these baits just now, and of course with very fine tackle; but they will not take the fly so freely until the water is free of flood-colour. As is usual after a long volume of fresh, pike are very ravenous, and last Saturday, in the Derwent, I saw him playing havoc amongst the coarse-fry—several of my fish bearing teeth-marks, and a roach of over 1lb. was taken with its sides torn and bleeding as if fresh from the jaws of a large pike. Query:—How is it the fish whilst suffering such great pain, should take my bait?—RONALD.

Plymouth.—SEA-FISHING.—There are plenty of fish to be caught in the Sound. Pollack are taken with the india-rubber sand eel, on a running tide near the Shoal Rocks, and at the back of Drakes Island the fish seem to bite more freely early in the morning or after sunset. A friend of mine was out for half-an-hour, and he had four nice fish, weighing about 2lb. each. By using the rag-worm, bass and smelt can be caught off the various piers and rocks. Mackerel are now fast going to the bottom, which is the usual thing for them to do at this time of the year; you may see one hundred or more boats in the Sound, fishing for them with a twenty-fathom line, 1lb. boat shaped lead at the end, with a snood about one yard long having a double-ended snood with one end longer than the other, at their ends are attached two hooks No. 1 or 0, on single or double gut according to the liking of the fisherman; the bait generally used is either a strip of squid or pilchard, having a little bit of the shining part of the skin if possible; by this method you can obtain baskets ranging from one dozen to twenty dozen. The early part of the season, mackerel have been taken whiffing in great numbers, early in the morning, using a Silver Spinner. The season for them has been very good indeed.—WILLIAM HEARDER.

Scarborough.—(SEA FISHING).—Boat anglers continue to have splendid sport with mackerel; indeed, a Scarborough man, who has watched the fishing off the piers for years, remarked the other day, that he had never seen so many mackerel caught by rod and line so near to the east pier end. Ten or fifteen large mackerel is now an ordinary catch before breakfast. Silver whiting are also plentiful in the bay, and are of large size. Gurnard and flat fish also continue abundant, and with the calm sea we are having, coupled with the light breeze off land, sea anglers are having a grand time of it.—H.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—We have had a glorious and thrice welcome change in the weather this week, and the river is now clearing nicely after a long period of high and discoloured water. The river has been, up to the present, unfit for angling, but prospects are now rosy, and anglers are hoping that a bad season will end well.—PISCATOR.

Taw (North Devon).—Many peal and salmon were killed during the week; one salmon at Newbridge, Saturday. Mr. Sheffield killed six peal and some trout, Monday. The "Raker" has bagged some nice peal, working early and late. Rev. Wilson has taken some good fish lately, all with the minnow. I heard of some nice trout taken during the week, one weighing over 1lb. Water is in very good condition.—RUSTY GAME.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—Since my last report, this river has been in good fishing order, and now that the net fishing in the estuary is finished, salmon are more plentiful in the higher reaches. The following are amongst the catches which have come under my notice: Mr. George Bainbridge, one fishing weighing 12½lb.; Mr. Thomas Parkinson, three fish, 14lb., 12lb., and 7lb., respectively; Mr. Cooper, one, 4½lb.; Mr. Dent, one, weight not known; Mr. Robert Wandless, two, 15½lb. and 10½lb.; and Mr. Ramsay, of Gainford, two, 16½lb. and 15½lb. In trout, Mr. John Lax and Mr. T. Dobson, have each had fair dishes, and Master J. Percy Robinson also had one small dish of fish on Friday last. The Durham Ranger, in salmon flies, and Greenwell's Glory in trout, are being freely taken.—J. H. R.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this district is now running in capital order for fishing, having run down and cleared. The weather which has been very rough has now cleared and the fish are sporting well at the fly. The flies used are the Willow, Mid Blue, August Dun, Red Ant, Green Insect, and Silver Twist. Bottom fishing has been tried with the wasp grub, and some good fish have been landed. Minnow fishing in the morning has been good. In the water above the town a gentleman landed ten brace of good trout and grayling with the fly. Near the new bridge some good trout and grayling have been taken with the Willow and Green Insect. With the wasp grub trout over 1lb. weight have been landed. The Ony, Corve, Clun, and Ledwyche, are all in good order. In the Corve good trout have been landed with the wasp grub and minnow. Sport in the Ony good.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).—The water in this part is now greatly improved, and is running a nice level and clear. The warm weather of the last few days has brought the fish more on the feed, and the grayling and trout are rising well at the fly. Bottom fishing has been successful, and some good fish have been landed. The Red Kyre and Ledwyche are all in order for fishing. Sport in them quiet. —WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).—From present appearances barbel fishermen on the Trent will have a glorious opportunity of successfully winding up the season, the brilliant weather of the past few days toning the water into something like condition, after the repeated fluctuations of the past three weeks. From the Colne length, on Monday, Mr. R. Chatterton and a friend secured a nice mixed bag, comprising sixteen barbel, a brace of perch, and several chub and dace; and from the top length of the Rolleston Fishery, on the same day, a couple of Nottingham subscribers bagged a few, but these gentlemen are so chary of giving information that an accurate report is scarcely obtainable. From the same water, on Wednesday, Mr. T. Lees secured an out-of-condition fish, measuring 29in., and only scaling 6lb. 7oz. Dace and roach fishermen have been to the fore, Mr. D. Slater and Mr. C. Woodhouse showing some excellent specimens at the club-room on two or three occasions; and Mr. Robert Dale hooked a veritable champion dace, weighing 11¾oz. Worms and gentles are the popular baits, and evening the best time for securing fish. Wind south; and weather after a Trent barbel fisherman's own heart, but just a shade too bright during the middle of the day.—TRENTSIDER.

Wharfe, Yore, Swale, Nidd, &c.—The weather has apparently now settled down a good deal, and sport has improved considerably. I was out on Tuesday, with a friend, on the Wharfe. The fish rose freely but very "short," and I lost five out of every six that I hooked. Stone Midge, Brown Owl, and a very minute black fly were the favourites. My friend killed ten nice fish. Grayling are now getting into capital condition.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Wimbledon Lake (Wimbledon).—Jack well on the feed. Mr. Wood, of Putney, has taken four fish live-bait fishing, the largest of which was 7lb.; Mr. Burt, of the Earlsfield, took a fish weighing 6lb.; Mr. Spittle took a fish of 9lb.; Mr. Rawlings, of Hammersmith, took a fish weighing 11lb. The roach and bream have just commenced to feed. I have put into the lake over two thousand roach during the last two months in the presence of the anglers. —JOHN GARLICK.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire).—The heavy rain on Sunday caused both these rivers to rise considerably, and quite spoiled fly fishing. Since Tuesday the weather has settled and good sport may be looked for. Some very heavy barbel have been taken during the last few days. At Rowsley, I saw one gentleman, with upwards of 35lb., on Friday last—these of course were killed with the worm. Some good baskets of both trout and grayling are being killed to-day (Thursday), and fish are rising very freely. Whirling Dun, Apple Green Dun, Red Quill, Sand Fly, and Ash Duns are the best flies to use at present.—DOTTEREL.

Yare (Norwich).—The charming summer weather has not brought the sport which might have been expected. All along the river complaints reach me of the want of good catches; the only part that seems favoured has been the upper reaches, near Norwich, where some good bream have been caught. Several more clubs have held their matches, but ill luck has followed. I believe on the Bure they have been more favoured, but the class of fish of such a different order that those who go for a day's angling prefer the Yare, those who only want a few hours on the water affect the Bure, and the next day hold high jinks with their wives, &c. This month promises to be the best of the year, and there is still time for some good reports. The sun is overpowering, and bream should bite.—ROBERT MOLL.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire).—A good many trout and a few sewin have been taken during the past week, chiefly by worm fishing, the water being too discoloured for the fly. We shall probably have a fresh run of salmon up the East Cleddau, with the next flood or two, but it is getting late for any further runs of sewin.—H.

Lake Coron (Bodorgan, Anglesey).—Mr. Coles, Bodorgan Arms, bottom-fishing from two to seven one afternoon, had thirteen trout, weighing 8lb. The lake has overflowed its banks, and in fishing from the shore I took several trout during the week over 1lb. weight, the flies being Blue-bottle and Cinnamon. Last night (Wednesday) it became a dead calm, the Red Ant appeared on the water, and some fine fish were seen taking it. The weather is settled and the lake will be closed Oct. 1.—W. H.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—A succession of gales and floods has been followed by bright sunshine and calm. However there has been a good show of fish on the weighing table nearly every day during the week. Mr. J. B. Davison's basket of nine, on Thursday last, brought the total, since opening (March 26), to over four thousand. In two short days, Messrs. Fletcher got twenty-five trout, 19¾lb.; Mr. Tindall, twenty-two, 13lb. 1oz.; and Captain Stevenson, eighteen, 11½lb. Yesterday, Dr. Kenrick-Jones and Dr. Roger Edwards, brought in a very pretty basket of eleven, weighing 8lb. 10oz., which were much admired. Heaviest fish, Mr. A. P. Fletcher, 1½lb. Best flies, Golden Dropper, Lee's Favourite; Small Alder.—Season closes on Tuesday next.—LONG DRIFT.

Teifi (Lampeter, Cardiganshire). — A number of splendid fresh-run salmon have been caught here during the past week, thanks to the close time for nets and the fine condition of the water. The following have been the takes up to time of writing: Mr. Harford, two, 9lb. and 16lb.; Mr. Evans and a brother angler, four, two over 7lb., and two over 16lb.; one, by a visitor, 19lb.; also a number of other good fish by our local fishermen, weights not given, but hear they ran from about 6lb. to 15lb. each. The trout season is nearly over and well that it is so, for they are now falling off in condition.—H.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—Sport has been fairly good during the past week, for although the water has been rather thick, the main body of the flood water has passed away. The following have been the chief takes: Mr. Edwards, two sewin, 2lb. and 2½lb., and a basket of trout. On the same day the Misses Hughes, of Cibe, caught thirty trout between them; Mr. Lockyer, 10lb. of sewin; Mr. Lewis, a sewin of 2lb.; Mr. Edwards, a sewin, 2lb., and a trout, 1½lb.: Mr. Davies and Mr. Richards, each from 3lb. to 4½lb. of trout; Mr. David Edwards, two sewin, 1½lb. and 2½lb. Miss Croxen, our premier lady fly fisher, is over in Ireland, and we hear she caught during one day last week, twelve trout, over 1lb. in weight each. Poaching still goes on to a considerable extent in this neighbourhood, and quantities of trout are offered for sale, many of them bearing unmistakeable marks of the net, indeed, it is well known that the trammel net is much used at night, in addition to salmon spearing, &c., but the river watchers fail to convict, and so our river is being ruined for the want of more stringent measures.—H.

Usk (Abergavenny).—The river is now in first-rate condition. In the Association water, salmon as follows have been caught by Mr. William Davis, on the 3rd, four, weight of each 17lb., 13lb., 10lb. and 7lb., and two on the 9th, 14th, and 11lb. each. One on the 4th, by Mr. J. Clare, 10lb., and another the same date, by Mr. R. W. Bigg, weight, 10lb. On the 6th, the Rev. F. do vic Blamish, three, 17lb., 10lb. and 7lb. each. And Mr. H. Clare, one on the 9th, weight, 6½lb. Prospects for the next few days good. The sport above and below Abergavenny since my last report has been excellent as I predicted.—J. CLARE.

Scotch Reports.

Altnacealgach Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—Last Thursday Loch Cama was fished by Mr. Lush and Dr. Houghton, London, who landed between them fourteen trout, aggregating 4lb., and by Mr. and the Misses Squarey, Birkenhead, who made a basket of one and a-half dozen trout, 6lb. in all. On Friday, Mr. Squarey and Mr. Lush, fishing together on Loch Urigill, made a basket of thirty-eight trout; and Dr. Houghton, with the Misses Squarey, on same loch, forty-eight trout, aggregating 10lb. The weather has been very severe, and the lochs have been too flooded for successful angling, but better sport is anticipated for this week. On Wednesday evening the weather had every appearance of a change for the better.—McB.

Border Esk.—The Esk is now falling rapidly and has been running clear for some days past. In the Langholm water, Mr. Thomas Hounam had nine sea trout, a dozen herling, and some yellow trout; the sea trout about 2½lb. each. Mr. Swan, Bolton, had four sea trout and some smaller fry, below Skipper's Bridge. Mr. Young, Lanark, two sea trout, in the same water. Mr. T. McLellan had five sea trout; Mr. William Urquhart had seven sea trout, in Souies Pot. Mr. William Anderson, several sea trout, of 2lb. each, also some herling and yellow trout; Mr. W. H. Dodds had a mixed basket; Mr. William Morrison had nine sea trout and some herling, between Glenfiria and the Wash; and another good basket at a second fishing. At the Wash and Todholes, Mr. James Telford had a fine basket of sea trout and herling, three of the trout averaging 3lb. each. Messrs John and M. Laidlaw had ten sea trout and five herling. In the Stennis water, Mr. J. Jardine had four dozen yellow trout; and Mr. Jackson three and a-half dozen. Messrs. Mackie, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, had four dozen yellow trout, in the Tarras. In the Canonbie water, Mr. D. Little, Byreburn had a salmon of 18lb.; Mr. James Park, March Bank, a basket of sea trout and herling, 16lb.; Mr. Duncan, Edinburgh, had five good salmon in the Willow and Cauldron pools, 17lb., 12lb., 12lb., 6lb., and 5lb.; Mr. Duncan has a capital gillie in the person of Rob Neilson. From the Byreburn water Mr. A. Jardine had three small fish; Mr. Shand, Cross Keys Hotel, had a 13lb. salmon from the Long Pool, and one of 10lb. from Red Lynn Pool; Mr. D. Edgar two fish 6lb. and 9lb; in the Longtown water Mr. Yates, Metal Bridge Hotel, had a nice salmon; Mr. Brooks, three sea trout and eight herling; Mr. Mason, Rockliffe, one salmon, 9lb.; Mr. H. Sawyer, one salmon, 12lb.; Mr. Joseph Bell, Longtown, had a long run with a salmon about 20lb., and had it nearly killed, but lost it in the gaffing. Mr. W. G. Stubbs had one grilse, and Colonel Whybergh, staying at Metal Bridge Hotel, had twenty-one herling and one salmon.—GILNOCKIE.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—Very little angling has been done since last reported. Fish, though numerous, are very "dour" in taking. Mr. Mervyn King, Clifton, Bristol, was out on the Balnagown Arms Hotel water on Friday, and grassed a salmon weighing 9lb.; Miss King, Clifton, Bristol, and Master Charles King, have been making good baskets of trout on the Kincardine mountain streams. On Wednesday the former landed twenty-six, and the latter nineteen trout. On Monday, this week, Mr. King fished the hotel water on the Carron, and caught three salmon, weighing 7lb., 9lb., and 11lb. respectively, and a sea trout of 1lb. The weather still continues cold, wet, and boisterous.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—As anticipated, an early and most successful start has been made with the salmon autumn angling, which promises all that has been held out for it. As yet the flush of the migration have only been met with on the middle reaches, those got on the upper waters having been in the river for some time, but those of the latest run are models of beauty and colour, as well as quality for autumn fish. On the Cambus O'May water, Captain Montague had one of 9lb.; and Mr. F. Gaskell one of 8lb.; while several have been got on the Invercauld Birthall and Balmoral reaches. On the Aboyne section, Mr. Upcher landed one of 9lb. On the Kincardine O'Neil and lower sections splendid sport is being got. On the Kincardine Lodge section, Mr. Lamond landed one fine fish of 18lb.; Admiral Fane, one of 20lb. on the Upper Borrowstone; while Messrs. Hudson and Chalmers, London, had two of 10lb. and 6lb. On the Slwie water, Mr. James Harper landed two of 7lb. and 8lb.; and Mr. Chalmers one of 9lb. On the Woodend water, Mr. Farnell Watson had several last week, one a beauty of 39lb. on Saturday. This is the heaviest fish killed this autumn as yet. On the Blackhall Castle water, Mr. J. T. Hay landed several fish on Friday and Saturday, of which accounts are not yet to hand On the Drum water, Mr. Francis Irvine had four fish, scaling from 9lb. to 20½lb.; while several were also had on the lower sections of the water. Finnock fishing is doing well. The Aberdeen Harbour returns from the netting stations have broken all previous records for the last twenty years as to the money returns. The gross annual returns, as reported by Mr. Adam, manager to the Lord Provost of Aberdeen, for past season, is £8,934 12s. 1d., being £1,668 0s. 9d. above last year, and the highest receipts yet received. The taking lures have been small double fancies of Nos. 2 and 3 bend, dressed to patterns similar to and including Jock Scott, Silver Doctor, Blacklaws Druggist, while the Phantom has also been strongly in evidence, especially with the heavier fish. The prospects are of the brightest.—DEESIDER.

Deveron (Banffshire).—There was a great improvement in the weather during the past week as regards the fall of rain, which was exceptionally light as compared with previous weeks. Slight frosts were experienced in the beginning of the week, and no doubt they will have a detrimental effect on the fishing. The water in the river is now in capital order. There are a good number of fish on all the waters, but anglers complain that they are very difficult to hook. On the Netherdale section, Keith Martland, Esq., had a fine fish of 9lb., and Mr. John Fraser, the keeper, another of 7½lb. On the Meagyn water Mr. Sandison, had two, of 7lb. and 9lb. and on the free water of Huntley a few fell to the rod.—H. W.

Don and Ythan.—Since the removal of the nets and with the advantage of a timeous flood large numbers of salmon have been running, and on the Muggremoss, Grandholm, and at the Conives of Don good sport has been got considering the earliness of the season. Finnock and sea trout fishing on the tidal reaches of the Ythan is getting more and more brisk every day. The water has been of a dark and if anything too flooded a colour for the best of work; but a splendid autumn is now fairly well assured.—G. M.

Helmsdale (Helmsdale).—Last week I gave no report, for the simple reason that there was literally nothing to say. To make bricks without straw has always been considered a hard task, and I am sorry to say there is even now little or no improvement to report of angling on this river. Anglers have been out almost daily, but in almost every case without success. I have only heard of the capture of six fish in the whole fortnight past, and this is really unprecedented in the history of angling on this water. The other day, to test matters, I went up the river a distance of ten miles and had a try, but only to return disappointed like others. The Kildonan shooting party have been out angling often, but all complain of want of sport, while all the time plenty of fish are to be seen. The grouse shooting has, up to date, done much better than was expected, the Helmsdale shooting taken this year by Mr. Nutting, having for the last two weeks, even with very wet weather, yielded one hundred and twenty-eight brace. The other shootings have also done well. The river is still high and rain falling almost daily.—S. C.

Lairg (N.B.).—Very few anglers are staying at this centre now, the cold, wet unseasonable weather rendering angling almost impossible. On Monday Messrs. White and P. Woodgate, made a nice basket on Loch Shin; Mr. Neill has also had fair success.—J. Y.

Liddle.—Some fair takes are still being made in the Liddle. Mr. James Graham, Crookholm, had a salmon 14lb., and some sea trout and herling; Mr. Nap two salmon, 12lb. and 10lb.; Mr. J. B. Balfour, of Langholm, ten herling; Mr. Kellie, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, three herling and some yellow trout; and Mr. St. George Tucker had some good hauls in the lower water.—G.

Loch Cracail (Sutherland, N.B.).—This excellent loch has been yielding good baskets of late. On Wednesday last, Mr. J. Masson, Kirkliston; Mr. T. Moseman, London; and Mr. W. Scott Brock, Achinduich House, Invershin, made a basket of thirty-one trout, aggregating 15lb.—McB.

Loch Craggie (Lairg, N.B.).—The Achany Lodge party have made some fine baskets on this excellent trouting loch during the past week.—J. Y.

Loch Dhu and Loch Breae (Caithness).—The Lower Dunheath party fished these lochs on Monday of last week, and made excellent baskets of yellow trout. On Saturday Sir William and Lady Call, Balcraggie Lodge, on Loch Dhu, caught a number of large well-fed yellow trout. On Wednesday, on the Dunbeath water, three local anglers caught over sixty nice trout.—J. Y.

Naver (Strathnaver, Sutherland).—Rain has been falling almost continually for some time, and as a result the river has not been fishable. Angling has, in consequence, been almost at a complete standstill. In the course of the week, Major Burnett, Dalvina Lodge, caught a salmon, weighing 13lb., and a grilse of 5½lb.; Mr. Davis, Skilpick Lodge, grassed one, of 8½lb.; and one salmon was landed by Mr. Stubbard, Syre Lodge.—McB.

Ness (Inverness).—This water, during three days of the past week has been in high flood, and consequently the angling has not been so good. The following are the takes for tho week on the Dockfour water: General Godman landed eight grilse on the Ness Castle water; Mr. F. Walker landed sixteen grilse and four salmon, 29lb., 24½lb., 12lb., and 13lb. each; on the Holm water, Mr. Godman landed fifteen grilse; on the Lower water, General Grant killed seven grilse; Captain Cunliffe, four grilse. On the free day (the 4th), the water was so high that the locals had poor sport, only five grilse being killed.—D. WATSON.

North Uist.—The fishing got on the hotel waters has been very good of late. On Monday of last week, Mr. List got twenty fish, weighing 18lb.; the Rev. Messrs. Sharmer, Walley, and Diggaither, 11lb.; Mr. List, 5lb. On Wednesday, Colonel Freeman, and Rev. Mr. Biggwither, got 15lb.; Mr. Storey, and Mr. Farmer, 11lb. On Thursday, Mr. List, 5lb.; Judge Collier, 10lb.; while the others already mentioned had 11lb. Similar baskets are being made every favourable day.—W. S.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—The past week has been a very poor one, so far as sport with the rod is concerned. The weather has been so wet, cold, and stormy that suceessful angling was out of the question.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—Salmon and sea trout are now in good taking, and excellent sport anticipated as the weather settles. On Wednesday, Mr. Milles, London, fished Loch Sandwood, and caught threo sea trout, averaging 3½lb. each (heaviest 5lb.), and a salmon weighing 9½lb. On Thursday, Mr. Dugdale, London, fished Loch Garbet Beg, and caught three sea trout, 3½lb. in all, and a salmon of 7½lb.; Dr. Saundby, Birmingham, and Mr. Clark, Bedford, fishing together on Loch Inchard, had 40lb. lythe; Mr. Stobart, Durham, on Loch Sgeir-a-Chath, nine sea trout, 7lb.; and Mr. Doubavend, London, on Loch Inchard, shot three wild ducks and landed 25lb. lythe. On Friday, Mr. Dugdale, London, had capital sport on river Laxford viz., five sea trout, weighing 5lb., and threo salmon, weighing 13½lb., 13lb., and 7lb.; Mr. Milles, on Loch Sandwood, caught three sea trout, which aggregated 9lb.; Mr. Doubavend, on Loch Sgeir-a-Chath, ten sea trout, 9lb.; and Mr. and Mrs. Stobart, Durham, on Loch Inchard, 60lb. lythe. On Saturday, Mr. Milles, on Loch Sgeir-a-Chath, two sea trout, 2lb.; Mr. Clark, Bedford, on Loch Garbet, three sea trout, 3½lb.; and Mr. Doubavend, on Loch Inchard, two lythe, 9lb., and three coal fish, weighing 10lb., 10½lb., and 13lb.—McB.

Shin.—The lower beats have been giving excellent sport in salmon and grilse angling. Mr. L. D. Hull and party, Sutherland Arms Hotel, Inveran, were out on Saturday, and landed a salmon weighing 31lb. On Monday, two grilse, weighing 6lb. and 4lb., and a salmon of 8lb. was landed.—McB.

South of Scotland.—We have fairly entered on the back-end salmon fishing in the South of Scotland rivers. Already good fly fishing has commenced. On the Annan, a few fine salmon have been killed since my last report. In the lower waters, Mr. Arthur Nicholson, had a nice fish the other day; Mr. Dirom, of Mount Annan, killed one, and his fisherman, Mr. Andrew Bell, landed one beautiful fish of 18lb., out of the Towerpool, above Brydekirk Bridge on Friday. In Hoddom Castle water, on Tuesday, Mr. A. Roddick, Dukes Mill, Hoddom, killed two salmon, one beautiful fish weighed 23lb., and another of 18lb. In Castlemilk water, belonging to Sir Robert Jardine, Bart, M.P., Mr. Wilson, the Cairn, had a fish of 7½lb., on Wednesday (yesterday); Mr. D. Tweedie, Ecclefechan, and Mr. J. Rae, Ecclefechan, both hooked big fish, and after having them on for some time lost them. In the Murraythwaite section, a Dumfries angler landed a nice little fish of 9lb., with small trout fly. In the Duke of Buccleugh's water, Mr. Thomas Jardine, Lockerbie, grassed a fine fish of 14lb. Mr. Jardine, jun., of Dryfeholm, fishing tho Jardine Hall water, on Saturday, landed a sea trout of nearly 2lb., and a few yellow trout; Mr. T. J. Bell, Lockerbie, had a heavy salmon in the middle waters; Mr. Varrie, a fine basket of yellow trout; Mr. Laidlaw, caught five sea trout; and the Rev. James Glendinning, four trout of nearly 2lb. each. In Milk water, trout fishing has been fairly good, Mr. Wm. McDougall, Edinburgh, secured two dozen yellow trout; Mr. Varrie, Lockerbie, four herling, and a few yellow trout; Mr. A. Wilson, four sea trout and six herling. In Dryfe water, Mr. John Little, two sea trout and several good yellow trout. In the higher reaches, Mr. George Thomson, landed fifty-one yellow trout and two herling; Mr. John Hardie, caught three sea trout, two herling, and a few yellows. Mr. William Johnston, succeeded in killing a sea trout of 3½lb. Near Millhouse Bridge, of Jardine Hall, Mr. Sharp caught a very fine yellow trout of 5½lb. A great many other catches have been made in different waters. The Nith is now in splendid ply, and a capital show of salmon have been noticed in the pools. Authentic reports have not come to hand to-day, but I hear of some good trout fishing in the higher reaches with fly. The Dee, Kirkcudbrightshire, gives promise of some capital salmon angling shortly, as the fish are reported to be pouring into the pools. All these catches in the different rivers have been had with fly. The Fleet and Urr are affording fairly good sport. Local anglers report hopefully of the season now that the waters are coming into good order.—HEATHERBELL.

Spey (Elgin).—The Spey is in good condition, and fairly good sport has been got. On Thursday last Mrs. Stewart-Menzies had two salmon on the Aikenway water, weighing 7lb. and 8lb. respectively. On the same day Mr. Stewart-Menzies, Culdarse, landed a fish of 13lb.; and Mr. Austin Mackenzie had one of 8lb. On Friday Mr. Stewart-Menzies had two salmon of 8lb. and 11lb.; and Mr. Austin Mackenzie had one of 12lb. On the Wester Elchies water on Thursday Sir A. L. Smith, had a fish of 9lb., and his son, Mr. Geoffrey Smith, had a grilse of 7½lb. On the Crayellachie water on Friday Mr. Jan Grant, of Ballindalloch, landed a fine salmon of 16lb.; and Mr. Pegg, from Glengrant, landed one of 8lb.; Major Grant, of Glengrant, had a splendid grilse on the first of last week, and on Saturday Mr. Pegg had a fish of 11lb. There is a good run of both salmon and grilse in the river at present, and good sport is expected. On the Aikenway water, on Tuesday, Mrs. Stewart-Menzies, of Culdares, had a splendid salmon of 16lb.; and Mr. John Shiach had two beauties of 17lb. and 18lb. respectively. On the Sourden stretch, on Tuesday, Colonel Edis had three salmon weighing 21lb., 18lb., and 9lb. respectively.—H. LOGIE.

Tay (Perth).—Splendid sport is being got at present. The river is in capital ply, and the upper and lower reaches are well stocked with fish. There are no signs of disease. On Wednesday last, Mr. Foster had three on the Stanley Water, 20lb., 17lb., and a grilse. On Almondmouth Water, on Friday, Dr. Wyman, London, had eight fish and a grilse, and on the Luncarty Water, Dr. Tyfe, London, had two fish, 18lb. and 14lb. On the Upper Redgorton Water, Mr. M'Lean had three, and thirteen fish and a grilse on the lower. On the Almondmouth Water, Captain Livingstone had eight, and on Stanley Water, Mr. C. Holland had seven. On the Meikleour Water, thirteen fish were got; on Taymount water, Sir R. D. Moncrieffe killed twelve. On the Delvine Lower water, Mr. Lucas killed a fish of 18lb.; Colonel Hornsby Drake, two, 17lb. and 15lb.; Mrr. Hornsby Drake, a grilse of 9lb. and a sea trout. On the Taymount water, Mr. Murray had excellent sport on Tuesday, killing ten fish and eight grilse to his own rod, while his guest, fishing the same water killed ten. On the Free Water, Mr. Mason had a grilse; Messrs. Ireland and Brady, one each; Captain Artrechan, one fish, 12lb.; Mr. Pierrie, a grilse. On Friday, Mr. Wardrope, Dundee, had four; Mr. Davison, one; Mr. Wotherspoon, one; Mr. Lowe, Liverpool, one. On Saturday, Mr. Wardrope had three; Mr. Scott, Dundee, one fish and a grilse. On Tuesday, Mr. Wardrope, two; Mr. McIntyre, one; Mr. McLagan, one; Mr. Cosgrove, one; Mr. McDougall, one; Major Dundas, three; Mr. Forbes, two; and Mr. Imrie, one.

EARN.—On tho Drummond Castle water, on Wednesday, Mr. G. J. Comrie had a fish of 15lb.; Mr. Curr, two 15lb. and 10lb.; Mr. McNee, one 6lb. On the Trinity Gask water, Mr. H. Kelsall had two, 14lb. and 12lb. On Friday, Mr. Bell had one Mr. Morrison, Edinburgh, one, and Mr. Cowan, one On Invermay water, Mr. McLaren killed two, 14lb. and 12lb. On the Dupplin water, Mr. Brydges Willyams had two. On the Drummond Castle water, ou Saturday, Mr. P. White killed five, ranging from 6lb. to 18lb.; Mr. Don, one. On Ochterlyre water, Mr. R. Murray killed two salmon, and the keeper ono of 12lb. On the Drummond Castle water, Mr. McLeod, two, 20½lb. and 8½lb. On the club water, Mr. Jack, one, 6½lb.; G. S. Comrie, one, 8lb.; Mr. McKie, one, 8lb. On the Dupplin lower water, Mr. W. Robertson killed two, 15lb. and 9lb.; and on the Dupplin castle water, Mr. Willyams killed six.

Thurso and Lochmore (Strathmore Lodge).—Windham Baring, a boy of ten and a-half years, is one of the best anglers of his age; his baskets of trout often beats older hands. He has had the courage to go for the salmon lately, and on Monday he landed a fine salmon of 15lb.; on Tuesday he landed one small salmon, another on Wednesday, and one on Thursday. All the other gentlemen are having good sport. No. 7 bait is tho most productive.—A. H.

Thurso (Brawl Castle).—The river is still keeping too high from the daily heavy rainfall, but the fish have been taking better within the last few days. On the 2nd. Mr. Cunningham got a nice fish on No. 6 beat, and one on No. 3 beat; on the 4th, Mr. Part had one salmon on No. 4 beat, 10lb., and on the lower section he had three of average weight; on the 5th Mr. Parry got two on No. 4 beat; and Mr. Part got seven on the lower section in a deluge of rain and the river rising rapidly in the afternoon. The river is now failing, and the prospects are good, as the river is full of salmon and grilse. It is proposed to get the river opened for salmon angling from 14th Sept. (which is the present close time) till 1st October, but no definite answer has yet been obtained.—A. H.

Tongue Hotel.—The following is angling record for the week: September 2, Colonel Tracey, on the Kyle, three sea trout, 3lb.; 3rd, Mr. Slibbard, on the Kyle, two sea trout, 2lb.; 4th, Colonel Tracey, on the Kyle, 5½lb. sea trout; Mr. Slibbard, on the Kyle, seven sea trout, 6½lb.; Mr. Sharp, on the Kyle, 7lb. sea trout.

Tweed.—The prospects of the salmon angler at the present time on this river are, certainly, very good. No cause for grumbling can be made by proprietors and lessee as to the want of floods for bringing up fish from the sea, as during the past month the rises in the river have been continuous, and some of them have occurred at every opportune moments—in many cases just when the nets wero off for the usual weekly close time, and thus fish had a great chance of getting up to all the angling waters on the river. If ever the Tweed and Teviot had a chance of being well stocked with salmon, and other kinds of fish, it has been during tho present season, and if the back end fishing season in the middle d strict does not turn out a successful one, the cause cannot be ascribed to any lack of water, or the scarcity of fish, as very large numbers have been in the bay at Berwick, and also in tho lower parts of the river, as is evidenced by the takes three weeks' ago, at the netting stations at the river mouth and elsewhere. One station, at one haul, had over one hundred fish, whilo many of tho stations had one hundred fish during a tide. Owing to the flooded state of the rivers last week, Waltonians could not get on till Friday, when a few fish were killed on some of the shallower casts, and the next day, a few moro fish were killed. Heavy rain in the higher districts during the latter day, again brought us a flood of 6ft., on the 6th inst., and angling was not practicable until Tuesday. To-day (Wednesday), the river is in excellent ply, and anglers are expectant of good takes. The following are the kills since last report: on the Makestoun water, leased by the Right Hon. D. H. Madden, M.P., Solicitor Genoral for Ireland, for the present month, that gentleman has had very good sport, On Friday, he killed four grilse, averaging about 6lb., while he had one salmon of 14lb. as well; on the succeeding day, he was successful in killing five salmon, 13lb., 13½lb., 14lb., 14lb. and 23½lb.; he had also one grilse of 7½lb. On the Hendersyde water, on Saturday, Mr. William Robson, of Oaklands, Kelso, had one very fine salmon of 16lb., with live lice on it, and he lost another good fish. On the "Wheel" cast on the Ednam House water, Mr. John Drummond, had a salmon of 12lb. ou Saturday. On the Rutherford and Boldside waters, and also on the Pavilion and Mertoun salmon casts fair sport has been got, a good few fish having been killed since the middle of last week, but particulars are not yet to hand. During the last week of August, Mr. James Vokins, on the Carham water, had one sea trout of 8lb., and 8lb. of yellow trout on the 27th; on the 28th. One sea trout of 18lb., and 12lb. of yellow trout; on the 29th, two grilse of 7lb. and 6½lb., and on the 31st, one salmon of 16lb. On both Tweed and Teviot trout anglers havo had good sport lately, but the trout are now getting out of condition.—MAXWHEEL.

Upper Shin.—The Lairg Lodge party (Lord Fitzharding's) killed two salmon, weighing 7lb. each on tho upper reaches on Monday. The Tressady Lodge party fished the higher waters on Tuesday and Friday and wero fairly successful.—J. Y.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—Trouting is slowly reviving. On Monday, Mr. Irwin, on the Coagh reaches, had four trout; Mr. B. Threw, six; and myself, seven. Following day I hooked but lost a 10lb. salmon, and all I had was four small trout. On tho Cadfred reaches a few light baskets have been had. On the preserved waters of Tullyleggan, (Mr. Kinley's), Desertcreight (Mr. Hassard's), Loughrey (Mr. Lennon's), and Killymoon (Mr. Mowbray's), very little has been done. There is a good rise of salmon below Coagh, but a good many have been poached. At the Barmouth, Mr. Maneely had seven pike, fourteen bream, and two dozen perch during the week.—J. A. B.

Lough Currane (Waterville, County Kerry).—Sport on the whole has been poor owing to adverse weather. Three salmon have been got. Mr. Greame had one, 8½lb.; Mr. Eades, one, 7lb.; and Mr. Batesman, one, 8½lb. The white trout fishing has been far below the average, five or six white trout being the best basket each day. Brown trout also have afforded but little sport. The gentlemen out for the week included, among others, the following: Mr. W. A. S. Riversdale, Rev. Mr. Fitch, Captain MacIntosh, Mr. J. A. Batesman and brother, Dr. Sharkey and friend, Mr. Sharkey, Mr. Merryweather, Mr. Eades, Miss Hartopp and Mrs. Hartopp, of Dalby Hall, Melton Mowbray, Mr. Butler, and Mr. Herbert. Since then other anglers have arrived, principally for sea angling.—THOS. J. DENNEHY.

Lough Neagh.—Mr. Donaghy, during the past week, rod fishing, had two dozen of lake trout, running from 1lb. to 3lb. each. Salmon netting is not so good and trout netting shows a falling-off. The latter fishing, at present, is the more remunerative, as the fishers get one shilling per pound for the trout and only sixpence per pound for the salmon. Eel fishing is prime, the takes on the night-lines being exceptionally heavy. Some of the fishers engaged can make from thirty to fifty shillings a night at this industry. Better sized pollen have been taken this past fortnight. Bream, pike and perch fishing is about the average. Some damage was caused to the fishing gear by the storm of the 31st ult. A slight frost this last few nights has put the lake trout from rising freely.

Moy and Lakes (Ballina).—Since last report this river has been in high flood and only cleared on the 9th inst., when there were only two rods out. Mr. John Grigby and Mr. Helley killed threo fish, 10½lb., 11½lb., 7½lb., and four sea trout, 5½lb. During the week trout fishers on the lough experienced rough and rainy weather, consequently on most days their baskets were not well filled. On tho 4th inst. Mr. W. Slater had one dozen trout, weighing 9lb. Same day Mr. F. Warren had four trout, weighing 6lb., besides a few smaller ones. All we want is fine weather to ensure grand sport.—FRANK HEARN.

Shannon and Lough Derg (Killaloe).—Scarcely any perceptible fall in the water, the wind has not abated one bit. It is as wild and wet to-day as it was a month ago; for which reason the river is swollen to a pitch which renders fishing almost impracticable, for the present at least. Quite a quantity of salmon and grilse have passed up to the Upper Shannon this week, but others aro taking their place every hour, so we may reasonably expect good sport by and bye. A few grilse have been taken this week, largest 9½lb. Sir Henry Meridyth, Bart., and his friend Mr. C. E. Levita have returned to London; and Mr. Sidney Mitchell and Mrs. Mitchell, and his friend, Mr. J. H. Gillott, Birmingham, who have taken Mr. Young's preserves for September, arrived here on Monday for the salmon and trout fishing. The first try Mr. Mitchell had was on Tuesday, when he killed two grilse, 7lb. and 4lb., on Major Traherne's side of the river. By the way, Major Traherne, Mrs. Traherne, and the Misses Hope-Johnstone (two) have returned to England, where the Major's hands will be kept as busy after the partridges and pheasants for the next couple of months, as they have been among the salmon, grilse and trout since March here at Killaloe.—S. J. HURLEY.

Strule and Mourne (Newtown Stewart, Co. Tyrone).—The above rivers has remained in a flood all the week, but some nice fish have been killed; Mr. Ramsbottom, from Liverpool, killed several, as also did Mr. Fletcher and Mr. McKinnell, who also hail from Liverpool. Mr. Johnstone, of Lord-street, Liverpool, killed five beauties one day last week, but was not successful since. Tho weather appears improving.—JOHN J. MOORE.

Suir and Tributaries (Clonmel).—The river is fining down to proper angling level, and a few more days of fine weather will make it fit for the rod on every stand. In some parts it has been successfully fished already, notably on a few of the Knocklofty reaches, at Roxborough, &c., where Hon. G. W. Hely-Hutchinson had some good sport, getting, on Friday, the 28th ult., a salmon of 6lb.; on Monday, 31st, another weighing 16¾lb.; and on Wednesday, 2nd inst., a beautiful fish of 18lb. In addition to these he killed five peal—viz., one of 6½lb. on Thursday; two, 5lb. and 4lb., on Friday; and two, 5lb. and 6lb., on Saturday. Several others were also successful during the week on the upper waters, but the river below Clonmel is too high yet for salmon, and anglers have to content themselves with trout, of which some good baskets were had on the Suir, and also on the Anner and other of its tributaries.

Westmeath Lakes (Mullingar).—Angling upon the Westmeath lakes and rivers, although it will not close until the first day of October, may be looked upon as practically over for the present season. The same wretched weather which ushered in last month still prevails, and it is very rare to find one day in seven suitable for fishing. Even then the trout won't take a fly, but simply rise to the surface lazily, turn under it in a tantalising sort of way, and go down again. The season closed in the Drogheda district on the 5th of August (curious arrangement), but no notice appears to be taken of the matter, as parties fish away or rather try to (as there are very few trout in the Boyne tributaries), just the same as if there were no close time.—T. J. W.

LOCH LEVEN, PAST AND PRESENT.

Now that the angling season on Loch Leven has been closed, anglers no doubt, may be interested if we here give a brief review of the sport obtained since this fine lake—which was reduced by drainage in the year 1830, from 4,312 acres to 3,543 acres—became generally recognised as an angling resort. In the period embraced between the years 1840 and 1855, there were only two or three boats on the loch and was visited annually by a number of tourists, and at very rare intervals by anglers who seldom made good baskets. During that period, the loch which belongs to Sir Graham Montgomery, Bart., was leased by Mr. Marshall, whose chief source of income was derived from the sale of trout captured with nets. The quantity of marketable trout taken averaged about 11,000lb. annually, and notwithstanding their acknowledged excellence, the want of a rapid conveyance for parcels of them, and a limited demand operated very prejudicially until 1845, when a regular market was found for them in London. In 1856, in consequence of the loch being brought within grasp of the railway system there was a greater demand for boats for rod fishing, and it is from that year that Loch Leven may be said to have attracted the notice of the angling world. It would appear, however, that trout netting and angling were carried on simultaneously from 1856 to 1862 inclusive, when it became apparent that too great a strain was being put upon its resources, and net fishing was consequently very much modified until in 1873 when the fishings which had been gradually improving showed a tendency to decline and netting was given up, and the loch afterwards leased in 1875 by the Loch Leven Angling Association (Limited), who are still the lessees, and who set it apart exclusively for rod fishing, Boats are also supplied to parties desirous of visiting the castle in which Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned, and also the Island of St. Serf, on which are the ruins of an ancient priory, where Andrew, of Wynton, wrote his well-known "Cronykil." In the years 1872 and 1873, the first reliable statistics of the fishings seem to have been kept, which shows that during these two seasons 30,625 trout were captured with the rod, and forty-eight club competitions held, when the best prize basket contained thirty trout, 22lb. 13oz., and was got by Mr. R. Gow, of the Dundee club. The best result obtained by private anglers was that of Captain Bremner, Cupar, who captured fifty-eight trout, 39lb., and the heaviest trout scaled 7lb. 4oz. From 1875 to 1884 inclusive, 123,309 trout, weighing 110,533lb., were killed with the rod, or an average of 11,053lb. each year; while the best basket got during that time was that of Mr. Townsend, Glasgow, who had sixty trout, 52lb.; and the most successful competitor was Mr. Steel, of the Kinross Club, who had twenty-two trout, 21lb. 2oz. From 1885 to 1890 inclusive, 96,328 trout, weighing 86,303lb. were captured, or an average of 14,384lb. each year. During these six years, Mr. Law, Littleborough, headed the list of private anglers with a basket of fifty-nine trout, 53lb.; while Mr. P. D. Malloch, of the Perth Club, who is one of the most successful fishers who frequents the loch, stands unrivalled with a prize basket, secured in 1888, of sixty-two trout, 44lb. 3oz., heaviest trout, 4lb. 4oz.

Having given in a very succinct form a general idea of the fishings up to last season, we now come to the past season of 1891, which we will treat of more fully.

The season now closed has been a very bad one as regards weather, which proved bitterly cold and dry, up to the end of May, and very dry and bright from then to the close. Good sport however was obtained, and the total capture of the season excluding the Boatmen's Competition, on Wednesday last, was 15,816 trout, weighing 12,642lb. 8oz.; while last year only 10,933 trout, weighing 9,201lb. were killed. The heaviest basket was got by Messrs. J. and M. Ridley, Northumberland, in May, when they captured fifty-five trout, 40lb.; these gentlemen in ten days had 442 trout, 334lb. 4oz. Mr. Nisbet, London, out four days, had 156 trout, 121lb. 8oz. Few heavy trout were captured, the largest being only 2lb. 12½oz.

Ninety-nine club competitions took place, in which 1,322 competitors engaged and captured a combined total of 5,807 trout, 4,238lb. 4¾oz, or an average of 3lb. 3¼oz. per rod. Last year the average weight per rod obtained by clubs was 2lb. 6oz. The most successful competition was held by the Bridge of Allan Club, in August, when four competitors captured fifty-one trout, 40lb. 2½oz., being an average of 10lb. ½oz. per rod. Dr. Allum, of the Bridge of Allan Club, had the best prize basket of the season on 21st August, with twenty trout, 19lb., while the previous year the top basket contained twenty trout, 16lb. 7oz. The heaviest pike got with the rod weighed 14lb., while the heaviest landed with the net weighed upwards of 29lb.

Perch were more numerous than formerly, and some large captures were got with the rod.

LITTLE JOCK ELLIOT'S LETTER TO GILNOCKIE.

"My name is Little Jock Elliot. Wha daur meddle wi' me?"

DEAR GILNOCKIE,—A' kind o' sports, nae maitter o' what sort they be, frae cricket, which is yin o' the best, to cock feichtin', which is aiblins yin o' the worst in some folks's een; "but let that flea stick to the wa'." I say a' kind o' sports are bein' continually sat on an' run doon, an' that maistly, too, by the verra clotheids who ken the least aboot them. The mair a man kens, the less he says anent things he kens little or nocht aboot; that's a bit mixed, mebbe, but it's clear as daylicht to me. Plenty o' waisters, who nivver threw a leg owre a guid huntin' naig's back, an' durstna face a dyke or a five-barred yett, not if they were tied on wi' cairt-reapes, will threep doon ye're throot that fox huntin's nowther guid for man nor beast. Lots o' feckless folk, too—folk that nivver saw an otter atween the een, owther in the watter or oot on't—that knock-kneed section o' humanity, that nivver yet saw the sun rise oot ahint a hill, will tell you otter huntin's stark madness, an' as for fishin', ma conscience, fishin', to folk wha' can see nae guid in nocht ava, to that kind o' shuffle-breecked ones wha crawl oot o' bed at ten o'clock in the day and hobble aboot in slippers maist o' their time, fishins's, I say, to them nocht but a gran' plan for catchin' rheumatism an' influenza, an' a new way o' bringin' forret the *auld man* afore he's due—in fac' accordin' to cripples and wrecks o' a' kinds, fishin's the act o' a big idiot.

Maist men—and women, too, bless them—hev a kind o' hankerin' efter some sort o' recreation or other; but the clotheid wha nowther hunts, shoots, nor fishes, I canna staun him at nae price. I've yin poor wretched crater in my ee the noo wha hasna the ghost o' ony kind o' hobby that he can enjoy, not on the face of God's fair earth.

"Look here," says I to him, yin day, "did ye ivver, ma canny mon, spend a week or aiblins a day by the river side, surrounded by the finest o' mountain scenery? Did ye ivver, ma guid freen, listen to the bubblin' brook on a fine summer's mornin'? Did ye ivver look upon the fragrant flower, the feathery fens, the gracefu' wully-wans, the glidin' mummerin' an' whiles roarin' rivers, sparklin' in the mornin' sun? Did ye ivver cross the green fields, the purple hills, and enjoy a thochtfu' pipe on the mossy carpet o' the hillside, inhalin' the fresh balmy air, studyin' the endless beauty o' nature, or sit on a muckle crag by the water-side while gettin' ye're tackle ready for a guid day's fishin'? Did ye ivver huik a twenty-punner, a new run yin, wi' plenty o' life in him, and yirds o' line runnin' through the pirn? Did ye ivver skip doon the san'-bed, or clammer owre big rocks, wade owre the tops o' ye're fishin buits, then haul ye're fish high and dry on the bank? Or did ye ivver hev a big ficht wi' a three-pun' troot for three mortal hours, an' creel him at last? There's a triumph! Foolish is't? Not half sae foolish as to sit nicht efter nicht, in a stuffy room half fu' o' 'bacca reek, talkin' endless nonsense. An' then look how the exercise tightens up the sinews, just as a fiddler screws up the strings o' his violin. I admit that anglin', like a' human pleasures, has a wheen drawbacks. For instance, ye may fish a' day and catch nocht but the influenza, mebbe, or ye may get drookit as a craw, or ye may break ye're lines an' lose a' ye're huiks, or by accident ye may be guilty o' trespassin', an' hev to appear afore the Sherra. Ye've a' these to contend wi' at times. Now, when I was a lad, I was yince fishin' in the Eden, up Armathwater way: I was getting a trout about ivery five minutes, an' the creel was nigh fu', when I noticed a farmer-lookin' body watchin' ma success. Seein' the man starin' verra hard, says I, 'Fine day, Mr. Turmets.' 'Aye, an' thou's gitten' some fine fish oot o' ma watter; just thee drop them into this tatie-bag ah hev in ma haun.' O' course I hesitated. 'Drop them in, thou young lurcher, or aw'll ring thy wunle-strae of a neck an' thraw thee owre t' craigs into t' water.' Weel, I was sae awfu' flait, as I was nobbet a bit callant, I just did as he telt me, an' clam owre the yelt an' gat ov the safe side o' the dyke, then I let him hev it: 'Weel,' says I, 'I've met mean men in ma time, but for a grabbin', cleek-em-in, double-jointed, squintin', grinnin', gruesome auld skinflint, thou licks the hale caboosh.' That's yin kin' o' the drawbacks," says I to the feckless, sackless crater, him wi' nowther a hobby nor a pleasure to bliss himsel' wi'.

Weel, Mr. Gilnockie, he listened to a' just as if he enjoyed my lecture, but when I hed finished what d'ye think the puir hauflin said? Says he, "Little Jock Elliot, ye're a bigger fuil than I tuik ye for," and scuttled away into the house.

But, Mr. G., whenever are ye comin'. Baith Esk and Liddle are swarmin' wi' fish, frae baggies and burn troot to salmon. Never sae mony whiten' afore, an' last week we gat shoals o' them. The watters laigh a bit the noo, but there's plenty o' rain comin' owre the Solway Flow; an, the otter huntin', aye, best season ivver I recollect.'

THE NEGRO AND THE PILLS.—A BIG DOSE.—At the Liverpool Police Court, the other day, before Mr. Kinghorn, deputy stipendiary magistrate, it came out in the course of cross-examination of a witness in a trivial case of theft, that one of them, a young negro, had been some time ago charged with stealing a lady's satchel, in which was a box of Beecham's Pills. On looking at the box, and seeing on it that they were "worth a guinea a box," he proceeded to take them, and notwithstanding that several of his friends implored him to let them have one or two, he swallowed the contents of the box. The fine healthy appearance of the witness showed that the pills most certainly must have agreed with him.

PROVINCIAL ANGLERS.—Mr. C. E. Fosbrooke, a member of the Gresham Angling Society, having recently made a statement in that society as to the number of anglers taking part in some of the Sheffield and Lincolnshire competitions, which was questioned, has taken the trouble to obtain, from authentic sources, a return of the numbers competing and the value of the prizes taken. The first return is for 1857, when two hundred competed for a silver cup, of the value of £8 8s., and the number and value went on increasing till 1864, when the former was 531; prizes £100. Under the management of the Sheffield Anglers' Association, the numbers still increased until 1889, when there were sweepstakes for £50, for which 1,295 competed. The association in 1880 consisted of 8,000 members belonging to twenty-eight clubs, and in 1890 the sum of £3,222 19s. 6d. was received by it, and £3,052 6s. 7d. disbursed. No wonder fresh water fish are scarce.—J. T.

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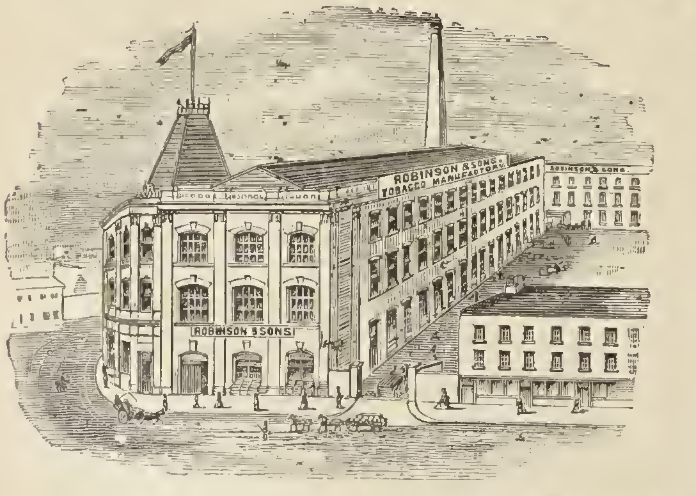

Extract from the "FISHING GAZETTE" of February 21st, 1891:—

A GOOD SMOKE.

DEAR SIR,—Knowing how much you enjoy your pipe when out a-fishing, may I ask if you, or any of your friends, have ever tried "The Oriel" navy cut, manufactured by Robinson's, of Stockport? If you have not, do so at once, and I venture to say that you will be well pleased with it, being very cool and lasting, with an exquisite flavour. I have no interest in the matter whatever, but simply recommend it as my *beau ideal* of what a fisherman's tobacco should be.—Yours truly, SMOKER.

Sold at 5d. per ounce, in 1 and 2 oz. Packets, and 4oz. Tins. Any Smoker having difficulty in obtaining it from his usual Tobacconist can obtain it direct from the Manufactory POST FREE. 2oz., 10d.; ¼lb., 1s. 8d.; ½lb., 3s. 4d.; 1lb., 6s. 8d. POST FREE.

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— NOTICE. —

THE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The GAZETTE can be had by sending Postal Order or Stamps to Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Co., Limited, the Proprietors, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London, to whom all money payments should be made.

For One Year, post free, to any part of Great Britain and Ireland			10s. 6d.
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To America and the Continent, the annual subscription, including postage			12s. 6d.

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Telegraphic Address—"RIVSAM, London."
TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The —
The Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, 1891.

AUTUMN RESORTS FOR TOURING ANGLERS.—II.

By MAC.

To the more inland of the waters with which I am dealing, the later over that the angler can leave his visit the more likely is his chance of obtaining the best sport. This remark is meant to have special reference to salmon angling. Beats or fishings near the sea fish on tho whole best at all times of the back-end when the water is below fair angling volume, for the reason that a smallish water remaining steady does not unsettle the fish and keep them on the run—moving forward to the places in which eventually they finally settle down until the time arrives when they go on to the "redds" in the vicinity. But of course, as will be well understood, they are not all of "one mind," and so it is that we find they do not all push equally fast and far up. In the longer-run rivers there is dispersion over a vast length of water. The stronger swimming or less gravid fish—mostly those that come in from tho sea earliest—are those we havo roasou to boliovo that in greatest numbers longest continue their journeying and reach the highest up waters to which back-end fish in good numbers ascend. In their progress they rest more or less and afford the anglers on the middle and fairly upper sections a chance of sport; and it is of such fish that some captures have already boon made by rods on the Panmure Arms wator of the North Esk at Edzell; the Burgh water of the Don, at Kintoro; Lord Aberdeen's Ythan Fishery; and tho long stretch of the Deveron at Huntly, thrown open to fair fishers—(would that they were all fair!)—by his Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon.

In sport having been got on the waters alluded to there is proof that the late season's run has commenced, and at any rate, some of the fish have ascended a good bit, but that the weather will for any length of time prove favourable to its continuance there is no saying. Naturally this run is not of short duration—since the whole of September and October is the time for it—but its steadiness or variableness all depends upon the state of the water. With the volume ample, fish the whole season throughout enter from the sea and push forward to the angling reaches, and having once got past barriers (where such exist) and a fair distance inland, it is their inclination when resting somewhere or other to come at fly, worm, or spinning bait, probably once at least in every twenty-four hours.

One thing I remark, and then I shall come to deal directly with the several fishings which as yet I have said but little about. Provided there is nothing to prevent free ascent to them, those sectious of the larger rivers, from ten to twenty-five or thirty miles inland have the longest season of good angling in respect of their individual merit. Unlike quite near-the-sea reaches, they are at "resting" distance inland, and so all the fish that have got the distance rest in them for a longer or shorter period. Practically, passing through or coming to remain in them, they have a visit from the whole of the season's fish except a few—and that few those very brood and late in ascending fish that stay in the lower waters, where, after a while, they take to the redds. Reaches still highor up give their very best fishing towards the close of the season—say from October 10 to 12 onward—and the anglers' chances ought to be enhanced should spates to draw and keep the fish moving up be frequent beforehand. The inclination of a great many fish is to nowhere finally settle down till they have got from forty to fifty miles inland. They take a weok, a fortnight, or perhaps even longer, to run up in September, when usually the waters are but small in volume; but in October, with a good volume and a head-wind—especially about the middle of the month—many perform the long journey in a couple or three days, as is proved beyond a doubt by the unimpaired silvery sheen of those frequently caught at that time. This, then, gives the explanation to what I stated at the outset, that the angler would do well to defer his visit to the more inland or upper waters till pretty near to the close of the season (Oct. 31), when, in the event of conditions being propitious, the best of the late-season sport which these waters admit of is certain to be had.

The lowermost reaches of the Dee cannot be called salmon angling water of any account, although on some of them a few salmon are every year captured in autumn. From the lower end, about half-way up the tideway, they extend to the top of the Heathcot Hydro' Fishery, a distance of nearly five miles. Up to within a year or two of its being acquired by Dr. Stewart, for the purpose of affording his guests fishing, this latter fishery used almost every year to give good sport with salmon during most of the back-end, but it is now four or five years since any very encouraging salmon angling has boen obtained on it. Certainly, at any rate, the best pool of all has not fished nearly so well as it used to do. On the other hand, the streams above have, if anything, improved. A rather low water from the middle of September till a week or ten days into October is specially in favour of the angler in search of salmon and grilse on this fishery at the best time. There are several capital streams and shallows for finnock. When these fish refuse worm, fly, and "dandy" all day long, a basket of them may be made in tho shallows aftor daylight has gone by using nice lively red-worms. But the water must be quite cloar and the night not too oold, and tho angler should fish not very far out in water running over a pebbly or shingly bed (be the current not too swift). This sort of water the fish affect in great numbers, and at night they come quite close in to the side to "grub." A perfect length of a fishing run for them—and where they are always abundant—is tho north side of the Ardoo Pool (Hydro' fishery). When a fair size of water having little of the peat stain in it is running, daytime fishing is got in most perfection by using fly, the sizes of which run about the same as the two or three sizes most generally used for Scotoh loch trout fishing. Often, and under various conditions, dandies of different colours and sizes prove nailers. Between the Heathcot Fishery, and the sea are the following sections: Cults Water (which contains the famous salmon pool referred to last week), Inchgarth Water, Waterside, Garthdee, Poll-down, Baker Incorporation, and Pot and Fords. Where not free, the fishing, with a right to fish for all sorts of fish that came to the hook, can be had for a trifle in the case of any of the seven fisheries mentioned. On the Heathcot Hydro' Fishery—whereon *bona fide* visitors at the Hydro' have permission to fish free of charge—outsiders have no right to fish save by special arrangement with Dr. Stewart, the superintendent. The usually best time for these lower Dee fishings having been stated previously, I need say no more about them. Anglers from a distance can visit them if they care, and be the fishing conditions good or bad they have to take their chance of them.

At Ballater, well up Deesido, there is one of those "more inland" fisheries, whioh, as I havo indicated, can be depended on as a rule to give its best fishing towards the close of the season. It is the Invercauld Arms Hotel Fishery whereon of recent years very fine late back-end salmon angling has been had. What the charge is for a rod, or whether any for the present autumn still remain unlet, I am not certain; but such is the quality of the fishing of which I am personally aware that I think I can make no mistake in bringing it under the notice of anglers. The whole extent of water is little under seven miles, and carrying three rods, it is divided into three beats, each of which is fished by a fresh rod daily. Generally the lower beat is much the best one in the back-end. In spring, only fly-fishing is allowed; but in autumn there is no stop to the using of any lawful lure. The autumn salmon—of whioh I have seen five killed in one day on the lower beat alone—average from 16lb. to 17lb.; and after the middle of October, when, with good round waters, they travel fast, resting but seldom on the way, many of them arrive quite bright coloured. Not for four seasons in succession prior to the present one has the last fortnight of the fishing been poor. Fly works, and worm, when conditions suit, sometimes does moderately well; but spinning is without doubt the deadly method of effecting captures. A good spinner never fails, and with an unloaded brown Phantom of the right size (which varies with the state of the water) his chances are best of all. Fly, as I have said, works, but for one fish got with it four are got with Phantom. Those who are adepts at slow spinning might look after this fishery; and if they fail at first, they will soon see how the fish can be caught by the method recommended, if the gentleman who has had grand success during the past four seasons is again on the water, this coming late back-end time. His constant remark to me a year or two past (when to my rod, with fly, only one fish fell to four to his with Phantom) was: "Show me a fish that makes what you think a taking rise, and I'll take him out." And sure enough in three out of four cases he did it. If the fishing can be got, competent fishermon, who know all about the water, can easily be secured to act as gillies.

Having, as I judgo, referred at sufficient length to the Dee, I now come to speak of the ticket and free fishings of the sister river the Don. Nether Don, quite handily fished from Aberdeen, is undoubtedly the best sea trout and finnock water in the district. In the upper or non-tidal portion of it salmon lie and take well, and the best time to fish for them is from the present date to the end of the season. With the spinning of Phantom, Devon, or natural bait many heavy fish are got. The finnock and sea trout affect, and when good fishing conditions exist tako readily in the tidal or lower length all through tho season till within ten days or so of the end. For their capturo this, that, or the other thing—Devon, fly, worm, creeper, dandy, tube—is the best according to circumstances. The Nether Don fishing is let by ticket.

The Kintore Burgh water—a fine "holding" section, in which fish lie all the back-end through—ought this autumn to fish very much better than it has done for a long time. In the main it is a style of water decidedly better for spinning and worm than fly-fishing; and now it is effectually protected by stakes and anchors against the depredations of the net poacher. Besides, the fish in most states of the water can get forward to it, whereas till late last autumn this was well-nigh impossible. The hotels' sections higher up the river at Alford, like the Dee fishery at Ballater, are best late in the season, as till *then* it is quite rare for a very great stock of fish to get so far inland. With water all right tolerably encouraging sport may be expected during the last fortnight.

Personally, I am averse to, and have not for long been guilty of, asking permits, preferring to have my fishing by paying for it, or on invitation; but as I am aware that Lord Aberdeen, for sections of his extensive Ythan fishery, and Sir Arthur Grant, of Monymusk, for his splendid water of the Don, have been very liberal in granting permission for short periods, I mention the circumstance.

CARP AND TENCH: AND ANGLING FOR THEM.

BY ALFRED JARDINE.

(*Continued from page 168*)

FARTHER on, down-stream, about half-a-mile beyond the eel-bucks, on the left or tow-path side of the river, is a plank bridge, crossing a wide ditch, close by a chalk-pit, the pathway leading up through the wood to Shiplake Church. Here the Thames widens and is called Shiplake pool or deeps. Opposite this plank bridge the water gradually deepens from eight to twelve or fourteen feet, as the next island known as "Phillimore's" is approached. The pool can be fished from either the tow-path or the meadow on other side the river (*i.e.*, Burrough Marsh); though it is much more convenient to do so from a punt, especially, if legering between the weeds, for in these kind of places, on a muddy bottom, carp and tench are likely to be found. In October, 1874, a tench of 5lb., was caught in the Sonning waters. As the stream flows very gently through Shiplake deeps, a light leger can be used, a flattened bullet of half-an-ounce weight, or even less, will do. A trace of selected gut, *round* and perfect, but not too fine, stained a dull green or olive, with a swan-shot pinched on the trace two feet above the hook, to keep the perforated bullet that distance from the bait. A ten-foot rod is long enough if in a punt, but twelve, when legering from the bank; the reel and waterproofed line, the same as for float-fishing, will do excellently well.

The leger, baited with either of those baits already mentioned, should be cast quietly, with little or no splash, into that part of the water desirable to be fished, the rod held parallel to the surface at an angle to the line, and a few inches drawn off the winch, held between thumb and fingers of left hand—thus, a tight line being kept, the gentlest bite or suck will be instantly felt; then give a few inches of line, or move the rod-top towards the leger, and on the next bite or the fish moving off with the bait, a turn of the wrist is sufficient to drive in the hook; much, however, must be left to the discretion of the angler, and the manner in which fish are feeding.

In both channels round Phillimore's Island is excellent perch fishing. That on the left, or north side, can be easily legered from the tow-path. On the opposite side, at the end of this island, the water is deep, and close by is Borough ditch. In the winter months this part, and indeed the whole of Shiplake Pool, affords some of the best pike fishing to be met with between Wallingford and Henley.

The water under Quarry Woods, near Great Marlow, is not often tried for carp and tench, yet I believe it holds plenty; but the necessary preparation of ground-baitings deter many from angling for them. Anglers do not make up their minds to fish deliberately for carp and tench. Twelve or fourteen years ago I assisted in turning into the Thames, sixty or sixty-five (I forget exactly which quantity at this lapse of time) of the finest sample of tench I ever saw or heard of; they were netted from Colonel Fane's water in the Hampshire Avon, and presented by him to the Thames Angling Preservation Society, their excellent and indefatigable president at that time, being Mr. Thomas Spreckley, who, at considerable personal outlay and expenditure of his valuable time, did so much to increase the stock of fish in the Thames. Mr. Spreckley went to Ringwood, where he saw the tench caught; then he forwarded them, in three large tanks filled with water, to me, at Woking, where they arrived alive and in splendid condition. I conveyed them thence to Weybridge, where a steam launch and barge, lent by the Thames Conservancy, was ready, waiting to carry the tanks and fish up the river.

Next morning, steaming slowly up-stream, with Mr. Brougham, the secretary of the T.A.P.S., and one or two "river-keepers," we placed in the river at all suitable lay-byes and back-waters, a few brace of these splendid tench, where they were likely to make permanent homes. The highest part of the Thames reached was Staines, where in the deep water just below the City-stone, I released eight of the finest fish—the smallest of Colonel Fane's tench, weighed over 4lb., the bulk of them were five pounders, and several exceeded 6lb. each. No doubt since then these fish have bred and increased largely in quantity; occasionally some are caught by barbel and bream anglers. That they are now plentiful in this section of the river, I am certain of; also that they would well repay persistent fishing for.

Although tench do not reach the size of carp, their extreme weight seldom exceeding 7lb., yet one of 11¼lb. is recorded, and a fine illustration given of it, in Daniel's "Rural Sports." This large fish was captured in a pond, made many years previously by digging clay for bricks.

The water was full of weeds and rubbish, and the men employed to clear it expected little else than a few eels, yet nearly two hundred brace of tench of all sizes, and as many perch were found.

After the pond was thought to be cleansed, this large tench was discovered in a cavity under some submerged roots. Its length, from eye to tail, was 23in.; circumference, 27in.; and weight—11lb. 9½oz. The belly was coloured like a char's—*i.e.*, vermillion.

There are two kinds of tench—*Tinca vulgaris*, the common variety, and the Golden, which was, I believe, introduced and acclimatised to this country at Aldermaston Park, the seat of Higford Burr, Esq., in 1863, by the late Frank Buckland. Some fine specimens of golden tench, 5lb. or 6lb. in weight, were on exhibition at the South Kensington Aquarium in 1884. Tench are very tenacious of life. Their gills are so wonderfully constructed, that they can exist "when the oxygen is reduced to the five-thousandth part of the bulk of water," and, packed in wet grass or sedges, they have been conveyed long distances, occupying several hours in transit, without loss of life or injury. Among other qualifications, tench are—or, rather, were—said to possess medicinal properties ("The tench, physician of the brook,"*) and that their thick slime was a natural balsam for the cure of themselves and other fish, especially the pike; for

> "Howsoe'er, by raging famine pined,
> The tench he spares—a medicinal kind;
> For when by wounds distrest, or sore desease,
> He courts this salutory fish for ease;
> Close to his scales the kind physician glides,
> And sweats a healing balsam from his sides."

Dr. Badham—author (I believe) of "The Haven of Health"—says: "The tench is as medicinable to fishes as he is wholesome to man's body;" and "that a tench applied alive to the temples would cure nervous headache; and laid over the liver in jaundice, would draw all the saffron hue out of the patient, and expire of jaundice itself. Cut in pieces, and placed to the soles of the feet, it would overcome fevers, also the dreaded plague."

The English historian and antiquary, William Camden, who was born in London, May 2, 1551, in his celebrated work, "Britannia" (written in Latin),† relates how, at the "stew-ponds" of Southwark, which existed in his days, he had seen "pike's paunches opened with a knife to show their fatness; and presently the wide gashes and wounds came together again, *by touch of tenches*, and with their glutinous slime perfectly healed up."

Pike are said by Izaak Walton, and other anglers, never to feed on or molest tench; but I examined the pouches of three 20lb. pike—caught at Kings Fleet, Suffolk, and the autopsy revealed partly-digested tench, some of which, to judge from their vertebræ and tails, must have been 3lb. fish when alive.

My own opinion is, that when pressed with hunger, pike will capture tench, or in fact anything else, almost. I have found half-grown ducks, moorhens, dabchicks, water-rats, and frogs, inside them. Toads they won't have anything to do with. I know an instance of six greyhounds being swallowed by a big pike, but they were puppies, a few hours old, cast in the river to drown. From a gastronomic point of view, carp and tench are *fair* eating, with certain rich adjuncts, made from beef-gravy and port wine. An old countryman once told me, "that a hare and elevenpenn'orth of sauce was worth a shilling," and this may also be said of *C. carpio* and *C. tinca.* The flesh of tench "is rich and delicate," says a modern writer, but with this saving clause, "although somewhat muddy in flavour." To get rid of this flavour, place them for some days in the well of a punt, moored athwart a sharp stream; or in large wicker hampers, sunk in a river. In either case give them plenty of coarse gravel on which to scour themselves.

(*To be continued.*)

FANCY TROUT FLIES.

BY IBIS TAG.

THEIR name is legion, yet each and everyone has at some time gladdened the heart of an angler as the whir-r-r of the winch and the steady strain upon rod and line has unmistakably made known the fact that a lusty trout has succumbed to the wiles of a new and hitherto untried "dressing." With what reluctance do we discard for a short time our favourite dun, grouse hackle, or partridge hackle, and mount the fly that has been handed to us by a friend, with the assurance, "It's a sure killer; I had so many brace with it on such a date, and the fish would not look at any other fly." We say the fly is reluctantly mounted, and so it is nine times out of ten, and yet our experience has taught us that any out-of-the-way pattern is worth trying *under certain circumstances*.

No angler would dream of using any other fly than an exact imitation of the *ephemera* on the water when the fish are feeding during a grand rise of the Yellow, Blue, or Olive Dun, Quill Gnat, &c. But how often does it happen that we fish a whole day and not a single "rise" of fly occurs? Then, when each fish has to be picked out and fished for with the patience and perseverance that only good anglers possess, then is the usefulness of fancy flies clearly demonstrated.

The man who attempts to classify or enumerate the different patterns of fancy trout flies will—we unhesitatingly assert—end his days in a lunatic asylum; and as we have no wish to rush to such a fate, we will satisfy ourselves with a few remarks upon those we have used and killed fish with, and at the same time endeavour to show why we have accepted the systematic use of fancy flies as an important branch of our education in the art of catching trout with the artificial fly.

It is a day when there is no "rise" on, only a few duns hatching out here and there, and even those few are ignored by the trout unless one happens to float immediately over the nose of a fish, when he lazily moves towards it and sucks it down in a "don't-care-whether-I-have-it-or-not" manner. Still it is a rise, and we carefully place an exact imitation of the fly he has taken a yard in front of him. It floats down as it should do, but the trout merely looks at it out of the corner of his eye, as much as to say, "I've seen some of your sort before!" and it passes him untouched. A rest, and he is tried again with the same result. Yet another unsuccessful trial, and then we determine to put a different fly over him, for undoubtedly he will succumb to a tit-bit if we can only please his palate. The fly we have been trying is very light in hue, so we mount one dressed with same wings, hackle, and tail, but *with silver tinsel body* (had the first fly been darker we should have chosen one with a *gold* tinsel body), and this we carefully place in front of the fish. As it reaches him he shifts uneasily; it passes him and we are just about to pick it from the water, when he turns round—there is a rush, the line tightens, and we realise that the fancy fly has done what the exact imitation of the natural fly could not do—it has lured that trout to his death. We care not to inquire *why* he has taken it, we are satisfied with the fact that he has, and the plunge of the fish as we carefully but determinedly lead him towards the net, and the sight of his handsomely-spotted side, as we gently place him in our creel, makes us forget that we doubted if we were doing right when we attached that silver-bodied lure to our cast in place of the artistically-dressed imitation of the fly that same trout had sucked in only such a short time since. It is wonderful what a bit of silver—tinsel, will do towards filling a creel at times.

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* Ode to Walton.

† Camden's "Britannia," published 1586.

But it may happen very frequently that the trout will utterly ignore the bit of silver or gold, and then a small red tag should be attached to the exact imitation of the natural fly, and presented to the fish, and that will probably have the desired effect. It is truly marvellous the attraction a bit of red has for a trout *sometimes*—they "go" for it like a bull at a red cloth. So firmly convinced are we of the value of a bit of red attached to *any* fly that we have adopted the practice of carrying very small pieces of kid, dyed a vermillion colour, and when a fish repeatedly refuses the dun, gnat, spinner, or other fly we may be using, we simply stick one of the small pieces of kid on the hook, and have frequently killed fish that we are convinced we should otherwise have been compelled to leave in their native element.

Should the fish refuse both the silver or gold and the red tag, try them combined, and if that is ineffectual, mount a large sedge or Palmer, and fairly "smack" it at the fish, same as you would at a chub. This may seem absurd advice to give to an angler who has just been using the finest gut, smallest flies, and greatest amount of skill and patience over a lazy fish, but it is given in all seriousness, and we emphatically say, "Try it." We would also repeat here that any pattern fly is worth a trial under such circumstances, merely adding that the above *should* prove effectual.

It will probably be noticed that we particularly emphasise the fact that in all cases the exact imitation of the fly on the water should first be tried, and tried thoroughly, before the fancy fly is used. We go farther than that, and confidently advise our readers, after they have taken or tried to take a fish with a fancy fly, to resume the use of the exact imitation over the next, as we consider it nearly always has the best chance; and we say this with a perfect knowledge that our friend who advised us to use a new pattern because "It's a sure killer; I had so many brace with it on such a date, and the fish would not look at any other fly," is not necessarily drawing upon his imagination. We have upon more than one occasion succeeded in taking several fish with the same fancy fly, and under such circumstances we have decided to continue using it, and have filled our creel with good fish; but these cases are few and far between, and we have noticed that we have never done much afterwards with that same fancy fly upon the same stream. We may have killed a fish or two with it, but we should have gone home with a poor catch had we used it and it only throughout another day. Our experience may be exceptional—we fancy not—but such as it is we give it. In this connection we would remark that we do not refer to such fancy flies as the Wickham, Coachman, Greenwell's Glory, &c. Yet another suggestion: when we have first tried the exact imitation, and then the silver, red tag, &c., and *not* tried the large sedge or Palmer "smacked" at the fish (which, of course, if it does not capture, invariably scares), we have frequently once more mounted the exact imitation, and with it been successful.

The popularity of the Coachman as an evening fly is beyond doubt; but those of our readers who have not tried it with the addition of a red tag should do so; its killing powers are doubled when the little bit of red is attached.

The Wickham is a grand fancy fly, especially upon a wet, blustering day, and with a red tag attached is at times irresistible. We well remember fishing a private lake in the South of England, well stocked with bonnie trout, upon a day when it was with great difficulty a line could be kept on the water at all. We had previously found that a Dark Professor, Pink Wickham, or large Golden Sedge were the successful flies on this water during the day, and we generally finished up in the evening with a few casts with the Coachman as our lure. The genial proprietor of the water had asserted that we had little chance of filling our creel upon this particular day, and really we were of much the same opinion. However, the Professor, Sedge, and Wickham were each in their turn presented to the fish—all to no purpose; and then we thought of the magic bit of red. It was immediately attached to a Wickham, and with it we killed a very decent basket of fish, much to the surprise of the proprietor, and greatly to our own satisfaction.

We may be accused of too highly praising the use of a red tag, but we speak from experience. We have tried yellow, white, and green in addition, but have invariably found the red the most successful. When in the early part of the season the trout are feeding upon the March Brown, just try the addition of the bit of red, and see if the result does not bear out our statement.

Another grand fancy fly is Greenwell's Glory. When the trout have been madly rising at the Iron Blue or any dark dun, and then suddenly stop rising, a few fish may be killed with the Greenwell that we unhesitatingly assert would not succumb to the exact imitation of the fly they have been feeding upon. We have killed fish with the Greenwell after they have been fairly gorged with a grand rise of May-fly, and, as our readers must know, it is a very difficult matter to tempt them under such circumstances.

Who has not picked up a few fish with the Governor when they are "shrimping" on the shallow edges of the river or stream? Who has not killed fish with Hofland's Fancy? In fact, how often do we have to resort to fancy flies if we wish to fill our creel? Although, as stated above, we invariably give the exact imitation of the natural fly the preference, we are not one of those who are so stupid as to rather go home fishless than use any other lure than the orthodox dun. After all, we go fishing to catch fish.

The great fault of fancy flies, as sold by most tackle dealers, is that they are far too big and coarse. The same fly dresser that will dress a dun to perfection seems to think (in many cases) that a fancy fly does not need the same skill and care. This is a great mistake; anything that is worth doing at all is worth doing well. Fancy flies at times are very useful to the trout fisherman, and should be dressed as carefully and correctly as the most delicate dun.

Notes

Loch Leven angling ended for the year last week, when a Dundee club representative carried off the championship. Notwithstanding the often unfavourable weather experienced, the season's record is better than that of last year, and indicates unmistakeably that the stock of trout is being well kept up. The total take, excluding the captures in the boatmen's competition, runs up to the gratifying number of 15,816 trout, 12,642lb. 8oz., which is better by over 1,000 than the average of the preceding six years.

Already the autumn anglers "harling" on the Tay have had splendid success. For true autumn salmon of a large size, the Tay affords better sport early in autumn than any other Scotch river. Not a single one of its best beats, however, yields so many fish for the back-end as the Duke of Richmond's fishery of the Spey. In 1886, between August 27 and October 15, his Grace's fishery yielded one thousand and forty-one fish, all fairly and squarely caught by means of rod and line. Where can its "marrow" be met with?

It is reported that the Scotch Fishery Board have been petitioned to extend the Thurso river rod season farther into the autumn. Be the application acceded to or not, it matters little, since the Thurso has no migration of true autumn salmon, nor is it likely that it could be made to have it.

The Ythan and Ugie salmon net fishing season ended last week. In general, it would seem that not a good fishing was obtained, taking the season all through. Towards the finish it was best, when some fine large fish were caught. At the nettings of the Ugie, which is but an insignificant river, one of the salmon caught weighed a little over 60lb. Both rivers have now a good show of finnock and late-running sea trout in their nether reaches. The Ugie sea trout are large—larger than those of any other river in the north-east of Scotland.

As yet the largest fish caught by rod in the Dee this autumn is one of 39lb. No weights over 45½lb. have been recorded for several years.

September early brought with it lovely but not salmon angling weather to nearly the whole of the eastern sea-board of Scotland. Over the country, from the Esks to the Spey, extreme drought, with great heat and glaring sunshine, having been experienced for about a week without interruption, the rivers had fallen away in volume to almost summer level. But with a "local splash," which has come this week, several of them, to the angler's delight, have now *grown* a bit.

From Loch More Lodge the Duke of Westminster, out on the Laxford river on 7th Sept., had two salmon, heaviest fish, 20¼lb.; Lord H. Grosvenor, three, heaviest 22lb.; Lady M. Gore, two, heaviest 17½lb. This is good fishing for a few pools on a small river to yield in one day.

North of Aberdeen the principally free and nominally free fishings, wherein the late ascending migratory *Salmonidæ* are got are: Ythan's tideway, Ebrie, Bronie, and Water O'Gight, tributaries of Ythan; Water of Cruden, the Ugie, Water of Philorth, Deveron's nether waters at Banff, Deveron and Bogie (Duke of Richmond's open water) at Huntly; Deveron in the Crabrach above Beldorney, Fiddich, tributary of Spey, from Craigellochie or Dufftown; Spey, at Abelour village; Spey, close to the sea (with the permission of Mr. Aitken, the Duke of Richmond's factor at Fochabers); and a stretch of river Findhorn, by ticket from the secretary of the Forres angling clubs.

We learn that this week, Mr. Lamont, New Inn, Ellon, lost the right for his guests longer continuing this autumn to fish the Auchterellon Water of the Ythan.

Loch Eck, on which the angling is free, has lately been doing well in salmon and sea trout. Loch Brora also has fished well, especially for the latter.

An angler fishing at river Teith on Friday last took seven salmon and a sea trout out of one pool.

It has been suggested that Scotch angling clubs, besides having a rule forbidding the killing by numbers of trout under a certain size, should start a stocking or maintenance fund to meet the expense of stocking with imported trout, which, in the case of well-threshed waters, is certainly very desirable considering the ever-decreasing number of the native fish.

In Shetland the sea trout fishing has been hard-pushed during the present month, and, as usual, in the Walls district it has done best on the whole.

For a season, angling for common trout in the counties of Sutherland, Ross, Cromarty, and Caithness is practically over, but here and there with salmon and sea trout sport still continues fairly good.

An effort is very soon to be made to form a fresh water fisheries reform, improvement and protection association for the North of Scotland, with headquarters in Aberdeen.

Last week one of the angling party out from Dunrobin Castle caught a 40lb. salmon on the Brora below the loch. This fish is amongst the heaviest ever landed by the rod on the Brora.

A "noble army" of anglers meantime ply hard the rod on the sea trout waters of the Uists and Harris. Much luck to them!

One boat's fishing for three days on Loch Stack a short time ago was (exclusive of brown trout) ninety-seven sea trout running between a pound and a pound and a half apiece.

SOME KENNET ROACH.

IT is always the unexpected that happens, and when one morning about eleven I put some ancient bottom fishing tackle into my basket, saying that if there were no trout rising we might get a few roach, I little thought that I should bring home a nice basket of fish. If we had made the most elaborate preparations and been provided with a variety of baits, a goodly store of new tackle, and if we had got up at four in the morning, the chances are our sport would have been indifferent.

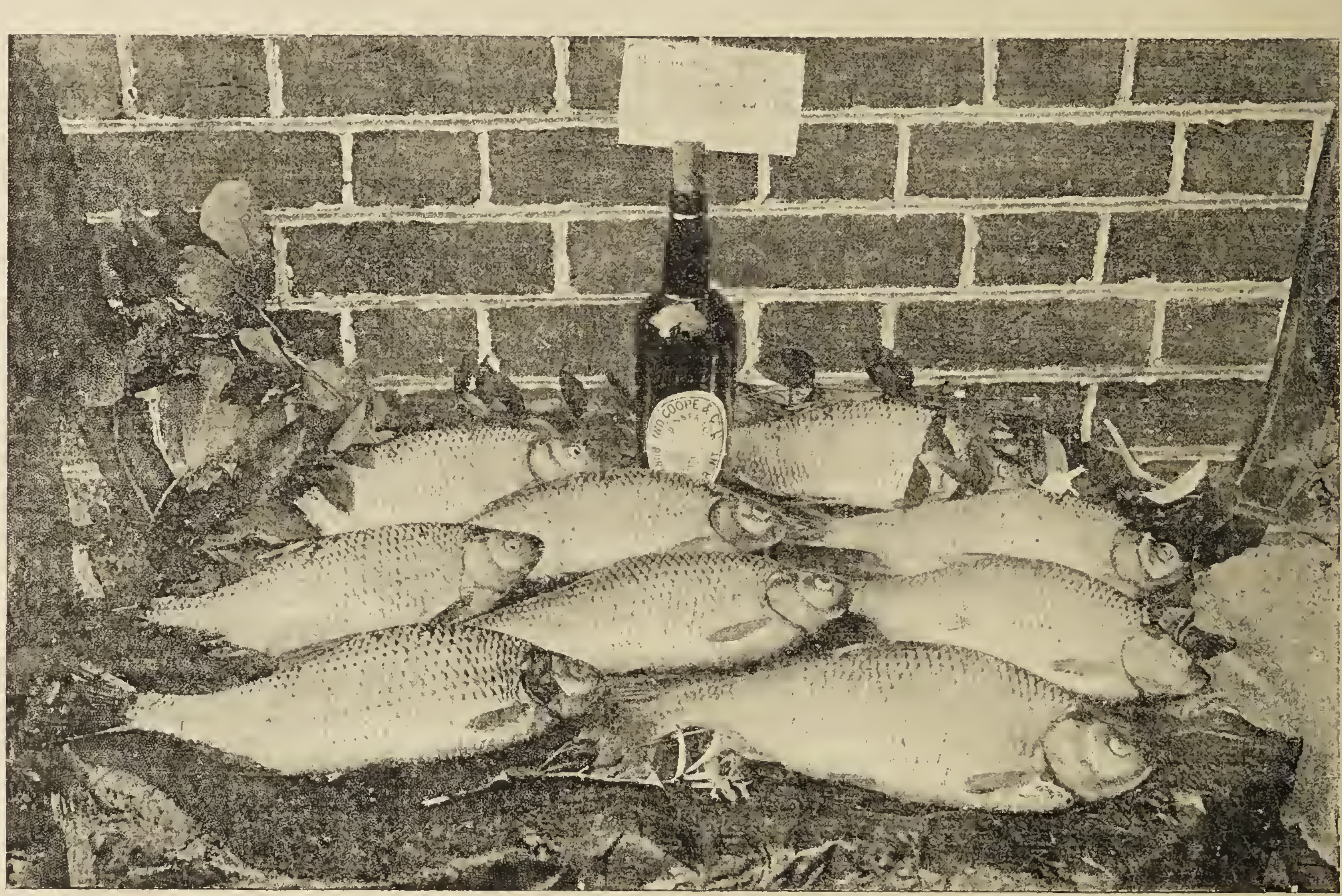
We—that is, Redspinner and myself, were taking a lazy holiday, so, as I have hinted, we started late in the day, and fished somewhat casually, more intent, perhaps, on breathing in the balmy air which blew up the Kennet valley, and in admiring the beauties of the landscape, than in catching fish. The spot was below Newbury, not far from the junction of the Lambourne with the Kennet.

Leaving Redspinner a clear field to whip for trout and dace (three times in succession he landed three dace at once), I took a few swims under an old wooden bridge, where the fish could be seen swimming about. As is usual in such places, the fish were shy, and I only secured a brace of chub and three good roach. Then Redspinner, coming down the bank, said that he had seen a shoal of large roach higher up the river, and that some of them followed his fly; so I went up-stream. There was only one roach swim thereabouts—I mean orthodox roach swim—and at that I stuck for an hour without the semblance of a bite. Below the swim the weeds came to within about two feet of the surface, and strolling down the river to find out why lunch was so long in coming, I saw a few dark shadows moving about in and out the weeds. Clearly the fish were some distance below my swim, and not feeding on the bottom at all.

I always use a Nottingham winch and line when roach fishing, converting it into a tight line occasionally, and at other times fishing Nottingham fashion, acting according to circumstances. So I was able to run my bait, a large lump of bread and bran, down-stream some twenty yards or so. My float, I need hardly say, I had placed within eighteen yards of the bait, so that the latter might clear the weeds. At the first swim my float went under, and on striking I found I had hooked a good fish, which fought strongly in the strong stream. It was almost an impossibility to pull the fish up-stream to where I was sitting, and to do so would have been most unwise; so I got up off my basket, and keeping well away from the bank, walked down-stream to below the fish, playing him as I went. I soon had him out, and found him to be a roach of well over a pound. This operation I repeated several times. It was somewhat a laborious way of catching roach, but when one is landing pounders labour goes for little. I only caught ten fish, but the first nine of these weighed 11¼lb. when weighed an hour or two later by Mrs. Baxter at the pleasant anglers' hostelry, known as the Swan. The fish were so fat and fine that I took their *carte de visite*, and sent a copy to Mr. Marston, who, thinking it might please the roach fishing readers of the *Gazette*, has reproduced my photo, and asked me to tell the story of catching the fish.

To the anglers who catch the two-pounders of the Avon this may seem nothing of a catch, but it is above the average for most rivers. The beer-bottle is not introduced for the sake of adding to the charm of the picture, but as a means of enabling the size of the fish to be estimated, imperial pint bottles being all about the same size. The fish are rather longer than the bottle.

TEMPLAR.



KENNET ROACH.

A NOTABLE IRISH ANGLER.

FRANK HEARNS, OF BALLINA.

HORDES of anglers, native and foreign, have been indebted for sport to one or other member of the Hearns family. The father of the present chief anglers of the breed, "Ould Pat," threw the longest and cleanest line of his time, and Moyside still rings with the story of his prowess. To him succeeded the brothers, Mick, Jim, and the subject of the sketch, taken at lake side by "Hi Regan." Mick, alas! is dead, but Jim and Frank are still the personalities most interesting to anglers who think of making Ballina their headquarters when bent on forays on the fish of North Mayo. Frank is a brawny man, as tough as whipcord, and a refined artist in fly dressing and the angle-craft which he follows. For over forty of the fifty odd years which sit so lightly on him he has been killing salmon, and he tells with glee of his first fish, killed when he "was but a chap," single-handed, and "without any help to gaff him." That was a twenty-seven pounder, but the Moy fish of to day seldom touch that weight, and if they do not it is due to things quite beyond the control of this honest angler, who is a sportsman from "pate to pastern," and not alone in matters piscatorial, for as a breaker of setters and guide in mixed shooting trips in winter, Frank Hearns is almost as useful and reliable as he is on the pleasant river Moy and glorious broad-breasted Lough Conn.

INLAND SEAS.

AN ANGLER'S RAMBLES BY THE BALTIC AND MEDITERRANEAN.

By F. G. AFLALO.

SUCH wide differences do the fisheries of these so-termed "inland seas" present both to those of our own waters and to each other, that a brief comparison may be of some interest to those who intend visiting either, for sporting purposes, as well as to those who, without any such intention, confine their operations to the English coast.

One of the great secrets of successful fishing is the imitation of anything worth imitating. If the German and Italian sportsmen were to take advantage of the many Englishmen, who, from time to time, angle among them, to the extent of adopting some of their methods of fishing, they would remove much of that ridicule which unfortunately still attaches to their angling. Therefore, oh, brother sportsman! equipped with all the latest improvements in English tackle, do not, though you should find such things in a very backward state on the Continent, be content with bestowing a pitying laugh on their crude tackle and droll procedure—learn from them; there is much to be learnt even from fools, and we may return from a summer on these seas to meet with greater success than heretofore in our own channel. It is, therefore, partly for the sake of those sea fishermen at home whom circumstances have not sent to these parts that I have collected these few notes.

The leading characteristics of the Baltic are comparative absence of tide and currents and low percentage of salt. Moreover, its bed is, towards the German coast, uniformly sandy, there being no rocks of any account along the entire coast line between Rostock and Arkona.

These features, added to a very low average annual temperature, render this sea remarkably poor in the variety of its fish, which may, as far as the amateur is concerned, be reduced to half-a-dozen species, including a kind of haddock (Dorsch), two kinds of flat fish, weevers, perch, and bream (fresh water), while salmon, gar fish, and herrings, help to afford livelihood and employment to the population of Warnemünde and many other towns along the coast, which are generally supported by capital furnished from some larger inland town (as Warnemünde by Rostock, &c.). The innovation of classing river perch and bream with the salt-water species is in this case justified by their being caught in the same spots and with the same baits.

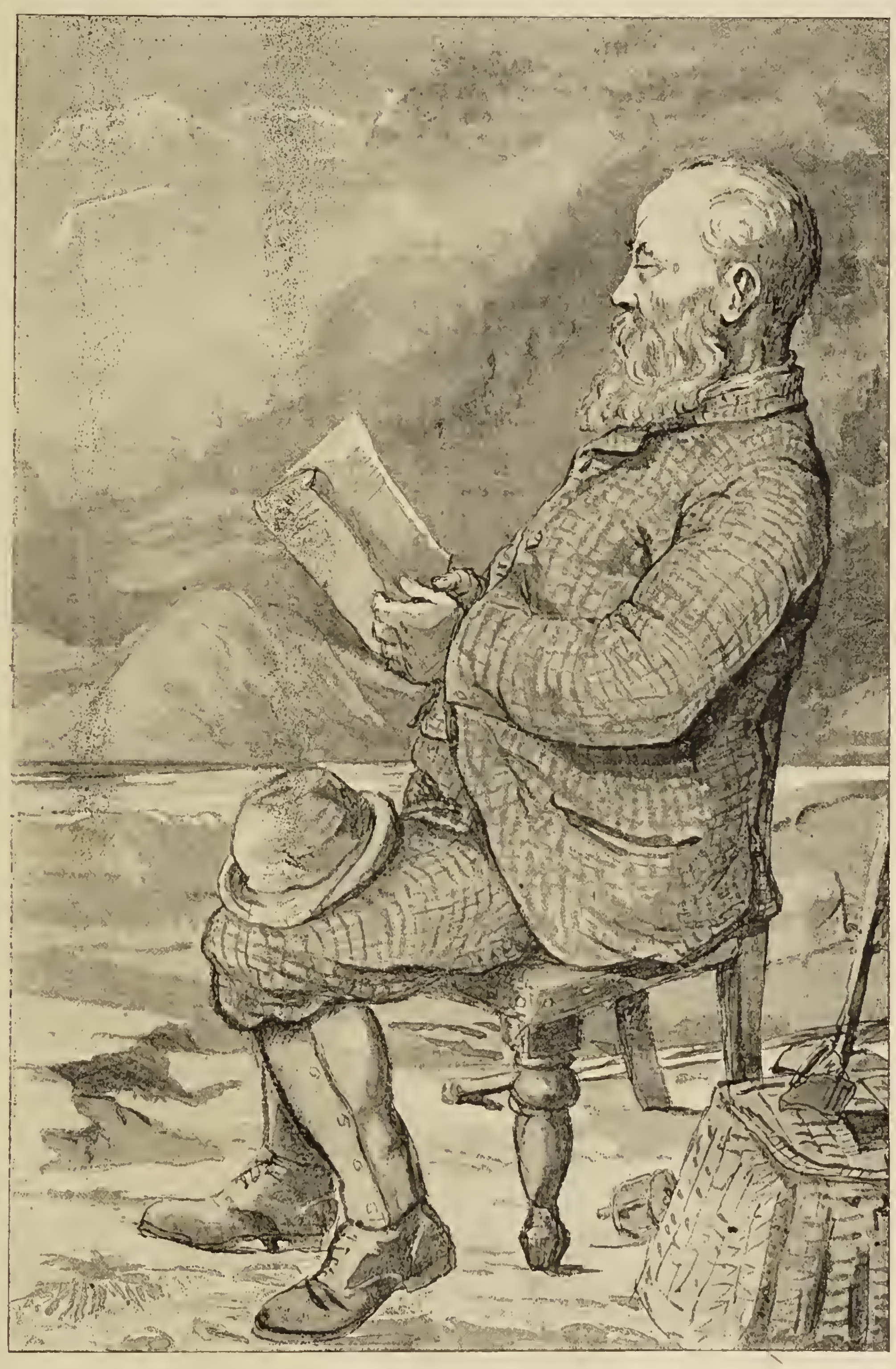
Fine pike, and occasionally a few mackerel, are taken in the herring nets.

The plaice and flounders abound off Warnemünde throughout the early spring, and I have taken in the month of March over sixty (some of which scaled over 2lb.) in a couple of hours, the best spot being inside the end of the West Pier.

Fishing is only practicable when the river Warnow is running out—otherwise the water is far too clear; one can see hundreds of flat fish scudding over the sand at the bottom, but they will not take any bait when the water is in this condition. One should use a rod with light gut tackle—for hooks I always preferred the square-shaped (Sneck Nos. 6-8)—as they seemed easier to disgorge; and these flat fish somehow digest them in a surprisingly short time. The weevers are a great nuisance here, and reach over two pounds' weight. Much of the abundance of flat fish may be due to utter absence of reckless trawling, and to those praiseworthy economies of the German professionals for which our own men are unfortunately scarcely remarkable. The nets are used for the most part at anchor; besides which, their mesh is considerably larger than that used on our coasts—the more praiseworthy that, as far as I am aware, this is a measure dictated by innate prudence rather than enforced by law. The thousands and hundreds of thousands of small dabs taken, for example, on our own south coast are exposed to the alternative of being first churned up into a glutinous mass (as I have seen them in the nets of steam trawlers) and then thrown away, or else dried in the sun as food—fish of 2oz.! Not so those caught in the Baltic—they are carefully removed to large perforated fish-boxes tethered in the river, where they grow in captivity until fit for the market, and fetch particularly good prices on days when the sea is too rough for the boats to put out. It is not saying too much, when one states that all the fish taken at Warnemünde find their way to a purchaser, while one errs on the side of leniency if one reckons ten fish wasted by our trawlers for every one consumed. The Rostock river-professionals are, however, a race apart, by no means deserving the same praise for economy as I am sure all would bestow on those who go to sea.

With conveniently crude ideas of the principles of "conservation," they have framed a code of tyrannical laws, peculiarly adapted to reserve to themselves the sole right of destroying their own fisheries. The Warnow is unscrupulously netted without regard to close time or minimum size of fish, and not merely are amateurs forbidden to fish from a boat in any part of the river, but, incredible though it may seem, this prohibition likewise applies to the professional fishermen of Warnemünde, even in the lower reaches of the river where it enters the sea at their very door, and over nine miles below Rostock!

The species of the Warnow include the huge "wels," pike, perch, roach, bream, bleak, and eels; there are neither dace, tench, nor gudgeon. Besides the systematic decimating of fish in the Warnow itself and in the "Breitling"—a broad just above its mouth—every ditch on either side the road between Rostock and Warnemünde is laid under similar contribution, and yields the draw-nets laid there over-night a good supply of pike and eels. It must be remembered, however, that both in Germany and Italy fresh-water fish are very much more highly appreciated as an article of food than in England, and in Germany especially, towns comparatively near the sea coast have no more idea of sea fish beyond that furnished by "Stockfisch" (dried cod), and pickled or smoked herrings. The smoked herrings are called "Bücklinge," the history of which word is to be found in one of Heine's works.



FRANK HEARNS, OF BALLINA. (See page 182.)

To return to the amateurs. The German's notions of angling are very different to our own. The subtle implements on which he presents lifeless worms to the fortunately unsuspecting fish consist of a 20ft. bamboo, to the top of which are attached half a-dozen yards of stout line, a pierced bullet, a clumsy float (attached by one end only to the main line), and a hook. Any hook will do.

Worms ("matteu") are their infallible lure for every size and species, and of these they only know small lobs. I could never persuade even the longliners to use lug worms, which abound along the shore, as an alternative to fresh herring, and my own experiments were cut short by protracted rough weather. The process of baiting is summary, little regard being paid to either concealing the hook or keeping the worm alive, the main idea being to prevent the worm wriggling off the hook, of which contingency, considering it dies almost instantaneously, there need be but little fear. Having adjusted the float at a guess—such operations as plumbing, &c., are despised—they fling everything, save their rod, majestically into the water, and wait long and patiently for a bite. As several feet of slack line generally intervene between the float and the top of the rod, one concludes that the few victims are either foul-hooked or else have gorged the bait. German angling is, as might be expected, prosecuted on the most rigid principles of conservatism. They will watch Englishmen catching ten fish to their one, without the least attempt at adjusting either float or bait in the proper manner; though it would be well worth their while to do so. A basket of 36lb. of perch and bream in under two hours may be called really good sport in its way.

Besides bottom fishing, the natives have a crude form of spinning. A thick leaden "fish" (?) armed on either side of its head with a large hook, is worked rise and sink fashion, from a boat, until —— No; I have carefully watched this celebration during a period of over six months, and the only fish I ever saw brought to the surface in this manner were leaden ones. They say they are fishing for large perch. But in the midst of all the primitive clumsiness of their tackle, their equivalent for our creel (on the same principle as the excellent fish boxes to which I have already alluded) is well worthy of imitation. It consists of a deep (3ft.) purse net, weighted with a stone, and attached to any convenient hook by a long cord. The wire frame of the net is so arranged that it closes automatically with the weight of its contents, which are thus kept alive till the angler leaves the water, and arrive home in a very much fresher state than the dry stiff fish we often produce from our creel as the result of a hot day's sport.

The use of artificial baits is confined to the above-mentioned leaden fish; nor would others be more effectual, as there are no bass, and the few mackerel occasionally taken with the herrings would not be worth whiffing for.

This must conclude my remarks on the Baltic, and I now turn to the *Mediterranean*, a sea differing in almost every respect from it, the only common features being the same comparative absence of tide and similar inland position.

Its extent, the nature and variety of its coasts and bed, its temperature and general geographical position (in direct communication with two oceans and two seas), all contribute to place it far above the Baltic in the variety of its fish. Whereas the German coast of the Baltic is flat and sandy, like our own East Coast, that of the Mediterranean resembles rather our Devon and Cornwall, being bold and rocky, very varied in its inlets, and rich in islands. The immediate neighbourhood of Leghorn is rather remarkable for extensive and unproductive shallows, but in the Bay of Naples anglers using a 20ft. rod from the road ("Chiatamono") can command a depth of 18ft. The best fishing is generally to be had off the islands.

The average annual temperature of this vast sea is very much above that of the Baltic: I bathed for the first time in either on April 28 in two consecutive years—the Baltic temperature was about 46 deg., that of the Mediterranean over 65 deg. The Mediterranean is, on the average, much the rougher, especially in the spring, and the prevailing currents are very much stronger than those of the Baltic. The percentage of salt is also greater, and its bed—almost all rock—is marked by great variations in depth.

It will not, therefore, surprise the reader to learn that of the six hundred and fifty species (approximately) of fish occurring in the seas of Europe, near four hundred and fifty are to be found in this sea. Tunny, formerly supposed to migrate *via* Gibraltar, occur nowhere else.

Sharks, as a rule, keep out in the offing, but they told me that Naples Bay was full of them the week before I arrived there. Somehow, anything worth seeing generally *does* happen the "week before" one arrives!

An octopus is rather an unusual catch close in shore; but a somewhat powerful one, about 6lb., was my first catch here. It took several minutes killing, after which my boatman put it by for dinner. A visit to the pretty aquarium at Naples (Villa Nazionale) gives a fair idea of the amateur's fish. The finest tank, in an otherwise not remarkable collection, is tenanted by a beautiful exhibit of corals.

The other species include gurnard, mullet, octopus, lobsters, dory, bream, conger, and wrasse, besides a number of species without equivalent in either our dictionary or our seas, as Boga, Dentice, Lupomarino, Orata (gilthead ?), Parago, Sarago, &c.

Italian want of enterprise has as yet succeeded in omitting a tunny, but one can generally see fine specimens at the provision shops in the "Toledo," one I saw there being about 5ft. long and over 40in. circumference. From the upper slopes of Vesuvius one gets a very pretty view of the tunny fleet at work off Sorrento. The flesh of the tunny is red and tastes like meat (which it also much resembles in appearance). The favourite table fish, after tunny, are mullet, sardines (fresh), anchovies, and gudgeon. Italians do not understand how to cook fish, or anything else, for that matter.

The favourite bait of the long-liners are fresh anchovies. The Neapolitan fishermen are the most renowned, being found as far west as Bona and Algiers.

I shall now give a brief *resumé* of the tackle and methods in vogue among the amateurs.

One is struck from the first by the superiority and neatness of some of their tackle, the more so as the sport is, unlike in Germany, followed only by the poorer classes—those more active "lazaroni" (a class by no means confined to Naples) on whom palls the endless "dolce far niente" of lying in the sun and swearing. In Germany the disciples of Berners and Walton include all classes, professors and students, officers and merchants, &c., in Italy, only the very poorest and dirtiest are ever seen with rods, with, of course, a few exceptions. But, with all his neat tackle and splendid opportunities, the Italian is devoid of any sporting principle. As an example of this, three pages of what I believe to be the only Italian book on fishing are devoted to the "exciting amusement" of entrapping all kinds of small fish in a glass bottle!

They have no mercy on small fry. The Livournese enjoy a morning's sport by driving out to Calambrone, and using the large nets there at a cost of one franc per hour. They bring them up so frequently as only to take small fry, which are all eaten—often alive! An hour at these nets, however, gives one a good idea of some of the local species. The net is large, probably 20ft. across, and is worked by capstan and pulleys. In an hour here I have taken several large mullet (2lb. and 2½lb.) and 6lb. of small fry, including mullet, gurnard, soles, sea-bream, dory, gudgeon, eels and anchovies.

The anchovy is recognisable by the beauty of its colouring, and the extraordinary size of its mouth. Its snout resembles that of the shark family.

I need hardly say that all the fry were returned to the water.

The smaller ditches contain some very fine mullet and eels, which may be caught in a "bilancia" net, worked from a boat. In one of these I took one morning fifteen mullet and nine eels, 7½lb.

One still less sportsmanlike method of catching fish in vogue among the amateurs is the use of dynamite bombs, the possession of which is strictly forbidden. A gentleman kindly sent me a couple which I sketched and then dropped overboard, without lighting them.

The fuse, one end of which is embedded in the cylinder of red paste, is ignited, and the whole immediately thrown into the water far from the boat. The explosion kills all the fish within a considerable space, and their dead bodies soon appear at the surface. The cost of these "infernal machines" is fortunately considerable, being about 10f. per kilo (3lb.), or near 3f. apiece. They are, of course, strictly contraband. It is often advisable to bind them round tightly with string, otherwise the fuse may be shaken out on striking the surface.

But among the more principled sportsmen one finds certain practical ideas unknown to the German. Such, for example, are the use of ground-bait and the landing-net—the universal adoption of black horsehair (twisted in six strands) as material for the main line, and accurate knowledge of the differences between day and night fishing, &c. The use of the float is but little known: tight-line fishing being far more usual. Nor are the rods any improvement on those used in Germany, winches being similarly dispensed with. But the lines show undoubted superiority, whether in material or in general mounting and neatness.

For mullet they are used unleaded, terminating in a yard of gut and a single hook (No. 4 Pennell-Limerick, or No. 1 Sneck), which is attached to the gut by a very reliable loop.

The ball of paste, in which the hook is imbedded, gives sufficient impetus to the whole line for a long throw, and also serves as a sinker.

In using several of these lines from the pier or shore, they rest two small pieces of white stone on the line, just below the winder, by the displacement of which they either hear or see whenever the line is disturbed.

For other fish they use three or four hooks, paternoster fashion, and a piece of sheet lead.

So much for their tackle. It is, however, in the department of baits that the Italians particularly excel. Instead of limiting their *repertoire*, like the Germans, to the worm, they are well acquainted with the use of live shrimps, squid, mussel, weed, pastes, &c., also of ground-baits and moving baits.

The worm most in use is a kind of rag-worm, abounding in the mud of the "fosses" or salt-water canals. It can generally be purchased at Leghorn, under the Colonnades, near the Ponte Nuovo, where they also sell mussels from La Spezia. At Naples they use live shrimps during the day for wrasse and sea scorpions; but at Leghorn their use is confined to night angling from the Molo nuovo.

As an equivalent for our use of weed in mullet fishing, the Italians have discovered in "pincio"—a white stringy substance found under water on old barges and piles—an excellent lure for the 'sarago," a very game fish, reaching over 12lb.

They never use bread paste plain, but flavour it either with pounded anchovies or sardines, in which case it assumes a reddish colour, and will last for days; or else with white cheese from Sardinia, which makes it very white and firm. In the latter case it has to be made fresh each day. The long-liners know the advantages of scalding their mussels, but are unacquainted with the very necessary process of softening squid with a hammer previous to use.

Their ground-bait for mullet, composed of pounded sardines and bran, does not seem particularly effective.

Large numbers of moderate-sized "occhiate" may be taken in the evening by trailing a white feather, mounted on a large hook, over the rocks. It is worked at the surface, a lamp being hung over the stern as an additional attraction for the fish.

The grey mullet, of which there are several species, are very migratory and capricious, but are generally to be found at Leghorn in the private canal passing through the yard of the "Ingenio Civile," and also at Calambrone.

And this must conclude my paper, of which the aim will have been more than attained if it have aroused at home any slight interest in the fisheries of these important seas, or have afforded any useful information to the sea fisherman.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—EAST LONDON RUBBER Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

Waltoniana

"CAUGHT nine salmon in one day, which went up to 18lb. in weight, and in the last four days killed twenty-seven salmon, which weighed 311lb." This is the news I have from one of the best reaches of the Usk, and though the number of fish killed may be rather above the average of sport obtained on most salmon rivers, it is indicative of the excellence of the season.

WITH reference to my remarks concerning the Hungerford Water last week, I note that the commoners of Hungerford are advertising for tenders for the fishing, which, to my way of thinking, is an objectionable way of letting a fishery or anything else. Why not put it up to auction at once? The commoners reserve to themselves the right to fish three days a week with any bait they please.

THERE have been some singular fishy incidents of late recorded in the *Field:* A salmon jumped on to an angler's knees; a sea trout swallowed or tried to swallow a discharged twelve-bore cartridge; an osprey's claw was found in a salmon steak; and a trout of 1½lb., after being hooked on Stewart tackle and breaking away, returned to the charge half-a-minute later, and took another angler's worm.

THERE are numbers of perch in Loch Leven. They appear to be increasing, and the managers of the lake have ceased to have them netted out, believing that their "spawn" affords good feeding for trout. Do trout eat perch spawn? I should say that the perch fry, when a few months old, are capital food for trout; but it is surely open to question whether the perch do not consume so much food themselves and so many young trout that their demerits more than counteract the good they may do.

THE average weight of fish in Loch Leven appears to be decreasing. Those caught by anglers during the past season averaged only 12¾oz. But the total number of fish killed was very satisfactory, bearing in mind the long spell of cold weather experienced at the commencement of the season. The figures are fifteen thousand eight hundred and sixteen trout, weighing 12,642lb. 8oz. Anglers complain at the small size of the fish, and it has been suggested that stocking has been overdone; but it is perfectly obvious that without re-stocking on a large scale, no lake of that size could possibly continue to give good fishing to such a large number of anglers as visit Loch Leven. Doubtless the managers of the water would be wise to increase the natural food supply of the lake; but how? That's the rub. Hardly anything is known concerning the best methods of feeding trout in lakes, and there is always a risk when introducing a new food supply that the trout may become bottom-feeders in consequence.

THE new artificial bait, the fans of which can be reversed so that the bait can be made to spin either one way or the other, is an application of a principle well-known to spinners on the Thames. It was shown to me years ago by Davidson, of Pangbourne, when trout fishing together in the then famous Whitchurch pools. As soon as the line showed the least inclination to kink, Davidson reversed the spin of my bleak by altering the position of its tail. In pike fishing, if a proper trace is used, kinking is unknown, and the new baits are no advantage; but when fishing without lead, as it is desirable to do sometimes for lake trout, I can well understand that the means provided of reversing the spin of the bait is most useful. Without lead on the line, however many swivels are used, the line often kinks.

To say that on a spinning trace the lead should always be slung below the line, must read like ancient history to many anglers; but from personal observation I know that there are many anglers who are still more or less in darkness on this subject, and in their interests the old but valuable maxim may be repeated. For ages sea fishermen have known the right way to attach a lead to a whiffing line; but curiously enough freshwater anglers, who in other respects have such superior tackle to sea fishermen, were long in the most benighted condition respecting spinning traces. Francis Francis, I think it was, who first introduced a lead of a shape which would reduce kinking, and the thoroughly practical remarks on the subject by Mr. Cholmondeley Pennell, in the "Book of the Pike," in which he described about as good a trace as is ever likely to be made, effected a small revolution in pike spinning tackle. But even now there are tackle makers to be found who, if asked for a trace, produce a thick piece of gimp on which is strung a pipe lead, the whole being divided up into short lengths by huge swivels. When the next Criminal Law Amendment Bill is drafted, it is to be hoped that the manufacture of such traces will be made a penal offence. At the same time imprisonment for life might be made the penalty for selling old gut for new, and cotton lines for silk ones; while fines might be imposed for making badly-tempered hooks, bindings held only by varnish, artificially-stained toppings for real ones, and—but, bless me, I might fill this column with the misdeeds of a certain class of tackle makers, and those gentry would only smile and do just as before, well knowing that the young, green, and unwary are ever with us, and will be until the end of all things. Heaven be thanked that there are plenty of honest tackle makers, and such may be known by their having and retaining as customers anglers of experience.

Templar.

DAPPING WITH THE GREEN DRAKE IN IRELAND.

By Quill Gnat.

Such lots of angling yarns appear every week in that charming little record of "fishy" doings, the *Fishing Gazette*, that I feel another chronicle of trouting adventures may be considered almost *de trop*. The excuse must be that the subject of dapping is rarely touched upon, and I have had such glorious sport in this fascinating method of fishing, that I am anxious to let the uninitiated know something of the *modus operandi*.

Why do we all fly off to Scotland for our fishing? Granted, there is some of the finest salmon fishing in the world to be had there; but the trout fisher who is fortunate enough to get away for three weeks or a month in the summer should read the reports of the lake fishing in Scotland and compare them with what we know about lake fishing in Ireland (for in Ireland the takes are not generally chronicled). We read in the *Fishing Gazette* week after week such reports as these; "Mr. and Mrs. So-and-So, fishing Loch ——, sixty trout, 12½lb.; Dr. —— and the Rev. ——, in one day, on Loch ——, eighty-seven trout, 19½lb.; Master ——, on Loch ——, in a few hours, fourteen trout, 3½lb., and one *ferox* 3lb." I was in Sutherlandshire myself last year, and spent a most delightful month on the lakes and streams in that locality, but the sport was not to be compared with that which is to be had on the Irish lakes *in the May-fly season;* on these lakes a two-pound fish is looked upon as hardly worthy of notice, and trout up to 10lb. are not uncommon. Perhaps a description of two days' fishing will be the best way of showing how very fascinating this dapping is, and what exceptional sport may be enjoyed by this means.

I was yarning with a friend of mine, who has served Her Majesty faithfully and well for many years, and the conversation (which is a very common thing with me) turned upon fishing. The Captain heard of my exploits with great patience, how I had taken mighty salmon in the Orchy, big *ferox* in Loch Shin, monster sea trout on the Kyle of Sutherland, &c.; then in a quiet and subdued tone he said, "Have you ever dapped with the May-fly in Ireland"? I was obliged to confess my ignorance of dapping, whereupon he rejoined, "Then you have missed the finest sport in the world." I was mad keen to hear all about it, as my previous notions of dapping were of a hazy nature, and I had visions of a yokel winding his line round the top of a hazel twig, poking it through the overhanging boughs of a bush, unwinding it again until the wily blue-bottle dangled over the nose of the unsuspecting chub, and yanking the beast out of the water directly he had nobbled the bait. These notions the captain speedily dispelled, and assured me that dapping was high art, and the only means of making sure of those grandfatherly trout, which are so often read about, but very seldom seen.

The best of it all was that I was invited to spend a month in Ireland—stay with my friend at his people's place on the lake, and try my maiden hand at dapping with the Green Drake. This was too tempting an offer to be refused, so I squared my partner with promises of huge baskets of trout, and pledges of a speedy return. I said "I was going for a fortnight, but if sport was very good I might extend it to a short three weeks," and may Heaven forgive this little bit of deceit, for I had fully resolved to stay a month.

We started on May 20, having had a wire from the family henchman that the "fly was up." It is needless to describe the journey. Suffice it to say that we turned up safely at about ten o'clock one night, and speedily went to roost, prepared to do glorious deeds in the morning. I shall not easily forget the sight which greeted me when I looked out of my open window that beautiful May morning. First, the park, with its wealth of foliage, and as there had been a slight shower in the night, every twig and leaflet were covered with raindrops, which glistened and sparkled in the sun like gems. The vivid green of the youngest shoots contrasted beautifully with the deeper tints of the fully-grown leaves, and these, again, with the sombre hues of the pine trees and the graceful copper beeches. Beyond, the park was an undulating wilderness, dotted over with clumps of gorse in the full blaze of their bloom, with rocks here and there showing their heads above the graceful bracken, and the beautiful birch trees, with their drooping foliage and silver trunks, present everywhere. In one part of the wilderness there was a little lake, its calm waters unruffled by the light morning breeze; still beyond this a long stretch of boggy, swampy land, with bright green patches, which looked like fine springy turf; but woe to the luckless wanderer who set foot upon this inviting spot, for in he would sink, and learn for the first time the unpleasant experience of being "bogged." On the other side of this swamp the water of the big lake could just be discerned, and the hazy outlines of a range of mountains beyond. Altogether, the scene was so beautiful that for a time I forgot I had come to work and not to dream, also that the faithful James was waiting below to carry our impedimenta down to the lake. A tiny rise on the little lake, however, brought me back again into a proper and sporting frame of mind, and as I floundered noisily about in my icy cold tub, I pictured to myself the first rise of an Irish trout to my May-fly. Breakfast over, sandwiches packed, 'bacca and potheen stowed away into the creels, and we were fairly under weigh. Two miles' walking through a lovely country brought us to the lake, and there we found our boat (appropriately named "The Murragh") and two little baskets of May-flies, which the careful James had picked for us early in the morning. We rowed about three miles up the lake in the face of a stiff breeze, and put out a couple of Phantom minnows; but the result was very poor, only a few small perch, nothing more.

At last we reached the head of a wide shallow bay, and prepared for our first drift. Here it will be well to describe the tackle most useful for dapping, as many people make their first attempt with utterly unsuitable tools. I had the Captain to thank for my information, and as he was quite an old hand at it, I was equipped properly. First, the rod: This should not be too whippy; in fact, a fly-rod is hardly required, a roach rod is too stiff, and a pike rod too clumsy and heavy. A light rod is indispensable, as you are holding it all day long in a sitting position, and keeping your fly delicately hovering on the surface of the water. I like a 15ft. or 16ft. rod, whole cane butt, and second joints, and a greenheart top; the rod should be light, but powerful, for you should be able to turn a heavy fish quickly, as the rise does not last long, and if you are a great while killing your fish you lose a good many chances; upright rings by all means. The reel should hold at least one hundred yards of line, and should run freely, although, of course, a check reel is necessary. I use a thin prepared enamelled American braided silk line; the finer in reason the better. The "blow line" should be of fine silk twist, as light as possible, but strong, and should be a little shorter than the rod, so that there is no chance of drawing the knot—which joins the blow line to the reel line—through the top ring of the rod when playing a fish. The hook is most important. The dapping hooks sold at the tackle shops are bad.

The hook should have a perfectly *round bend*, and about a No. 7 or 8 in size. The hook should be short in the shank, for this reason: when you bait, you pass the point of the hook into the fly just behind the head at the back of the neck, and bring it out at the back of the body between the wings. Now, if you have a long-shanked hook, the weight of the shank topples the fly over in the water, and he does not float well. The gut should be stained coffee colour, and should be about 2ft. in length. An important thing is to whip the gut to the hook with yellow silk, as this resembles the colour of the fly and is not so easily seen. The hook is baited as I have described. If there is not much wind, one fly is enough, but, if very rough, two, or even three, flies may be used with advantage.

A good breeze is indispensable for dapping, as, if there is not wind enough to carry the line well away from the boat, the fish are put down and will not feed. Now to return to my narrative.

The Captain was in the highest spirits, singing away as he baited his hook, and prophecying a good bag. I was seated in the stern, and James (who is an expert dapper) in the centre of the boat. I was a long time learning to bait properly; but at last I succeeded, and letting out as much line as the wind would take, I kept my fly fluttering on the surface of the water. Sometimes a big wave would come rolling over it, and sometimes a puff of wind would blow it off for a second. But I soon attained the art of keeping it pretty constantly on the water.

"Three men in a boat" with a vengeance, and all of us most intently watching the three little fluttering May-flies as they rose and fell on the tiny waves. I could see the brown rocks about six feet below the surface as our boat drifted over them, and I was fast sinking into an almost dreamy condition, when I heard a most terrific splash, and on looking up quickly, I only saw two May-flies floating—the great James's fly had *disappeared*. I yelled out, "Strike!" at the top of my voice, but just then the experienced James merely raised his hand gently until I saw the top of the rod bend, and heard the reel scream, as James uttered the usual expression, "In him!" Heavens! what a rise that was, the trout came like a bull-dog, and how he did fight. Our rods were on board in a moment, and James handed his rod to the Captain, who always liked playing the faithful henchman's fish as well as his own. I watched the struggle with the greatest interest, and saw that after one or two rushes the fish kept deep, sullenly tugging at the line like a sulky salmon. Once we caught a glimpse of the fish, and James tried him with the net; but the Captain said, "I have not half killed him yet." And so it proved, for we did not net that fish for fully ten minutes. At last a triumphant "Whoo! whoop!" certified the fact of his troutship having been safely netted; and after a rap on the head from the "*praste*"—as James called the bit of wood he used—the fish was spread out upon the thwart for inspection.

What a beauty he was—exactly 4lb., and as handsome as a picture. The colouring was superb—a sort of dark olive with large black spots, the back shading off into a deep rich brown. This was my first sight of an Irish lake trout; and for beauty and (as I afterwards proved) for edible purposes there is no fish I have ever come across to touch him. First blood! and the toast was duly honoured. I was now as keen as mustard, and put on a new fly, watching it dance and flutter on the ripples with an eagerness I had never felt before. All at once, as the fly was riding up on the crest of a wave, I saw a great gleam of gold shine through the transparent water, and my fly disappeared. I struck madly, and if anyone had given me a thousand pounds I could not have helped it. The Captain screamed at me, "Why did you strike, you old duffer?" and then I learnt by sad experience that to strike a rising fish when dapping with the real fly is to lose him. Just when you see the rise slacken your line for three or four seconds: then slowly raise your hand, and the fish will hook himself as he turns to go down with the fly. I felt very sick at my clumsiness, and did not take the Captain's chaff with my usual equanimity, but a word of encouragement from

James, and a rising fish ahead soon put me all right. Half-an-hour passed, and I was just thinking of re-baiting, when I saw a grand rise a foot or two on my right. I lifted my fly quietly from the water, and, the wind favouring me a little, I let the fly alight just in the centre of the ring caused by the rising fish; my heart was in my mouth for a second as I anxiously waited to see the result. All at once he came, a magnificent head and tail rise; the fish seemed to come right out of the water, and as it were, descend upon the fly head, first. I slackened line at once, waited and counted four, then raised my hand and met with that indescribable tug which is so deliciously significant. "In him," I shouted; "rods in, please," and then the fun began. This fish was a runner, and played like a sea trout; there was no fear of not securing him, for he ran out forty yards of line and then threw himself out of the water three times; he was the maddest of mad fish, and I had a merry quarter of an hour with him. At last the fatal net wielded by the artful James encompassed the shapely form, and the captive lay gasping in the boat. This time 4½lb. wa reported, and I had the pleasure of being the hero of the occasion for a time. Scales and tight lines were the next toasts, and the "three men in a boat" hard at it again. Here let me say that it is a mistake to dap with three rods; two are quite enough, and we lost a splendid fish later on by not following this rule. The day wore on, we caught many more fish, but not one over 4½lb., still with three fish 4lb. and four more over 3lb. and one 2½lb. we had a fair beginning; and we retired to our repose with feelings of the greatest satisfaction. *(To be continued.)*

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

RECIPE FOR COOKING CARP WANTED.

Dear Sir,—As a constant reader of your paper and a carp fisherman of comparatively recent date, I should feel much obliged if you or any of your readers could inform me if there is any simple recipe for making this fish good for the table? My experience of the carp on the table has, up to now, not been a happy one; but I cannot help thinking there must be some way of making this handsome fish palatable without recourse to those recipes of the "bottle of port" order.—Yours faithfully, Carpist.

AMATEUR SEA FISHING AT WEYMOUTH.

Sir,—I have just returned from spending a few days at Weymouth, and only wish my time there could have been longer. I am fairly well acquainted with many of the eastern, western, and southern watering-places, but this was my first visit to "the Naples of England," and I was so delighted with all I saw that, all being well, it certainly will be by no means my last. The fashionable season ends "sharp" with August, the consequence being that throughout September and October—really the most delightful time of the year—accommodation increases as charges decrease, and with such weather as we have had and seem likely to have, a more delightful place at which to spend a week or two could not well be imagined. My object in writing is not, however, to dwell on the many charms of Weymouth—I am not a compiler of guide books—but to call the attention of such of your many readers as may yet have a week or two to spare to the exceptional advantages it offers to the amateur sea fisherman, particularly if he be fond also of that most delightful of all sea-side amusements—sailing. You can here combine the two to perfection.

The mackerel come into the magnificent bay—probably the finest, as it is one of the most sheltered on our coast—about the beginning of May, when the netsmen begin operations in the countless shoals with which the water literally teems until the latter part of June. Then, from some cause which is not quite clear to me, the fish leave the bay for about a month, when they are netted again till about the middle of August. From this time to the beginning of November is the time for the amateur, "hooking" in all its branches being then in full swing. May I here make a remark, for which I can vouch, though it may surprise a good many of my readers? Most people seem under the mistaken impression that Channel mackerel are out of condition in the autumn. The fact is, that while in April they are "as dry as a stick," they are really in the pink of condition, both for sport and table, at the latter part of August and through September.

My old friend, "John Bickerdyke," in his admirable little book on "Angling in Salt Water," chapter viii., describes all the best-known modes of capturing the mackerel, a fish which he aptly describes as "good to catch, to eat, and to look at;" and all these methods may be practised with advantage at Weymouth. I will not trespass on his ground, particularly as my practical knowledge of this branch of sport is small, and during my visit the conditions were such that to get fish I and Fred. Brown, my boatsman, had to confine ourselves to trailing or whiffing, using that best of all baits, a slice of skin from the tail of a mackerel. By the way, it is worth knowing that the best baits are cut from *lean* fish, the skin being tougher, and the reverse showing the red flesh, instead of being white as in the case of a *fat* mackerel.

Of the takes made while mackerel "hooking" I can speak with confidence. Fred Brown tells me—and his word can be confirmed any day—that he and his brother Harry left the pier at 10 a.m. one day about five years ago, working their own boats and lines, and on counting out at 3 p.m. in the harbour had taken twenty-eight dozen. Half a gale of wind had been blowing all the time, and they had to sail under close-reefed sails. A strange feature about this remarkable take was that on the count there was only a difference of two fish between the two boats. No doubt a great deal of this success—as of the extraordinary success of all their patrons, is due to a very ingenious method of trailing which the brothers Brown have elaborated after exhaustive experiments, and the working of which delighted me on my visit. Such a dodge is not, so far as my experience goes, practised by any other boatmen, and it would be manifestly unfair to the inventors to describe it; but they are very pleased to show it to customers. A "good day" among the mackerel by an amateur, who engages one of the Browns may be put at from twelve to eighteen dozen; but, of course, sport varies according to the wind, the size of the shoals, and the ease with which such shoals are found and followed. My best afternoon was seven and a-half dozen. The best mackerel ground taking the season through is undoubtedly about a quarter of a-mile from Portland breakwater, with the Nothe bearing N.N.W. as here the tides meet.

Besides mackerel, many other desirable sea fish are to be met with by the amateur in the neighbourhood of Weymouth.

Pollack whiting, as they are called here (the Lytho of the Scotch), are met with mainly on the north shore of the bay, from Ratcliff Head to Meup Rocks, E. of Lulworth; they simply abound, and run up to 10lb. in weight, affording splendid sport to the angler, either with hand-line or rod, all through the summer, though the autumn fishing is the best. The usual size is, however, represented by a bag which I made of four dozen in about an hour and a-half, going from ¾lb. to 3lb. each. A few peal whiting, or black fish (the "coal-fish" of the north), and plenty of silver or sound whiting (the whiting of commerce), and pout whiting can be got. The best modes of fishing for pollack are with shrimps or mud worms on leger, or "light" hand-lines (about half-an-ounce of lead); but spinning and "railing" with an india-rubber bait are also very deadly.

Among the other attractions of Weymouth to the amateur are the trawling-boats, which come mainly from Portsmouth, and work from Weymouth to "Whitenose"; the celebrated "pot-hauling" for crabs and lobsters around Portland; and last, but by no means least, I am assured, the conger fishing off the north shore. Small conger may be found in plenty around the Breakwater, but the big fellows, which commonly run from 10lb. to 20lb. in weight, and are occasionally captured up to 40lb., lie off the north shore.

Knowing from experience the value of really reliable "tips" as to quarters and attendants when on a fishing excursion in an unknown district, I am sure, Sir, such of your readers as are about to visit Weymouth will thank me for telling them that they cannot possibly stay at a better hotel than the Fountain, or employ better fishermen than the Browns. At the Fountain the visitor receives a cordial, old-fashioned welcome from Mr. and Mrs. Dunn and their charming daughters, find an excellent *cuisine*, and will be agreeably surprised on leaving at the smallness of his bill. The brothers Brown (Fred, Albert, Harry, and Herbert) are all really fishermen "up to date," believing in fine tackle, and having half-a-dozen of the smartest sailing boats it has ever been my pleasure to see afloat, and plenty of good "gear" for all kinds of fishing. They are very civil, smart, and obliging, and are young fellows to be trusted in every way, especially as they are abstainers, which is by no means a fault, when one remembers the "alcoholic wrecks" who tout for custom at some sea-side resorts.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully, The Judicious Hooker.

FISHING FROM SOUTHEND PIER.

Sir,—Will some one kindly give me instructions for fishing from Southend Pier? Best months, age of moon when the tide serves for day fishing, line, bait (would mussels or shrimps from London do?) I should make daily trips. I can refer to back numbers of the *F. G.*—Yours truly,

Hackney. H. Wheatley.

HARLING FOR SALMON.

Sir,—In the issue of the 12th inst., "Charalah" asks for an explanation of the term "harling" for salmon! Harling is a process adopted chiefly on the Tay, and to a small extent on other waters, which are too wide to admit of their being properly or completely fished from the banks. It is carried on by means of a boat, in which the angler sits in the stern, while a couple of men pull gently up-stream in a zig-zag fashion. The amount of pulling, however, ought to be so light that the boat should really lose way a little. Two or more rods are placed out over the stern, each with some 30yd. to 40yd. of line out, with one fly on each. When a fish bites, the angler catches up his rod and plays the fish as if he were on shore, while one boatman reels up the other lines, and the second boatman pulls for the shore. As soon as the boat touches the angler leaps out, and plays his fish from the bank.

This is called "harling," and it may be objected to by some on account of its unsportsmanlike look, but the practice is much adopted as being the only effectual way of working so large and wide a river as the Tay. On a good day it may happen that a fish may be on each rod, in which case what is lost in casting may be made up in skill in landing. Generally speaking, however, I conclude that anglers will acknowledge that one salmon caught by casting is, from a sporting point of view, worth a couple taken by harling.—Yours truly, F. Russell.

Sir,—In your issue of last week "Charalah" asks to have the method of "harling" explained, and states that he cannot find it described in "The Book of All-Round Anglers." "Harling" is a local name for trailing, or trolling as it is termed in Ireland, and "Charalah" will find a description of this method of taking salmon commencing on page 120 (Div. III.) of my book.—Yours, &c.,

John Bickerdyke.

HEIGHAM SOUNDS AS A GOOD FISHING QUARTER.

Dear Sir,—The following particulars of Potter Heigham may interest your readers. During the whole of my stay there and round about I never weighed in with less than two stone to one rod only, and on one occasion my bag consisted of fifty-six fish, rudd and roach, weighing 51½lb. This was on Heigham Sounds. The fishing round there is as good as it can be, the rudd simply abounding in tons weight, single ones being frequently caught up to 2lb. in weight. Potter Heigham is on the Eastern and Midland Railway, twelve and a-half miles from Yarmouth. The Bridge Hotel is one of the most comfortable hotels I have had the pleasure of staying at. The tariff, including breakfast, meat luncheon, and hot dinner, with first-rate bedrooms, is six shillings a day. You must, of course, fish from a boat, which can be hired for two shillings a day. I shall be happy to give any of your readers further information by writing me.—Yours faithfully,

88, Edgware-road, W. Anthony Percival.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1891.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

THE fifth contest promoted by the Birmingham and District United Angling Association was brought to a successful issue on Monday last, at Wyre, near Pershore. For the last month or so this event has been the chief topic at the clubs, and a considerable amount of discussion has taken place concerning it. Notwithstanding the change in the weather, which indicated a wet day, the anglers and their friends came trooping to the station, and the first train left Bordesley fully fifteen minutes before the specified time. At Snow Hill and Hockley the committee who had the sale of excursion and contest tickets in hand were doing a roaring trade, and as much as £60 was taken in railway tickets alone. The record of last year was beaten, as near upon twelve hundred persons went from Birmingham, and about sixty members and friends of the Dudley branch went by the special trains chartered by the association. As the trains discharged the passengers the rain came down in torrents, and the station having no sheltering accommodation there was nothing to do but to face the storm and get on the way to Wyre, the nearest way to which is through a market garden with a path more like a ploughed field than anything else, but the anglers and their friends, amongst whom were many of the fair sex, braved this difficulty and eventually arrived at the Anchor Inn. Some of the females presented a deplorable condition, caused by the rain and mud. It was decided to get the whole of the committee together and consult as to the time of starting the contest, and apportion the committee over the various sections to act as umpires. During the whole of this time it continued to rain, but at 11.25 it cleared off a little, when it was decided to have the draw for places at 12.15. This was announced to the contestants, and at the appointed time the draw took place, when six hundred and twenty-nine members came forth to brave the weather and try their skill in order to secure the blue ribbon of the great Midland Association. The contest was fished on one side of the river only, and the continuous line of competitors reached right from Wyre to Fladbury, which is a distance of about four miles, the ground being marked out the day previous by the referees, Messrs. Coles and Dance. It will thus be seen that the person who had the misfortune to draw the last numbers had a good walk to do before he reached his contest ground; but the members took the matter in good part, and those who had to go the long distance set out with a will to accomplish their tasks. The signal to commence the contest was given precisely at one o'clock, at which time the rain continued to fall, and, with one or two brief intervals, continued throughout the contest, which was of the ordinary two hours' duration. The rain was accompanied with a brisk breeze, which in some of the unsheltered portions of the river caused a strong ripple on the water. This was very much against the roach fishermen; but still, under these most trying circumstances, the contestants stuck to their tasks like Britons. The usual casualties occurred to some of the anglers, and breaking of tackle was lamented by more than one. So the contest proceeded until three o'clock, when the signal was given to cease fishing. This the members were pleased to hear, as some of them were wet to the skin. The umpires lost no time in collecting the bags with the fish in, and in good time reached the Anchor Inn, where the fish were weighed. The first prize-winners weight was 2lb. 1oz., and the lowest weight 8oz. The smallness of the catches is accounted for by the bad state of the weather, and the great number of persons who were constantly walking along the banks of the river, whilst some of the anglers who used tight lines instead of running tackle were all abroad when they found that they had to fish in about 16ft. of water. The river was in splendid condition, and had the weather been more favourable there is not the least doubt but what the takes of fish would have been much heavier. At the conclusion of the weighing of the fish the sun came forth in all its glory, when the brass band in the marquee, which during the day had done their best to cheer the people up, sent forth their musical strains in honour of the welcome change, which was made much of by the excursionists, for the short time they had at their disposal, the return trains left Pershore at forty minutes past six and seven o'clock. A word of praise is due to the committee of management and the referees for the manner in which they worked to make the contest a success. The prizes will be distributed on Friday evening next, at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield, when a smoking concert will be held.

A LARGE ANNAN SALMON.—On Friday evening, Mr. T. Reid, second keeper to Mr. Brook, of Hoddom Castle, hooked with fly and successfully landed a salmon of 43½lb. This is the largest salmon killed this season in the Annan. Mr. Reid had another salmon of 16lb.—HEATHERBELL.

FISHING AT PULBOROUGH AND AMBERLEY.—Upwards of eight hundred passengers, anglers and their wives, children, and friends went down by the cheap early special fishing excursion train to these two little rustic Sussex villages on the 13th inst.; in fact the number of passengers, ordinarily speaking, was so unprecedentedly and unexpectedly large that several additional carriages had to be annexed to it. The weather was beautifully fine for the pleasure seekers who visited the neighbourhood and the domains or grounds of Arundel Castle, one of the seats of the Duke of Norfolk, which was open for their enjoyment, and not closed, as has been erroneously stated by some misinformed correspondent in a contemporary journal. Anglers, too, had it much their own way, the water of the Arun being in splendid condition, the sheen on the surface of it not too brilliant or clear, and a nice gentle wind in the right quarter. There were some comparatively heavy fish caught, roach and bream especially, by Messrs. J. Smith, Portman, A. Conn, Parkin, C. Watling (Great Northern Bros.), F. Vaneghan (Funny Folks), Pailes, H. Whitehead (Amicable Waltonians), Flint, Genesse, Burdett, Stretch, and a number of others. Most of the fish taken were in good plump condition, and some of the roach weighed fully 1lb. each. A bream landed by Mr. Pailes, of Fittleworth, lowered the scales at 4lb. A few of the anglers who got down on Saturday spent all the night fishing on the riverside. It was stated by a pretty good authority that the number of rod fishers out must have been close upon three hundred. The next open roving competition is to take place at Amberley on October 4, and should the wind and weather be anything like favourable, it is expected that it will be extremely well patronised, more so, in fact, than the last one, which was very successful indeed, and satisfied and pleased everyone.—RAMBLER.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

A GREAT many rods have been out during the past week, and although the brilliant sunshine to some extent interfered with sport, plenty of a good kind is reported. Club contests appear to come out of the ordeal in a most inglorious fashion, and it is a question for consideration whether it would not pay the different clubs to go farther afield than to award prizes for fish that any school-boy would refuse to retain in his possession. In the leisure of the coming winter, clubs would do well to thrash out the whole question of contests.

THE Townsend Arms Angling Society is usually a well-managed society, and deserving of more support, but if they allow such items as that in connection with the prize won by G. Yates, in a recent contest, trouble is in store for them. No doubt the club think their rules sufficient, but events have proved otherwise, and in order to prevent unpleasantness in future, the full rules and regulations should be plainly set forth. No doubt a suitable prize will be provided for Mr. Yates to take the place of the missing one.

MR. SAM BROOKES, fishing the Dane this week. caught a nice basket of fish (trout and others), weighing 9lb.; amongst them was a trout of such splendid proportions that a well-known angler is having it set up. It is 11in. long, and weighs 11oz. Mr. Gibson, fishing in company with the above, also secured a nice basket of mixed fish.

THE Palatine Club attempted to fish a contest in Boynton Pool on September 12, but only Mr. Richardson succeeded in winning a prize, which is, of course, the first prize; the others still stand awaiting owners.

THE Shakespeare Club, who fished at Chester, were a little more fortunate, and obtained winners for three prizes—First, Mr. Walker, 1lb. 14½oz.; second, Mr. Reid, 1lb. 6½oz.; third, Mr. Hand, 5½oz.

THE delegates of the amalgamated districts held a meeting at Hyde on September 12. The veil of mystery and secrecy has evidently descended on this august body, for no report of their doings is forthcoming. It is perhaps as well it is so; a change of officers might conduce to the general tone of the executive.

THE Buckland list of prize-winners is as follows: Messrs. J. Coates, R. Ashton, A. Craddock, and J. Johnson. A keen contest is what might have been expected from the class of anglers in this club.

ANOTHER good club is the Dorset. They have just held a contest for very valuable prizes. The following is a complete list: Messrs. Oldham, Lees, Sykes, Hilton, Levity, Davies, Palin, Bolsover, Froggart, Stanley, Garner, Rathbone, and Pickering. Fine weather and generally good sport favoured this match, which was fished at Congleton.

A VERY serious item in connection with the contest of the St. George's Club is reported. A fraud was attempted, but detected. The committee doubtless are able to deal with the matter; but what can they expect when a prize is offered for the smallest fish, and that a "special?" The following is the list of winners: Messrs. J. Blake, W. Smith, W. Loydall, C. Jones, J. Leake, J. Craven. Special prize for the smallest fish, Mr. J. Craven.

THE Duke of Cambridge Angling Society, the Tatton Angling Society, the Cambrian Angling Society, and many others are now in the contesting humour; but details must be left out of these Notes. One contest is so much like another, that special items are very scarce.

ANGLERS visiting the Ribble will do well to have their credentials with them, as the watchers are a very energetic lot of men, and faithfully perform their duties. Only last week we heard of one walking forty miles in one day in the performance of his duty, and we say, Bravo!

THE NORFOLK BROADS.—The tide seems to be turning in the Norfolk Broads, or, rather, in the discussion over the rights and privileges—public and private—in connection with them. For one thing, the agitation has helped to clear away some of the dust raised at the outset, when the one point urged was the curtailment of public rights by private owners, and much has been revealed which during the first burst of indignation was allowed to pass unnoticed. The trippers who have made the Broads their holiday home have been proved to be as much offenders against the public right as the riparian owners who have closed their waters, and as week after week information is poured in, the case for the latter becomes morally stronger. To those who love the Broads for their natural beauty, and who go to them for rest and quiet study of their lovely scenery, the Cockney sportsman is as bitter an enemy as the most churlish of proprietors, and evidence is not wanting that some of those who are first in their appreciation of Norfolk waterways would be willing to see the riparian owners gain the day, in the hope that the old peace and solitude might be once more restored. Accounts are to hand of reckless shooting, of impudent trespassing, and of unseemly orgies, while among the more respectable yachting men complaints are heard of rowdy camps, from which foul and unseemly language has floated far upon the night air. We are aware that all this does not affect the legal side of the question, which is to be submitted to a court of law, in which both sides will doubtless do their best to prove their case; but it makes it very evident that, whichever way the issue goes, some restriction must be placed upon those who only enjoy their holidays when they make other people unhappy and uncomfortable. The question of the wild birds which have for so many generations made their home on or near the broad Norfolk lagoons must also receive attention, if we are not to lose what is to many a peculiar charm of the locality, when if the sportsman of wild and erratic aim be banished altogether from the stream there will be few to mourn over him. If every broad and stream were declared public property to-morrow, it would be necessary to make enactments to prove that a public highway is not necessarily a place for public licence.—*Norfolk Daily Standard.*

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

HEAVY rain fell in our district on Monday, and at one period barbel anglers began to quake lest the Trent would rise and spoil the prospects of sport amongst their favourite fish. The river, it is true, did come on a few inches, but the influx was untraceable on the following morning. Numerous well-known swims have been baited since the despatch of my last Notes, and at Holme Pierrepont, Mr. J. Lowater has taken in four outings something like fourteen fish, exclusive of chub, dace, and eels. His best day yielded ten barbel, although none exceeded 4lb. Mr. W. Parr, of the Colwick fishery, has killed a few barbel and chub; and at Collingham two Nottingham gentlemen have bagged, in one outing, seventeen barbel. On the 13th, Mr. H. Benson, of Derby, caught half-a-dozen at Gurton Stakes Weir, near Sutton Home; and on Tuesday further sport was met with in the same neighbourhood. On Monday, Mr. S. Pogson, of the Nottingham Bowling Green Inn Society, landed a couple of barbel at King's Mills; and in this excellent length, last Thursday, Mr. J. Greaves, of the Larkdale Inn, Oliver-street, Radford, caught a remarkably fine lot of roach with creed wheat; two of the fish weighed 1lb. 4½oz. each. Mr. Walter Marshall, of Wilford-lane, West Bridgford, had a good show with the maggot; and at Clifton, Mr. Frank Gibson, of Hyson Green, killed above 20lb. with the maggot, Mr. Gibson's best fish exceeding 1lb. 7oz.; and on Monday he took a choice assortment of chub and dace with the same description of bait. Mr. J. Taylor, Arkwright-street, Nottingham, brought bread paste into use amongst the roach at Wilford with marked success; and lower down the river some average lots have fallen to the rod of Mr. Geo. Hall. Mr. J. Boyd, Nottingham, has excelled amongst eels with the wasp grub; and on Monday I caught a splendid sample near Beeston, Rylands. Pike are now beginning to run at the spinning-bait on the edge of the streams, and a friend informs me that Mr. H. R. Jackson, of the Nottingham Wellington, lost one the other day estimated at 10lb. The fish was only slightly hooked, and turned off through one of the hooks giving way above the barb. There has perhaps been a slight improvement in fly fishing, the fish, particularly dace, rise freely towards dusk. Whilst the intense heat lasted, hundreds of flies were hatched out, and at night the surface of the river in the Wilford district teemed with them.

ASTRONOMER Joseph (Mr. Joe Minion), of the Nottingham Bowling Green Inn Angling Society, is rapidly advancing to the front as an angler endowed with the patience of Job. No day is too long for him, and he is not very particular as to the kind of bait he employs. First we hear of him baiting with "ham-bones," and next with "shoulders of mutton." On Thursday last, he hurried from home with a friend to fish his favourite ticket water, below Radcliffe railway bridge. His departure was kept a profound secret to all his friends, excepting friend John Theaker, the professional, of whom he begged a supply of worms. Commencing as early as eight a.m., he plodded on until past midnight, and then made tracks for home, having fully six miles to walk. He had slain four eels of the gross weight of a pound, had lost ten tackle, and was well satisfied. Meanwhile his family had grown greatly alarmed at his untimely absence, and search parties were instituted with a view to discover his whereabouts, as it was feared he had hooked a mammoth barbel, and had been pulled neck and heels into the river. On being told of the expedition that had set out for the recovery of his body he grew must indignant, and pertinently inquired "What do they take me for?" "They know well enough I am an astronomer; how am I to make my observations in the day? I must make them at night, and when my theme of 'star reading' is completed, I mean to lecture on it at old Sam Pogson's, and tell him from me to have a bumping muster at the club house." Personally I wish Joseph every success. He was out again on Saturday night, and discovered a new planet, but no fish.

WHAT angler has ever heard of the word "Waterlonian?" I have heard of Waltonians and Cottonians, but never, until the other day, did I know we possessed "Waterlonians." The term was freely bantered about at Host Pogson's by a veteran who was seeking to expose the grievances, or otherwise, of the Notts Anglers' Association. He desired to know what had become of certain funds, and whether they had been "handled" either collectively or individually. Working-men anglers and the "Waterlonians" were actually being sat upon. All their rights had been usurped, and nothing now was left but to "fork out." Sport had become a burden, and in the future fishing-tackle would not be worth begging. Socialism was rampant, and "so mote it be." Later in the day Mr. Pogson engaged the venerable orator to deliver a lecture dealing more fully with "Waterlonians" before the members of his society. This, coupled with the fact of the astronomer's "New Discoveries in the Heavens," should surely attract a full house. It is the intention of Mr. Phillip Wilson, the president, to take the chair, and he has promised before the lectures are given to recite his late friend's (Mr. Priestman) heroic story, entitled "He broke my back. I told him to do it, and he did it *again.*"

MR. CHAS. JACKSON, fishing-tackle dealer, Carrington-street, Nottingham, is responsible for the public announcement that two salmon have recently been caught in the Sawley waters with the spoon-bait, which, it is to be presumed, was intended for pike. The person or persons alleged to have taken them were not possessed of the necessary licences, and in the interests of the Trent Fishery Board, Mr. Jackson ought formally to lay the matter before their clerk. He has the sale of their licences, and is therefore a representative. If the fish were got, there is little doubt they would be in very poor condition, through having remained in the river since the spring.

A GLOOMY report reaches me from Shardlow. On Sunday morning, whilst most respectable people were at church or chapel, a gang of poachers, said to hail from Castle Donington, netted a portion of the river near Marshall's meadow, and subsequently carried away a large quantity of coarse fish. A gentleman, a ticket-holder, staying in the district, discovered them in the midst of their work, and it is to be hoped he may again be able to recognise them. Two were naked, and manipulated the nets in the centre of the stream. The fishery has certainly been abused by the people frequenting it, especially on Saturdays, who had no permission to use it at all. No doubt Mr. Wood, the lessee, will stir in the matter, and make an example of offenders.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

WE have been favoured with glorious weather lately, and even Shropshire anglers have been fairly well satisfied, a circumstance which has been rare indeed during this season. The river is now, for the first time for many weeks, in really good condition, and some good trout have been captured.

THERE are several causes assigned by Shrewsbury anglers to account for the comparatively poor supply of trout in their locality, notwithstanding the constant endeavours of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society, backed up by the Board of Conservators, to restock and preserve the river. That the stock of trout nothing like represents the labours of the society in this respect is an undeniable fact; but there is great uncertainty as to the cause of this. True it is that many good trout are captured around the town in the course of a season, but they are few when compared with the thousands of fry that have annually been turned into the river for many seasons. Some urge river poaching as the cause of the decrease; others pollution; and still more are inclined to the opinion that the ravages of pike and other of the more rapacious of fish account for the comparatively poor sport. It is probable that all these evils have to answer for their share of the mischief; and at any rate the angling society and the Board of Conservators would do well to turn attention to them, with a view to making the Severn what there is not the slightest reason why it should not be—a first-class angling river. As to river poaching, netting has, to all appearances, decreased in a satisfactory degree, but there is no doubt that a good deal is still carried on under the darkness of night, and in the quiet reaches of the river. This the one or two bailiffs, who have to guard so many miles of water around Shrewsbury, cannot possibly be expected to prevent to any appreciable extent; and when one considers the impracticability of employing a large staff of watchers, it would lead one to turn to other means to help to prevent river poaching. Would it not be well, therefore, if the angling society were to obtain the requisite permission from the Board of Conservators to stake or stone the fords on the river, within the limits of the borough, in such a manner as would effectually prevent netting, and at the same time not interfere with boating? This would not prove a gigantic undertaking, nor a very expensive one, and it would at any rate result in a lifelong stumbling-block to the river poacher, who has undoubtedly much to answer for in the wholesale destruction of fish. River pollution, too, is, beyond question, another great cause, and it is hoped that ere long the investigations of the Severn Board of Conservators in this matter will tend to the desired result, though the question, as a whole, is of such magnitude that anglers will have to wait many years before the river is entirely cleansed. Pike, we are inclined to think, have not so much to answer for in the destruction of trout as they are credited with, but doubtless they are too plentiful in the river, and should be got rid of whenever opportunity presents itself.

. THE grayling fishing season opens very unsatisfactorily in the Shrewsbury district, and as yet no good capture of this game fish has been recorded. In years gone by the grayling was fairly plentiful around Shrewsbury, but gradually they have become fewer and fewer, until now their capture is of rare occurrence. There are one or two to be found at the Isle, Emstry, Preston Boats, and a few other localities favourable to their habits, but it will hardly be worth the angler's while to devote a day to their capture. Would it not be well for the Angling Society to try the experiment of turning a few thousands of these fish in the fords next season for a change, instead of the trout they are wont to consign to the river and their many enemies.

THE members of the Ironbridge Severn Angling and Protection Society are terminating in a thoroughly befitting manner the fishing season proper—a season which has been to them a thoroughly enjoyable and successful one. One cannot help but note the contrast between the Shrewsbury Society and the Ironbridge men in respect to these gatherings, a contrast which does not show up the former body to advantage beside their less prominent but scarcely less enthusiastic brethren from the Bridge. The Ironbridge men have lost no opportunity of meeting together, and by prize outings and other pleasant gatherings, promoting an interest in their society which will no doubt have its influence for good in the future; but, on the other hand, their brothers of the angle at Shrewsbury have, to say the least of it, been somewhat apathetic, and have not until this week held an outing.

THE Ironbridge anglers held a very successful outing on Wednesday in last week in charming weather, twenty-seven members taking part. They were conveyed by brake to Berrington Cound, Cressage or Leighton—whichever place their fancy led them to select. Fifteen prizes were offered for competition and twenty-five members weighed in. The following are the gross weights of fish caught before the handicapping was made: Messrs. J. Edwards, 6lb. 11oz.; W. Wilson, 5lb. 12oz.; W. White, 5lb. 10oz.; J. Toddington, 5lb. 2oz.; J. Norry, 4lb. 13oz.; E. Jarratt, 4lb, 10oz.; W. Hayward, 4lb. 8oz.; H. Aldred, 4lb. 6oz.; A. Aldred, 3lb. 12oz.; B. Hughes, 3lb. 12oz.; F. J. Beddoes, 3lb. 8oz.; J. Wilson, 3lb. 2oz.; T. Bailey, 3lb.; T. B. Rowley, 3lb.; W. Waghorn, 2lb. 12oz.; N. Boden, 2lb. 8oz.; J. Langford, 2lb. 5oz.; W. Bennett, 2lb. 4oz.; W. Edwards, 1lb. 14oz.; R. Ketley, 1lb. 10oz.; W. Preston, 1lb. 10oz.; A, Nicholas, 1lb 8oz.: A. Dixon, 10oz.; A. Green, 8oz.

A BOLD FISH.—An unusual incident occurred to a gentleman lake fishing in South Norway during the early part of August last. He was using three flies and struck a rising fish, and, believing he had missed it, made another cast, and hooked and landed a trout on the tail fly, weighing just over a pound, and to his surprise he found one of the droppers, a large fly, which had broken off close to the shank, fast in its lower jaw. Truly a bold fish to rise again immediately!

SNATCHING FISH. — William Stenning was brought before the County Bench, at Kingston-on-Thames, on Thursday last, for snatching fish at the Surbiton Sewer on the 26th of August last. Mr. Bunting, of the Thames Conservancy prosecuted on behalf of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, upon the evidence of William Douglas, head river-keeper to that society, and his assistant, John Davis, The defendant was fined £1, and a caution,

NOTES FROM WORCESTER AND DISTRICT.

THE rivers Severn and Teme are in capital order for fishing, and there has been some capital sport during the last few days, among the coarse fish in particular; some very large roach have been taken, one specimen near 2lb. The flies are on both rivers in abundance, the Stone Fly in swarms on the Teme, which with the Pale Blue, Blue Dun, Red Tag, Red Ant, and little green insect have killed well, but the grayling taken have been small. Some good baskets of trout have been taken; the best fish with the Wasp Grub.

ON Thursday week the St. John's Angling Society had their third outing to Lulsley, the weather gloriously fine, the water then hardly settled down; still some good sport was had, the first prize going to Mr. L. Higgs, with 4lb. 2oz.; Mr. Berrington, second, 1lb. 10oz.; Mr. Williams, third, 1lb. 9oz.; and Mr. Meredith, fourth, 1lb. 1oz.

ON Thursday last the four Worcester clubs had a game fish competition on the Lugg, by the kind invitation of their president, E. H. Brown, Esq., who gave a four-guinea cup and other prizes for competition. Five members from each club competed.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

ANGLING in this district during the past few days has been somewhat slack, and little of any note has come to light. A few fishermen, however, turned out on the closing days of last week, when the water and weather were perhaps more propitious than at the time of writing. The Swale, at Richmond, has been in fine order, and the evening rise good, while I have heard of anglers doing fairly well in the Leeming and Bedale Becks. The Nidd has afforded moderate sport, the best flies being Fog Black and Red Spinner, while in the Wharfe and Yore Stone Nidge and Brown Owl have held sway. In the Derwent fishing has been carried on with comparatively good success by those who have tried its waters. Sport in the Ouse has not been over-animated, but bottom fishing in the Foss has been much better.

TROUT angling on the Yorkshire streams may now be considered as nearing its close. The fishing cannot be justly said to have been bad, taking the season on the whole, although delayed an unusually long time in the earlier months by the adverse conditions of the weather. In the many North Riding trout streams, as well as in the Yore district, the baskets have at times run heavy, and the fish in good condition, especially in the Swale, where the fish are numerous enough, but unhappily rarely attain any noticeable size. In the latter river the slaughter has been great, but, as is well known at Catterick Bridge and neighbourhood, the fishing is excellent. Alluding to the Swale, says an authority "when the waters are in full trim, ten or a dozen fish are no uncommon day's work in this river." Some nice fishing has been obtained in the Codbeck, at Thirsk, while the higher waters of the Ribble have been resorted to with good results. Throughout the Yorkshire streams the trout are reported to be decidedly on the decrease, and captures are not nearly so numerous.

GRAYLING fishing is now engaging considerable attention with a good number of anglers in this district, and, according to report, the fish is getting into better condition day by day. The present month, and October and November, are indeed the best months for taking it, and all that is wanted now is, I am informed, a slight frost to thin the natural fly off the water, and the fish will then take the artificial with much greater eagerness. Good pike fishing too, should be in store for the angler this month and next, the more ardent pike fishers asserting that they can hook the finest fish on a sharp frosty day, providing of course they can stand the weather.

NOTES FROM IRELAND.

[FROM OUR DUBLIN CORRESPONDENT.]

"BETTER late than never!" At last we are being favoured with something like decent fishing weather- a wonderful and most delightful change has prevailed pretty generally over the lakes and rivers of this country during the past week, and as the "beginning of the end" in most quarters is now at hand, angling, where such exists, is being pursued with perfect energy.

ALREADY several of the eastern districts have wound up sport—notably the Slaney, Co. Wexford; the Aughrim, and the Vartz, Co. Wicklow, and their tributaries; whilst rod-fishing on the Dargle river, Bray, may be said to be practically at an end. With regard to the latter, the run of salmon has been great lately, and the high state of the river has enabled numbers to ascend the upper reaches. Poaching in this river is still rife, notwithstanding the several severe examples that have been made; but great energy is still displayed by those on protection duty.

ON the 1st of October next, angling on several other popular Irish waters must terminate, amongst them the famous Westmeath Lakes will then have brought to a close one of the poorest seasons probably in its record, a fact purely and simply due to the adverse weather it sustained throughout its term. A fair number of rods are fishing this week, and some good takes of big trout are reported.

SALMON fishing on the river Blackwater, for nets and weirs, closed last week. The season is reported to have been good, but peal fishing was most successful, the returns for July and August being excellent. An effort is about being made to have the season for these salmon fisheries opened earlier than the 15th of February. A memorial to the Fisheries Inspectors is almost completed by those interested, and who by experiment know that spring fish are in the waters in numbers during the month of January. The dry season of last February enabled numbers of salmon to pass up the tidal portion, escaping the nets, and this resulted in good fishing for rods in the upper reaches.

HERE'S another boon for anglers! A new patent by Mr. Boursin, of Tralee, who has just invented a new method of holding flies in a fly-book. "The plan consists of attaching india-rubber bands crosswise to an ordinary fly-book, and by means of slides, cut about an inch apart, fastening the flies so that the angler can see at a glance the one he wants to use." The numerous advantages which this little invention possesses will make themselves at once apparent to the angler. Two very important ones at least are noticeable: First, on a windy day the flies cannot get mixed up or be blown away; and, secondly, when the book is closed they cannot be crushed.

ON Monday last, the city of Dublin had a visit from a royal sturgeon, which created great excitement by swimming nearly on the surface of the Liffey, almost up to the heart of the city. Hundreds of people saw the monster, and several attempted to capture it, but it effected its escape back to sea.

ALL the world has it now that a syndicate of English capitalists is in course of formation to work the Fisheries of the Irish coast, and that the promoters are largely composed of men hitherto connected with the North Sea Fisheries. What a pity such a company was not in actual working order at the close of last week, on the Skibbereen coast. The great mackerel fishery there has just commenced, and the takes are reported to be unparalleled. The boats in Dunmanus Bay were overwhelmed—in one day, 40,000 fish, and on another day, 90,000 fish were captured. There are unfortunately, no curing stations there, nor were any buyers present, so the fishermen, after saving as many fish as possible, had to make manure of the remainder, and strew the surrounding fields with what would have well represented many pounds of sterling English money.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope, Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly delegate meeting will take place on Monday evening next, September 21, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Association.—The competition at Langley on 13th ult. was duly fished for in association water, when about ninety competed, I fully expected two hundred. The anglers were started off in grand style by J. Harris, of the Prince Arthur A. S. The weather was far from being prosperous, and the weeds that the water contains, especially on top of the water, but I am pleased to state the prizes were all won by the following: 1st, Mr. C. Messenger, of the Queen's A. S., 2lb. 11oz.; 2nd, Mr. Sansom, of the Marylebone A. S, 1lb. 5¼oz.; 3rd, Mr. Jones, of the Eastern Piscatorials; 4th, Mr. Rositer, Clapton Park A. S.; 5th, Mr. Row, Prince Arthur A. S.; 6th, Mr. Milford, Prince of Wales A.S.; 7th, Mr. Shiers, Camden A. S.; 8th, Mr. Shaw, Golden Barbel A. S.; 9th, Mr. West, Kilburn Piscatorials; 10th, Mr. Barnard, Marylebone A. S.; 11th, Mr. Warren, Bloomsbury A. S.; 12th, Mr. Messenger, sen., of the Queen's A. S.; 13th, Mr. Axworthy, Prince of Wales A. S.; 14th, Mr. Hall, Campbell United A. S. Mr. Harry Sargeant, of the Royal Windsor and District Piscatorial Society, kindly officiated as referee. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the committee and stewards for the way the competition was carried out. A vote of thanks was also passed to Messrs. D. Pithouse and Alfred Higgins, of the Great Western Railway for his great kindness. The prizes will be announced in *F. G.* for the Anglers' Benevolent on behalf of this competition out of the surplus money which was left.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Anglers' Association.—SOUTHERN DISTRICT VISITING LIST.—The next visit on the above list will place on Wednesday next, at the St. Albans and Excelsior Angling Society, the George, New-street, Kennington Park-road, where I hope to see a good muster of brother anglers.—G. W. ARMSTRONG.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of £2 from the Original Alexandra, and 1s. 5d. from the Lord Palmerston Angling Societies, the contents of donation boxes, and four shillings and sevenpence collected at the Langley competition, on 13th Sept. The next meeting of the committee will take place on Friday evening, Sept. 25th, at half-past eight o'clock.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

LONDON UNITED ANGLERS' SOCIETIES FOURTH ANNUAL ANGLING COMPETITION, in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—At our fortnightly meeting on Friday, the 11th, I am very pleased to state that the committee was augmented by several names, also that eleven prizes were promised, some of the value of £1 1s. The next meeting will be on Friday, the 25th, at 9.30, Foresters' Hall, when I shall be pleased to hear from any gentlemen or societies that can assist me in the good cause.—S. MALBY, sec.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—The members met in good muster, and the chief business was of the usual kind. We fish a roving match for three money prizes, and a picture presented by one of our members, all to fish in water without payment.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—This week the following members weighed in: W. Hopping, W. Thornett, J. Pailes, and G. Marriott. The next visit on the Central Association takes place to the above named society on Tuesday, September 22.—J. PAILES, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—We fished at Fittleworth on the 13th inst., but only one member was successful, viz., Mr. Abel, winning the first prize with jack, weight 2lb. 2oz. The remaining prizes will be fished for on the 20th, at Fittleworth, conditions as before. Next Wednesday being general meeting night, I trust members will show up in good force, as we have some important business to bring forward, roll call at 9.30 sharp. I am pleased to say that Mrs. Hawkins, of the Swan Hotel, Fittleworth, has kindly given a prize, which will be added to our list to be fished for on the 20th inst.—W. H. POTTER, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our fifth outing this season will take place at Chertsey on the 20th inst.; roving; when I hope to see a good muster on the towing-path. Three prizes will be fished for, and Mr. Higgenbotham, of the Battersea Friendly, will also give a handsome fourth prize for the largest roach taken on that day. The next visit on the S.L.U.V.L. will go to this club, the date being Sept. 29, when we hope to see a good show. Several of our members were out on the 13th, and the following weighed in: Messrs, Jones, 3½lb. of roach and dace; Barraclough, 2lb. 5oz. of roach; Acland, 2¼lb. of roach and dace; Cooper, roach; Bond, roach; King, roach; and several others weighed in.—J. RICH, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 13th inst., several of our members were out, and a nice show of fish being the result contributed by the following members. Mr. Lambarth, jun., having a nice show of roach, bream and rudd; Mr. C. Irwin, roach and bream; Mr. W. Hakes, roach and brace, and Mr. Whitebread, roach and bream. On the 20th inst., the members fish for six special prizes at Bourne End. All members to go by the first train same morning.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The members of the above society fished their September match at Chertsey on the 13th inst., in lovely weather, with the result that I had the good luck to take first prize; Mr. W. J. Wade, second; and Mr, T. Bowling, third; leaving one prize still open to be taken. Mr. Palmer had a show of fish from Pulborough weighing 6lb. 14oz. A number of our members will represent their respective clubs, at Burnt Mill, on the 20th inst., in the Club Union Competition, and I feel sure will be able to give a good account of themselves, and others will go down to the competition, held at Tovil, under the auspices of the Maidstone Angling Society. Members will please note that the quarterly night is very close, so I hope they will clear the books, and also I should be very pleased to receive the prizes that were promised.—A. G. SMITH.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, Great Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—We intend fishing our monthly outing at Caversham, on Sept. 27th, to go down by first train from Waterloo. Mr. Harman has been elected chairman for the ensuing quarter, and Messrs. Scott and Savage, auditors. Members will please bring their money up with the fines next week to be eligible to fish the match. —J. TUCKER, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The members of this club fished a match at Amberley, on the 13th inst., for three prizes, G. Mumford taking first prize. On the 13th, Mr. J. W. Hopkins weighed in a nice tray of roach, and Mr. C. Wastell, roach, from Pulborough. Largest, 1lb. 6oz. Members are requested to attend on Tuesday next, for most important business.—GEORGE MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—The members of the above society fished a roving competition at Pulborough and Amberley on the 13th for their September series of prizes, with the following result: Messrs. James Smith, 11lb. 9oz., first; D. Dodson, 8lb. 7oz., second; H. Patman, 7lb. 11oz., third. Several other members also weighed in from 1lb. to 5lb. of fish, making a total gross weight of 42lb.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—The dinner, which took place on the 13th inst., went off very well, there being good fare and plenty of it. Of the two prizes which were to be fished for only one was taken (10s. 6d.), which fell to the lot of Mr. F. Barker. A committee meeting will take place next Wednesday, to consider how the prizes left to its disposition are to be fished for. On the 13th the following gentlemen weighed in, and made a good show: Messrs. Farmer, Foster, Wheelhouse, and F. Barker.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the 13th inst., Mr. Pailes, weighed in a fine bream of 3lb. 15oz., Mr. C. Davis had roach; and Warren, tench, the latter winning a prize in the Langley Competition, on the 16th. Mr. Stewart was elected a working member.—D. WARREN.

Bostonian Angling Society.—The annual general meeting was held on the 9th inst. The following gentlemen were elected: Mr. Jennings, chairman; Mr. F. Halsell, vice-chairman; Mr. Jennings, treasurer; and Mr. J. Hoare, hon. sec. It was resolved that no fish be weighed for any day's outings, except from the waters specified for those days only. All members to start on the same morning. The following members have had fish during the past week:—Messrs. Clark, perch; F. Halsell, roach; Hoare, roach and dace; Brown, roach and dace; Rundell, a nice show of bream; and West, roach and dace. Our next outing will take place on the 11th of October, at Pangbourne.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On the 13th inst., only two of our members weighed in, Messrs. Aitchison and Westlake. A competition has been arranged to take place at Edenbridge on the 27th inst., for which five prizes have been given. All members who intend competing, will please attend next Wednesday, when the final arrangements will be made.—H. ROACH, sec.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—We fish for four prizes at Ware on the 20th inst., as under: One jack prize, ten shillings and sixpence; and three other prizes for bottom fishing; all sizeable fish to weigh; one rod only; 7.30 train from Stratford. Since my last report, Messrs. Wilson, Tucker, Bissell, Watkins, Hawkes, and Foster have weighed in bream, roach, and rudd. Our great smoking concert of the season comes off on October 6.—T. HAWKES, secretary.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—We were saved a blank on the 13th inst., by Mr. D. Flint, who brought up a nice show of bream and roach, which weighed 7½lb. We go out for prizes on September 27, and I hope members will not forget the new rules.—J. PETHER, secretary.

Buxton Brothers' Angling Society, Walthamstow.—On the 12th inst., Mr. J. Howell had a nice show of roach, and Mr. C. James caught a fine salmon trout of 4½lb. at the Rye House, a very fine specimen. On the 13th inst., a good number of our members were out, and had a fairly decent day at that much-neglected place, Flanders Weir, where that ever-courteous bailiff, Mr. McMullens, is always ready to give club anglers a welcome. The following members weighed in at night: Messrs. J. Stephens, roach and dace; J. Berry, perch; W. Billingham, perch; C. Goullee, perch; W. Whitfield, roach. On the 20th, a good number of our members have entered in the Club Union Fishing Competition at Burnt Mill.—A. SHUKER, sec.

Campbell United Angling Society, Sir Colin Campbell, High-road, Kilburn.—Members will please take notice that our outing takes place on the 20th inst. for six prizes, roving between Staines Bridge and Penton Hook, bank fishing only, jack barred. The only member to weigh in lately has been Mr. Hiscock with jack. Several members fished in the Langley competition on the 13th, Mr. Hall taking fourteenth prize.—E. W. WOOD, hon. secretary.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—On Monday last, two gentlemen were elected members. The competition announced for the 20th inst., will take place on the Broad Mead at Woking, and the competitors will leave Waterloo Station at half-past eight o'clock. One rod only. Messrs. J. S. Pulsford and J. Guest are the auditors appointed for the September term, and will make their report on Monday the 28th inst. as per rule. Sport during the past week has not been up to Dick. A few chub and barbel only.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—The next punt match will take place at Staines, on the 27th instant. Pegged-down; one rod; draw for stations on arrival.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—The ordinary weekly meeting was held on Monday last at the club-house, Mr. J. P. Connellan in the chair; one new member was elected; several catches reported, and good sport had attended those members and friends who visited our waters at Ramney Marsh during the week. Mr. A. J. Oliver has had some excellent sport at Cromer. Angling matters were generally talked over, and a pleasant evening was closed by the usual vote to our chairman.—HENRY HOWSE, hon. sec.

Clarence Angling Club, Red Lion Hotel, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.—During the week better sport has been had by the members, Mr. T. F. Davison taking pike, roach, dace, some specimen perch and two large grayling; Mr. T. W. Morgan, dace and a fine grayling which is being preserved; Mr. T. Nelson, a large bag of perch. A discussion was opened by a large number of members present respecting the close season which will be brought before the members again at our meeting on Wednesday next. Members visiting our private water will now know the boundary of the two rivers as four large notice board have been placed at the extreme ends of same.—ALF E. EVANS, secretary.

Cliftonville Angling Society, Cliftonville Hotel, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey.—A roving match will take place at Cookham on the 20th inst., for two prizes. Any member not clear on the books not eligible to fish. Members are requested to attend more regularly on Wednesday nights and help to get through the business.—P. GARDNER, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We fished a match at Denham Straghts on the 13th ult., for twelve valuable prizes, which were won with very small takes of fish, the winners were as follows: Messrs. Roake, Nunhead, Colman, Tucker, Twyman, C. Stone, Parbury, Baxter, Caddle, Duncan, Sharland, Hicks. I hope members will go out more frequently, as there are some valuable prizes offered for specimen fish.—A. SMITH, secretary.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 13th ult. we fished a boundary match at Cheshunt for seven prizes, but I am sorry to say that only six were taken. The following gentlemen were the lucky competitors: Mr. F. Woods, first; E. Wild, second; Baldwin, third; Webber, fourth; Robinson, fifth; Killick, sixth.—T. MALBY, sec.

Earlsfield Angling Society, Half-way House, Earlsfield, S.W.—A special general meeting of the members of this club, will be held at the Half-way House, on Wednesday, 23rd, at 8.30 p.m. sharp, for urgent business, and it is hoped all members will endeavour to attend, it being necessary for the welfare of the club.

Eastern Piscatorial Society, Spread Eagle, Gill street, Limehouse, E.—One of our members, Mr. Jones, won third prize in the match at Langley. Our match takes place on the 20th at Pulborough. The prize-list has been extended since my last. There is now six prizes value three guineas, which we trust will all be taken.—W. BARTLETT, hon. sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On the 13th inst. the following weighed in: Messrs. F. Vanhegan, roach, bream, and perch; and Biggs, roach and dace. At the last meeting five shillings was voted to the Farmers' Wheat Competition, at Pulborough, and our worthy host, Mr. A. A. Eldridge, has also given 10s. A concert and draw will take place at the above on Monday, October 12, for the benefit of Mr. S. Watling, tickets for which will be sent round to the different clubs. —J. W. BIGGS, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had a nice show of bream, on the 13th inst., taken by Mr. Slade, 11lb. 11oz., and a few bream and dace, by Mr. Baildham and Mr. Stebbings. Other members were out but not successful.—A. PAYNE, sec.

Great Eastern Angling Society. Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—On the 13th inst. the members of the above were out. Mr. G. F. Weaver weighed 7lb. of roach and bream; F. Bates, carp, 3lb.; Mr. W. Steer, a friend, also favoured us with a show of roach.—G. F. WEAVER, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The sea fishing competition came off near Southend on Tuesday, when twenty-one members and friends went out in four boats. The day was everything that could be wished, but the fish were not feeding freely. Some members had tolerable catches, and others got none. On returning to the club in the evening it was found that Mr. F. M. Jones had taken the first prize of tackle, worth one guinea; Mr. Allen, second, worth half-a guinea; and Mr. W. R. Dippie, third, worth half a guinea. Something like one hundred fish were taken, chiefly flounders and plaice. At the weekly meeting held the same evening, Dr. Brunton, M.D., in the chair, Dr. Davidson reported having with two friends, caught two hundred and fifty-nine fish, principally whiting and codling, at Deal. Mr. Bramley with three other members had made a good bag at Leigh last Saturday-Messrs. Young, Close, Field and Dr. Brunton also reported having fished. A new member was elected. The Rev. C. E. Meyer read an exceedingly humorous and interesting paper on "Fishing on the Yare," and a discussion ensued on it. A vote of thanks, on the motion of Mr. E. H. Bramley, seconded by Mr. C. P. Bentley, was given to the rev. member. Mr. E. C. Clements presented a "Guide to Hastings and St. Leonard's," with some photographs, to the library, for which he was heartily thanked. Mr. Fletcher proposed a vote of thanks to the sub-committee Messrs. Norman, Fosbrooke, and Taylor for having made the arrangements for the sea fishing, which was seconded by Mr. Girling, and carried. After the usual toast, "Prosperity to the Gresham Society," and a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting separated.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 13th inst., several of our members were out, the following weighing in fish: Calcull, a nice show of perch; Wells, chub and dace; Russell, roach; Blaham, junr., roach; A. Fish, bream, roach, and rudd; Saalfield, carp and dace; Rider, perch; Bagshaw, senr., roach: Nuckley, bream; and the promising young angler, A. Fish, junr., bream; a better show than his father's, so good luck to him.—W. FENNER, sec.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—We had a fine show of dace, barbel, and chub, on the 13th inst., and on the 14th inst., a splendid show of roach and bream by Mr. Gehrling. Our annual supper is to take place on the 24th inst., when we hope to see as many friends as possible, also to arrange an outing before the fine weather is all gone.—F. GRIFFITHS.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—On the 13th inst., we had a blank. The members will fish for special prizes on the 27th inst., at Cheshunt.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—Several of our members were out on the 13th inst., but met with very poor success. Mr. Pope saving us from a blank with roach. We are still open for a few more members.—A. PAIN, sec. *pro tem.*

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—Several members were out on the 13th inst., but only W. Stretch showed fish, four very fine bream, weight 10lb. 2¼oz., saving the club from a blank. The smoking concert for the benefit of Mr. C. Leach was a success; we had plenty of talent. Secretaries please note that monies and unsold tickets are to be returned by Sept. 24th.—J. H. HERBERT, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members competed for four special prizes on the 13th instant, but only three succeeded in taking the required weight. Mr. J. K. Charters was first; Mr. A. Furlong, second; Mr. G. Rogers, third. Mr. H. C. Wheatley added to take of last week another show of 15lb. 15¾oz. of roach. The heaviest two scaled 1lb. 6¼oz. each.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—The only members weighing in fish on the 13th instant were Mr. H. Challen, jack; Mr. Sadgrove, roach and tench. Mr. W. Wheeler was elected a member of our society on Tuesday last.—A. IDE, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—Members are reminded of the two competitions for September, *i.e.*, for the heaviest and second heaviest take of fish on any one single day during this month from the Thames. First, punt fishing; second, bank fishing. Prizes of one guinea and half a guinea for each competition. During the past week the following members have weighed in: Messrs. T. Salter, 15lb. 5oz. barbel; H. Tame, two jack, 8lb. 5oz.; Master, 5lb. 8oz. roach and dace; Prole, 3lb. 8½oz. dace; Wilmot, 3lb. 4oz. roach; Evans, 1lb. 8oz. roach.—T. SALTER, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 13th inst., the following members weighed in fish: Mr. Porter, roach, bream, and gudgeon; Mr. Watling, roach; Mr. Webster, roach, dace, and chub; Mr. Ellingham and Belton, roach. Mr. Richardson, and Mr. Wallis, were unanimously elected working members of the above.—W. WATLING, secretary.

Liverpool Angling Association.—There was a good gathering of members at our last week's meeting, the members of the Vyrnwy fishing party being expected, and everyone was anxious to see what they had done. Alas, most of them had fared very badly, and were ashamed (I suppose) to show their almost empty creels at the club-house, which was rather weak conduct, though no doubt quite a natural thing to do. The only two members weighing in, Mr. Mason, first; Mr. Wilson, second. The curator of our parks and gardens had a morning's netting in some well-stocked water, and got over seven hundred bream, many of them weighing 1lb. to 2½lb. These were all placed in our park lakes, in which there is sure to be grand fishing next year.—RD. WOOLFALL.

Liverpool East End Friendly Angling Association, 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool.—We had a fair muster of members present. At our meeting on Sept. 1st., when our third match of this season was proposed to take place at the Mollington Canal for three prizes, which were won by the following competitors: First prize won by Mr. R. Poston, with roach and gudgeon; second prize won by Mr. E. F. Matthews, with roach; third prize won by Mr. J. Hitchcock with roach. Other members had fish but did not weigh in. Eighteen competitors took part in the above match, not at all a bad muster for this society, which was only formed this year. It is to be hoped all members will be present on Sept. 29th, it being quarterly night.—T. C. SEGAR, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 13th inst., our members were at various waters, but the takes of fish were not so good as we have had lately. Messrs. Penfold, Melbourne, W. Pearce, and Sansom, had bream, roach, and tench. Mr. Sampson and Mr. Barnard won a prize each in the Langley competition.—W. F. PEARCE.

Merry Anglers, The Three Crowns, Jackson-street, Manchester.—The above club held their annual fishing match on the 6th inst., at Chester. All the prizes were taken, and a very enjoyable day spent by the members notwithstanding the fact that sport was not fast and furious. The prizes were handsome and valuable, numbering in all sixteen. First value, £3 3s.; second value, £2 2s.; third value, 30s.; and so on in proportion. Mr. E. S. Shrubsole, of London kindly offered a prize when he lately visited this club, and it has been won by Mr. Thompson. The annual dinner will take place as usual at the club house, and Mr. Shrubsole has promised to try and be with us. On behalf of the Manchester Working Men Anglers, I can assure him a hearty welcome.—THOMAS TULLEY, hon. sec.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road.—Several of our members have been out during the week, Mr. Feakes being the most successful having been out with a friend and having good sport among the perch. We had an election of new officers for the end of the half year, it was also arranged to have an outing for prizes at the Welsh Harp on the 27th. Open to all honorary members. I hope the members will show up in good force on this day.—J. COMBER, sec.

Mitre Brothers Angling Society, Mitre Tavern, Kingsgate-street, Holborn.—Members of the above society held their annual dinner on the 13th of September, at the Black Dog and Duck, Sunbury, near Pulborough, when a very nice dinner was served up by the host, Mr. Henley. After dinner Mr. Selman and Mr. Jolliffe, secretary and chairman, were both presented with two gold rings, as testimonials from the club, by Mr. Conway, treasurer. Everyone passed a most enjoyable day.—J. CONWAY, treasurer.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—Mr. W. Grimmett, chairman of the club, has weighed in 14lb. 13oz. of roach in connection with our competition started on behalf of the T.A.P.S., being the first to show fish. Mr. Newbury's great catch of 60lb. from Staines does not reckon in the above competition. It is to be hoped that other clubs will take tickets, price one shilling, as soon as possible, as the time for big takes is at hand, and the prizes are both numerous and valuable. A well-attended meeting was held on the 17th inst., when it was decided that our next outing, Thursday, September 24, should be an open one. I am glad to say that several of the members took tickets for the T.A.P.S. competition. Besides the two prizes on the list, two lapsed prizes have been added. It was also carried that the lapsed prizes of September 10 be fished for on Thursday, October 1, at Twickenham, by those members who went to Bures.—A. E. Baldwin, sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 108, Westminster Bridge-road.—Most of our members were out on the 13th, but owing to being some distance off returned too late to weigh in. Members are reminded that the last Friday in this monthy is quarterly night.—F. Wallis, sec.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway-road.—Since my last the takes have ruled small. On the 10th inst., Mr. Spike, fishing at Chingford, landed a handsome barbel weighing 6¾lb., which has gone to be preserved. The match on the 13th inst., at Cheshunt, was a failure. The prizes will be fished for on the 20th inst., between Waltham and Enfield. Members to go down by the 9.19 from Hackney Downs.—H. Stretch, hon. sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W.—On the 10th inst., Mr. Schultz, jun., roach; and on the 13th, Messrs. Harris, perch; Schultz, jun., roach; J. Plumpton, roach; and Mr. Goodman also had fish. Mr. Pritchard lost his privilege ticket (Central, No. 318) club cards, &c., at St. Margarets, August 30. Anyone finding the same will greatly oblige by returning them to above address. A brake outing to Boxmoor, will take place on the 27th inst., starting from the club-house at 6.30 a.m., any gentleman wishing to join us can obtain tickets from above house any meeting night price 3s. 6d. each, no extras.—G. S.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—On the 6th inst. several of our members were out, and the following weighed in fish: Mr. Bygrave, sen., roach and dace; Mr. Bygrave, jun., tench; Mr. Harrison, perch and dace; and Mr. Neville, perch. On the 13th, Messrs. Bygrave, roach and dace; Harrison, perch and roach (all good specimen fish); Neville, a nice show of perch; T. Forster, gudgeon, also a fine eel scaling 2lb.—J. Cuthbert, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—A match for a series of prizes took place at Pulborough on the 13th inst., when all the prizes were taken, but with very poor shows of fish, Mr. Daniels being first; Mr. Steedman, second; Mr. Gardham, third; Mr. Stedolph, fourth; and Mr. Williams, fifth. Mr. Tozer had a stroke of bad luck, being broke away by a very large fish. Mr. Tozer was elected secretary for the coming year.—A. G. Duke, sec.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Old St. Pancras-road, N.W.—On the 13th inst., Messrs. Carr, Brown, Dove, Raymond and Heelas weighed in a few fish, the latter being declared the winner of the prize. On Tuesday, several new members were made. On Sept. 27th, three valuable prizes will be competed for. All members to go where they like, from Saturday night to the following morning at ten. All members please note.—W. Elbourn, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—Only a few members turned out on the 13th inst., several being in the competition at Langley, which I am pleased to say was a great success, every competitor being satisfied. One of our members, Mr. Rowe, was successful in winning the fifth prize, which he brought to the club, and they were very pleased to see such a pretty prize, and they intend on the next competition to go in force. This society has voted half a guinea to the Rye House Competition.—J. W. Harris, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—Sport was very tame amongst us on the 13th, only the following weighed in: Robbins, Davy, Twoomey, Scott, Matthews, and Clest. Two of our members were successful in the Langley competition, namely Whitford, and Axworthy.—W. B.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The following members weighed in on the 13th inst.: Messrs. F. Lamberton, sen., 3lb. of roach, dace, and chub; H. Mitchell, 2lb. 15oz. of roach and dace; F. T. Lamberton, 1lb. 11½oz. of roach and chub; P. Martin, 1lb. 13oz. of roach and dace. The next monthly outing takes place at Twickenham Punt Fishing, all members wishing to compete to give their names not later than next Wednesday night, for the punts.—F. T. Lamberton, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—Several of our members were out on the 13th inst., but were not successful, only Mr. Webber and Mr. Chart weighing in. I trust members will not forget Sept. 27 for Mr. Wood's prize of one guinea.—F. C. Longland, sec.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—Several of our members were out on the 13th inst., but the only gentlemen who had sport were Messrs. Parsley, Cox, A. Barclay, Henson, G. Yeo, and J. Yeo, with a fair show of roach, perch, and bream. Messrs. Denyer and Barrow had some nice tench, but were too late to weigh in. On the 15th inst., Mr. G. Barclay showed bream.—A. Barclay, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 13th inst. we had a few fish weighed in by the following members: C. Smith, jun., chub; J. Petrie, roach; H. Bigsby, tench; W. North, roach, dace, and gudgeon, 12lb. 2¼oz. (one gudgeon 1½oz.) On Tuesday last we had a poor muster again, when Mr. Robert James Wallage was proposed as a working member, and will be balloted for on Tuesday next. The result of the three months' fishing for the gross weight of roach has ended in a win for Mr. W. North, with 66lb. 12¼oz., Mr. J. Petrie coming next with 65lb. 8oz. A smoking concert will take place at the above house on Monday, September 28, for the benefit of Mr. S. E. Cane. Tickets are now ready.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—Several of our members have been out during the week, the most successful being Messrs. Fountaine and Warsap, the latter of whom had a nice show of roach and dace, several of the roach going over ½lb. If this should meet the eye of the member who is now taking his holidays and indulging in sea fishing, we should like to remind him that we have not as yet seen any specimens from the briny deep of his catching. Members will be pleased to learn that arrangements have now been made for holding a meeting at our rooms in support of the Norfolk Broads Protection Society next month. Further particulars next week.—Crystal Hook.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden.—On the 13th inst., we had another very good show of fish; Messrs. Curtis and Cherry having over 30lb. of tench and perch. Messrs. O'Callaghan and Geale had bream. Our next outing will take place at Goring, on Sept. 27th, at nine a.m. train from Paddington. Three prizes, usual conditions, to enable members to fish as long as possible, the fish will be weighed down there.—Pelican.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—We fish a roving match at the Forty Guinea Water on the 20th. The members weighing in fish on the 13th inst. were: Mr. T. Jones, bream and roach; H. Spenceley, chub and dace; R. Spenceley, dace.—R. S., sec.

Sons of the Lee Angling Society, Duke of Cambridge, Great Cambridge-street, Hackney-road.—The 13th was our first weighing-in night, but only two members weighed in—viz., Mr. Whitehead, with bream; Mr. Snaith, with roach and dace.—M. H. Daltrey, sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—A visit of the clubs enrolled on the above list was paid to the St. Thomas's A.S. on Tuesday, the 15th, when a most pleasant evening was spent. On the roll being called by Mr. J. Wright, vice-president of the list, the following fifteen clubs responded: Bermondsey Brothers, Second Surrey, Rodney, Peckham Brothers, Anglers' Pride, Battersea Friendly, St. Albans, Excelsior, Waggoners', Blackfriars, St. George's, Clapham Junction, Amicable Excelsior, General Post Office, Causton, and St. Thomas's. The next visit will be to the Amicable Excelsior A.S., held at the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea, on Tuesday, the 29th inst., when I hope they will receive a bumper.—A. Conn, hon. sec.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Rhodeswell-road, Stepney.—I regret I have very little to report this week on, although the 13th inst., looked all right from a fishing point of view, only three members weighed in—viz: Messrs. Gerrard, Jolly, and Ruston, with a decent show of roach and bream.—E. N. P., hon. sec.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above were out on the 13th inst., with the following result: Messrs. F. Beak, W. Tyler, B. Champion, W. Windred, H. Freame, H. Tyler, F. Penton, W. Bennett, weighed in roach; Mr. Millidge, dace; G. Marshall and W. Wood, perch. The members of the above will fish a pegged-down match, on the 4th of October, for several very handsome prizes. Water to be decided on Saturday evening.—H. Tyler, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross. — Several of our members were out on the 13th, and the following weighed in: Mr. Clegg, roach (he also winning the prize given by Mr. Offer), largest fish, 14oz.; Mr. Bird, senr., one fish, bream, 4lb. 5½oz.; Mr. Bird, junr., jack, roach, and dace; others had fish, but did not arrive. I wish to remind members to attend on Tuesday next, as there is some important business to be brought forward.—H. C., hon. sec.

Waltonian Angling Society, the Cape of Good Hope, Albany-street, Regent's-park.—On the 13th we had some nice takes of fish: Messrs. Walthan, roach, &c., 5lb. 1½oz.; Seyton, roach, 4lb. 4oz., one splendid fellow weighing 1lb. 1loz.; R. Dodge, roach, 3lb. 9oz.; Morris, roach, &c., 5lb.; W. Dodge, R. Dodge, jun., and Every also weighed in. I wish to remind members that September 30 is our half-yearly distribution of prizes and musical evening, when we hope to have a good muster of members and friends; our lady friends are also cordially invited.—J. Packman, secretary.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—The match on the 13th inst., passed off very favourably, Mr. H. Lees winning first prize. On Wednesday, September 16, there was a good muster of members when it was decided that we fish our next match on the Thames at Pangbourne, on Wednesday 23 for five prizes the first £2 2s. 6d., given by Mr. Rump; second, £1 11s. 6d. given by Mr. Crisp; third, value £1 6s., given by Mr. Grigg; fourth, value £1 1s., given by Mr. Charick; fifth, given by Mr. Sloperally, there will be G. W. Railway two horse buss engaged to take us over to Paddington so that all members will meet at the club-house in time for the same, not later than 6.15 a.m. to catch the 7.25 out from Paddington. Fishing to commence at 10 a.m., leaving off at 5 p.m. in time to catch the 5.57 train. A bus will be at the station to take us back to the club-house, when there will be provided a leg of mutton supper for the competitors and friends, to be on the table at nine o'clock prompt. Mr. W. Obenden, of Prince Regent, North-street, Walworth was unanimously elected a member of this society.—C. Hibble, secretary.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 13th inst., M. A. Coras won the third prize from the September competition with roach and dace. Also weighed in Mr. R. J. Dartnall, roach and dace; Mr. T. Jenkins, roach and dace. On Wednesday last Mr, J. Drivell was duly elected a member.—R. J. Dartnall, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—We had an outing at Bourne End, on 13th inst., for four prizes, taken by the following members: Messrs. Dessert, first, roach; Kirtland, second, roach; Blyth, third, roach; Casey, fourth; other members, Hurden, dace; Francis, a nice show of bream; Maples, bream; Parslow, roach; Fullbrook, roach and dace; Mercer, roach and perch. Hoping all members will attend next meeting night, it being the commencement of the second quarter.—W. M., sec.

Western Piscatorials, Bear and Rummer Tavern, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square.—A well attended outing of this club took place on the 13th inst., to Henley. A most enjoyable day was spent, the weather being so brilliant; and although the water was a bit too clear, Mr. Schmidt managed to capture, good jack and roach taking the first prize for the day; Mr. Rider, with roach, taking two prizes, and Mr. Warner taking third prize, with perch and roach; Mr. Buffery also weighed in roach.—D. W. Knans, sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford. — Our members were out on the 13th, and the following weighed in fish: Mr. Goodrich, 3lb. 13oz. of roach; Mr. Allerton, tench. I hope our members will attend in strong force on the 20th ult., at the fishing match at Hatfield-Peverel, all to go by the first train same morning; train leaves Stratford Station at 7.50 a.m. There will be a trap at Hatfield-Peverel, to meet the train from London. Mr. Wadworth weighed in a trout of 5lb. 3oz.—R. Lowther, sec.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—For the cure of burns, scalds, wounds and ulcers, this justly celebrated Ointment stands unrivalled. Its balsamic virtues, immediately on application, lull the pain and smarting, protect the exposed nerves from the air, give to the vessels the vigour necessary to heal the sore, and confer on the blood a purity which permits it only to lay down healthy flesh in place of that destroyed. Holloway's Pills simultaneously taken, must assist the Ointment's purifying and soothing power. Together these medicines act like a charm; no invalid, after a fair trial, has found them fail to relieve his pain, or cure his disease. The combined action of the Ointment and Pills, in all disorders, is too irresistible to be withstood.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—I beg to remind members that the second club match of the season takes place on the 24th and 27th inst. in any public water. All fish to be weighed in on the day of capture. Prizes and weights as before. Members are allowed to start the day before the match, and those fishing on the Thursday must give notice at the club-house. Mr. Elsmore's presentation prize of one guinea is open for competition in this match. Mr. Elsmore has weighed in 15lb. of bream and two roach—1lb. 14oz. from the river Ant Navigation, and Mr. J. B. Holloway, two roach, 2lb. 1oz., during the week from the Avon.—J. J. Hunter, hon. sec.

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Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for	Chelsea.		Add	55 min. for	Kew.
	40 ,, ,,	Putney.			75 ,, ,,	Richmond.
	45 ,, ,,	Hammersmith.			80 ,, ,,	Twickenham.
	50 ,, ,,	Barnes.			85 ,, ,,	Teddington.

Example:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

Time of High Water at London Bridge.

		Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Sept. 19	2.22	2.43
Sunday,	,, 20	3. 3	3.25
Monday,	,, 21	3.45	4. 7
Tuesday,	,, 22	4.27	4.47
Wednesday,	,, 23	5. 9	5.29
Thursday,	,, 24	5.50	6.12
Friday,	,, 25	6.39	7. 7

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—General Remarks.—Since my last record of the doings of old Father Thames I have been paying another flying visit to the fish farms of Norfolk and Suffolk, and on no previous occasion have I met so many of my metropolitan friends, not only of anglers, but of others who have been tempted to visit the eastern coast for a complete change of air, and who have found its bracing nature to have given fresh tone and character to their constitution. The broads are now looking at their best, and the reports of London anglers are very satisfactory. The facilities afforded by the Great Eastern Railway in their Friday till Tuesday's tickets, at ten shillings each, from Liverpool-street, gives a very tempting run of about four days' fishing to the anglers of our great metropolis, and I have found many who could not spare time for a longer stretch at once to avail themselves of it. The railway companies of the present day are always showing themselves desirous of granting concessions to anglers in places far away from London—as, for instance, the Great Eastern Company at Yarmouth and other places are liberally carrying out the principle of reduced fares to anglers. The Great Northern Company is always desirous of giving every facility to anglers. Only about a fortnight since, the Grantham Angling Society, in reply to an application for the privilege of their members travelling to Bottesford, Bingham, Radcliffe, Nottingham, Newark, Retford, Peterborough, Stamford, &c., at a reduced rate, received a favourable reply, and in addition, making the tickets available for three days. This society now numbers about two hundred members. There can be no doubt that every year angling is becoming a more popular sport, and when the anglers can be assisted as they now are by the railway companies, it will not only cause a further increase, but anglers will go to greater distances for sport, and traffic will be considerably augmented. I am now back again to my old river, and glad to find the Thames anglers have had no reason to complain of the want of sport. The takes of one hundred and twenty-one bank anglers and fifty-three punts were examined by the head river-keeper of the T.A.P.S. on the 13th inst., between Kingston and Isleworth, and with the exception of one or two very minor cases, all the fish were up to the Thames standard. This is very satisfactory. The examination of the takes of the anglers between Staines and Hampton was made on Tuesday last by the officials of the T.A.P.S. There were out thirty-one punts and private boats, and a considerable number of bank fishers, and it is most gratifying to state that they found everything all right, and no under-sized fish, either in the punts or in the possession of this fishing on the banks.—B.

Richmond.—Henry Howard, in four days, thirty dozen of roach and dace; Job Brain, in the week, 36lb., with an addition of twenty-six barbel; H. Mansell, during the week, 50lb.; H. Wheeler, in one day, 16lb., and two barbel; Christopher Brown, in two days, four barbel and four dozen roach and dace.

Twickenham.—C. Brown, in three days, 20lb. of roach and dace and three barbel; Richard Coxen, in three days, 30lb., and three barbel, attending on Mr. Tarrant; J. Coxen, in four and a-half days, 37lb.; J. Frost, in three and a-half days, 38lb., five barbel, and two bream; Pert Hammerton, in one day, 20lb., and the take was seen by one of the committee of the T.A.P.S.; A. Hammerton, during the week, 50lb., and four barbel; J. Dunn, in one day, four dozen; John Spong, in five days, 50lb., and four barbel; F. Wiggins, in two and a half days, 70lb., and one bream.

Kingston.—John Johnson, during the week, nine jack, four bream, three barbel, and twenty-seven dozen roach and dace; M. Bolton, in four days, eighteen dozen of roach and dace, one jack, and five bream; J. Wilkes, in the week, two jack, one barbel, and fifteen dozen of roach and dace; J. Wright, fishing on the bank during the week, has caught forty-three chub.

Thames Ditton.—Mr. G. B. Carruthers, of Long Ditton, with a friend, fishing with Lawless, got eight dozen of roach and dace, one jack of 3lb., and a nice perch of 1¾lb.

Sunbury.—The punts of Messrs. T. and A. Stroud during the week have brought in eighteen barbel, seven jack, and sixteen dozen of roach and dace; and those of Mr. Edward Clarke, sixteen dozen of fine roach and dace and ten barbel.

Penton Hook.—F. Collier, in barbel fishing on Thursday in last week, caught one weighing 9¼lb.

Staines.—John Keene, jun., says he has been out all the week, and had some fairly good sport one day with Mr. Gambler, of the Larkhall Angling Society, twelve barbel and six dozen of roach and dace; another day with Mr. Wilson, four barbel and five dozen of roach and dace; another day with Mr. Back, ten barbel and five dozen of roach and dace; and another day with Messrs. Hayes and Mills, twelve barbel, one bream, and five dozen of roach and dace. All the fish were taken on roach-tackle; the largest barbel was over 5lb., and some of the roach over 1lb.

Upper Thames.—The river continues in the very best of angling condition, and most fish, with the exception of barbel, are well on the feed. The weeds, which year by year become more and more tiresome in the Upper Thames, are rolling down, and consequently angling fine and far off is in a great measure free from the everlasting summer expression of "Hang those weeds!" The best roach and chub are being taken with tail of lob-worm; but even paste is acceptable, as evidenced by a 20lb. basket of roach, chub, and dace taken in the Aston waters with bait made up of arrowroot biscuit and condensed milk, and, as my correspondent facetiously remarked, "How the fish 'nestled' to it!" Jack are running now the weeds are going down, but I do not glean that at present any monarchs have been dethroned. Mr. A. Davis, jun., of Marlow, writes me: "Self and friend had an afternoon's roach fishing in Bisham Reach the other day, with Ted Shaw as attendant. We were fishing not quite four and a-half hours, and took eighteen dozen roach between the two rods, most of the fish being above summer average; of course we were favoured by the conditions—viz., water nice height and colour, no wind, no sun." Thursday night.—Those anglers who can now run down to any station on the Upper Thames will be satisfied with sport and the glorious surroundings of the river this autumn-time.—Marlow Buzz.

Thames (Windsor).—At time of writing chill October has suddenly taken the place of July weather, and should not be surprised to see snow in less than a month, in fact Jenkins' chart gives the first fall on or about October 7. The river is looking well for the angler, but few have been out, and the Thames valley is fast resuming its normal condition. Few launches are running, and many boat builders have already housed the bulk of their stock for the winter, which, to the angler, is the most enjoyable time, the river then being his. Some fine barbel have been caught since my last, largest 8lb., on the 11th inst., by R. Gray; and a gentleman with J. Gray, jun., 13th inst., had one, 7lb. 2oz., with a nice show of dace; Messrs. W. Fountain and W. Crook, of Eton, have also had good sport, out with G. Pince, of Etonwick, taking on one occasion eight barbel, four chub, three eels, the largest eel, which was caught by Mr. Fountain, being an extremely handsome one for the Thames, it weighed 3lb. 7oz. On another occasion the same gentleman had thirteen barbel, largest 4lb., eleven chub, and two eels. Several baskets of roach and dace have been caught, but no extraordinary specimens. Gudgeon have fed fairly well, Messrs. Siddall and Wright, of Windsor, being the most successful amongst these. Water in good fresh condition, but getting bright.—B. R. Bambridge.

Ancholme District.—Despite the very fine weather of the past week, sport has not been good, though most anglers have caught something, and a few did fairly well. The river swarms with fry from one end to the other.—Thomas Ford.

Arun (Pulborough).—The water is now in capital order for all-round angling, and during the past few days a marked improvement has taken place in the fishing. London and Sussex anglers have been out in large numbers, and some of the roach caught have been excellent specimens. Anglers should not forget to bring some boiled wheat with them, as roach and bream will take this bait in preference to all others at times.—Goose Quill.

Barle (Dulverton).—The river has run off gin-clear. It is cloudy, warm, and raining, but the glass is rising steadily. A small Devon, or better still, a quill minnow, should prove killing. Unless we have more rain the back-end salmon fishing will prove a farce.—Iron Blue.

Brighton.—Sea Fishing.—With the exception of two or three roughish days, viz.—Monday and Tuesday last, and to-day 17th, boat anglers have been having excellent sport, and making large catches of plaice, and dabs, including many of large size. One party secured over one hundred fish on Saturday last, and yesterday, a party of three or four caught over sixty fish in three hours, including several silver whiting, fresh herring, mussel, and lug worms are being used as bait; but the last named is by far the best, more especially for flat fish.—H.

Chichester and Sussex Rivers.—Anglers are proverbial grumblers. For the past few days the weather has been too bright for successful sport during the day. Water has been in good order, but only at early morning and at eventide have fish been on feed. At Chichester Canal, bream and roach have been feeding well, but heavy bream are things of the past; nothing exceeding 2¼lb. have been recorded. The dace and roach have afforded sport on the Adur, and bream, roach, and a few dace have been taken from the Arun. The Ouse is in grand condition, and from the upper waters several roach up to 1lb. and chub of 2½lb. have been brought to bank.—George F. Salter.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—After a week of perfect summer weather there seems signs of a change. Fortunately there has been a good body of water, and, with plenty of fish, angling has not suffered as it would from a drought in summer. Good baskets can still be made. Sea fishing is at its best, but there has been no wind to give the mackerel boats much chance. The fish, as usual during this month, are, although very plentiful, rather small. Good ground fishing for them can be obtained by anchoring or making fast to the herring boats whilst washing their nets, baiting with the milt of herring. All other varieties of fish are taking well, and during the late calms flat fish spearing has been good.—Stormy Petrel.

Dove and Tributaries.—Mr. Phillips has taken six brace per day in two days on the Dovedale length. Mr. P. fished this length several days prior to his making these bags, but with what result we do not know. The water is clear, and the weather open and clear here now—just the thing for grayling fishing.—D. and W. H. Foster, Ashbourne.

Filby Broads—Some good sport has been obtained on these waters by Mr. Medcalf, of the Duke of Norfolk Angling Club, who succeeded in landing last week in four days about 120lb. of bream and roach, and one or two small jack, caught with worm. The fish are well on the feed here just now, after this spell of warm weather and sunshine.—S. Walpole.

Ilfracombe.—Sea Fishing.—Some good sport has been obtained during the past few weeks by anglers fishing with rod and hand lines. Mr. German, from the jetty, hooked several grey mullet, weighing 1lb. each. Mr. Kelly hooked two dozen smelt; these fish are rarely caught with rod and line. Mr. Skinner, a visitor, has had some fair sport, having captured several soles, some weighing 1lb. 10oz. each; also some large plaice, codling, and pout. Mr. Passmore hooked a sole weighing 1½lb.; these fish were all caught from the jetty. Mr. Gosling, fishing off Mill Mark Sampson's Bay, caught sixteen large whiting, pout, and two eels. The weather at present is fine with every prospect of good fishing.—E. Corner.

Lake District.—The brilliant weather of last week gave place on Monday to sharp showers, which have since continued to fall up to the hour of writing. For the first time this year no fault can be found with the condition of any of our rivers. The frequent heavy floods have thoroughly cleansed the beds of the rivers from accumulated filth, and there is nothing now to foul an angler's line or disgust his olfactory organ. Many well-known rods have been seen during the past ten days, though visitors seem thus early to have been driven away by the frequent storms. Worm fishing has been indulged in when the waters were discoloured, and with this bait Mr. J. Wilson last week took thirty-seven trout in the Sprint, twenty-two falling to another rod from the same stream. Mr. T. B. Wright also landed fifteen and seventeen trout on separate occasions from the Sprint, the Dark Snipe accounting for both these baskets. On the Kent, Mr. J. Craig had a 5lb. salmon in Levens Park, and Mr. R. Halhead, fishing the Lune in the neighbourhood of Ravenstonedale, last week, totalled thirty-seven trout, averaging ¾lb. each—not a bad record for a mountain stream.—Westmeria.

Lea and Stort.—As a rule angling has been moderately good at most places, fish of most kinds have been on the feed, and some very decent catches can be recorded. The weather has been so very changeable that very few anglers have been out during the week, but as a rule they have had moderate success. I have not heard of much having been done in the upper waters, but some few takes of roach, perch, and jack have been made. Waltham Abbey.—Accounts from here are very good. On the 12th inst., Mr. H. Moxom (the Irish champion) had about 30lb. of perch and roach; Mr. R. Symons, the next day, caught a handsome jack, which scaled 7lb. 1oz.; Mr. Dean had a good show of roach; others had fair takes of roach and perch; Mr. Williams had an eel of 2¼lb., and Mr. Cleverly a perch of 1½lb. Ponders End.—Mrs. Geo. Hollingbery has taken a few nice pike, and is on the track of a monster of the species. Games' Fishery, Higham Hill.—Sport here has been very good; takes of perch have been numerous, amongst them a fine specimen of 1¾lb. Several good pike have been taken, the best one scaling 7¾lb.; on the 13th inst. five pike were caught, the largest 6½lb. Ferrie Boat, Tottenham.—Some roach, perch, and a few jack have been landed. Thursday evening, rivers in good fishing condition. —Spliced Joint.

Leicester.—There has been a great change atmospherically since my last report; a heavy downfall, however, was welcome, as it tended to improve piscatorial matters somewhat, the waters, owing to the extreme heat, having become very low and bright, and fish had gone off the feed. But the weather was very cold compared with the brilliant days the other part of the week. Most interest was centred in the annual match on that day, consequently but little other fishing was done at Leicester. The winners of the contest were Mr. Backus, for the third successive year, first; W. Thompson, second; Mr. W. Green, third. Sixty competed. Sport this week in the canal and backwaters at Aylestone has been at low water mark. Out of Leicester matters have been a little more lively, good fishing being had at Blaby, Narborough, and down the Wreake way. Not many anglers were out on Thursday.

Loddon (Earley).—The river is in capital condition and some good sport has been had this week. Roach being well on the feed, good baskets have been made. Also chub scaling up to 4lb. Mr. Wise got three very nice jack, 4½lb., 6lb., and 7lb. respectively.—J. R. Gould.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—These streams are keeping in good order for fishing, being a nice colour. The weather at the end of last week was very bright, but it has gone dull, and the fish are now moving better at the Pale Dun, Red Tag, Willow Green Insect, Mid Blue, and Whirling Blue. A few rods have been out and some fair sport has been had. The grayling have been sporting the best. The Pinsley is in good order for fishing; sport is fairly good.—Gwynne.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Rivers are now in good order, and grayling rising fairly well. Few rods out, yet some baskets of seven and a-half brace and under have been made. The bright weather of last week has given place to mostly dull, with some showers. Flies same as last report. The Grasshopper (sink and draw) has been tried with success. Grayling are in capital condition.—R. T. Williams.

Medway (Maidstone).—Waters in good condition and weather more favourable during past week, and some good catches have been obtained, more particularly at the weirs. Pike ought now to come to the bait; it has not come to my knowledge of any being caught lately. There are some good ones to be obtained by those who persevere and go to work the right way. The prospects for the angler are good if present weather continues. Roach and bream are taking boiled wheat or well scoured brandlings. I know of a good take of roach with, the Wasp Grub being obtained by an old angling friend.—W. Shrubsole.

Medway (Tonbridge).—Water in the pink of perfection and everything looking well. Bream and roach biting well on judiciously baited swims, and pike will not feed. Anglers who intend to fish with pleasure cannot do better than give a visit to Tonbridge.—Ye Medway Water Rat.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—On Thursday a few anglers were out, but were not very successful. At Peakirk a few perch have been taken, and pike were tried for, but without result. Mr. C. Irvine, of Peterborough, had good sport on Saturday, while roach fishing. He obtained a basket of thirty-five in a short time, including two or three ½lb. The bait used was paste. The last fishing match of the season, promoted by the Whittlesey Angling Association, was held on Thursday afternoon, in the Bower river. A local report says that considerable amusement was caused by the careful handling the very small fish received at the hands of the several competitors. The first prize was won by Master W. Fevre. The association, which was only formed last season, is in a flourishing condition, the members numbering over fifty. Some good sport has been obtained from the neighbouring waters of the Welland. Mr. Wm. Wyche has been very successful amongst the perch and pike. The average pike scales 6lb., but several reached 7lb., and Mr. Ulyett captured one of 9lb. last week. Roach and bream are also feeding well, the bream especially running very heavy. Mr. Thorpe has landed the most weighty fish of the season, one of 6lb. 4oz. Between Waterwaste and Alwalton some nice pike can be met with, the largest being taken from the former place, which is situate about six miles from Peterboro'.—Nene-bank.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—Many anglers, both London and local, were out on Saturday and Monday, and some good heavy baskets of roach and dace were taken. Two of our leading jockeys took from the Lark, at Mildenhall, a basket of over 26lb., principally dace. There are plenty of good swims all along the bank from Barton Mills to Mildenhall, right on to Prickwillow, and plenty of good fish. Creed wheat and gentles are the best baits, and sorrell coloured gut and small hooks. In the Cambridgeshire Ouse, from Upwell to Ely, fish may be taken. I, however, recommend anglers to get a ticket from Benton, the keeper, and he will tell them the most likely swims below Ely to Littleport. Some good fishing now at Denver, near the sluice. Host Read, at the Inn, is a good angler. Several complaints have been made to me about the fish feeding so badly in the Yare. I think it's rather early for them as the weather has been at present. Brandon, Thetford, or Lakenheath, are sharper waters, and not so deep, and any of them are easy to get at: plenty of fine roach at the last two places, and feeding fairly well. Bream should be well on in the Yare, Ant, and Stour, but they are not, neither can I account for it. A splendid trout of 8lb. was taken from the river Lark on Saturday, and sent me to preserve. On Monday last we had a lot of rain here and wind rather high. Angling prospects generally good.—William Howlett.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—The change in the weather has brought both roach and bream on the feed again, and sport has been very fair. Jack have been feeding well and some nice ones have been taken with both live and spinning bait. A nice-conditioned fish was taken on the 13th, going 5½lb., and there are prospects of good sport. The water being in good condition there is every chance of taking fish.—H. Rout.

Prince Town.—I am here at Prince Town for a few days, and the rivers are in first-rate order. About half-a-score of rods have just passed my window coming from the station, and they will disperse themselves on the various streams around here. Mr. Rowe, the proprietor of the Duchy Hotel, and I were calculating the other evening over the fragrant weed and the dew of a Scotch mountain the approximate length of river bank that there was fishable within a six-mile radius from Prince Town, and we reckoned up nearly one hundred miles, and the advantage is that when the larger streams are too full of water there are plenty of small streams that can be tried, and some of these contain some fine trout. Within the last week or so salmon have been taken very near Two Bridges, one 14lb., two 13lb., one 12lb., two 8lb., besides other baskets of trout of 12½lb. and upwards. One gentleman from Plymouth had two and a-half dozen nice fish all a fair size last week, nearly all caught with the small Blue Upright; several other catches varying from one to three or four dozen have been taken, and as all fish under six inches have to be returned to the river the average size of baskets has been good. There are no pollutions on the rivers, and the fish are very game. The rivers that can be fished by anyone making Prince Town a centre are East Dart, West Dart, Cherry Brook, Cowsick, Rattlebrook, Tavy, Wallabrook, Blackabrook, Surncombe, Harterbrook, and Wollibrook. So that if a score or two of rods happen to be out there is plenty of room for them, and if the large rivers are too full the several small streams that feed them can be fished, and they all contain good trout. In the early part of the season Captain Encry had a salmon 18lb. weight.—W. Hearder.

Rother (Fittleworth, Sussex).—During the past fortnight this well-known Sussex stream has been visited by many anglers, and several good baskets of roach and bream have been made. The water is in first-rate condition, and good sport may be looked for. On the 13th inst., an angler named Stretch caught four fine bream, and Mr. Pailes, of the Alma Club, London, landed a single fish, weighing 4lb. A Mr. Cartwright, belonging to one of the London clubs, caught two roach, one about 1¼lb., the other was quite 2lb. The fish, I hear, were landed during the night, and whilst the angler was indulging in forty winks, the big one disappeared. He at once commenced a search for it, and after a time found it surrounded by rats. The animals had dragged it about 30yds., and he only traced it by the scales which had been left on the grass. The fish was certainly worthy of a glass case, but it was too much injured to allow of preservation.—Goosequill.

Taw (North Devon).—Rivers are in good form—trout are taking well: some gentlemen with minnow have two dozen, others twenty fish. One gent took twenty-six. Monday—salmon and peel are also taken with the minnow. —Rusty Game.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—Salmon fishing has again been good this week, although the river is now getting low, and rain would do good for piscators but not for the farmers. Messrs. Dent, Wandless, Bainbridge, and Parkinson, have all had fish; but owing to absence from home I have been unable to obtain the weights for you. The old fisherman, Peter, has also had a grayling, ¾lb., during the week, this being a very rare fish here, not more than one or two being caught in a season, and in many none at all. Flies taken: Same as last week, but of a smaller size. —J. H. R.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme is now running in capital order for fishing, being clear and a nice level. The weather has been changeable, and rain has been had. The warm days at the end of last week brought the fish well on the move, and they rose well at the Green Insect, Willow, Red Ant, Whirling Blue, Wickham and Yellow Tag. Bottom fishing has been good with the Wasp Grub. Minnow fishing in the evening has accounted for some good fish. At the end of last week Mr. R. Brookes landed sixteen good fish with the Willow. In the Ashford Water some fine grayling have been landed. On Tuesday, in the Burway Water, Mr. Ralli took 23lb. of fine trout and grayling with the Green Insect. Up the same water the

Rev. Barker, Berkhampsted, and Mr. H. Brookes landed fifteen nice fish with the fly. In the Castle Pound a pike, 3½lb., was caught with the spoon bait, by Mr. Bartholomew. The Ony, Corve, Clun, and Ledwyche are all in good fishing order. Near Stanton Lacy two gentlemen caught fourteen grayling with the fly. In the Ony, sport has been good with the fly.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this district the water is running in good fishing order, being a nice height and colour. There has been some rain, but it has not interfered with the colour of the water. The fish have been moving well at the fly, and some nice fish have been taken bottom fishing. On Tuesday a nice lot of grayling were landed with the fly. On Wednesday morning some good sport was had. The Rea and Kyre and Ledwyche are all in good order for fishing.—WORCESTER.

Tyne (Corbridge).—River in flood for near two weeks; very little fishing has been done up till Wednesday. Mr. Bigge caught a nice salmon, 18lb., on the 16th inst.; and Rev. A. Hemstead got a fine trout, 3lb. 2oz., with a salmon fly. River filling up again.—GEO. HAMILTON.

Witham (Dogdyke, Lincolnshire).—The fishing at this place has been on the whole fairly good. On Monday, the 14th, Mr. W. H. Robinson, of Sheffield, caught 3st. 3lb. of roach, all of which were caught with creed wheat, opposite the Packet Hotel, from a punt. Several other gentlemen from Sheffield got fairly good baskets. The fishing at this place will be still better in a few days' time, as the river is being cleaned out with a steam dredger. An eel, a perfect monster, was taken from the water dead by Mr. Robinson, and it had apparently been killed on a night line. It was pronounced by all the visitors to be the largest they had ever seen.—H. B.

Wimbledon Lake (Wimbledon). — The following gentlemen have weighed in fish taken this last few days, and the pike are well on the feed: Mr. R. Bird, hon. sec. Earlsfield A. C., took a well-made jack of 4½lb., some dace, and one eel; Mr. Rawlins, of Hammersmith, one jack, 11lb., which was a splendid fish, well spotted and in fine condition; Mr. Woods, Putney, five jack, largest, 7lb., smallest, 3lb.; Mr. Brooker, Earl's Court, on Monday, caught a brace of jack, 4½lb. and 3lb., and bream, largest, 2lb.; Mr. Hubherd, of Chester-gardens, one dozen and a-half bream, and two eels; Mr. Sclage, Kensington, some nice roach and dace, some 9in., and a fine eel of 3½lb.; and Mr. Johnson, the Strand, one jack, 3¼lb.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire).—Anglers are now enjoying good sport here, and good baskets of trout and grayling are being killed daily. Fishing on the Wye has improved during the last few days and some being large grayling are being killed. I had one, on Wednesday, amongst a basket of three and a-half brace, which weighed 1½lb., and was in grand condition. The Darley Dale Water has not been much fished this week, but several gentlemen have had fair sport. The Marlock waters are now getting in nice trim for fly fishing, and sport daily has been had up to four brace per rod. Killing flies are Green Midge, Golden Dun, Silver Dun, and Ash Dun.—DOTTEREL.

Yare (Norwich).—On this river sport has been, if possible, worse than since I last reported, as numbers have fished at Brundall, and also at Buckenham, &c., and not had a bite during the whole day, and these comprise some of the best anglers in the district. I am quite unable to account for it, as the river teems with fish. Nearer Norwich sport is better, good bream, &c., are being caught, and also some fine dace; one measuring 13in. was caught on Tuesday. At Oulton Broad this evening I hear from Host Mason that only here and there during the past three weeks has any really good takes been had, but some good bream up to 3lb. or 4lb., and roach up to 1lb. 13oz. have been caught. To-night (Thursday) there are shows for rain, which may alter the state of fishing in these parts should it come. A meeting is now on at Lowestoft about the broads question.—ROBERT MOLL.

Lake Vyrnwy (North Wales, via Oswestry).—In consequence of a continuation of bright sunshine and calms, during the past week, several anglers did not fish to the close of the season as they intended. Those, however, who did remain were well repaid, the last day (Tuesday) having proved the best for some time. Captain Stevenson caught his limit fifteen, but thinking to improve his average weight returned to the water early in the day two takeable fish. Much to his regret, after getting thirteen he did not succeed in further adding to his basket, and so came home with thirteen very pretty trout, weighing 9lb. 2oz. Mr. G. Ward who was only fishing half-a-day, curiously, also brought in exactly the same number and weight, thirteen plump fish, 9lb. 2oz., two of them being 1lb. 2oz. Both these anglers report the trout fought as gamely as any they have taken for the season. Best flies: Alder, Golden Dropper, Lee's Favourite. After a most successful season the trout fishing on this lake terminated satisfactorily on Tuesday last. One of the severest winters on record has been followed by a season of such adverse climatic influence that at times fishing has been almost impossible. However, it is very gratifying to note that the following good results have been obtained — even under such unfavourable circumstances. It must be distinctly understood that all the fish have been taken with artificial fly only, no other lures being allowed; this policy has been so encouraged by generally expressed opinions, that it will be maintained in future. At present the limit of a day's catch is fifteen trout to one rod, or twenty-five to a boat (two rods), but the season has closed so satisfactorily and the breeding ponds have made such progress that the management have decided to extend the limit for next year to twenty. Total 4,143 trout, weight 3,661½lb., average 14·152oz. The greatest number of fish were taken during the months of April and May, but the second week in July was the most prolific of limits. Anglers with highest scores: G. Ward, 258 trout, weight 222¾lb; Captain Stevenson, 206, weight 151½lb.; Alderman Thomas Hughes, 152, weight 148½lb.; W. H. Watts, 111, weight 127½lb.; F. Weare, 109, weight 100lb.; the two first named having made their highest score the last day of the season. Best day's catch, March 28, 135 trout, weight 115¾lb. Best individual day's catch, May 11, Alderman Thomas Hughes, fifteen, weight 17lb. Best boat's catch (two rods), April 21, Messrs. A. P. and H. Fletcher, twenty-five, weight 26¼lb. Best average weight for season, Alderman T. Hughes, 15¾oz. Best average for times out, W. H. Watts, fifteen day's fishing, 9·4 trout, 8½lb. per day. Heaviest old river fish, J. Roberts, 3lb., Mrs. R. H. Best, 2lb. 11½oz. Heaviest Loch Leven, Mr. H. Watts, 2lb. 6oz. (length seventeen inches), this trout shows a remarkable development, having been put in this water as fry only a few days over two years previously. Next season opens Saturday, March 26.—LONG DRIFT

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—The fishing has not been particularly good during the past week, the river having gone down considerably, and the water becoming bright. Our Mr. Lewis caught an 11lb. salmon with worm a few days ago; Mr. Burgess, a sewin of 2lb., with live minnow; Mr. David Edwards two sewin; and Mr. Lewis Clark, two sewin, all with worm; Mr. Thomas, one sewin, 2½lb., with minnow; Mr. Lewis, a couple of jack, one with worm and the other with minnow; and Sir John Llewellyn landed a nice salmon, 12lb., on the Cothy, a few days ago. Large quantities of trout, bearing the mark of the net, continue to be offered for sale, we much regret to say.—H.

Usk (at Usk).—The river is in fine ply for angling, and salmon are taking very freely, and large numbers are daily captured. Mr. F. H. Browne, of Llangibby Rectory, near Usk, in seven weeks' fishing captured one hundred and three salmon, a feat that is not in the recollection of any angler in this neighbourhood. Many anglers have caught close upon a hundred this season. The river is in capital order, and will remain so for some time.—T.

Scotch Reports.

Altnaeealgaeh Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—On Tuesday, the 8th inst., Dr. and Mrs. Underhill, Edinburgh, fished Loch Bourlan, and landed twenty trout, aggregating 8lb.; Dr. Houghton, London, and Mr. Squarey, Birkenhead, on Loch Cama, had thirty-two, 10lb.; Mr. and Mrs. Morris, London, on Loch Urigill, fifty, 14½lb.; and Mrs. Squarey, Birkenhead, and Mr. Lush, London, on Loch Cama, sixteen, 5½lb. On Saturday last, Mr. Singleton, London, fished Loch Cama, and with small fly, landed a *Salmo ferox* of 3lb., besides twenty-four trout, which aggregated 12lb.; Dr. and Mrs. Underhill, tried Loch Urigill and got sixty, 14lb. On Monday this week, Mr. Singleton, on Loch Urigill, fifty, 13½lb.; Dr. and Mrs. Underhill, on Loch Boarlan (half a day only), thirty-eight, 10lb.; Mr. Squarey, Mr. Lush, and Dr. Houghton, on Loch Cama (for about two hours), twenty, 7lb.; Mr. Morris fished the Ledmore stream, and made an excellent basket of over four dozen. The weather is now improving.—McB.

Ayrshire Lochs and Streams.—Fair sport has lately been had in the Ayrshire lochs and streams. In some of the lochs the yellow trout are getting fast out of condition. Nine gentlemen from St. Mungo, Glasgow, visited Loch Doon on Saturday, and their total catch amounted to one hundred and eleven yellow trout, the heaviest of which weighed 14oz. The streams have given fair sport, more especially the glens where the trout appear to be still in good condition, probably owing to the fact of their obtaining abundance of food during the late spates. Glengarnock and other streams in the Kilbirnie district have afforded good sport lately, and all the waters were in first rate order on Wednesday.—HEATHERBELL.

Border Esk.—Salmon are now very plentiful in the Esk, which is running very clear. In the upper waters sea trout and herling abound. The weather is too bright for day fishing, but the angling at night yields good sport. Mr. J. Elliot had nine dozen yellow trout in Ewes. In the Langholm water, Esk, Mr. Thos. Hounam had a sea trout, seven herling, and a number of yellow trout; Mr. J. Anderson had a basket of herling and yellow trout; Mr. T. Irving had two sea trout, 4lb. and 2½lb.; Mr. J. M. Little, Carlesgill, caught a grilse, 5lb.; and Hon. C. Lambton had a salmon in the reserved water. In the Canonbie water, Mr. W. Davidson landed a salmon, 5lb.; and Mr. R. Jardine, one of a similar weight. In the Byreburn-foot water, Mr. R. Doughty had a hard run with a big salmon. This is a very rocky portion of the river, and difficult to negotiate, after hooking the fish. Mr. Doughty followed it some distance by wading, but coming to an impassable spot, he threw his rod to Mr. Snowden on the opposite bank, who made a bold fight to capture the fish. Three times this gentlemen was over-head before he resigned the contest through the breaking of his line on a sharp rock. The run lasted close on an hour. Some good hauls are being made in the Metal Bridge water, especially at night.—GILNOCKIE.

Breadalbane Arms (Aberfeldy).—On Thursday, Mr. Harrison fished Loch-na-Craig, and got eleven trout, 4lb., and on Friday, Mr. Proctor got nine trout, weighing 3lb. —A. N.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—Weather still unpropitious, and very little angling attempted. Mr. W. Allis Smith, of Glencalvie, gets a fish occasionally on the upper reaches. Mr. Hartley and party have landed seven fish in all—including salmon and grilse—on the Braelangwill Lodge waters. So far as can be ascertained no fish has been got on any of the lower beats since beginning of last week. Miss King, and Mr. Charles King, Clifton, Bristol, who are staying at the Balnagown Arms Hotel, were out on Kincardine Burn on Wednesday, and made a basket of thirty-six trout.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—The abnormally fine weather has brought down the river considerably and somewhat checked the run of fish. The autumn sport increases apace, and some very good work has been done, chiefly on the middle and lower reaches. On the Invercauld Arms Water, Mr. McGregor's guests are having two and three fish daily. On the Glentana Water, Sir William C. Brooks and party are just getting into the autumn run. On the Kincardine Lodge Water, Mr. Wm. Lamond landed two fish of 6lb. and 9lb. on Saturday last; while Mr. A. A. Hudson, London, had one of 17lb. on the Lower Borrowstone section. On the Ballogie Water, Mr. W. E. Nicol had several fish during the week, while Mr. Chalmers was also successful on the Sluie Water. On the Woodend section, Mr. Tarnell Watson landed one of 15½lb. on the 3rd inst., one of 12½lb. on the 4th, two of 27lb. and 9lb. on the 5th, and one of 26lb. on the 7th. Mr. Watson has had a special run of luck in heavy fish this season, already having the previous week landed one of 39lb. On the Blackhall Castle Water, Mr. G. T. Hay and party scored several successes, as also did Mr. Wordie, on the Lower Crathes, details of which are not to hand. On the Park Water, Sir Charles Turner and Mr. Pearson landed ten heavy fish, while Mr. Boyle had two on Maryculter Water, and a good many were also got by Mr. Baird's party on the Durris Water. The fancy double iron, such as Jock Scott and Silver Doctor, Beaconsfield (Blacklaws), and kindred flies, are still the taking lures from an inch to an inch and a-half, while the larger Gordon and Eagle tell fatally towards evening. On the Blackhall Castle Water, Mr. J. T. Hay and party have had splendid sport lately, having landed six fish from 7lb. to 18lb., eight fish scaling from 7lb. to 30lb., and ten fish from 8lb. to 20lb., on various occasions. The fish got recently have been fresh from the sea, with sea lice adhering and of excellent quality and colour for autumn fish. There are plenty of fish in the pools, but another fill is needed to make them take more freely.—DEESIDER.

Deveron (Banffshire).—In the end of last week the weather was of a very favourable character for angling, and with the exception of Monday of this week, when rain fell heavily during the whole of the day, somewhat spating the river. The water has been in excellent condition and anglers are now enjoying splendid sport on the whole expanse of the river, excepting those waters in which the lessee is absent, or too busily engaged with the gun. On the Netherdale water, Keith Maitland, Esq., had two salmon of 7lb. and 9lb.; Sir James Maitland had one of 9lb.; and Mr. Fraser, keeper, had another of 17lb. On the Mayne water, Mr. Thurburn had a grilse of 6½lb., and three salmon weighing an average of 9lb.; the keeper, Mr. Sandison, had four salmon and one grilse, the former weighing from 19lb. to 21lb., and the latter, 3½lb.. On the Mountblaize water, from three to six salmon were killed daily, and on the Forglen water there was also capital sport. On the upper section and on the Free water at Huntly, a few grilse and salmon were also landed.—H. W.

Don (Aberdeenshire).—During the past week several fine fish have been landed on the Kintore Burgh waters by Messrs. Morrison, T. Watt, and W. P. Campbell, who have had fish ranging from 9lb. to 26lb., mostly fresh run. On Mr. T. H. Bott's water, Mr. John Campbell landed a fine fish of 12lb. the other day, while some splendid work has also been done on the Grandholm Persley reaches and at the Cruives. Good sea trout and finnock fishing is also being had on the tidal waters, but another fill is getting more and more needed every day as the river is too clear for the best sport being got.—DON.

Helmsdale (Helmsdale).—Since last week, little improvement can be noted in angling here. Mr. Nutting, the shooting tenant of the Nanidale shootings, had only three salmon, while the other anglers had one or two. This fact is rendered the more astonishing from the circumstance that rivers in our immediate neighbourhood are yielding fair sport. The Berriedale for example, nine miles east of this place has yielded good sport. Several of the Duke of Portland's guests, amongst others Lady St. Gore have had grand sport. This is possibly accounted for by the fact, that the Berriedale is pure and simply an autumn angling stream, in spring it is utterly fruitless in sport. Then again the Brova twelve miles west of us has up to date given fair sport both in salmon, grilse, and sea trout angling, but here again crops up the fact that this water has no renown as a salmon river in spring, whereas the Helmsdale has for long been noted as one of the very best rivers for salmon angling in spring. Still all this does not account for the utter barrenness of sport in autumn here for some years past. I have repeatedly of late in these columns, told of the extraordinary numbers of fish now on this river, but it would require one to go and see for himself before he could quite believe it, and then, if he was an angler he would come away convinced but quite disappointed and utterly at loss to understand how he could get no fish out of such abundance. And still they come! The other day fish were freely and in numbers taking the river above the bridge at Helmsdale; so that not only is there any amount of " brown fellows," but there must also be plenty of "silvery" fish as well. It is to be hoped that the few remaining days of the fishing may prove more successful, although the time is now so short that little can be expected. Sea fishing when tried has been very productive, the coast abounding with saithe, cod, haddocks, flounders, &c. Trawlers are not allowed on any part of this coast either in three mile limit or in deep water, so I think that accounts in a great measure for the increase. Saithe or pollock affords grand sport with the White Fly, and a small minnow is very good also. The herring fishery is now closed for the summer season, to begin on a smaller scale in December, when much less valuable fish are obtained. Rain, is the order of the day, and farmers are nearly at their wits end.—S. C.

Inveran Hotel Waters (Invershin, N.B.) — On Thursday week, Mr. Hall, Sutherland Arms Hotel, fished the lower reaches of the river Shin, and landed a grilse, weighing 5½lb., and on Friday, a six-pounder, on Poll Clarag. On the following day, Mr. Lewis Hall, grassed a salmon weighing 31lb., on Round Pool; the fish, however, was not in good condition, otherwise it would at least have weighed 35lb. On Monday, last week, Mr. Hall got a 6lb. grilse on Angus Pool, one weighing 4½lb. on Poll Clarag, and a salmon of 8lb. on Fir Dam. Two or three fish have since been got, but particulars are not to hand. The weather which was very changeable for a long time has now every appearance of settling.—McB.

Kenmure Arms Hotel (New-Galloway).—The fishing has not been extra good this week. A few salmon were killed on the upper reaches of the Ken, and some fair baskets of trout have been obtained. Dr. Fentou had a basket of nice trout on Wednesday in Lochinvar.—B. B. BANTOCK.

Lairg (N.B.).—The weather of the past week was much improved, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday being warm and bright. On Monday, Dr. Borkless, fishing the lower end of Loch Shin from the bank, was successful at first cast in landing a grilse of 5lb. On Tuesday, Mr. Keith, fishing Loch Shin, made a basket of ten nice trout. On Wednesday, Mr. Mills, London, in two hours' fishing caught four trout, 2½lb. On Friday, Mr. Mackenzie landed fifteen fine trout, aggregating 9lb., on Loch Shin. On Saturday, Captain Haggard, on the same loch, made a basket of nice trout; Mr. Henneckman fished Loch Beannoch and landed eight lovely trout, weighing 6lb.—J. Y.

Liddle.—This river continues in good order, and large takes of herling and sea trout are being secured. Mr. J. Anderson caught two salmon of 6lb. and 7lb.; Mr. J. Crozier, Carlisle, landed two salmon, 10lb. each; Mr. A. Nichol, nine sea trout and several herling; Mr. R. Crozier, seven sea trout and some herling; and Mr. E. Black, Sheffield, one salmon, five sea trout, and several herling.—G.

Loch Dhu (Caithness).—Sir William Montague Call, Bart., Balcraggie Lodge, fished this loch on Wednesday and killed ten fine trout, averaging nearly ½lb. On Saturday, Lady Call, in less than two hours, landed a trout of a pound and several smaller ones.—J. Y.

Lochmore (Strathmore).—Salmon fishing closed here on Monday, the 14th inst., and for some time back the loch has not been yielding good sport. The excessive heavy rains kept it always too high for fly fishing, and the water was very dark-coloured. Sport on the river has been fairly good, the number of salmon was above the average, but lighter in weight. Grilse and sea trout were scarce; brown trout were plentiful and in excellent condition, and of good size, from 10lb. to 22lb. baskets being got frequently at one fishing. There are so many salmon in the river there will not be sufficient room for them on the Redds when the spawning season arrives. It is the spring anglers who are to thank for such a good stock of fish, owing to their having bought off the nets and had them removed for the past two years. Sir J. G. T. Sinclair and his tenants are now reaping the benefit in the autumn.—A. H.

Loch Rannoch (Kinloch Rannoch).—Subjoined is the past few days' angling report and list of takes by parties resident at the Dunalastair Hotel: On the 9th inst., Dr. Banks, of Liverpool, and the Hon. Mr. Mansfield, of Oakmore Hall, Cheshire, succeeded in capturing twenty-four very good trout, and Mr. Hoyle, of Liverpool, after two days' successful sport, secured a heavy basket of 67lb. This has been the heaviest basket of the season, averaging for each day 33½lb. On the following day Mr. Hoyle killed ten pretty heavy trout, and Dr. Banks and the Hon. Mr. Mansfield had eight. On the 11th, Dr. Banks and Mr. Hoyle captured sixteen fish, and the Hon. Mr. Mansfield on the river killed thirteen, one of his trout being a beautiful specimen of fully 2¾lb. On the following day, Mr. Hoyle fished Loch Tummel, and captured two very good Tummel trout, and on the river the Messrs. Pape, of Pickering, Yorks, killed twenty-two, and Dr. Banks and the Hon. Mr. Mansfield, on the loch, had a basket of 5½lb. On the 14th, Mr. Hoyle fished the loch, and captured thirteen trout, and on same water Dr. Banks killed nine. On the river, the Hon. Mr. Mansfield had eleven trout. On the loch, on the following day, Mr. Hoyle killed eleven fish, and Dr. Banks had seven very nice fish. On the river, the Hon. Mr. Mansfield had thirteen trout, and the Messrs. Pape, on same water, had a basket of fully 6lb.—Jn. K.

Naver (Strathnaver, Sutherland).—The weather has very much improved of late.—Since last reported the following fish have been landed—viz.: Major E. A. Burnett, Dalvina Lodge, two salmon weighing 14lb. and 8lb. respectively; Mr. Stubbord, Syre Lodge, Strathnaver, two salmon and one grilse; and Mr. Wormald, Skelpick Lodge, one salmon weighing 19lb., and another of 18½lb. The herring fishing has been a failure, and a good deal of distress in this district is likely to be the result.—McB.

North Uist.—On Loch Maddy Hotel waters, on Monday, Captain Conway landed a basket of 5lb. brown trout. On Tuesday, on Loch Nacsile, Colonel Ogilvie had a fine basket consisting of one salmon, 13lb., and two sea trout, scaling 5lb. and 8lb. respectively, while Mr. Morgan had 13lb. brown trout. Other baskets were light. On Wednesday, Captain Conway landed 7½lb., brown trout, on Loch Cronvaal, and Mr. Willet, 3½lb. sea trout on Strathmore.—W. S.

Overscaig Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—The cold, wet, and boisterous nature of the weather has been such that most of the angling fraternity decamped southwards. Now, however, that the weather is settling down, good sport in trout and *ferox* angling might still be had. Mr. Hinde and Mr. Kirkebride, Nottingham, were out together a few days ago, and landed fourteen sea trout, which aggregated 10lb.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—The high winds and heavy rains have been most adverse to angling, and very little has consequently been done. On Monday week, Mr. Dugdale, London, fished the river Laxford and landed four sea trout, averaging 1lb. each, one grilse, 5lb., and two salmon, 6lb. and 8lb.; Mr. Milles, London, on Loch-na-Caillich, had five sea trout, 7lb. Loch Inchard was fished by Mr. Doubavond, London, who landed 36lb. lythe; and by Mr. Clark, Bedford, 40lb. lythe. On Tuesday, Mr. Doubavond fished Loch No. 1, and made a basket of forty trout, aggregating 12lb.; Messrs. Clark and Turing, on Loch Inchard, landed 55lb. lythe; and Mr. Milles, on Loch Sgeir-a-Chath, three sea trout, 3lb. in all.—McB.

Shin.—On Tuesday of last week, on the upper reaches of this river, the Tressady Lodge party landed two salmon, weighing respectively 6lb. and 11lb.—J. Y.

South of Scotland.—Generally the salmon angling in the South of Scotland rivers has shown a falling off in the sport compared with that of last week. For about a week the fish have been very "dour." The weather has certainly been too bright until within the past day or two, and although Wednesday and Thursday were to all appearances favourable, but little was done.

Annan.—The talk of the week among anglers has been the big salmon killed in the Hoddom Castle Water. The keeper, Mr. Reid, hooked the salmon in Meinfoot Pool. He never showed above water at all, and after having him on for twenty minutes, Mr. Charles Inglis, Commercial Hotel, took the gaff, and clicked the fish as he ran past. Up till this moment no idea had been formed that he was a fish above 20lb. A great struggle took place before he could be safely landed with the gaff. Although he lost weight on the way home to the castle, he weighed 43½lb. He took a brown turkey fly. The keeper proceeded to the Duke's Pool, and with the same fly killed another of 16lb. The head keeper, Mr. Dalziel, ran two big fish the other day, and lost both. Mr. James Beel killed one of 15lb. in the Castle Water, on Saturday, and Mr. George Wardrope, Ecclefechan, landed one of 10lb. On Tuesday, Mr. Arthur Nicholson, St. Asaph, North Wales, fished the Hoddom Water and landed a very beautiful fish of 18lb. Mr. Nicholson hooked another salmon of like weight, and succeeded in grassing this one also. Unfortunately Mr. Nicholson, in abstracting the fly out of the mouth of the salmon ran the hook (a small one) into his finger. At the same moment the salmon made a struggle, and rolling down the steep bank, escaped into the pool in a moment. He rose another big fish, but failed to hook him. In Mount Annan Water, Mr. Dirom, of Mount Annan, landed a salmon of 9½lb. out of the "Salmon" Pool, on Tuesday, and his fisherman, Mr. Andrew Bell, grassed a pretty fish of 10lb out of the same cast. On Friday, Mr. Bell landed a good salmon out of the "Ellies" Pool of Mount Annan, which weighed 18lb., this fish rose at the Black Doctor. Mr. Dirom has been very successful with this fly. Mr. John Rutherford, of Summer Hill, Annan (ex-Mayor of Blackburn), killed one of 10lb., out of Luce Pool. In the lower waters, nothing has been done since my last report. The other district rivers are not giving so much sport.

Nith.—The Nith is in fair good order, and I hear of some capital baskets of yellow trout being had in upper waters. Salmon are showing in the lower pools.—Heatherbell.

*** **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

Tay (Perth).—The river continues in good angling ply, and fish are plentiful, although the hot sultry weather has been against fish rising freely. On the Delvine Upper Waters, Mr. Wyman, London, had six salmon and grilse, 24lb., 22lb., 15½lb., 10lb., 8½lb., and 7½lb. On the Bertha Water, Messrs. Sutton and Wyman, London, had six salmon and grilse; and on Hobhall Water, Messrs. Field and party had thirty-seven salmon and grilse. On the Taymount Water, Mr. Murray and party killed twenty-one salmon and grilse. On Friday, Sir J. E. Millais had four fish and a grilse on the Bendill Water, and on Wednesday he killed two, largest 20lb. On the Delvine Upper Water, on Friday, Dr. Wyman killed two, 23lb. and 14lb.; Mr. Francis, one of 18lb.; Mr. R. Wyman, two, 18lb. and 15lb. On Monday, Mr. Francis killed one of 15lb.; and on the Bertha Water Mr. Sutton Wyman killed two, 15lb. and 18lb. Mr. McLean had fourteen fish and grilse on the Redgorton Water, on Friday. On the Stanley Water, Mr. C. Holland had nineteen for the week; and Mr. Laudon, London, killed seven in three days, largest 29lb. On the Stanley Water, on Monday, Mr. Foreman, London, killed one of 18lb. On the same water, on Tuesday, Captain Bald killed a fish and a grilse. On the Free Water, Mr. Harris had a fish of 10lb. on Thursday; Mr. Brady, a grilse; Mr. Forbes, a fish, 20lb.; Mr. Spiers, one, 16lb.; Mr. Grant, one, 12lb.; Mr. Wardrope, Dundee, one, 18lb.; Mr. Cosgrove, four; Mr. Lindsay, three. On Wednesday, Mr. Harris, one, 18lb.; Mr. McIntyre, a fish and a grilse; Mr. Muirhead, one; Mr. Cook, two; Mr. Cosgrove, two.

Earn.—On the club water at Criff, Mr. Jack killed two, 18lb. and 7lb.; Mr. East, London, two, 11lb. and 9lb.; Mr. P. White, one, 15lb.; Col. Allox, two, 13lb. and 7lb.; Mr. McGregor, seven, 18lb., 17lb., 14lb., 11lb., 9lb., 6lb., 6lb. On the Dupplin Reserved Water, Mr. Kilryann had three before lunch, 28lb., 25lb., 21lb., and a grilse; Mr. Laudon, London, killed seven in six days on the Trinity Gask Water.

Garry.—Lord Strathallan killed two, 20lb. and 13lb.; Mr. Woodhouse, three, 17lb., 11lb., 10½lb.

Thurso and Lochmore (Halkirk, N.B.)—This river and loch closed for salmon angling on the evening of the 14th inst., after the most successful autumn season ever experienced on this river; indeed, so far as the Brawl Castle water is concerned it has far exceeded any previous record, and although I have not got any statistics from the Strathmore section, I am creditably informed that the sport there was very good, especially when a boy of ten and a-half years could pull them out day after day. The fish ran wonderful small, the heaviest for the season only weighed 15lb., 14½lb., 12½lb.; all the rest were from 7lb. to 10lb. with a few grilse from 4½lb. The scarcity of grilse is a remarkable feature in a year like this, seeing there were no nets at the river-mouth, and always plenty of water in the river to bring them up; on the other hand, it is admitted by everybody that never were there so many salmon seen in the river. Had they been taking as well as formerly, the catch could have been doubled. At present the bag on the Brawl section since the 12th of August is ninety-seven fish, average weight 8½lb. This is a poor river for sea trout at the best, but I never remember a year quite blank of them before.—A. H.

Tweed, &c.—Salmon anglers on this river during the past week have had, generally speaking, a fair amount of sport, notwithstanding the fact that the volume of water in the river during the latter days of last week and the beginning of the present one, was such as to preclude the anticipation of heavy takes. The weather, too, was against the Waltonian, being bright and warm, with too little breeze for this sport. The results, however, have been by no means unfavourable, and now that the river has got into fairly good ply, better things are being looked forward to. On the various salmon angling waters, the sport got has been fairly distributed, both on the reaches above and below Kelso; but, on the whole, the upper stretches have yielded the best returns. A considerable number of both salmon and grilse have been killed, and the fish got have all reached nice weights. No exceptionally heavy salmon have been landed, but the quality is good and the average weight satisfactory. That there is sure to be a run of fish to all the angling waters now that the nets are off, is undoubted, and this circumstance is looked forward to with keen relish by all interested in salmon angling, in the lower and middle districts, which have not been so well stocked with fish as could have been wished, owing to the recent succession of floods having allowed the salmon and grilse to keep on "running" to the upper and higher reaches. A very favourable rise in the river, 2ft., on Monday night, will have done much towards the stocking of the lower and middle casts, and as the river has once more subsided to a nice size, successful sport is now anticipated on all the waters. On the Mertoun water on Friday, September 4, Lord Charles Kerr killed three salmon, and Cameron, of Lochiel, had one of 13lb. On the following day the latter killed a 12lb. fish. On Tuesday, the Hon. Charles Scott had two salmon of 11lb. and 13lb., and one 5lb. grilse; and on the next day he had one grilse of 5½lb., and one of 8lb. One fish of 13lb. also fell to the rod of the Lochiel on Friday last. On the Littledean casts, on the same water (Mertoun), Mr. C. W. Campion, on Thursday, killed the heaviest fish of the season with the rod, so far as is yet recorded, one of 40lb., and he also lost another very heavy fish; while on Friday he killed two more salmon. On the Dryburgh water, Sir William Scott has had several fish, and Lord Brougham, on his portion of the Mertoun water, has also had good sport. On the Carham water, Mr. J. Gilbey Vockes, on the 3rd inst., had 10lb. of yellow trout: on the 4th, one grilse of 8lb.; on the 5th, two salmon of 17lb. each, and one grilse of 7lb.; 8th, one salmon of 12lb., and a 9lb. grilse. On the 10th, Mr. J. Vockes had a fish of 11lb., and two grilse of 6lb. and 9lb. respectively. On the 11th, Mr. Gilbey Vockes had an 8lb. grilse, and on the following day he had a 15lb. salmon and an 8lb. grilse, and on the 14th, Mr. J. Vockins had a very nice salmon of 11lb. On the Ednam House water, Mr. J. H. Drummond got a couple of grilse; 7lb. and 8lb., on Friday last; and on the Makerstoun water, the Hon. J. H. Madden, M.P., had also a couple of grilse. On the Floors Castle fastnesses, on Wednesday last week, his Grace the Duke of Roxburghe killed four salmon, all good weights, and on Saturday he had one grilse. On the Thornilea water, one grilse of 10lb. was got, the first of the season in the district, by Mr. Hardie, Walkerburn; and one salmon of 16lb. was killed in the same district on Thursday last, on the Lees water, Admiral Walker has had fair sport, including two salmon on Saturday. On the Twizel water, Mr. Wales has had two or three fish. On the Rutherford water and the Boldide water, so fair sport has also been got during the week, but the records are not yet to hand.

Close of the Netting Season on the Tweed.—The net fishing season closed on the Tweed on Monday night, and the results are believed to have been highly satisfactory, the produce of the last two or three weeks having been so heavy as to compensate for all previous deficiencies. Salmon have been much more numerous than in several recent years. There was also a good supply of grilse; but a falling off in sea trout, especially as compared with last year, when they were exceptionally plentiful. The spates which prevailed during the month of August induced a great number of fish to enter the river, the result being that the upper netting stations did better proportionately than those in the tidal way, last week's record especially being the best experienced for a long time. On Tuesday morning the produce was almost unprecedented. Little Haugh had sixty salmon and forty grilse; New Water, forty salmon and fifty grilse; Tweed Mill, twenty-three salmon and eighteen grilse; English Water, twenty-one salmon and fourteen grilse; Great Haugh, twenty-four salmon and over thirty grilse; Twizel Boathouse had over eighty fish, including one splendid salmon of 42lb. weight. All these stations are on the upper part of the netting district, and the conveyance of so many fish to the railway taxed the resources of the lessees. The salmon have been generally of good size, with few exceptionally heavy weights; one fish, perhaps the largest of the season, was caught at Yardford, near Norham, weighing 46lb., on Friday week.—Maxwheel.

Whitadder (Ellemford).—The fishing this last week has been fairly good. Mr. C. Anderson, of Edinburgh, had on successive days 3½lb., 3lb., 3¼lb., 3½lb., 4½lb., 5½lb. The river was in flood on Tuesday. Several sea trout have been seen; they must have come up in the former flood. Weather very unsettled.—R. J. Fenton.

Ythan (Udny Arms, Newburgh, Aberdeenshire).—Splendid sport continues to be got both from bank and boat by the numerous guests staying at the hotel on every favourable occasion. The hotel accommodation is now fully taken up till the end of September. In order to prevent disappointment, sea trout anglers intending to have a cast on the Ythan tidal, should communicate early with Mr. Ritchie, the proprietor of the Udny Arms.—G. N.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—Sport continues to improve. On Saturday, Mr. Alerson killed two salmon, 5lb. and 12lb. respectively, and a "dullaghan" or Lough Neagh trout of 10lb. on the Tuelguiggan reaches. On the Cloggan reaches, Mr. J. Browne killed four trout. Mr. Charles Stevenson, last Monday, bagged thirteen trout on the Ardtrea reaches. At Coagh, Mr. C. B. Irvin, on Thursday, had six trout, and Mr. F. Woolcoombe had a lake trout over 2lb. Mr. Robert Campbell, fishing the Kingsmill tributary, killed fourteen trout, and on the Kildress stream, in a couple of days, your correspondent bagged thirty-eight small trout. At the Burnough, professional netters are making good takes.—J. A. B.

Clonbur (County Galway).—Fishing on Lough Mask on the 16th inst., I was fortunate enough to secure a fine pike, weighing (one hour after capture) 33lb. The fish was caught trolling with a large Brown Phantom, and was in splendid condition. It measured 3ft. 10in. from tip of snout to end of tail. I am sending it to Cooper for preservation. A friend fishing with me also got a good fish of 18lb., caught on a Blue Phantom and single-gut trace.—W. Fred. Laurie.

Lough Currane (Waterville, County Kerry).—Sport has been very poor. Nothing will be done until we get a change. The fish are numerous, and good sport is anticipated from this to the end of the season if a change for the better sets in in the weather. Sea angling has been first class, and good sport has been had by Mr. W. A. S. Riversdale and Mrs. Riversdale, Mr. Batesman and brother, Colonel Rogers, Colonel Kirkwood, Miss Hartopp and party, and some others. Whiting and gurnet were the fish principally taken.—Thomas J. Dennehy.

Lough Neagh.—Salmon are getting scarcer as they are running up the streams. Lake trout are rising better. Mr. Thomas Taylor during the week bagged fourteen trout and nine pike; Mr. John Meanagh, twenty-one trout and three pike; and Mr. John Donoghey, forty-three trout. Coarse fishing is prime, and pollen that has been latterly taken is considerably improved in size. In the small feeders of the lough trout are numerous. The other evening a countryman speared an 8lb. lake trout in the Clonoe. Mr. C. R. Stevenson and I are going to try our luck to-day (Wednesday).—J. A. B.

Moy and Lakes (Ballina).—On the two last days (14th and 15th) for salmon fishing in this river, some nice sport has been had. Mr. J. C. Wilson, Mr. Henry Scroop, Master Simon Scroop, Mr. F. Warron, Mr. Theobald Divers, Mr. Willie Porter Helley, your Correspondent and others, all had from one to three fish on the above days, ranging from 11½lb. down to 6½lb. With this fine weather the loughs, which were too high latterly to afford much sport, are now falling fast, and trout fishing has improved those last few days. On Monday, Mr. W. Slater had a nice basket of twelve trout, weighing 16lb.—Frank Hearns.

Shannon and Lough Derg (Killaloe).—We have had most charming weather on river and lake since my last despatch, which brought out in all its glory the delightful scenery of this lovely place. The three last days of the past week in particular were simply delicious—days on which it was a luxury to live. Many anglers went up the lake after the trout and pike, and others went down the river on the off-chance of killing a salmon or grilse. To the latter sport the floods have proved the only obstacle, but I hope it will be different next week, as the water is steadily falling. Mr. G. H. Gillott, of Birmingham, got a nice plump grilse yesterday (Sept. 15), and lost a 20lb. salmon after a good long tussel in a raging flood. Just as the attendant was going to gaff the fish, the hold gave way, and off Mr. Salmo glided, I hope, to be caught another day. This is a *dies non* on the river, as all hands are away at Castleconnell regatta, where the sports are always carried out in a most satisfactory manner. At many points on Lough Derg a good many fine pike were landed last week. I am collecting details, and will publish same later on.—S. J. HURLEY.

Strule and Mourne (Newtown Stewart, Co. Tyrone). The fishing on these rivers is not as good as was expected this week, taking into account the great number of salmon with which they are stocked. I have not got the names of all the gentlemen who killed, but the following were successful: Mr. Donnell killed two on Monday, and two on Wednesday; Major Lawrence, killed two on Tuesday; Mr. J. Houston, one; Mr. Mullen and T. Fullerton, also killed on that day; and Mr. M'Cloy, killed a new run fish of 15lb. same day. The weather seems rather dull and fish are not taking freely, but you can count from fifteen to twenty fish showing themselves any day.—JOHN J. MOORE.

AT LAST!

[FROM THE "GRIMSBY OBSERVER."]

I HAVE been a bachelor for more than twelve months, which is a long period for a fish to remain in a state of *single blessedness*, so I have ventured from my watery retreat in the park lake for a short time, to write a letter to inform that portion of the Grimsby public which frequents the park of my approaching nuptials. Oh, Mr. Editor, these twelve months have been an awful time for me. I am just upon thirty years of age, and the bluest of blue blood flows in my veins. I am not a common river carp; my associations and family connections from the first day of my existence have been of the most aristocratic and exclusive nature. My parents—indeed, my ancestors for many generations—were born on Yarborough soil. Oh! how I sigh for Croxby lake! It was there we were all born. And then one day, simply because I saw a lump of sweet paste—so innocent looking—and took it in my mouth, I was ruthlessly snatched from the home of my ancestors and transferred to the lake in the Grimsby People's Park, there to lead a solitary life, so far as my own kith and kin are concerned, for upwards of twelve months. No, Mr. Editor, I never expceted to see my flame, Bessy, again. She was twenty-five years old, which is quite a juvenile age for one of the carp species, and we had courted a number of years, and we were just about being married, when some horrid man, as I have since heard, laid that tempting morsel of paste right under my nose. It was just breakfast time—that horrid man must have known I was hungry. Well, I took the paste in my mouth and commenced to swim away, when all at once—*Whew!* I felt something awful being driven into my jaws, and a shock like a young earthquake. I struggled hard for a long time, but eventually I was towed ashore with a long line and lifted in a net out of the water on to the bank. Oh! if I had been wise in time! I found standing on the bank, showing every sign of the most rapturous glee and pleasure, a man I had often seen on the bank previously, and I had often wondered what brought him so frequently to the lake side, little deeming he had any designs against myself or any of my species. I have since heard it was Mr. Arthur Mountain who lured me with that piece of paste. Well! he took me away from all my relatives and friends, and, worst of all, from Bessy. He stowed me away in some wet grass, and put me in a large basket on his back, and then jolted me all the way to Grimsby, until my whole body, including my dorsal fin, ached most dreadfully. To cut short this part of my sad experience, Mr. Mountain in a day or two carried me to the park and put me in the lake, where I found lots of other vulgar fish with no aristocratic connections or antecedents at all. Certainly, there were some trout, which are all very well in their way, but they only live ten or twelve years, whereas my species live for two hundred years. It was useless forming a friendship with a fish of such fleeting existence as that. My weight was then 12lb. 10oz. I roamed about the park lake, and soon found I was the only carp there. What a cruel fate was mine! Quite a young bachelor, and no means of communicating with my Croxby friends. It appears that someone wrote to the Grimsby papers and stated that a fine carp had been placed in the park lake, and lots of people came to look for me; and because I was too timid to show myself to them their first time of coming, they seldom if ever came again. One gentleman wrote to the papers and sent a list of the food I was partial to, but some people brought new potatoes and peas without peeling the former or part boiling them or the peas. They never washed the lettuces they threw in, and seemed to think that as I was only a carp I was not particular about the food I took, or its cleanliness. One kind gentleman, however, came lots of times during the cherry season, and threw in lots of that delicious fruit, which I enjoyed very much. In return for his kindness, and to show I was not ungrateful, I let him see me several times. But, oh lawks! Mr. Editor, I have had some awful frights. The first morning after I was put in the lake one of the park gardeners got into the pram (punt) with a long pole, and went about all over the lake, and I quite thought he was on the look-out for me. That gave me an awful fit of the cold shivers. However, I found out, after a few mornings, that it was his practise to go every morning in the pram, and feed the rabbits and waterfowl on the islands. Then those horrid swans! they were continually diving their long heads and necks under water, and if I happened to be anywhere about having a quiet doze they always struck at me most viciously with their bills, so I keep as clear of the swans as I can. Well, the Egyptian geese were nearly as bad. If I put my dorsal fin or tail out of the water, they were down upon either one or the other at once. They were very savage birds, and I saw them kill three little wild ducks one night this summer. And those little diving ducks! they used to pop down four and five at a time and keep under the water thirteen or fourteen seconds. They frightened me very much at first, but we are good friends now. The Muscovy ducks chased me a bit at first, and gave me a lot of trouble and anxiety, and more exercise than I cared for, but when their "breeding time" came they let me alone. The Spanish geese were all right except for their everlasting cackle—they are as bad as women—they disturbed my afternoon naps a good deal. However, I suffered more from that skating last winter than anything. For six weeks I had no rest at all, and some days there were so many people on the ice I thought they must come through it and crush me. I have heard Mr. Norton, the park-keeper, say, "It's a long lane that has no turning," and often wondered what he meant, but I know now, and that is the reason why I have headed this letter "At last!" On Tuesday last, about half-past nine in the morning, I saw on the bank of the park lake Mr. Buchan, the borough surveyor, and a lady, and with them the gentleman who used to bring me the cherries. Mr. Buchan had a large bundle with him, which he carried with great care, and I heard him say, "It pulled like a great bullock." The cherry gentleman suggested "more like a calf." I immediately came to the conclusion I was going to have some extraordinary companion. I heard some further talk about weights and scales being fetched, and Mr. Buchan guessed 11lb., and the cherry gentleman guessed 12lb., and I began to think it must be a very small calf to weigh so little. Mr. Buchan then said it had knocked some scales off when in his bath, and as I knew that calves had not any scales and were not usually put in gentlemen's baths, I began to turn over in my mind whether I was not going to have a companion of my own species brought me. I saw a bottle produced and some liquid poured over where it was said the scales were off, to prevent any fungoid growth, and then, to my intense, delight I saw my "old flame" Bessy brought out from a number of wet wrappers and carefully placed in the park lake. As luck would have it, she swam right into the weeds where I was in hiding, and immediately recognised her former lover. Bessy was very plump and in most perfect condition, and told me she weighed 12lb. when put in the scales and, as I weigh now rather over 13lb., we are a very comely couple. Bessy told me she fell a victim in precisely the same manner as I had done—namely, to a small sweet piece of white paste, and the experience of her capture was nearly identical with my own, the only difference being that Mr. Buchan was the lucky captor instead of Mr. Arthur Mountain. Bessy and I will wait until the spring before being married, and when we have got over our family troubles and hatched some small carp fry, we shall begin to sport ourselves in the park lake about July next. Bring us lots of cherries then. This is a long story, Mr. Editor, but I thought your readers would like to hear a little more about myself and also about my future wife.—Yours, piscatorially,

THE CARP IN THE PARK LAKE.

PRAWNING AND SHRIMPING AMONG THE ROCKS.

Now we are having a spell of fine weather, with the wind off the land, it affords a rare opportunity for pursuing the above sport, because the water is smooth and the pools do not get disturbed. Year by year this mode of enjoyment is being practised by an increasing number of people, and ladies are going in for it with great gusto, because it is a healthy exercise, with fresh sea air, and the paddling in the salt water has a very beneficial effect on the system. A party of ladies and gentlemen last week at Wembury took over two gallons of very fine prawns in an afternoon with four nets. The party was accompanied by a well-known medical man, and he told me that the trip had done him a great deal of good, and he thoroughly enjoyed some of the prawns that were boiled for supper. The proper rig for this sort of work is to have an old pair of stockings, and shoes with good thick soles, for you have to wade sometimes nearly up to your knees in the water. The net that you use is a spoon-shaped one, about 16in. by 14in., and having a good stout ash handle about 5ft. or 6ft. long; on the inner edge of the iron ring, which is made of oval iron, is drilled some holes about an inch apart, and the net is fastened on with wire in such a manner that it does not get chafed or rubbed whilst working amongst the rocks. A canvas bag tied around the waist is very handy for placing the prawns in as they are caught. The arms should be made bare to above the elbows, or the clothes will get very wet by constantly placing your hand in the net.

It would be advisable, if the sun is very hot, to get an old pair of stockings and cut off the feet, and pull them up over the arm like sleeves; this will prevent the skin getting blistered.

The best places for catching prawns are the pools that are left amongst the rocks at low tide, and this is applicable all round our coast, and is not by any means confined to this neighbourhood.

The best time for prawning is to commence about two hours before low water, and then you can fish for four hours—namely, two hours of the last of the ebb and two of the young flood, and if you choose the time when it is low water, at twelve o'clock, you get the lowest tide and better sport. In places where there are no rocks, but only a sandy beach, we use the same sort of net, only on a D-shaped ring, instead of a spoon-shaped, and they are pushed along the sand on their flat side. Nearly all the prawns that are caught are taken in this way. WILLIAM HEARDER.

REWARD OF BRAVERY.—Readers of the *Fishing Gazette* will be pleased to learn that Mr. Robert Steele, of Bowholm, Canonbie, Dumfriesshire, has been awarded the honorary testimonial on parchment of the Royal Humane Society, for the rescue from drowning in the river Esk, of Walter Elliot, on the 14th of July last.

EXCITING ANGLING ADVENTURE.—Mr. Hastings Beaumont, solicitor, London, and Mr. W. H. Steele, property agent, Glasgow, were fishing from a boat on Loch Tulla, Argyllshire, on Monday, close to where the river Orchy leaves the loch, commencing its course in a series of long and deep rapids. The latter gentleman hooked a salmon, which ran out a considerable length of line, and in the excitement which followed the boat got into the strong current occasioned by the late heavy rains, and the oars were powerless in preventing its being carried on to the rapids. It shot into them, and was carried down about 100yd. almost in the space of a moment, striking a rock in the centre of the river, where it remained fast, at the same time throwing Mr. Steele into the surf. He reached the bank with considerable difficulty, being bruised very much by the large stones and rocks over which the flooded waters were rolling. Owing to the noise of the waters the occupants of the boat could not be heard on the bank. Mr. Steele pushed his way over the moor to the nearest road, near which the navvies employed in the construction of the West Highland Railway were working and procured assistance. Mr. Forbes, of the Invereran Hotel, and several navvies, supplied with ropes, arrived at the spot about half an hour afterwards. A rope was thrown out to the boat and fastened to it, and the occupants safely landed by holding on to it and working hand over hand to the bank. It took five men to pull the boat, which was much damaged from its position. Beyond some bruises and scratches, both gentlemen were uninjured.

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— NOTICE. —

Fishing Gazette is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

mmunications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. Marston, the Editor of the Fishing Gazette, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

respondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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One Year, post free, to any part of Great Britain and Ireland			10s. 6d.
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America and the Continent, the annual subscription, including postage			12s. 6d.

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pplications respecting advertisements should be addressed to Manager of the Fishing Gazette, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-e, London.

Telegraphic Address—"RIVSAM, London."
TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1891.

HINTS TO AUTUMN ANGLERS.

LMON, SEA TROUT, & FINNOCK LURES.

By Mac.

This paper is meant to follow up, with some actical hints, those two relating to fisheries hich have preceded it during the past two eeks; and although it is not claimed by the iter that it will prove instructive to many, yet ere may be parts of it that will be of some little iding service to those who may find themselves hing waters new or almost entirely new to em. Once again it is repeated that after this mo of the year brown trout fishing in Scotland no longer worth looking after; that only the igratory fishes are in season, and that the only stricts in which there is a true autumn run, in od strength, of such fishes, are those of the East oast rivers, the North-East Coast rivers North of e Ness, the Solway rivers, and waters of etland, and of some of the Western Isles.

Anglers who "tour" about and look for fishing ore especially salmon and sea trout fishing) ee of charge ought not to pitch their expectations very high. True, they should look for ort; but when they do not get it of a quality to their mind it is sheer folly for them to get funked," spoil their temper, and neutralise all e good which when they started on their tour ey were confident of deriving from a well-rned holiday. Everyone has his chances—he may be in the best or the worst of luck. If the former, let him rejoice and be satisfied to his fill; if the latter, his best policy is to take matters philosophically. From much experience the writer speaks. Often he has had his times of grand and more often his times of miserable luck; but his greatest successes have never elated him to excitement, nor his most miserable disappointments caused him to funk. The angler who addresses himself with determined will to redeem his failures, works hard and persistently for his sport, is ever hopeful, ever pegging in, no matter how discouraging matters look, is a hero, one worthy of admiration; but the "funker," whether he "bursts up," skulks off, or is always complaining, crooning, croaking, and making himself and everyone about him uncomfortable, what shall he be called?—the poorest, most miserable and pitiable of creatures; aye, that indeed, because in him are not the instincts of a true sportsman. Him, therefore, this paper is not for—he could not profit by it. It is given, whatever its merits, solely for the benefit of those (strangers) who can and will fish, and whose success is the reward of their noble perseverance.

Of lures and their adaptability, in a general sense, to circumstances, I now come to speak; and first of the lures themselves—not of all, but of some—I mean to give a brief description. These I divide into four classes in their order: flies—spinners—wrigglers and creepers—and worm and prawn.

Flies.

For salmon the flies used in the autumn require but little said about them, as like at other seasons size is the most important consideration. For autumn, however, a smaller fly than that used in the spring is the average size and "fancies" pretty generally are preferred to plain, sombre patterns. Yet, while this is the case, there nevertheless are times when a very large or a dull-looking fly will work better than any other, even in the back end. Fresh-run fish are wont to take larger flies than those which most readily tempt their "potted" congeners. In the autumn more especially this is noticeable; and why as a rule smaller flies are required at that time than in spring is no doubt because the fish, more or less in a brood state, are not such free risers. There is no other reason that we can assign for it. The look of a fly, be it the right size, is everything to the fish; and so we find in the autumn, as in the spring and summer, a bright fly (when the water suits) answers best on a bright day, and a dull or rather dark fly on a cloudy lowering day. This of course will not always be found to hold good, but there is reason for it; and the experience of most justifies the fact being mentioned. For autumn salmon angling very good patterns are Jock Scott, Silver Doctor, Blue Doctor, Black Doctor, Childers, Durham Ranger, Black Ranger, Dunt and Gordon—for daytime fishing; and Eagles, grey and yellow, fancy or plain, for evening fishing; and specially good sizes are Nos. 2, 1½, /0, 2/0, 3/0, and 4/0—the smaller for low waters early in the season, and the middle and larger sizes for later on, heavy waters, and very cold rough days. In the lists given will be found patterns and sizes to suit at almost any time (when fish will take a fly) on any river to which the angler may pay a visit.

Anglers should not hang long on any cast provided they have plenty range of water; fish it carefully they should, but it is missing their chances to tarry where fish are not taking, because, and not unlikely, they may be taking somewhere else. We have often noticed that on close calm days, lazy clouds reflected on the water prevented the fish taking *here*, whilst *there*, not (say) a mile distant, they were taking well. Again, it is important to cross all the fish within compass, as the more fish carefully crossed the more the chance of a take. When a fish misses he should be tried again after a short time—a shorter time being allowed when he rises in a sharp stream than in a pool. The same fly should be used if he does not make a lazy gingerly rise, or what is called a "short rise"; but when such a rise is got the fly should be changed for a smaller one of the same or about the same pattern. At all times deep sinking of the fly is advisable in autumn, and those who fish deepest, everything else being equal, oftenest catch large fish. Often a fish comes at the second cast if the fly is not played the same as the first time. Suppose for example the angler brings round his fly the first time without much motion, he should the second time bring it round rather smartly (over the same track), giving it a good deal of life, or "jerk," by working the rod, or the reverse may be adopted; either often pays. For early in the day fishing, after nights of sharp frost, when, with the water in good size the fish often take splendidly, it is recommended, especially should the sun be strong, to first go in for those casts that earliest catch the sun's rays. As a rule they are the best early in the day catches. In autumn, especially after October comes in, it rarely matters much for the sun being shining right down a pool—straight in the head of the fish. Frequently such will be found an advantage rather than a drawback should a bright glancing fly, not very large, be fished with.

A few general hints as to fishing for salmon with the fly have now been given, but by those without a correct knowledge of the water they cannot to anything like the full extent be taken advantage of. Most strongly therefore is it urged on the stranger angler that he should do everything to find out for gillie a man who "knows the water" in all its outs and ins—knows where and with what, according to the conditions, fish are likeliest to be got. The advantages to be derived from having the services of such a gillie cannot be over-estimated. There are born fishers of humble position, native and "*acquant* with the fishings," to be found almost everywhere, and these are the men who from their own experience and close observation are the most to be depended on to circumvent the fish, or make it be known how they can be circumvented. They know every tip, and every lie, and if fish *will* take they will take them with something or other. Knowledge of a fishery—real thorough knowledge—only comes of experience and long and close observation, and a lack of this on the part of those who will not seek, or are above submitting to be guided is generally *at the bottom* of want of success. Get, it is repeated, a most competent local fisherman for gillie. When the writer was a youthful "braw, brisk fisher," brimful of cock-sureness, he was always confident (and confidence is a splendid thing when one *does* know the water) when he fished strange waters of doing quite as well as anyone else if only he was shown the pools. But this idea he has long since given up; it does not pay in practice. The various states of the water make places which are "lies" at one time no "lies" at other times; and there is often much water which seems very likely, but where no fish ever lie. Consequently the angler, when an entire stranger or but little *acquant*, may often spend most of his time in fishing positively useless water. Then what about flies or baits and spinners?—the best sizes and how to work them under the ever so many occurring differences of conditions? about this the stranger knows little or nothing; the native everything or almost everything.

Flies for sea trout and finnock fishing in tidal and non-reaches of rivers during the autumn may generally, if anything, be larger than those used in summer. The patterns are pretty much the same. Different bodies with brown or green herl wings are deadly in most tideways (on sunny days), and along with them may be included Saltoun, Wickham, Scarlet and Teal, Claret and Mallard, Teal and Silver; and two flies, one with raven wing, black body, with two turns red at tag, small jungle for cheeks and black hackle; and the other with mallard wing, brown body, and coch-y-bondhu hackle. Many others might be named, but those given form in themselves an excellent and ample range for nearly all running waters. Sizes vary from No. 10 upward to No. 7, according to the weather and the state of the water. About all round, silk and slim bodied flies are best for stream fishing, but for lochs fuller bodies have mostly everywhere the preference, and on some such waters it has been seen that the roughest and most clumsily tied flies do best of all. Of course everyone thinks most of the flies with which he obtains most success—and quite right to. Loch flies, therefore, no list of is given, as of such there is endless variety, all nailers, and so not to be overlooked without offence to this, that, or the other party. Many are nondescript and curious things, ranging in resemblance from a beetle to a butterfly! Yet they kill, and who that believes in them will not valiantly stand up for them? Of fishing in lochs for sea trout I say nothing on the present occasion, as pretty generally all over the season is now about past.

Very few streams afford really good finnock and sea trout fishing with fly in the autumn. I know of only four, and even they cannot be depended on for any length of time. The best streams known to me are those which run clear a day or two after a flood, and the best time is when the clearing is in process. At all other times some lure or other of a different kind does better than fly. Finnocks are most tantalizing: very frequently, as the angler will notice when fishing for them, it is a case of from the "hay to the heather" of a sudden. When they are in right humour they take splendidly, but in a twinkling they drop off, after which not one will stir. For half-an-hour they may be mad "on" several times in one day, and then perhaps for two or three days they may not be on at all. At other times they will sport with the fly, leaping at every cast, and yet not one in fifty of them take.

On the whole light tackle is best for finnock fishing, and the approved style of doing it is to cast as for salmon, and work the fly in the same way round to the side but with sharper movement. At one time the best sport will be got by sinking the fly, at other times by nearly skimming it on the surface. Where the water is subject to tidal influence the plan to adopt in order to have most success is to follow the receding tide (the best chance of all), and to retire from the incoming tide—keeping in each case quite close upon the water influenced by the tide.

Description of, and hints as to the use of several of the other lures referred to, will be forthcoming next week.

CHUB AND DACE: AND ANGLING FOR THEM.

By Alfred Jardine.

(*Continued from page 180*)

Leuciscus-cephalus—i.e., the chub, or chevin; and the dace, *Leuciscus-vulgaris*—I shall, in continuing my articles on the *Cyprinidæ*, treat of together, as they have somewhat similar characteristics, and are the only two among the *coarse* fresh-water fish that rise *freely* to a fly. There is a difference, however, between them, which is easily distinguished by anglers who know somewhat of ichthyology; and although small chub, of say a pound weight, are sometimes mistaken for *very large dace*, yet, by bearing in mind the following rules, no fisherman need be in doubt which kind of fish he has captured: "The anal fin of the dace is a pale greenish white, with occasionally a very slight tinge of red; in the chub this fin is a brilliant pink."* The hinder margin of a dace's anal fin is *concave*, that of the chub is *convex*; its tail and dorsal fin are dark, and the back somewhat bronzed, compared with the dace, whose general appearance possesses a much more silvery brilliancy; its scales, also, are smaller in proportion, counting fifty along the lateral line, while a chub's number only forty-four or forty-five.

Chub spawn in April or early May. Frank Buckland says: "Little or nothing is known of their mode of spawning, where the eggs are deposited, whether they sink or float—are cohesive or not—or how long they take to hatch out."

Some naturalists believe dace have two spawning seasons, April and June. It is certain they make (as it were) two migrations in the Thames, and some other rivers, assembling in vast numbers, and heading up to the lower side of the weirs to spawn; after which they get on to the gravelly shallows to scour themselves, where they rapidly regain condition, and during the autumn months, rise freely to an artificial fly. In the winter they seek deeper waters, and are then captured more readily with baits and float-tackle.

Chub grow to large size in the Thames, Kennet, Colne, Loddon, Lea, and many other rivers I might mention. They are often caught of 4lb., occasionally exceeding that weight; but to capture a six-pounder is an event—in fact a triumph that has not fallen to the lob of many anglers. As I am writing this article, my angling chum, Mr. Henry Brett, sends me word that when he was fishing last week in the Teme, Worcestershire, he caught on Nottingham tackle, with greaves, a fine chub of 5½lb. weight.

Among the finest specimen chub shown at the 1883 International Fisheries, were the following: One, 6lb. 2oz., Mr. H. Cresswell, True Waltonian Society; one 6lb., Mr. Howlett, Newmarket; one, 5lb. 12oz., Mr. J. Callaghan, London; one, 5lb. 12oz, the Friendly Anglers; one, 5lb. 10oz., the Maidenhead, &c., Angling Association; one, 5lb. 8oz., Mr. T. E. Gunn, Norwich; one, 5lb. 4oz., J. W. Gant, London; two, 5lb. 4oz. each, the Piscatorial Society; and I believe there was a larger one than either of the above, but I forget the name of its captor.

Chub, as a rule, associate together in holes and eddies; bushes and trees overhanging steep clay banks, where is a few feet depth of water, are likely places to try with success. Solitary stray fish are frequently found scattered here and there in open places among weeds, or on shallows; but, as a rule, they are ill-conditioned outcasts, falling an easy prey to the flyfisher.

Probably no fish of quicker vision inhabit fresh waters, and this may be the reason why they take a fly so readily, when the "lure" is deftly cast over, or near to them; but a gleam of the rod, or the shadow of a bird falling on the water, a heavy foot-fall near the bank, or any commotion while fishing from a boat or punt, down the chub sinks instantly to the bottom, for he is the "fearfulest of fish."

The fly-rod should be 11ft. or 12ft. long and moderately stiff, with upright rings — some anglers use a double-handed one of 14ft.—with which weapon, when fishing from the river's bank, much more water can be covered than with a single-handed rod; but from a punt, one of the latter, 11ft. in length, is much handier, especially if casting or whipping under boughs, where chub love to lie in wait for the caterpillars and other insects which fall off the leaves.

A tapered waterproof silk line, fairly heavy; 3yd. of round (selected) trout-gut, stained a pale olive, and with some chub flies built on eyed-hooks, the angler is ready for his sport. Among the most killing flies are, Black and Red Palmers, Marlow Buzzes, Bumble Bees, Wasps, and the Marlow Crow. All should be varied in size according to water, weather, and weight of the fish expected to be encountered. Small flies should be used on bright, sunshiny days, but larger ones after dusk; a gentle or two put on the bend of the hook, or a small piece of white kid on its point, add to the seductions of the lure and make it more deadly. A boat, if using the greatest care, is liable to rock, and cause ripples or small waves, which alarm the fish; a punt is the best, as it floats steadily—it should be dropped down-stream stern first, not with a rypeck prodding the bottom of the river, but a strong cord (or clothes-line), to the end of which is a weight heavy enough to hold the punt. An old disused iron railway-chair (one can be obtained at most railway sidings) is the very thing; this may be suspended at the head of the punt, the cord roved through a block, but, except when travelling, the weight should not be hoisted above the surface of the water, so that it can be lowered without a splash as occasion requires. When the punt is about 15yd. above the bush or bank desirable to fish, the weight is let down *quietly* and *rope paid out*, until the angler is opposite, or a little above where the chub lie; then his fly should be cast close to the bank, or just above the bush, and the point of rod depressed to let the fly float under the overhanging branches.

A capital plan is to cast the fly *on to* a bough or the leaves, above the water, then drag it off quietly, and as it falls on the surface, or slowly sinks under, the fly is almost sure to be taken; but if not, draw it slowly a foot towards you—this generally proves irresistible if a chub is thereabout, which, when hooked, should be *held* a second or two, and thus prevented gaining its refuge or stronghold among the submerged roots, boulders, or holes in a water-washed marly bank; and if necessary the punt pushed out towards mid-stream, so that with a heavy fish, the angler may have every advantage in playing and getting it to the landing-net.

Natural flies, such as bluebottles, bees, wasps, and large moths, also caterpillars, are all killing baits, and taken readily by chub. They are so greedy that it is rather difficult to say what they will *not* take; frogs, slugs, worms, gentles, wasp-grubs, and minnows, used at the proper seasons, are baits which seldom are "amiss"; and where fruit trees, such as cherry, mulberry, or plum, overhang a river and drop their ripe fruit into t water, it is swallowed with evident relish. summer, "bolusses" of rich Cheshire or chedd cheese are "gulped" with gusto; while in wint bullocks' pith and brains, or tallow-chandle greaves, appear to be considered luxuries.

A bunch of gentles, or the tail-end of a lo worm, on a hook with a short shank, dexterous cast close up to a steep bank where the water moderately deep *and streamy*, or under trees a bushes throwing their boughs over the river, into the little bays between reeds and rushes, w often lead to the capture of a chub above avera weight, for the largest fish are generally to found in such "locales."

"Dipping" or "dapping" is another way, perha less interesting than the methods already describe but easier, because it can be pursued from t river's bank. A stiffer rod is required, with uprig rings, a strong, but *fine*, silk line, and 3ft. of trou gut, selected fine and round, all the better stained a pale green or olive, so as to harmoni with the leafy surroundings, and with a drill pistol bullet (painted green) fixed on the gut, 18i above the hook, the "dapping-tackle" is complet Reel up the line till the bullet is close to the t ring, and, after selecting a small opening amo the leaves and branches, push the point of the r through, pay out line, and drop the bait near the water, when, should you notice a chub rovi about on the look-out for bluebottle flies, bees, caterpillars, quietly drop your rod-point till t insect *is on* the surface of the stream. If yo lure is not at once perceived, then by gent tapping the butt of your rod, you will make slight vibration of the line and a quivering, li like motion of the insect, which, "ten to one *Leuciscus-cephalus* will not be able to resist, and yo bait will be swallowed with a gulp; then keep t chub well away from roots or other obstructio under water; and, because of the branche a leaves, a small gaff on a long staff will be fou much more handy than a net to land the fi with.

Fishing with juvenile frogs, either "swimmin them or casting them, *à la* artificial fly, are spo manlike and generally successful ways by whi to capture chub. There is very little difficulty getting small frogs for bait; when the grass of t water-meadows has been cut, the country la will, for a few pence, collect any quantity of the young amphibians, which can be kept alive and capital condition by placing them with some dan moss into a *minnow* bait-can; one a few inch square will carry enough for a day's fishin Select a frog the size of a cob-nut; put the poi of the hook through a little bit of the skin on t frog's back, pushing the hook through to *its ben* If you follow Izaak Walton's advice with regard *worms*—"*to treat them tenderly, as if you lov them*," and serve small frogs the same wa they may perhaps appreciate the kindness, a enjoy chub fishing. But anyhow it is a dead method, and the way to do it, and the tack employed is, as I now describe. Tie two yar of fine, but strong, gut—such as is used for tro fishing—to your chubbing line. A plaited one, a Nottingham reel, is the proper kind of tackle use; and a rod such as described in my last week article. Make an *underhand cast* or swing of t frog to the opposite side of the stream, whe boughs and branches project; and the more the overhang, and the nearer to the water they ar the better, so that they do not absolutely go *und the surface* of the stream. Such fastnesses a these cannot be fished "with fly," or "by dapping, and they are the natural strongholds of very heav chub.

The frog, *carefully* thrown across, so as to avoi a "hang-up" in the branches, drops into th water, and immediately strikes out for the oppo site shore; the angler draws off line from his reel letting the tiny frog swim under the boughs; or b gently drawing it back, and letting it go again o a voyage of discovery, he thus fishes all the mos difficult and, consequently, most chubby places being almost to a certainty rewarded by the cap ture of some very fine fish.

A small frog may also be used "dibbing" abou bushes—the angler, of course, keeping himsel carefully concealed. This method is the same a with caterpillars, cockchafers, or other insects except that the frog on touching the water wil begin to strike out, and probably attract some sedate old chub thereabouts, who very likely wil swim up and take the frog into custody for kicking up a disturbance.

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* The *Fisherman's Magazine* (No. 10, p. 11).

In "whipping" for chub, young frogs are often used in preference to other bait. A couple of No. 5 Limerick hooks, brazed together, with a little lead or solder melted on the shanks, make a capital tackle. In fisherman's parlance, the hooks are "set rank," and are bound to stout gut; the loop is placed on a baiting needle, and drawn in at the frog's mouth, out at its vent, and its hind-legs tied to the gut; the hooks lie on each side of the frog's head, and the lead is in its throat—(prior to doing this the frog must of course be killed by a tap on its head)—the frog has sufficient weight to sink head first; and after it is cast to the desired spot, it is worked by alternate "sinking and drawing," thus giving somewhat the appearance of a frog swimming.

With the coming month we may expect to have colder nights, and chub will seek deeper waters; weeds will soon begin to decay, the first flood water sweeping them away in some degree, thus making the streams and eddies fit for legering and float fishing. *(To be continued.)*

Notes

IT is proposed by Sir J. G. T. Sinclair, Bart., of Ulbster, Caithness, to make an artificial loch for salmon high up on the Little Thurso river, near the shooting Lodge of Glutt, the object being to afford sport to the shooting tenant. The loch will be constructed by building a substantial wall across a narrow gorge through which the river runs, and have a pass for the salmon to enter the loch.

THE Glutt river is of no repute for salmon fishing, and the reason is the want of good pools. The artificial loch would undoubtedly be an inducement to fish ascending and taking up their quarters there in the spring and summer months. There is, however, one objection to it, and that is, it would probably drain the Lochmore of the early fish before the spring angling was not more than half over.

IN that case the spring anglers would lose a great part of the sport they usually enjoyed on Lochmore, and although they would have the right of fishing the new loch up to the end of June, the distance from Strathmore Lodge, where they reside, to Glutt, is about fourteen miles, and the roads in April are not, as a rule, so good after winter frosts as they are in autumn. The size of the loch will be about three-quarters of a mile long by two hundred yards broad.

RECENTLY, T. Reid, keeper, killed a 43½lb. salmon on the Hoddam Castle Water, of the Annan. The fetching fly was a brown turkey-winged pattern. Glede and turkey-wingers, with composite bodies, and generally a good "tit" of the brown in them, are very favourite flies on the bulk of the rivers of the Solway, the Annan and the Esk amongst the rest.

DURING the past fortnight some of the heaviest fish landed by the rod in Scotland, have been the Annan one mentioned, one on Brora 40lb., one on Tweed 40lb., one on Spey 36lb., and two on Dee 39lb. and 35lb.

A NUMBER of the free and nominally free salmon fisheries in Scotland, on which the best sport is had with true back-end salmon, have already this autumn yielded some capital sport. Probably the *free* water of the Tay at Perth, the Burgh water of the Don, at Kintore; the Richmond and Gordon *free* fishings of the Deveron, at Huntly; and the Heathcot water of the Dee, near Aberdeen, are the fishings that have done best as yet. On the last-mentioned, a 34½lb. fish was caught, but a short time since, by a Major Campbell, fishing with a Spey fly. The great flood of Monday having no doubt caused most of the "waiting" fish to ascend, we think it would be well for waiting anglers to wait no longer, but set out North at once.

IN very low, clear water, more especially during weather when frost comes on at night, it has been found that if fly does not work, there is always a chance in the moderate-paced streams, of sport with back-end fish in nearly every late river in Scotland, by using prawn.

WE regret to hear that salmon disease has again made its appearance—and so early in the season, too—in some Scotch autumn rivers.

DURING this month and the closing days of August, splendid grilse were got in the Tweed and the Ness, many running 9lb. and 10lb. a-piece, and some up to 11lb.

FIFESHIRE fishermen are evidently agitated over the question of salmon fishing at sea. It seems that large numbers of salmon have been attracted by the electric light to the vicinity of May Island, and the point is, to whom do the fish belong? One speaker at a meeting at Cellardyke pointed out that fishermen may be allowed to catch salmon, but they are not allowed to land them. The Scotch Fishery Board have taken up the matter, and the question is to be considered at a meeting on the 29th inst.

ALTHOUGH during the whole of the past summer grilse and sea trout were almost unprecedentedly scarce in the netting and angling waters of the East and North-East Coasts of Scotland, they *now* in nearly all the rivers in these districts appear to be considerably more numerous than they usually are at this time of the year.

WITHOUT a doubt (speaking of fishing all round) grilse and sea trout have been but a poor "crop" this year. They did not exist in sufficient numbers to make a good fishing, even supposing they had come inshore at the natural time for their doing so in greatest strength. For some unaccountable reason—unaccountable because salmon came on so well and so plentifully—they kept away from the coast and rivers; but now what backlying stock there is of them comes on, as come on they must, since, getting gravid, they are bound to make their way up the rivers to the spawning grounds.

ON Thursday of last week General Fielding had ten salmon on the Delfur beat of the Spey.

TO counteract the effects resulting from poachers and pot-hunters, four things are greatly needed in Scotland: an annual close time for trout, with the capture of trout under a certain size made illegal; a much more extensive stocking of the best public and hotel waters with yearling and two-year-old trout; an Act making illegal the sale or exposure for sale of salmon, grilse, and sea trout during the back-end angling time after the netting closes; and on every salmon river of importance the establishment of a salmon hatchery on a large scale, with rearing-ponds attached, wherein the young fish could be kept till they got forward to the smolt stage.

OF the kind mentioned, a hatchery for the Aberdeenshire Dee has frequently been under consideration, but it still hangs fire.

WITH reference to stocking, a very widely-experienced angler writes: "For many years I have noticed the size, number, and even the quality of the trout falling off, owing to poaching, 'lifting' at the spawning season, the ever-increasing number of anglers, the killing of all fish that come to the hook, and the want of enterprise, nay, selfishness, on the part of those—proprietors, hotel-keepers, &c.—who reap the profit from what, done by angling associations in an indifferent manner, ought to be done by themselves systematically and thoroughly."

SOME stretches of the Deveron have yielded first-rate sport since the netting closed. At Huntly, on the extensive stretch of *free* water, a number of good fish, not long run, have been secured. The average weight of this river's back-end salmon is about 11lb. Lately the water has kept in good size. Monday and Tuesday it was in flood, but again it is in order.

ON the Lochy, which is one of the very best rivers in Scotland for sea trout, both as regards size and numbers, anglers appear to have done not at all well this year. One of them writes: "We had only something like tens, to hundreds last year." This shows how scarce the sportive *Salmo trutta* must have been; only it was the same mostly everywhere else.

WITH the water steadily falling away in volume and the weather being *muggy*, or otherwise against sport, but little of noteworthy account was done on any of back-end salmon angling rivers in Scotland, during the second half of last week. The low water was against the fish ascending freely, and in many of the estuaries and close to the coast near the mouths of the rivers vast numbers of them were to be seen leaping and rolling about, *irksome of their enforced waiting* (?).

BUT at last water has come to let them "up"—and with a vengeance. Early on Sunday morning rain commenced to fall, and without intermission it continued in many districts for thirty hours. At Aberdeen the rainfall registered in that time 3 4in. Every river from the north of England to John O'Groats, along the eastern seaboard, has been in high spate. The Tweed registered eleven feet of flood water; the Dee has only once been as high during the last twenty years; and many other rivers were swollen to almost their record flood-mark within the same period. A great amount of damage has been done on the low-lying grounds, whole fields of stocks having been carried away.

FOR two days the weather has firmed up nicely, and the rivers generally are (this Wednesday night) in rather round volume, but at the same time first-rate colour. Without any more rain they should keep in grand angling fettle for quite a week. During their running down, spinning baits and worm, it is reported, have been most in vogue with anglers.

LORD ABINGER'S fine fishing, the Lochy-Spean, which accommodates a large number of rods who "take" the fishing, seems to have fished very queerly during August. The report is: "Some of the lower beats did fairly, some of the upper badly. The sort of weather all along was against good sport. On the lowermost beats the fish being fresh in from the sea took best, as they always do when fresh run. For the season the sea trout was almost a failure, like as nearly everywhere else. They were as tens to hundreds last year. Presently there are plenty of fish, both salmon and grilse, in the lower reaches; they came up late, and they are much above the average in weight. I was very pleased with your article on fishing a 'Swirl.' For a fish taking, all depends on how the fly is brought over him."

THE following occurs in the angling gossip of a provincial north-country daily:—"Last week a Southron angler, staying at Ellon for the fishing, found himself fairly nonplussed by lack of wind and ignorance of the favourite spots and proper flies. Looking over his fly-book in a despairing sort of way, he chanced on a large yellow floating May-fly, such as is used on the English Tees and other dry-fly streams. Partly to keep his hand in, and partly to see if there would be any result, he mounted it, and launched it on the glassy surface of the river. Whizz! It was taken at once, and a 9lb. trout was landed. Off it went again, after being whisked through the air to dry it, and floated only a few seconds until it was gobbled, and another trout landed. This occurred eleven times, and the twelfth trout carried the fly off victoriously, thus putting an end to the successful experiment of dry May-fly fishing on the Ythan in the month of September." Well may this take the cake—it beats cock-fighting! If true, it is a nine days'—nay, an age's—wonder. A 9lb. trout in the Ythan! Whoever heard of such a yellow trout before from Ythan, where a 9oz. trout is considered a "grand" fish? But Southrons, who fish Don, Deveron, and Ythan, you *now* have got the correct tip—in future you'll know what to do—fish the May-fly, and *fish it dry*. Then you'll never be disappointed, remorseful; your baskets, be they ever so large, will be crammed, even to the lid not getting down!

— TOBY. —

TOBY was not the name given to him by his orthodox gossips; but refer to him by his more sedate name of John, and his acquaintance would have to think awhile before recognition. But who is there on the whole countryside who would fail to recognise him by the familiar name which stands as the heading of this chapter? Sooth to tell, he is, or was, more notorious than famous; but of late years he has settled down to a comparatively quiet mode of living. He affects some of the simplicity of his world-wide known namesake in "Tristram Shandy," but few who know him would deny that in his case "still waters run deep." He is a character of many sides; it is chiefly to that of an angler that he owes whatever of immortality the *Fishing Gazette* can bestow.

He has lived all his life in the country, and from the time he could first handle a fishing-rod and a gun he has been a "sportsman," though, perhaps, inimical critics would apply to him a much harsher term. His sporting proclivities have aforetime led him into difficulties, but he has ever remained as irrepressible as the most dogged of British subjects could be. He was wont to tantalise on the first opportunity any magistrate who had fined or committed him. On one occasion he met a landed proprietor —Mr. Edward ———, J.P.—who had been instrumental in bringing him before the other justices. "Ned," said he, familiarly, adding also the J.P.'s patronymic—"Ned, I zeed leben (11) patridges t'other day; onny vour vlied away." Nothing he knew could be more galling.

Toby is no respecter of persons. If gratitude is evidence of a lively sense of benefits to come, politeness coming from him is no less so. But to anyone from whom nothing could be expected, Toby can be curt, not to say rude. A story is told of him *apropos*. Time was when the presence of the squire was an overawing one among the country folk. It was not often he was seen among them, and when he did come he was treated with the profoundest respect—familiarity had not bred contempt. "Yer honour's glory" he was addressed as once on a time; and tradition does say that a sycophantic tenant, not dreaming of irreverence, once styled him in all seriousness "My Lord God Duke." In no man's presence Toby feels afraid; but the squire's brother thought otherwise, perhaps. "See," he said, whilst driving along the highway, with the squire as his companion, "here is the most notorious poacher in all the country round ahead of us; I'll speak to him." And then, coming within speaking distance, "Well, Toby, have you killed any hares lately?" Toby turned, and seeing who his questioner was, and who was his companion, blurted out a brusque request that he should address an interrogative to the basest part of his person.

It was his fondness for "sport" which lost Toby his left hand. A gun exploded—(most fearful weapon it was, you may depend upon it; we should consider it so, looking at it with eyes accustomed to modern pieces)—and blew it off. He bound the stump with his handkerchief, and with a stoicism worthy of Diogenes walked to the nearest surgeon and had it dressed, without an anæsthetic, and with scarcely a movement of a facial muscle.

It would be impossible to find a date when he commenced angling, but from time immemorial he has been wont to produce, generally in the early part of the season, fine dishes of trout. Toby never made any secret of his methods—worm fishing in foul water and night-lining in clear—but he was ever mysterious as to the precise locality from which he obtained them. He once called at a great house with a nice dish of fish, which he was anxious to exchange for filthy lucre, to obtain the wherewithal with which to moisten his gullet, for Toby was never a disciple of Sir Wilfrid Lawson. The lady of the house was called to see them, and exclaimed, "What a beautiful basket of trout, Toby! Wherever did you get them?" The answer came promptly, if not politely or strictly to the point, "In the watter, thek 'ed"

He is used to giving such evasive answers. One morning he called at the house of a farmer with a fox he had shot, in the hope of obtaining largess for the act. Farmers and foxes are not always on the best of terms. "Where did you shoot that, Toby?" "Where he was, thek 'ed! Cudden kill'n where he wadden!" came the ready response.

My first acquaintance with Toby commenced soon after I came into the neighbourhood. To a certain extent we have a fellow-feeling; and one evening, meeting him in the road, I was attempting to draw him out. He had been indulging more well than wisely in his favourite potion, as was quite evident. A benevolent old banker and his wife passed, and the former turned and said, "Ah, Toby, I am afraid you have been lifting your elbow too high to-day." The reply was caustic and characteristic: "Ot's th'ods to thee, thek 'ed?" The old gentleman very quietly observed, "I am afraid it's a great deal of odds to you!" and passed on.

One would have thought that the loss of a hand would have debarred one who could not reckon on assistance from angling with the worm, but it seems not to have been any great drawback to his pursuit of his old game; nay, perhaps it has forced it upon him more; for though he and work were never on the most intimate terms, they were brought into some sort of relationship at times; but after he became maimed, he was only half a man, or less, in field work; and he contrived a device by which he is able to place on a worm neatly, and of course one who can do that can unhook a fish. He straps a piece of wood to his side, where it looks something like the old knitting-sticks of our grandmothers, and manages somehow, though I never saw him in the act.

TOBY.

Toby is not a great talker, and is somewhat epigrammatic in his style. "Vules can't catch vcesh!" is a favourite axiom with him. Probably, if pressed, he would admit that he considers the converse of the proposition also true—that those who cannot catch fish are fools. You see here something kindred to Carlyle's thought, "What a lot of people there are in the world, mostly fools." As Toby would class all who cannot catch fish in uncomplimentary category, and as those who can catch fish are in a very small minority, it follows that there is a concensus of opinion between the two. Extremes meet.

To be called after the dear old gentleman of Tristram Shandy is a greatness thrust upon him by unauthorised sponsors which he does not appreciate. Say "Good-night, Toby!" and you will get a reply of three or four words, one of which will certainly be "thek 'ed"; but call him "John," and you *may* get a less unappreciative reply.

Once I met him on the river, when he was minnowing with a view to setting his night-lines, and he followed me for an hour or two, watching fly-fishing—a new phase of the craft to him—with the keenest interest, and behaving, I must say, with the greatest consideration—never pushing himself in the way, and ever ready to render assistance when I got hitched up, or came to a halt for any reason. He is one of the last persons in the world that you would expect to get excited, but he did on that occasion—when I got into number two of my biggest fish for the season; and he was dangerously near becoming a marsport in his eagerness to land the fish with the net before it was anything like being exhausted. I had to go on after the fish had ceased rising (when I knew it was useless) to please the old veteran.

Toby is as hard as nails. He often starts on his fishing expeditions in the evening, sleeps somewhere in a shed, and is then ready on the scene of action betimes in the morning. I met him once, very, very early in the season, on a bitterly cold day, when I felt it advisable to add a jersey to my usual winter clothing. He was worm fishing—and in his style it is very slow work—with coat open, and waistcoat too if he had any, and his breast visibly exposed to the cold air.

The lone man's companion, tobacco, Toby likes in either form, but he prefers it in the mouth to having it in a pipe, on the ground that it goes farther; probably, too, because to a one-handed man holding a rod a pipe must be a nuisance. He was once offered a pipe of tobacco, which he, of course, accepted, and at once placed in his mouth. The donor said, "I would not have given it to you if I had known that you were going to eat it." The reply showed the old man not to be devoid of wit —"'Tis a shame t' burn wots gude t' ait" (to eat).

Always a ne'er-do-well he has, of late years at any rate, been a harmless one, and he seems to be tolerated any and everywhere on the streams within his reach; it seems agreed by common consent that an old man—sportsman or poacher—who at over eighty years of age has retained his keenness for trouting to such a degree that he will walk five or six miles for it, should be allowed to go on the even tenor of his way.

The photograph is by Mr. J. F. Finucane, of Stratton, an amateur. Toby has a deeply-rooted aversion to having his picture taken. All overtures having for their object a "sitting" from him—either for photograph or painting—have been fruitless. He is a short man, and probably like many another short man a little vain of his height, and so it came about that he stood for his picture without knowing it. Mr. Finucane, with his "Facile" under his arm, explained to him that it was a newly-invented machine for taking heights. The wondering and credulous old man (and it was a wonder that such a crafty individual was so easily out-manœuvred) drew himself up, and in a second it was done.

J. H. B.

A GENERAL meeting of the Conservators was held in the Court House, Waterford, on Saturday, 19th inst., to consider the proposed bye-laws, &c., for the improvement and protection of the salmon fisheries of the river Suir, Nore, and Barrow. All the bye-laws connected with the Suir were approved of, with the exception of the first one, which was to close the rod season on August 15, the same time as the nets. This was rejected with only one dissentient vote. It was held that rods were a protection to a river, inasmuch as their presence on the banks kept poachers away. The harm they did was a mere bagatelle compared to the good thus done, and also, as anglers and upper proprietors were the natural protectors of the spawning fish, they were entitled to the additional ten months when the net season was closed, otherwise you could hardly expect them to protect fish, out of which they were to receive no benefit.—RICHARD BRADFORD.

SOME NOTES ON THE BEDFORDSHIRE OUSE.

By an Old Hand.

(Continued from page 167.)

Swavesey.—This village is situated about three and a-half miles south-east from St. Ives, and nearly nine north-west from Cambridge. Formerly a market was held here on Tuesdays; and at one period the river was navigable to the end of the remarkably wide, straggling street, still called Market-street; and the house at the head of the river is still called the Coal House, it being situated near the spot where the coals were landed. The station, which is only three miles from St. Ives (to my fancy the *beau-ideal* of an English market town), is within a stone's-throw of the handsome Norman church dedicated to St. Andrew, and consists of a nave, chancel, and, I believe, western tower, and contains an excellent peal of six bells. A quarter of a mile south-west of the church is the site of a castle, probably the ancient seat of the Zouches, who resided here in the fourteenth century. A part of the remains are now incorporated with a cottage, a short distance from a field still called "Castle Close."

Several delightful lanes or "droves" run from different points of the village (notably the one past the "cemetery"), and the pretty hamlet of Fenstanton (or, "Fenny" Stanton, as it is called) is not far distant.

A remarkable feature of the village is the quaint old thatched cottages, some of them looking like old hay-stacks with windows, and the one called the "Bottle" I think takes the cake in this respect; and the spaces between these ancient dwellings being occupied with houses of a more modern and imposing type, give the portion of the street near Amen Corner a most peculiar appearance, as these tenements are for the most part whitewashed, and abut on the roadway. When the river overflows the banks the roar of the water can be distinctly heard in the village.

There are about twenty inns to the one thousand one hundred inhabitants, so the angler can take his choice. I put up at the Rising Sun, and being opposite the Post-office I found it very convenient. Every comfort can be obtained here at most moderate charges. The proprietor keeps three cows, makes his own butter, and grows his own vegetables, and to those anglers wishing to operate upon the Ouse from the village of Holywell (up-stream) to about a mile below the old drain (down-stream), mentioned above, cannot do better than make Swavesey their head-quarters.

The following notes from the picturesque village of Holywell, to Over or Brown's Hill, Staunch (down-stream), by a Swavesey resident, will, I think, prove both useful and interesting.

"On the Swavesey side of the river, in the second field from the ferry, we come to Ducker's Hole. It contains chiefly pike, perch, roach, bream, and a few chub. On various occasions I have caught a good number of pike here. The next hole is near a drain, which runs from Swavesey parish to the flood-gates. See previous remarks. It is in the bend of the river, and can be best fished for pike in winter, as the water round about, in which the pike shelter, is full of weeds and rushes, and they prevent it being fished. This swim contains principally pike, roach, perch, and chub. I have caught a good many large chub with a *small* gudgeon, and good sport may be expected when *fresh water* is being let off from St. Ives Staunch, which is situated a few miles above Holywell, and below the former town. I have also taken numerous pike, more especially near the end of the season, when they draw near the drain *to go up* and spawn."

But why, may I ask, are they not prevented from going up to spawn? I ask this question more particularly, because, during my stay, a yokel threw out of this same drain about two stone of splendid bream with a fork. I was spoken to about these bream by several of the inhabitants, who expressed their indignation at this wholesale slaughter. I also counted from twelve to fifteen splendid specimen on the surface (dead), seven or eight in the old dock, near the railway gate-house, and the remainder in various parts of the drain below. It is just possible that most of these fish had worked up in a rise of water, or, as my informant Mr. B. said, in the spawning season; but I have an idea that a good strong grating fixed near the flood-gates would prevent this exodus from the main stream. If I am correct, then all I can say is the sooner something is done the better, but sooner catch them before going up to spawn than let them go up either to die, or be thrown out of their native element in the manner described. Opinions varied as to what killed these fish. They have been removed since this was written.

"This year," says my informant, "I took a pike over 9lb., and two others about 7lb. each, and several under this weight. Most of these I got spinning, and *skull-dragged them out*."

Explanation is here necessary. On Mr. B. telling me that he thought nothing of lifting or dragging out, as the case might be, pike 4lb., 5lb., or 6lb. in weight, I could not help replying, "My dear sir, you are a regular old skull-dragger." I thought he would have cracked his sides with laughing, as the saying is. "Do you mean to say that you allow them no grace, no play?" "None whatever. I have them out in no time." What a rod and line he must use. I could no more lift or drag out a pike 5lb. or 6lb. with the rod and line I use than fly.

I hope these few remarks on skull-dragging will be the means of making him amend his ways, and consequently obtain more sport in playing and killing his fish.

He goes on to say: "Below this point there are no special *holes* until one comes to the field next to the Over Staunch, where the water is deep for a good distance, but near Overcourt, or Overcote, there is a noted place for pike, called the Oiser Holt. This is the best after a flood, when the pike get left here, but from the mill to Overcote there is deep water and plenty of perch, roach, and bream."

I saw a shoal of the latter near the Oiser Holt the other evening.

"Near the staunch there is a good stretch of deep water, which contains pike, perch, roach, and especially bream. The last Saturday in July, coming home from the staunch, the water was alive with them for chains in length" (the ordinary measuring chain is here meant, I imagine). "Very large ones kept 'rolling' or priming. The best time to catch them is at night or early morning."

This account substantiates my previous remarks; but do not imagine that you can catch these fish, or for the matter of that any other species of fish I have mentioned, as you please, or you will be greatly mistaken. They want catching, and a good job, too, I say, because if anglers could catch fish in these days as easily as they could even within my recollection, you may take my word there would very soon be no fish left; and this is one reason why fair rod and line fishing will never deplete a river, more especially if ANGLERS would return all fish under a certain size.

"The swim should be baited before fishing for two or three days with grains and lobs. The grains can be purchased of the brewers for sixpence per bushel. I say two or three days before, as they appear to have no settled hole, and it is difficult to get them together."

How very true this is. He says, "I do not like night fishing myself, it is too risky. I tried it two years ago. The bream happened to be on the top near the staunch, and I baited a place a few chains off the staunch with grains, greaves, and lobs; they stopped on the move back, and I and another angler caught between twenty and thirty fish between 3lb. and 4lb. each, and two or three weighed nearly 4lb. each. Night fishing to be pleasant wants a good companion, a tent, and a man to prepare hot drink (tea or coffee is no doubt meant), plenty to eat, and then, if the bream feed, the night passes very well."

I should think it would, very well indeed.

"The night that we took the fish was the only fair take that season. A few stray salmon trout find their way near the staunch. I saw one last Saturday about 5lb. jump out of the water; he was also seen on Sunday lying quietly by the side.

"Several other anglers tried repeatedly for the bream, but without success; and I very much doubt if the swim was baited well enough."

Novices please note.

"The best time for pike is from November to March, when the weeds a re dead and there is not so much harbour for the fish. The best baits are dace, roach, and gudgeon. In the summer months I think nothing is so good as a large gudgeon either for spinning or live bait fishing. I have caught large fish with them. The best water, especially for pike, is when the doors are open at St. Ives Staunch, and fresh water comes down. This invariably makes the fish feed. After a flood, when the water begins to clear, sometimes a good many pike are taken; then sharp runs near holes should be fished. Church hole, opposite the Church above Holywell, is a very noted place; and on one occasion this year, after a flood, a great number were taken in this hole.

"The best time for bream is July, August, and September, especially if the weather is hot; then night, or early morning, is the best time. In different parts of the river during the summer months many large chub are taken with the artificial fly." But more of this anon.

(To be continued.)

NEW PATENTS.

The following is a list of New Piscatorial Patents, specially compiled for the *F. G.* by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Patent Agents and Engineers, 76, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., authorised Attorneys for the Procuration of English and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks:—

15,945.—A. Kelly, of London, for "Improved fishing appliance."

Deal Pier.—Mr. Sachs writes: "The fishing from Deal Pier is first-rate now. One angler last week took one hundred and seventy with rod and line; another nearly three hundred from a boat, also with rod and line. You have to go early to procure a standing-place, as there are so many ladies, children, and gentlemen with rod and hand-lines crowding all the best places."

Iceland and Faroe Cod Fishing.—The Lerwick schooner *Sapphire* has arrived in Shetland, from Faroe and Iceland, with 20,000 cod. She reports the other vessels having takes of from 4,000 to 22,000. The first English smack—*Gleaner*, of London—put into Shapinshay (Orkney and Shetland Isles) recently, and landed twenty tons of salt fish. She had about thirty score cod in the well.

Herrings in the Feugh!—An old cobbler out Finzean way, in the Aberdeenshire district, was in the way of taking a holiday to himself up the famous Feugh, which runs through the Forest of Birse. He usually took the water on the rise, and with "worming" up and "flying" down, made almost certain of a good basket. After which, he foregathered in the keeper's house for a chat over a real "birse" cup, in the land of Birse—the Feugh flows through the parish of Birse. Not long ago the annual excursion came off, a good basket was made, and Jonathan, rejoicing over his glorious luck, deposited his basket at the keeper's door, and soon got well into the afternoon's carousal. Now that very August afternoon, the travelling merchant had brought the keeper's wife two dozen fresh herrings, which were to be salted and used as occasion required, and these were in a basin not far from where the basket was carefully deposited, for Jonathan left them always outside in case he might be expected to leave some behind, otherwise the day's outing would have been shorn of the chiefest glory when the conquering hero returned home, had he parted with any of the trophies of the fight. Now it entered into the wicked head of the keeper's daughter—a spoiled little vixen, to play a joke on Jonathan, and especially as she had just heard that Mr. Joseph Farquharson, the artist, wanted to see him on his way home, to have a look at his trout, as he was introducing an angler with his catch into a landscape he was just finishing—to exchange the herring for the trout. Jonathan duly met Mr. Farquharson, and with many a broad grin and proud smile, prepared to show him his basket, remarking at the same time, as he undid the lid and tumbled his catch on to the grass, that "never had better luck in his life!" When lo, he started to his feet, fairly dumbfoundered and clean off his head. "Gracious! what has happened to me to-day?" he blurted out. "I'll tell you what," remarked Mr. Farquharson, as he took the situation in at a glance, "a shoal of herrings have got up the Feugh with the recent rains." The cobbler believes it to this day.—Dod.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

THREE GOOD THINGS.

We have pleasure in drawing the attention of our readers to Messrs. Hardy Brothers' new "Perfect" creel, new combined spear and butt cap, and new patent "Perfect" reel. We are at a loss to understand why Messrs. Hardy should attach the term "Perfect" to their new creel and reel. The probability is that they will before long introduce yet further improvements in both articles; it will not be Messrs. Hardy, as we have always known them, if they do not. When we inform our readers that the name is the principal thing we have to complain of in these latest additions to the angler's outfit, it will be easily understood that we think very highly of them.

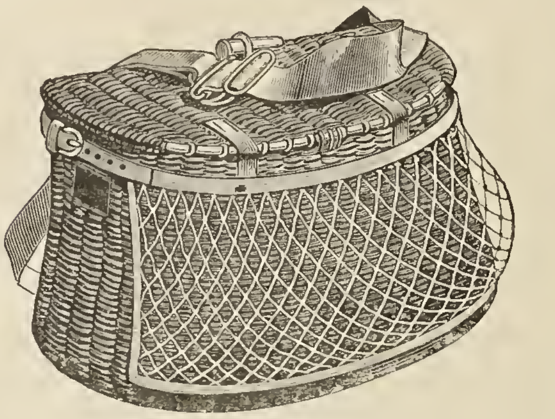

Fig. 1.—The New "Perfect" Creel.

Undoubtedly the new creel, in combination with the tackle-book strapped to the lid, will rapidly gain favour; we have seen few so-called improvements in creels that have impressed us so favourably. In the first place, the lid is made to open *from* the angler and not *against* him, and as the patent tackle-book is strapped to the inside of the lid, the action of opening the basket exposes and places it at a convenient distance for the angler to select a fly (see Fig. 2). The lid opening the reverse way is a happy idea; and the tackle-book has many advantages in addition to the one of being strapped to the lid, the fear of dropping it in the water being thus reduced to a minimum. It carries a great number of either eyed-flies or flies attached to gut, casts, &c. In the case of flies attached to gut, the gut is held quite straight; and a single fly can be selected or returned to its place after use, without disturbing the others. In placing flies in the book, the hook is stuck into the cork bar, and the gut is gently pulled straight and then slipped under the little discs, which hold it firm. When a fly is required it is simply drawn out. The discs used in this book are a decided improvement upon any idea of holding the gut we have hitherto seen. The book can also be carried in the pocket if preferred. The creel has a top compartment for carrying lunch, &c., the same as in Messrs. Hardy's Carry-all Creel. This compartment can be removed when necessary, as, for instance, in carrying wading brogues; it is waterproof and can be used as a seat; when not required, it is fastened with straps to the bottom of the basket quite out of the way. This new creel is also fitted with a net (see Fig. 1), which will be found most useful and convenient for carrying a light coat, wading stockings, &c., and in fishing comes in handy for dropping fish into, besides accommodating any fish too large for the creel. The straps on the creel are so arranged that they can be worn either the same as a knapsack in travelling, or slung from the shoulder in the ordinary way in fishing.

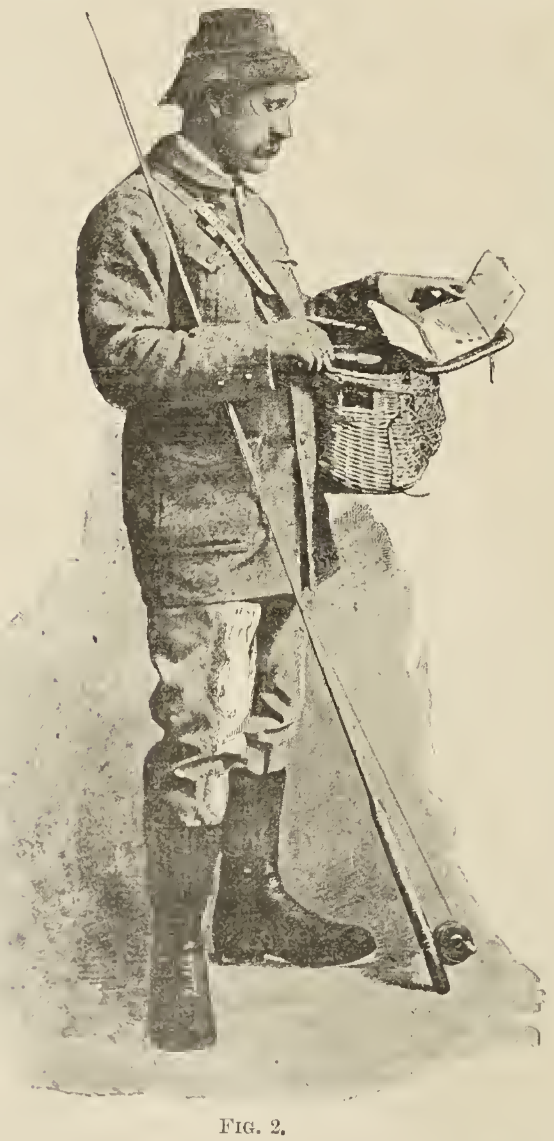

Fig. 2.

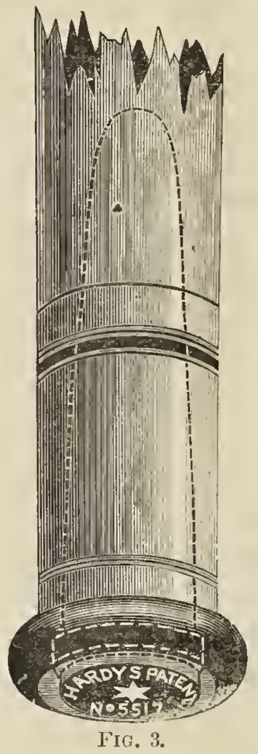

Fig. 3.

The knapsack arrangement will be found a wonderfully welcome relief when 10lb., 15lb., or 20lb. of fish are to be carried any distance. Altogether we consider this a very excellent creel, and without hesitation recommend it to the notice of our readers.

Those anglers who use a rod with a spear to it know the bother there often is with the ordinary screw spear and butt-cap. It is never available when wanted—either lost or left at home; and when the spear is in use there is always the chance of the butt-screw being lost. Some time back we had a "patent" spear attached to one of our rods, and now Messrs. Hardy have patented a combined spear and butt-cap very much like it.

Messrs. Hardy say: "We have had the difficulties and inconveniences connected with the ordinary spear and butt-cap so often presented to us by customers asking for extra spears or screw-buttons, that we have long felt the necessity for an improvement. After a lot of experiments in more or less complicated arrangements, we at last devised this simple arrangement, which completely solves the problem." This "new" spear will very probably find favour in the eyes of many of our readers. It really is an ingenious and useful arrangement; and as Messrs. Hardy are prepared not only to fit it to any new rod ordered, but also to any old rod at a small charge, it will soon be placed in the hands of anglers, and survive or fall upon its merits. We are inclined to look at it favourably. The spear has a double-turned flange at end, as may be seen by the dotted lines in Fig. 3, under the screw-cap. This flange is screwed up between the butt-cap and the end of the socket, whichever position it is in (Fig. 3 is the spear not in use, Fig. 4 the same in use), and is firmly held. This arrangement is undoubtedly neater than the old.

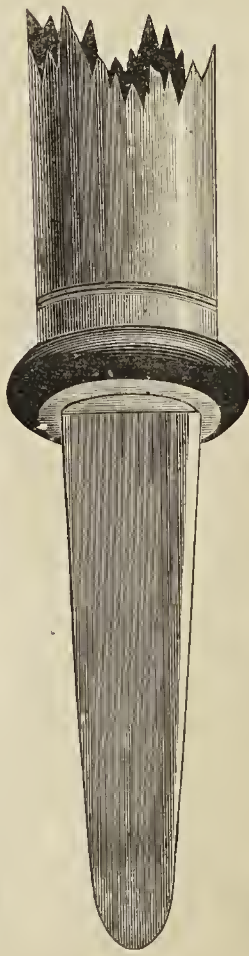

Fig. 4.

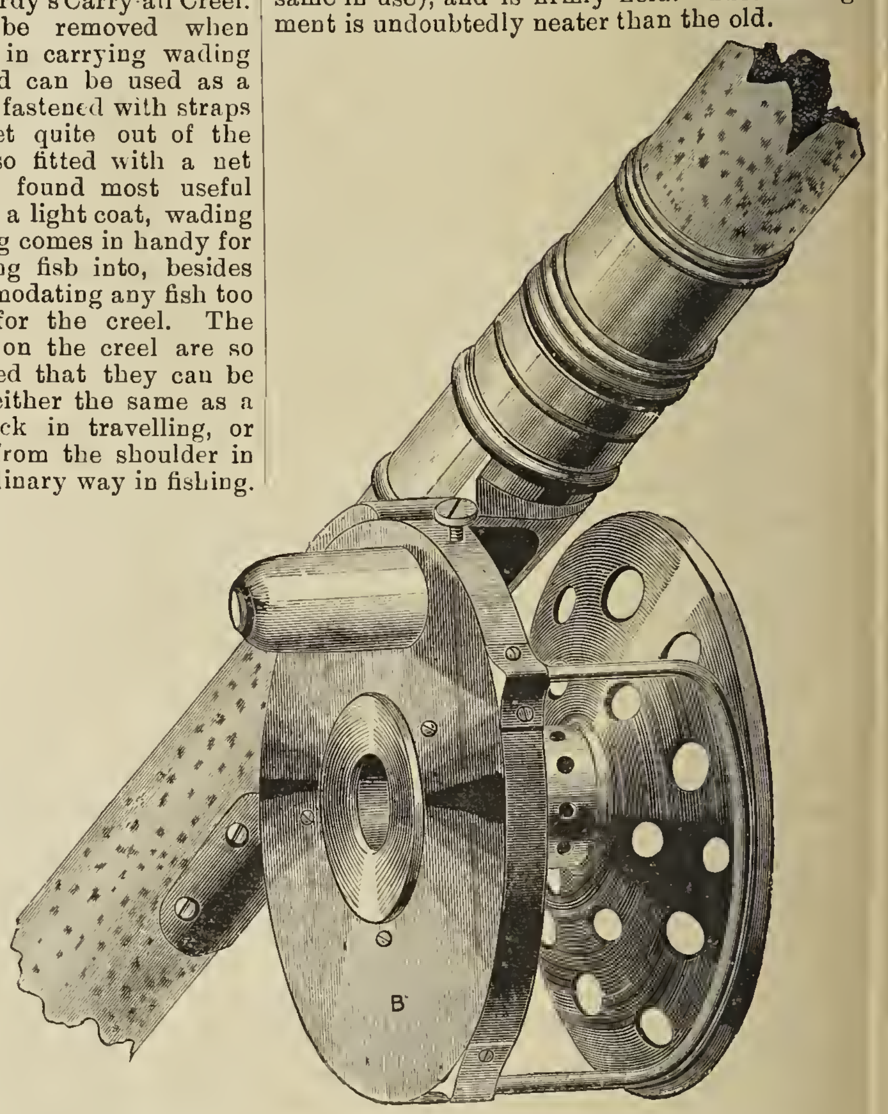

Fig. 5.

In Hardy's new patent reel we certainly have something that is calculated to open the eyes of the users of the ordinary revolving-plate winch. Before proceeding to make any remarks upon it we will quote the makers' assertion.

Messrs. Hardy say of their new "Perfect" reel: "It has been made the subject-matter for two patents, and has occupied us some three years in perfecting, having made and practically tested something like twelve varieties of construction before we arrived at the present form, which we fearlessly claim to be the best reel made anywhere, and this we do with a full knowledge of all reels manufactured on either side of the Atlantic."

Messrs. Hardy have indisputably produced something new in winches. We have continually advocated in these columns the use of simple and well-made reels; in fact, we have always asserted, and still believe, that the more simple an angler's outfit is the better. It is not to be wondered at, then, that we at first were inclined to think this new reel was far too complicated and delicate to ever become popular among fishermen, as we know very well that ninety-nine out of a hundred anglers would think the same as we did the first time they saw it. After a careful examination, we are inclined to considerably modify our first impression. The Messrs. Hardy's skill and knowledge as practical engineers have been of immense use in its production, and, as a matter of fact, although the winch is made up of many minor parts, it is so constructed that only three main parts compose it, and it can be taken to pieces to clean instantly without any mechanical knowledge or tools. We are also inclined to believe that it will not easily get out of order. It is very light, and has great line-carrying capacity. It is ventilating, and assists, so far as possible, in drying the line. It has a regulating check, and running upon ball bearings or beautifully-fitted ordinary bearings, is almost frictionless. When fitted with these ball bearings, we fear the reel will be liable to come to grief. Messrs. Hardy have decided to make these winches with ball bearings, or with plain ones, so that the angler can please himself which he has; we have a sincere regard for the plain bearings, they run quite freely enough for us. There are several "points" about this new winch that impress us very favourably: before proceeding to enumerate them, however, we will endeavour to make clear the illustrations to our readers. Fig. 5 is the reel complete. Figs. 6, 7, and 8 are the three main parts composing it. To arrange them it is only necessary to pass bearing *G* on Fig. 7 through bearing on Fig. 8 from the opposite side to that shown in illustration Fig. 8; screw nozzle on *B* (Fig. 6) into *G*, and there you are, don't you know. To take the reel to pieces, the handle on the revolving plate *B* is turned the reverse way while holding *G*, this unscrews *B* from *G*, and once more there you are. This is the only metal reel we know of where *the whole of the working parts are one side, and can be got at so easily.* In Fig. 8, which shows the working parts, *A* is the regulator by which the *exact* stiffness of the ratchet can be easily and instantly adjusted; *C* is the spring against which *A* is more or less tightly screwed; this in its turn presses against *B*, the tongue, which in its turn acts upon the ratchet (or check).

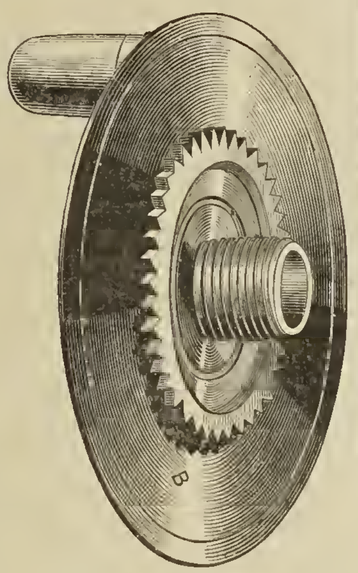

FIG. 6.

Now for the "points" that impress us favourably. We consider this adjustable check by far the best ever produced, and sincerely hope Messrs. Hardy will see their way clear to attach it to their ordinary winches. It will be seen that the tongue *B*, instead of merely being fastened by a screw or rivet to the cheek of the winch, is slotted and works on a pivot on the underside of the bridge *F* and against the cushion spring *E*, which regulates to a nicety the pressure on the ratchet wheel, and takes up such wear and tear as occurs, by pressing the tongue a little more forward to the work. The regulating screw *A*, is thus really acting upon spring *C and spring F* simultaneously, hence the really beautifully smooth check that is produced. In the reverse motion of a reel, that is when the line is drawn off, it is an enormous advantage to be able to regulate the resistance so as to prevent any possible breakage of tackle by too hard striking or holding a fish, and with this adjustable check arrangement, it can be done to the most minute degree by regulating the reel and striking from it. A trout reel can be so regulated that you can strike without breaking gossamer gut or tearing out a 000 hook, and by turning down screw *A* the same reel can be made strong enough in the "check" to strike No. 7 Limericks into sea trout, or even stronger for spinning a minnow. The regulating, as we have said, is effected perfectly and simply, and we congratulate Messrs. Hardy upon their production.

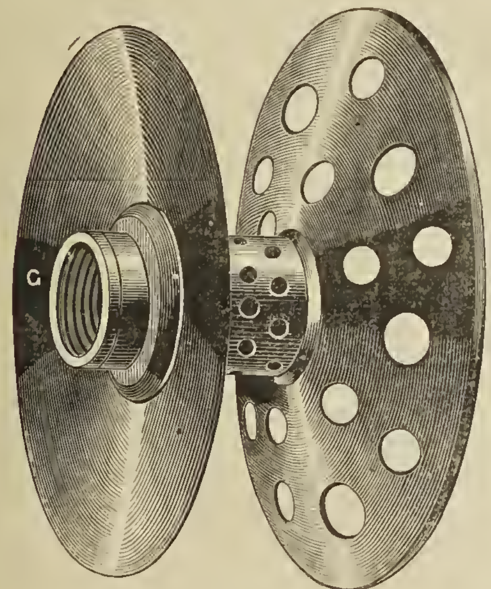

FIG. 7.

The creel, the spear, and the reel, we need hardly say, are turned out in a workmanlike manner. Messrs. Hardy, from the commencement, have adopted the motto, "What is worth doing at all is worth doing well."

These patents are illustrated in the new "Price List and Anglers' Guide," of one hundred and eighty pages, which Messrs. Hardy have just issued, and in which we notice some new and original rods, notably the "N.B. Perfection" (page 108), the "Ideal" (109), the "Hi. Regan" (116), the "Norwegian" (121), the "Hollingsworth" (122), the Thames punt, also a cyclist's and a dapping-rod for the Irish lakes.

There are also new things in landing-nets, illustrated; in fact, this is more than a mere trade catalogue, as it is interspersed with valuable hints on fishing in New Zealand, Norway, &c. (see pages 24 to 30). There is also a detailed account of Messrs. Hardy's factory, a chapter devoted to the manufacture of rods, and a scientific treatise on rods and their relative values, which all should read. We advise our readers to send three penny stamps for a list, which will be forwarded them on receipt.

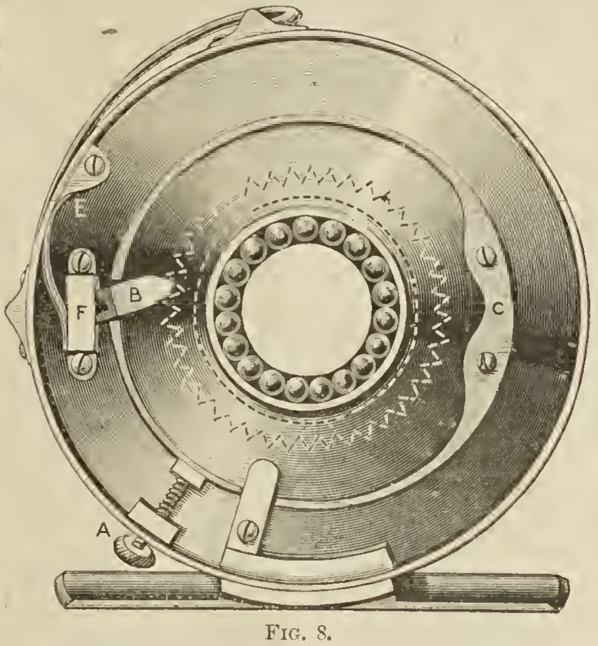

FIG. 8.

Waltoniana

THE Thames is in fine fishing order just now, and for a week or more the sport should be excellent, especially among the roach, whose appetites are nearly always improved by showery weather. In some parts of the North, fishing has for a time been put a stop to by excessive floods.

IT is satisfactory to find that at last steps are being taken to put a stop to the snatching of fish at the outfall of Surbiton sewer. At the end of last week, a coachman, named Henning, was summoned for taking fish out of the Thames by "snatching," and for taking an undersized bream. Douglas, the head keeper of the T.A.P.S., was the principal witness for the prosecution, and the case was clearly proved. Henning was fishing with unbaited hooks, with which he foul-hooked several fish, one being a bream two inches under the regulation size. The magistrates inflicted a fine of £1 for the snatching, but dismissed the summons for taking undersized fish; but why, history doth not tell. I was glad to see that in this, as in some other recent poaching cases, the solicitor of the Thames Conservancy prosecuted. Formerly, proceedings of this kind had to be undertaken by private persons, or by fishery associations, the Conservators apparently thinking it no part of their duty to preserve fish.

THERE is, generally speaking, so much grumbling about rivers with no water, and salmon which will not rise, that a really cheerful, contented letter from an angling friend is almost worth framing. Two friends write in the most satisfied way of their sport. One was salmon fishing in Scotland in July, and had only one blank day. On the best day of all, the ladies of the party came out to make tea, and demanded to be spectators of the killing of a salmon. "I did my best," writes my friend, "by reserving a cast until they came, and was successful, as I stuck into and killed a very larky fresh-run 18lb. fish, which showed plenty of sport, and made them all wildly excited. I had previously killed three grilse." Now was not that all very nice and just as it should be? How often does one kill a salmon when ladies come out especially to see it done? I don't think I ever heard of it before, except perhaps in Mr. Black's charming descriptions of life in the Highlands. Who does not remember that morning when Sheila got up early and took the young man fresh from Piccadilly down to the Whitewater, and how readily the fish rose until the sun over-rose the fish and put them down?

ANOTHER friend, who is numbered among the great ones of Burlington House, writes from the Austrian Tyrol: "We have been here since the middle of June, 5,000ft. up among snow-capped mountains, to be 'braced' after the influenza. I think the cold winds, the bright sun, and the thin wine have nearly done it, so we shall soon run down to Florence. There is a river here about as large as the association water at Newbury which connects two lakes. It is about one and a-half miles from lake to lake, and I have it all to myself. I wanted to rent it, but the fishermen who own the fishery would only agree to let me fish on condition I paid for all the fish caught; consequently I carefully placed in the water all but those we required for the table. These men all day net the lakes, but leave the river alone. Some days I could fill my basket two or three times over, mostly with trout. The largest I have taken are about 17in long, and they all love the Coch-y-bondhu. The other fish here are called asche. They take a fly freely, are very game, and lie in rapid water. I wonder what they are in English? They run up to about two pounds in weight." Asche is the German name for grayling.

THE general public have, I fear, a somewhat hazy notion of the question which is to be fought out in respect to the Norfolk Broads. That an attempt is being made to close waters on which for many years they have boated, fished, and shot, they fully understand, but the whys and the wherefores of the matter are not well understood. To understand the question it is necessary to know something of the history of the broads. If they had no particular history, it is perfectly clear that so far as they are affected by the tide, the public would have the right to shoot, fish, and navigate; but beyond tidal limits the case might well be different. According to Mr. T. J. Woodrow, C.C., who is the hon. sec. of the Norfolk Broads Protection Society, the address of which is 18, Coleman-street, London, an arm of the sea once covered the whole of the flat district, which is now generally spoken of as the Norfolk Broads. The sea receded to the present coast-line, and various tortuous waterways were left, some of them, where the land was flat and low-lying, widening out into large meres. The land and water left by the receding sea belonged to the king. About a hundred years ago the people of the district obtained an Act of Parliament to divide up this land belonging to the Crown among themselves. Anyone who protested against this scramble for public property probably had his mouth shut by being given a good slice of the land in question. Some of the awards under these Allotment Acts went so far as to grant certain of the broads to the persons who were given the adjoining land. Mr. Woodrow says that there were saving clauses in the Acts in favour of the King and the public, and that there was nothing in the Acts implying an intention to make private property of the rivers and broads. Hickling Broad, the piece of water concerning which the legal battle is to be fought, was one of those allotted under the powers supposed to be given by the Allotment Acts, and should the alleged owner win his case, a very large number of the broads will be closed to the public. The result will, as in many other legal fights, depend upon the amount of money forthcoming for the purposes of the defence, and it is to be hoped that the society will be most liberally supported in their endeavour to preserve for anglers and others one of the finest and most remarkable holiday-grounds, or waters, in the kingdom.

Templar.

SOME NOTES ON THE ARUN.

By the O. O. D.

To those who are going to fish in the match on the 4th of October the following notes may be useful.

Ground-Baiting.

The best time to bait a swim at the time of fishing is when the tide is at its lowest; and in so strong a running stream it is most essential that the ground-bait should be very stiff and adhesive, and a few good lumps of ordinary paste cast into the swim, as it adheres to the bottom, looks nice, white, and tempting for a considerable portion of the flow, and, I have no doubt, helps to attract and keep the fish in the swim. Of course I am presuming the novice or stranger is fishing with a tight line without either reel or float, and must necessarily know to a few inches where the bullet or weight will rest, and therefore knows exactly where to throw his ground-bait. This is a great advantage gained when adopting the above method; as no matter what length of line is used, the bait is nearly always in the same spot.

It is perfectly useless throwing in bread and bran on a strong run up (the tides differ), for it quickly disperses, and takes the fish out of the swim instead of detaining them; and by carefully baiting a swim at the lowest part of the tide the angler obtains the benefit both on the run up and run down.

Endeavour to choose a swim that will suit both rod and line to a nicety—*i.e.*, neither too far out nor too close in, but where there is a chance of taking a few fish. I mention this in passing, because in some swims there can be no question that the fish keep a good distance out—more on the outer edge than in the centre of an eddy.

Fish hard—*i.e.*, try all you know—the last hour of the ebb and the first hour of the run up. About an hour before high water is the best time of all; but, as a rule, when the water is perfectly still the fish leave off biting. I have repeatedly noticed this; and if too much ground-bait has not been thrown in, this is the time to bait up again, for the fish will often begin to bite directly the ebb makes a stream.

It is almost impossible to harbour fish in a tidal river like the Arun (even in eddies) for the strong under-current soon breaks up the ground-bait and carries it away.

I know several anglers who have tried baiting up swims, but they never derived any real benefit from it, and in my humble opinion it does not pay for time and trouble. Of course I am speaking of that portion from Timberley Bridge, down-stream past Bury, Houghton, Stoke, to Arundel, where the best fish are taken in the early part of the season.

It appears to me that after spawning the fish affect the strong water, but do not go very far beyond Arundel. This remark does not apply to eels and flounders, although I have seen some remarkably good eels and flounders taken in the first field below Houghton Bridge.

Have Two Swims.

The novice should find two swims—one to fish on the run up of the tide, and the other on the run down. This should not be forgotten, because a swim quiet at the flood is often the reverse on the ebb, and *vice versa*. A considerable number of fish come up on one side of the river, and return on the other; and it is for this reason the man in a boat (a well-known figure) can fish swims other anglers cannot, and can frequently show fish when they cannot; but the reverse of this is sometimes the case, for with all his advantages even he has drawn a blank.

I think it is more difficult to get bream on the feed in a tidal river than a non-tidal one, and this is saying a great deal; but one may often take three or four fish in the former river when one cannot take a fish in the latter, and for this reason I should think they were more dispersed.

Landing Net.

The net should be deep, and at least 16in. in diameter; the handle light, strong, and as long as possible. On a neap tide a telescopic handle 10ft. in length is not a bit too long. The water runs out, and leaves the banks exposed to such an extent that it is impossible to reach the fish with an ordinary net, and scores of anglers have lost many a good fish because they were unable to reach them and get them over the mud.

Baits.

The two best baits for bream are a nice clean fresh bit of white paste and the brandling worm, but there are occasions when bream will take the marsh worm. I have never heard the lob spoken of as a good bait, except to catch a large eel or two. Both bream and roach fight well in this river; and, as a rule, they are clean, and not so slimy as those caught in ponds and slow-running rivers. These latter fish do not seem to have half the strength to pull, and the only way I can account for it is that their muscles, &c., are brought more into play in contending against the extra strong tides.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

THE THURSO RIVER.

Sir,—A paragraph appeared in your "Notes" column last week, in which the writer points out the uselessness of extending the rod fishing on the Thurso river farther into the autumn than the present close time—viz., 14th September, and says, "It matters little, since the Thurso has no migration of the true autumn salmon, nor is it likely that it could be made to have it." This is a bold assertion, and shows that the writer is not acquainted with the river. Allow me to inform you that clean or *true* salmon ascend the Thurso every month in the year, though, of course, as in all other rivers, in some months the run is stronger than in others. I have no doubt, since the nets have been taken off, that in a very few years the autumn run of *true* salmon would improve as sure as that of the early spring run.

I remember many years ago, when salmon were more plentiful in the Thurso than they have been of late years, that the late Mr. Dunbar was applied to for a salmon in the close season (October) for a very auspicious event which was to be celebrated in the south. With one sweep of a small trout-net in Lochmore he caught two *true* autumn-run salmon of large size, and frequently have they been got in the net while catching the spawners for their ova for artificial breeding purposes. These are facts which can be corroborated by others, and go to prove conclusively that *true* salmon do ascend the Thurso in the autumn. Leave off the nets, and there will be still more of them. Apart from that, why should the Thurso be closed a whole month earlier than any other river in the north? I remember when it was open till October 15.—Yours truly, Volta.

AN "EXTRAORDINARY SPECTACLE."

Sir,—Happy, thrice happy, must that "elderly gentleman," or General, have been, who, "seated in a punt," was catching fish in the Serpentine one day last week. The *Fishing Gazette* has often advocated the throwing open of the London park waters (under proper conditions as to time, &c.) to the anglers. If His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, as Ranger of Hyde and other Royal Parks, gave the elderly ex-Army angler permission to fish for the purpose of eliciting public opinion, his Grace could hardly have done a better thing, because in thus magnifying his office as Ranger, he has necessarily led people to think that the said elderly gentleman has metaphorically "broken the ice" by casting his line, with the impaled worm or gentle, and enticing the fish to "bite," and bite they did, as it is said the elderly angler was successful. Now before the Serpentine had got its deep and dangerous holes partially filled, and the other portions seen to, the water was thought to be "hungry" in the sense that no rushes and other marine growths formed a harbour for the natural food of fish. One solitary large perch was the only fish found to be in the waters some years since; but now, possibly owing to some of the fine fish from the Round Pond in Kensington Gardens having been turned into the Serpentine, and these, thriving under the altered conditions of the latter water, says a writer in *Truth*, "began to" grow "foul from overcrowding!" Happy state of things! If a General can fish in the Hyde Park water, why should not the general public, and in the Regent's Park lake, too, of which the Commander-in-Chief is also Ranger? His Grace would thus win the acclaim of "troops" of grateful and gratified friends among the Democracy, as also among the "gilded youth," who, as boys, have hitherto delighted to sail their tiny craft on the placid waters in grand old Hyde Park. Then the London County Council might well follow the "lead" set by Royal graciousness, and all the public Parks' and Commons' waters could be stocked for the reasonable use of Her Majesty's loyal lieges. The lakes, or some of them, in Battersea Park, are "fed" by the tide from the Thames, and once the fish and eels run thence, most all of them remain and grow and probably increase. Thousands of eels were taken out and carted off to Billingsgate Market. Old Father Thames would be nearly always "feeding" this water, and elongated "danglers" would vary the capture of the silvery dace and roach. A happy coincidence often gives a new current to one's thoughts. May the "elderly gentleman" and General combined, fishing from a punt in the Serpentine, be the forerunner of thousands of law-abiding anglers enjoying a little sport in the Royal and the People's Parks, for one and all would then throw up their "castors" in honour of the Duke of Cambridge, "as the friend of London anglers!"—Yours, &c., Rus.

A CAUTION.

Sir,—On Sunday, the 12th inst., two so-called anglers were fishing in the Abbey river, at Chertsey, without the permission of the Chertsey A.S., to whom the right of fishing belongs, and when caught by the police they gave the names of G. Reynolds and A. Sylos, and stated that they were members of the Bermondsey Bros. A. S. Now, as we have no members of those names on our books, and also on that particular date our members were fishing a competition at Pulborough, for their September series of prizes, I should like those individuals to come out of their shells, and clear the stigma they have cast on the above society.—Yours faithfully, A. Conn,

Secretary, Bermondsey Bros. A. S.

Grange-road, Bermondsey.

PIKE FISHING IN IRELAND.

Dear Sir,—I find that I have misinterpreted "Templar's" remarks regarding Lough Derg pike. I am so sorry.

One word only shall I add. Neither Killaloe nor its fishing—whether salmon, grilse, trout, or pike—require any "cracking up," and if it did, I would not stoop to such contemptible work.—Yours faithfully. S. J. Hurley.

Abbey View, Killaloe.

THE MARLOW ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

Sir,—In the *Fishing Gazette* of the 5th inst., remarks are made with respect to the beneficial effects of the Angling Associations of Reading, Henley, and Marlow. The two former thrive, and are doing good work; but the latter is defunct, and matters connected with the district it formerly supervised show signs of the neglected condition into which it has fallen. For instance, it is illegal to lay night-lines; nevertheless they are systematically laid, and professional fishermen and others have seen them being laid without taking any heed. It is possible—in fact, very probable—that in many parts of the river illegal practices are indulged in, and it is desirable that the river should be protected. The Conservators appoint a watcher, who travels many miles in the course of the day, and his duties certainly could not be increased; besides which, irregularities could only be kept in check by local supervision—by persons likely to know something of the movements of suspicious characters. However, there the case is; the question being whether things must be left as they are, with the chance, if not certainty, of drifting from bad to worse.—Yours, &c., A Subscriber.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1891.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

THE old established St. George's Society, held their annual dinner on Tuesday evening, at the Waggon and Horse Inn, Birmingham. The dinner was well attended, and was served up by Host Bushell, in first-class style. On the centre tables were placed the prizes which were won at the late contest at Pershore. After the cloth was removed, the toast, "Success to the St. George's Angling Society," was given by Mr. Randford, vice-chairman, and responded to by Mr. A. G. Hall, chairman and president of the society. Mr. C. White then gave the toast, "Success to the Birmingham Angling Association," to which Mr. T. Coles responded, and in his reply drew the attention of the members to the great question the association had in hand, of securing water for the use of the members, and concluded by saying he should like to see all the barren and depleted water in the Midlands stocked with fish, so as to provide sport for the members. The toast of "Success to the Angler's Benevolent Society," was ably given by the chairman, and responded to Mr. A. Keeling. The evening, by this time getting far advanced, it was decided to proceed with the prize distribution, which was as follows: Mr. C. Wainwright, first, silver challenge cup, which he has to win again before it becomes his property, a marble clock, given by the club, a splendid album, for the largest fish taken in the contest, and a large portrait of himself given by Mr. Broadhead, who also presented a similar portrait to the society. Mr. Randford. second, a large travelling bag; Mr. C. Cottrell, third, writing desk; Mr. Bowler, fourth, tea service; Mr. Callaway, fifth, dinner service; Mr. Rose, sixth, a barometer; Mr. Havers, seventh, toilet service; Mr. H. Atwood, eighth, fancy lamp; Mr. T. Smith, ninth, glass flower stand; Mr. Moore, tenth, field glasses; Mr. Starsmore, eleventh, set of carvers in case; Mr. T. Bayliss, twelfth, biscuit jar; Mr. H. Waller, thirteenth, cruet. About twenty prizes were left for a future contest. At the conclusion of the distribution of prizes, a hearty vote of thanks was given to Mr. A. Keeling, for the manner in which he had conducted the contest. To this, Mr. Keeling suitably replied, and a little harmony brought a very enjoyable evening to a close. The next contest in connection with this society will be decided at the next meeting, and in all probability take place on October 18 next.

THE Birmingham Tenby Society held their consolation scramble on the 20th inst. at Tradley. There were about ten prizes left from the annual contest, and these were considerably augmented by a special prize given by the worthy host, Mr. C. Cottrell, and other gentlemen connected with the society. The weather was considerably against anything like a fair representation of the members turning out to the contest, as a long time previous to the departure of the train a steady rain began to come down, and the outlook predicted a wet day, so under the circumstances only about twenty of the members made the journey to Croxall, from which station to Fradley the members walked, which is a distance of something like four miles. This was accomplished in a drizzling rain, and on account of this the contest was delayed until twelve o'clock, when the contest began in a steady downpour, and one o'clock the rain came down in torrents; still the members kept to their places, and braved the storm, which towards the latter part of the contest passed away, and at 2.30 the whistle was sounded to cease fishing, when the weighing in of the fish was got through at the Swan Inn, the result of which was: Mr. Horobin, first; Mr. C. Wainwright, second; Mr. Bowler, third; Mr. T. Bayliss, fourth, &c. The prizes will be distributed at the next meeting of the society. The superintendence of the contest was in the hands of Mr. Coles, who, as usual, gave every satisfaction.

THE Good Intent Society, which meet at the Vine Inn, Hurst-street, Birmingham, held their annual contest at Alrewas, on the 20th instant. The contest commenced about ten o'clock, in a drizzling rain, and finished at twelve o'clock, which enabled the members to adjourn to see the weighing in, and to miss the heavy shower of rain that came on at about this time, and lasted for about an hour. The members did not turn out in their full strength, which was owing to the weather. The prizes were of a useful kind, and were to the number of sixteen, the chief prize being given by the host, Mr. Bowlby. Nearly the whole of the competitors—which numbered about twenty—succeeded in taking fish, and will be presented with a prize. Messrs. Penn and Matthouse acted as referees, and weighed the fish, the result being: Mr. Potter, first; Mr. W. Bird, second: Mr. Blackwell, third. After the weighing in the members spent the afternoon at the waterside, and succeeded in taking some decent fish, which consisted chiefly of roach.

A FISHING contest, which is open to all members of the Provincial Angling Association, is announced to take place on Oct. 11, when the following prizes will be competed for: 1st prize, silver centre stop watch, value £5; and five money prizes, consisting of purses of £1 10s., £1, 15s., 10s., and 5s. respectively. The contest will be within twenty-five miles of Birmingham, and will be fished under the association rules. All entries to be made to Mr. C. Littlehales, White Hart Inn, Great Hampton-row. All persons wishing to enter must produce their association cards at time of entering.

A MEETING of the committee of the Birmingham Angling Association will be held on Thursday evening next, Oct. 1, at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield, chair taken at 8.30. A special general meeting will be held on Oct. 8 next, when the question of acquiring water for the members of the Birmingham Association will be discussed.

Holloway's Pills.—In general debility, mental depression and nervous irritability there is no medicine which operates so like a charm as these famous Pills. They purify the blood, soothe and strengthen the nerves and system, give tone to the stomach, elevate the spirits, and, in fact, make the patient sensible of a total and most delightful revolution in his whole system. They may be commended most unreservedly as the very best family medicine in existence. Though so powerfully efficacious, they are singularly mild in their operation, and might be given with perfect confidence to delicate women and young children. They contain not a grain of mercury, or any other noxious substance, and cannot do harm. Delicate females and all persons of sedentary habits will find these Pills a blessing.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

WE have at last come to the conclusion, that if any fishing is to be had this season, we must turn out and face the climatic conditions whatever they may be; consequently many ardent anglers can testify to the wet and cold of the past week or ten days, by the various legacies in the shape of colds and rheumatism, which their daring has caused them to inherit.

A FURTHER proof of the excellent fishing to be had in Ireland is furnished by the report to hand from Mr. Cordwell and the party who accompanied him. During their tour they visited Loughs Rath, Golvagh, and Nadarragh; and rivers Ballintra and Merver. The sport was invariably good wherever they went, and the abundance of trout rewarded their efforts. Lough Rath was perhaps the best of the lot, for in one hour twenty trout were killed by one angler. Salmon were not so plentiful, but eels were to be had at anytime. Mr. Cordwell varied his fishing by taking views of the different places visited and many beautiful scenes can now be recalled to his mind by the aid of photographs.

THE delegates, at their meeting at Hyde on Sept. 12, are said to have put a rod in pickle for one of the officials of the Manchester district.

THE Wellington Club is particularly unfortunate with its contests. On Saturday last was held the adjourned contest for prizes unawarded from the initial contest. Again wretched sport was obtained; still seven prizes were won, and even now six prizes are awaiting winners.

THE Levenshulme Club are continually troubled with the visits of trespassers and others who refuse to acknowledge the rights of this club, although they rent and preserve the waters. Some example will have to be made of the offenders before the nuisance can be effectually stopped. On the 19th, the club fished a match, with the following result: Messrs. C. H. Robinson, one; R. C. Rainshaw, two; W. Mycock, three; J. Marsland, four; S. Makin, five. Several specials were awarded.

THE Openshaw Club turned out in goodly numbers to contest for valuable prizes in private waters at Hyde. Plenty of fish were taken, but the weights are wisely withheld. The winners were—Messrs. W. Threlkeld, one; W. Watson, two; S. Eyres, three; J. H. Chadwick, four; E. Tudor, five; G. Yates, six; seven, eight, and nine divided between Messrs. F. Wood, L. Peels, and T. Jones.

THE Hulme Crown Club intend turning out to fish for a valuable prize offered by the jovial host of the Crown, together with a goodly sum of added money. Lostock is the rendezvous, and Saturday, the 26th, the day fixed for the competition.

MR. NEWTON, of Salford, has been elected by rotation to fill the presidential chair just vacated by Mr. Oliver in the delegate council of the Amalgamated anglers. Mr. Newton will receive the support of all true sportsmen.

THE members of the Biskette Club, who generally are ardent anglers have been very energetic during the past week or so. Messrs. McCrirrick, Allsop, Brooks, Limpé, Cliffe, and others have been out and good sport reported. This club never contests for prizes, or takes any part in matches, but nevertheless contains several anglers of note.

So long as weighing in of fish is allowed to take place on loose principles so long will fraud be attempted. Only last week, a large eel got into a hole owing to the overflow of a Cheshire mere, it was at once captured—a hook attached, and a neighbouring cottage visited with the hope of getting a voucher. The would-be swindler, however, caught a tartar, for he had applied to a watcher who at once refused and retained the fish, which weighed several pounds.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

ANGLING generally has somewhat improved during the last few days, but bottom fishing is not what it should be on the Yare, by Buckenham and Cantley, as owing to the lack of heavy rains the water is as clear as crystal. This, of course, has been in favour of the pike fisher, and several pike have been taken with both natural and artificial baits. A few bream have also succumbed to some of our local sportsmen. On Wednesday about 2½st. (14lb. to 1st.) of these fish, weighing from 1lb. to 2lb. each, were taken by one rod.

AT Brundall and Surlingham a few roach have been taken but no fish of any size. The river here is in very good condition owing to the few showers that fell at the end of last week which imparted a good colour to the water, but this colour has all cleared off by the time the ebb water reaches Rockland Dyke.

ON the Bure some fair catches of bream and pike have been made. On Monday 2st. of bream were taken by two rods, near the Cockshoot Dyke at Horning, and 3st. of the same fish were caught close to Horning Church. At Wroxham some pike and perch have been taken (spinning) during the week, one gentleman having a fair basket of pike from 3lb. to 5lb. each.

ON the 13th inst. a splendid brace of bream were taken at Drayton on the Wensum, one weighing 7lb. 2oz., the other exactly 8lb., the latter fish measured 25½in. They are being set up by a local naturalist, and will make a handsome case.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

OUR anglers have experienced a marked change in the state of the weather, and there is little doubt that it has influenced the feeding habit of all coarse fish. From the extreme heat of summer we have descended almost to the chilly blasts of November. On Tuesday the river rose something like a foot, and the rise was bringing down a considerable quantity of loose weed. This, at all times, is most annoying to the angler. There has not been a heavy downfall of rain locally, so that the Dove and Derwent were perhaps responsible for the temporary influx. On Saturday afternoon Mr. W. Hall, of the Nottingham Wellington Angling Society, patronised the Kelham subscription water and returned with four or five very big barbel, the heaviest making a fraction over 6lb. It was recorded on the society's books. Recently, several remarkably fine specimen of barbel have been weighed in. A report had obtained local publicity that a fish of above 11lb. had been killed in the district, but I confess I have not, after much trouble, been able to trace its captor. Some people will publish anything. At Colwick Mr. W. Parr has landed a barbel of 5½lb.; and amongst a score caught by Mr. H. Benson, of Derby, at Sutton-on-Trent, was one of 5lb. Last Thursday I fished a private water near Newark with Mr. F. W. Kidd, the well-known auctioneer of Nottingham, and between us we had seven handsome barbel, Mr. Kidd letting the "hammer" go in thoroughly workmanlike fashion. Sport has fallen off at Shardlow, the principal takes comprising chub and dace; but at King's Mills, Mr. T. Wood, the lessee, has been busy amongst the barbel, getting one splendid fish weighing within a fraction of 7lb. Mr. Clayton, of the Wellingtonians, wound up an enjoyable holiday last week with about 60lb. of fish, chiefly barbel; and I hear that an extraordinary catch has been effected in the lower waters by Mr. Thoms and party, of Radford. Maggots have accounted for respectable bags of roach at Burton, Joyce, and Stoke, and in the private waters of the Earl of Carnarvon a few large chub have succumbed to the wasp grub. At Hilford, on Saturday, a local gentleman took a number of fine roach with the artificial fly, and these fish ought now to rise freely. The killing fly on Saturday was dressed with dark outside woodcock and orange body, ribbed with gold.

I HAVE frequently in my Notes referred to the Barton Fishery and its close proximity to Nottingham. The water contains a large quantity of heavy roach and bream, besides barbel, chub, dace, perch, and pike. It is well looked after by Mr. Roadley, the lessee, and his son, but they cannot always be about. Recently the abuse of setting lines has been introduced by a gentleman (?) living in the immediate neighbourhood. And they do contain hooks, I assure you. No person calling himself a true angler would ever think of using lines, either by day or by night, and in calling public attention to the case under notice, I do hope that Mr. Roadley, in the interests of his subscribers, will put down the practice with a strong hand. If every frequenter of the fishery is allowed to set a long line, rigged up with a score or more hooks, it will very soon be good-bye to fish of all descriptions, with the exception, perhaps, of pike. Recently, in the length, some very fair bags of roach have been obtained with creed wheat and maggots. Last Wednesday, three Nottingham gentlemen tried the deep water above the stakes with old milk cheese, their object being to get the barbel on. The hole had been baited on the Monday, and the trio seemed extremely sanguine of scoring heavily. But the scoring was reversed. Tackle was lost, baits were soon washed off, and in the end the basket contained one solitary eel, killed, I understand, with the worm. Cheese fishing is out of date. Greaves is all right, although this is frequently overdone.

ENCOURAGING the hait is a new wrinkle to fishermen. The other evening at Wilford three villagers were legering for eels on the gravels below the church wall, when one of them succeeded in landing, with the worm, thirteen beautiful fish. His friends were using the same description of bait, but as ill-luck would have it they failed to get a pull. When about to depart, well satisfied with his evening's enjoyment, Mr. B. observed that he was extremely sorry his friends were so unsuccessful, "Yes," replied one, "you must charm your bait." "Charm," retorted Mr. B., "I don't know what you mean. I may tell you, however, that I always encourage my worm before placing it on the hook." "Do you?" queried the friend, looking in his face with astonishment. "Perhaps you may kindly explain." Mr. B.: "Oh, yes. Why, when I was catching 'em didn't you notice that I always, in baiting, spit on my worm? You do the same, and you won't regret it. Good night!"

ASTRONOMER JOSEPH (W. Joe Minion), of Host Sam Pogson's Society, the Bowling Green Inn, Canal-street, Nottingham, is immensely flattered by my Notes which appeared last week. He has told many of his club friends that he feels under a very deep debt of gratitude to me. Henceforth the original name of *Minion* will be entirely dropped out of his vocabulary. Astronomer Joseph is high sounding, and likely enough, he says, to win him an important public appointment. Since Sunday he has actually sent me a large bronze medal in acknowledgment of my feeble efforts on his behalf. In a peculiarly-worded letter accompanying the gift, he says: "Dear Sir,—Kindly accept the enclosed. As a work of art I may tell you the Astronomer has been busy. The creatures like scorpions entwined in affectionate embrace round the rim of the medal are my favourites—eels. There are three, and you will notice an 'infant' specimen representing my coat of arms in the centre. The four were slain by me in my own 'eclery' at Radcliffe, on the night of my memorable astro-discoveries. On the obverse side you will readily detect the face of your own dear familiar (yes, Joseph, it is a very good likeness). I am in the act of raising to my frothy (mouth, I presume) a fine old flagon with the words inscribed thereon 'S. P.'s C. H. B. A. Sam Pogson's celebrated home-brewed ale.' Of course, I am aware you are a 'T. T.,' but of late Sam's best has really been in it. The other emblems, including the leg of mutton, are intended to represent ground-bait." Joseph then winds up as follows: "Now do you think you could do me a favour? In the Astro-club, which is very expensive, I have not, so far, weighed in a fish. I want you, on the extreme quiet, to kill me an extra specimen dace. I care not whether it comes from Willington or Great Ponton. Failing a dace I could put up with a high-bred (Joe, whatever do you mean?—hybrid). The 'Innocents' cannot detect the difference; at all events, I must be first either by hook or by crook. Next week, you know is our fair, so look out for a goose." Yes, Joseph, goose enough! The bird is already ordered, and the wife has the sage and onions in the larder. I am afraid I cannot well comply with your request. You shall have a day's fishing with me, and I promise you that *all* the fish killed shall be thrown into one basket, so that you may take your choice.

A "RED LETTER" day amongst the chub, by Mr. F. F. Cleaver (ex-sheriff of Nottingham), Mr. Sam Pogson, and Mr. Jno. Theaker, assisted, of course, by the "Astronomer," unavoidably stands over until my next batch of Notes.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

FROM the *Montgomeryshire Express* this week I glean some very interesting information concerning the fish passes in the weirs on the Severn and their efficiency or non-efficiency. Beyond question the bad state of these so-called passes (?) have to answer in a great measure for the decrease of salmon in the river, and until considerable improvement is made in them there cannot be a very material increase in the number of Severn salmon, especially in the upper waters, notwithstanding any other measures which the Board of Conservators may take to achieve this desirable result. Commencing with the upper waters themselves, there is a weir at Llanidloes which possesses no fish pass whatever, but the expediency of allowing salmon to pass it is questioned, for above it the tributaries are of such small dimensions that the spawning fish would encounter many dangers including that to which they would be exposed from the ravages of the poacher whose operations cannot be superintended as they ought by the very small staff of watchers that are employed by the Severn Conservators. Moreover, there is already accessible ample spawning grounds, sufficient for the requirements of more salmon than fishermen in the upper waters can ever hope to see in them. As to the weirs at Llanidloes, the same remarks apply, and from here to Newtown one small weir only exists—namely, Milford weir, which a little alteration in its pass would make satisfactory. In the locality of Newtown the weirs possess passes of a fairly efficient nature, and coming lower down we have Penarth weir, which also has a good pass. On the Rhiew a new weir has been constructed, minus a pass; but if the upper water fishermen are met fairly by the lower interests there is no doubt the owners would be persuaded to remedy this defect. At Kelkewydd Mill, near Welshpool, there is a most elaborately constructed weir, but it is a strange fact that the fish do not utilise it in their migration, but prefer ascending outside it. From here the fish do not encounter any but natural obstacles of a comparatively unimportant nature until a little below Shrewsbury, though at the same time it may be mentioned there are some rather bad obstacles on the Vyrnwy and Tanat. At Preston Boats, within a mile or two of Shrewsbury, there is a somewhat doubtfully-constructed weir established by an old Act of Parliament, which it would take very powerful action to abolish. In this there are several eel-traps which, when set, appear to be capable of taking pretty nearly everything in the shape of fish that passes down the river. "It is said," says the *Montgomeryshire Express*, "that hundreds of 'smolts,' or young salmon, on their way to the sea, get killed in the baskets. If this is so, the Board of Conservators would be doing a good action if they were to buy up the fishery, and throw the river open, for the destruction of young salmon cannot but have a prejudicial effect on the fisheries." This is the opinion of the writer of the article from which I quote the above; but I am inclined to think that the eel-traps complained of do not do such injury to the salmon as set forth. Passing in from Preston Boats to below Stourport, a wide stretch of water, in which the fish have a comparatively clear run, there appears the formidable Lincoln weir, which has been the subject of much comment in the recent discussions at the meetings of the Board of Conservators on this question, and during the inquiries held by the committee as to the efficiency of the passes. Here there is what is confidently described by many qualified judges as a most inefficient pass, and it is stated that the salmon attempting to leap it "drop back in scores," and some even remain to spawn below the weir. In this fish-pass the gradient is 1in. in 9in., and it is further alleged to be so badly constructed that "it is a wonder any fish ever get into the upper waters." If such a lamentable state of things exists here as is stated—and I have no reason to believe anything to the contrary—it is to be hoped that Mr. Berrington, Her Majesty's Inspector of Fisheries, will in his report condemn the pass as inefficient, and propose the adoption of very extensive remedial measures, and also with regard to those weirs below Lincoln. Holt weir is about the worst below here, but with a trifling alteration this can be made passable. The Beverley, Diglis, Tewkesbury, and other weirs are described as not being such obstacles to the passage of salmon as those of Holt and Lincoln.

THERE was a considerable rise in the river on Monday and Tuesday, and the water became discoloured, but is now in fair condition again. Some good catches of pike, trout, and rough fish have been made lately, and the trout season is ending fairly well, but without doubt it has been in this district an exceptionally poor one. Mr. Dixon has been about the most successful local angler, and some heavy trout have fallen to his share. The professional anglers, too, have had a fair number of fish, but the average angler has come very badly off. One veteran flyfisher tells me that he has had only thirteen trout during the whole of the season.

MR. BERRINGTON, the Chief Inspector of Fisheries, made a tour down the Severn, last week, for the purpose of inspecting the weirs and fish passes, with a view to the ultimate improvement of those which are defective. I gather that in the lower waters there are at least two in which he would suggest alterations should be made, so as to enable salmon to have a more free passage to the spawning beds in the upper waters, and if this be so, the visit of inspection will be productive of good results. I understand that the report of the inspector will probably be presented to the Severn Board of Conservators, at their next meeting, which promises to be a very important one as far as the interests of the salmon fishers of the Severn are concerned.

THE Severn Board of Conservators will hold a meeting on October 1, and the upper water district members who desire the adoption of radical reforms in regard to the salmon fishing should be present to support the new bye-law which will be proposed for adoption, by which it is intended to stop the salmon fishing for rods as well as nets during the month of February. It is not to be expected by any means that this will meet with the approval of all the members, but it has a very good object in view—namely, to get more breeding fish in the upper waters and to enable them to have a free run.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

ANGLING matters have during the week been tolerably quiet. The weather has not been imminently suited to the favourable exposition of the piscatorial art. Grayling fishing is now the great thing, especially on the West Riding rivers; whilst pike are attracting a goodly number of rodsters. Legering seems to be the favourite method of capture, but many fish with the paternoster or the float. Just now the paternoster is the most advantageous method, and will amply repay any little trouble. The most interesting event in fishing circles is the pending competition of the Leeds Amalgamated Society of Anglers. The final arrangements have now been concluded, and entries have been closed. The first four prizes will be of the following value: £5, £3, £2, and £1 10s., and as I hear that over two hundred and sixty competitors have entered the lists, some capital sport should be experienced. Some time ago, I gave the conditions of the contest in the *F. G.*, and I soon hope to chronicle a successful and not unenjoyable day's fishing.

THE fourth and last match of the season, under the auspices of the Fulford Friendly Angling Society, was held on Wednesday last, by permission of Mr. Stephen Young, at Scoreby. The weather was fine, and the water in tolerably good condition, so that fair sport was obtainable. There were some sixteen competitors, and the eight prizes which were offered were won by the following:—First, Mr. E. Walker; second, Mr. C. W. Arminson; third, Mr. E. Staines; fourth, Mr. A. Simpson; fifth, Mr. J. W. Davison; sixth, Mr. J. A. Green; seventh, Mr. J. E. Wilkinson; eighth, Mr. A. W. White. The rod presented by Captain W. H. Key, J.P., the president of the society, for the best average of the year, was secured by Mr. C. W. Arminson, of Church-street; and a special prize for the best catch of eels for the day was secured by Mr. J. W. Davison.

THE Swale at Morton, was on Saturday, the *locale* of a very interesting event, being the September competition of the Darlington Silver Trout Anglers' Association, in which the Association's Silver Cup and the President's Silver Medal were the chief incentives to emulation. The waters in the district are preserved by Mr. George W. Elliot, M.P., for the Richmond Division, and the necessary permission to fish was cordially granted by him. The number of entrants was thirty-eight, whilst the prizes numbered thirty-one. The water was in good condition, and the weather favourable, so that thirty-two of the competitors weighed in. The contest was of a "go-as-you-please" character, and the anglers fished with either fly or bottom. The first nine anglers caught 22lb. of fish, the winner of the first prize—the cup, and the president's (Mr. C. H. Sharpe) medal, was Mr. M. Swainston, with 4lb. 7¼oz.; the second was Mr. F. Varley, 4lb. 6oz; third, Mr. J. Timms, 4lb. 4½oz. The other competitors took prizes in the order named: Messrs. Wood, Hooper, Judson, W. Timms, W. Maughan, Arnett, Taylor, Hindle, J. Dutton, Gillam, Bagshaw, Rutherford, Lloyd, Cummins, Sowden, Greenhalgh, Watson, Martin, Temple, Smythe, Hull, Sharp, Honeyman, Teasdale, and Prince; while J. Maughan and Goddard tied for the last prize. The special prize for the best dish was won by J. Timms, and that for the heaviest single fish by J. Wood. The hon. secretary (Mr. J. Smythe) conducted the party, and weighed in.

THE Royal Exchange Angling Society fished their annual match at School-house Hill, near Malton, the other day. "It is hoped," said the secretary, in the preliminary announcement, "that members will turn up in good force. There is a good prize offered for visitors, and each member is supposed to bring a friend to fish for same." As a consequence, the competition was a decided success, between thirty and forty members and friends taking part in it. A saloon carriage attached to the train, leaving at 9.5 a.m., conveyed the party to their destination, and every arrangement was made for their comfort and convenience when arriving there. The most successful competitors were: First, G. Allenby, 3lb. 9½oz.; second, T. Johnson, 3lb. 6oz.; third, W. G. Royston, 3lb. 2¾oz.; fourth, Arthur Scott, 3lb. ½oz.; fifth, H. Blaker, 1lb. 15¾oz.; sixth, E. Rowley, 1lb. 11½oz. The visitor's prize was won by Mr. Bramfitt, with 3lb. ¼oz. The prizes will be distributed on the second Tuesday in October.

THE annual dinner and distribution of prizes in connection with the Albert Angling Society, took place on the 17th inst., at the Prince Albert Inn, Newtown, when about forty members and visitors sat down to a capital spread. The chair was occupied by the president (Mr. John Lee), and the vice-chair by Mr. John Orange. Amongst the visitors were Mr. E. Moore, President of the Leeds and District Amalgamated Society of Anglers; Mr. Mason, of the Golden Fleece Angling Club; Mr. Greenhill, of the Holbeck Angling Club; and Mr. Maney. The prizes won at the recent competition were distributed as follows: First, J. C. Moss, 1lb. 4oz.; second, J. Williams, 10oz.; third, J, Kirby, 9½oz.; fourth, S. Betts, 9oz.; fifth, G. Weekly, 8oz.; and sixth, J. Bywood, 6½oz. A most pleasing feature of the evening was the presentation to the hon. sec. (Mr. Sedgwick), which was made by the society, as a recognition of his untiring efforts on behalf of the society.

THE City of York Angling Association held its last match of the season on Tuesday, in the river Nidd, just above its junction with the Ouse. The weather was very unfavourable, rain falling all the day, and the river contained nearly 4ft. of flood water. Hence, under such adverse conditions, the kill was only small. There were seventeen competitors, and the following were the winners of the eleven prizes: First, Mr. Smith, 2lb. 10½oz.; second, Mr. Wood, 2lb. 9oz.; third, Mr. Broadley, 1lb. 14½oz.; fourth, Mr. T. Simpson, 1lb. 13½oz.; fifth, Mr. Robinson, 1lb. 3oz.; sixth, Mr. P. Lund, 1lb. ½oz.; seventh and eighth, Mr. Schumacker, and Mr. Bean 12½oz. each; ninth, Mr. Coop, 12oz.; tenth, Mr. T. Laverack, 6½oz.; and eleventh, Mr. Chapman, 5½oz. The arrangements was effectually carried out by Messrs. Robinson and Ankers, the hon. secretaries.

NOTES FROM IRELAND.

[FROM OUR DUBLIN CORRESPONDENT.]

ALTHOUGH the past two or three days has savoured a little of winter, the weather continues favourable to sport; but fishing on the Co. Dublin rivers is not brisk by any means; rods are getting scarce. In another week or so I imagine angling will be practically over in this large district. The waters are in fine condition now for fly-fishing, and good sport will probably mark the close of the season.

A COUPLE of remarkably big takes are reported from Lough Mask (Co. Galway) this week. Mr. Lawey, Ceylon, and Mr. Small, Melrose, have been fishing the lake, and in three days they killed two pike, one weighing 33½lb. and the other 18lb., together with 60lb. of brown trout and a couple of small perch. These takes are reported from Clonbur (Co, Galway), the headquarters of the anglers.

MR. J. C. PINKERTON, Italian Consul, Belfast, in passing through Ardglass (County Down) on Thursday last had his attention drawn to an object of wonder on exhibition in the shape of a strange fish which was caught in a fisherman's net there. It weighs ¾lb., and is certainly a curiosity. It has the head of a pike, and, from the gills to the tail, on each side, there is a bright, vivid line of deep blue a ¼in. broad. The top fins of the tail are spotted the same, and round the head and shoulders a profuse network of deep blue lines one-eighth of an inch broad, which gives the fish an unnatural appearance. Mr. Pinkerton purchased it, and is having it preserved, when he will present it to the Belfast Museum as an extraordinary specimen of a fish.

SEA angling continues brisk at the notable points around the Irish coast, and on fine days numerous boats are to be seen with lines out around Dublin Bay. At Waterville (County Kerry) this sport is excellent. In one day, Dr. Sharkey and his brother had an enormous take of whiting, gurnet, bream, pollock, and cod. My informant states that Mr. Riversdale caught two hundred and twenty fish; Mr. Batesman and his brother, one hundred and thirty-five; and Col. Rogers, near one hundred. This certainly looks spicey, whilst angling on the lake is only indifferent.

NOTES FROM TYRONE.

IN the past week angling has revived considerably on the majority of the Tyrone waters, and the season, now drawing fast to a close, bids fair to terminate well. Latterly the Ballinderry has been yielding fair trays of trout, and also the Rock, Tullagh, Kingsmill, Littlebridge, and other tributaries. The Blackwater, for the greater part of the season, has justified its nomenclature, being generally flooded and consequently muddy. All-round angling is looking up well on all its reaches just now. Such small streams as the Terrew, or Newmills river, are at present in good form for fly-fishing, and Olive and Claret have accounted for heavy bags. The Kildress stream is well stocked with small, but very game trout, that fight most wickedly when hooked. Sport, all the season, has been unusually good on it, as it escapes comparatively free from the flax-water nuisance.

ON all the above waters the season terminates on the 31st prox.

I HEAR that good runs of salmon have filled the Strule, Mourne, Finn, and other northern waters, but sport is not as good as it might be. A good many Liverpool gentlemen—among them, Mr. McKinnie, Mr. Ramsbottom, Mr. Fletcher, and Mr. Johnston—have had fair success on the Newston-Stewart reaches of the Mourne. Anglers on these waters should make the best of their time, as there are scarcely three weeks of the season to come now.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association.—The delegates met at Foresters' Hall, on Monday last, the 21st inst., at 8.30 p.m. The vice-president occupied the chair. After the minutes of the last delegate meeting, held on the 17th ult, had been read and confirmed the minutes of the General Committee, held on the 7th inst., were read, and then those of the Renting and Preservation Committee for general information. It having been decided to stop night fishing on our several fisheries on the Grand Junction, Langley, and Slough canals, posters will shortly be issued to this effect, warning anglers that the association has so decided. An arrangement has now been come to with Mr. Capon, who has lately taken the house for many years past in the occupation of Mr. Stove, for members of the association to have the privilege of passing through his ground, thus saving them much inconvenience and a long detour. An excellent arrangement regarding railway privilege tickets has also been come to that will prevent the occasional mistakes now made by some members who, not using their tickets very often, sometimes mistake their passengers' railway privilege ticket for the current one, even when they have both, owing to two years being printed on some in a conspicuous manner. The following will be substituted for same, viz.—"This ticket will expire on the 4th June, 1892," or as the case may be. The Park Angling Society, meeting at the Park Hotel, Tottenham (secretary F. Bone), was unanimously enrolled after the members of its deputation had convinced the delegates that its rules were in accordance with the requirements of the association. The Serapis Angling Society, meeting at Nevill Arms, Stoke Newington, also applied for enrolment, but as the secretary had omitted to bring a copy of its rules it was decided after a short debate, to refer the consideration of the proposal to the next General Committee. The East London Piscatorial Society applied for honorary bailiff warrants for two of its members for the Lea, viz.—Mr. Worrall (treasurer), and Mr. Myers (chairman). The application was unanimously accepted, subject to confirmation by the Lea Conservancy Board. The visiting officers next gave their reports. Mr. Manning had paid a visit to the North Western Angling Society, which, owing to a wet night, was not so well attended as usual, eight clubs only being represented. Mr. Armstrong had visited the Peckham Brothers, who had representatives from seven clubs; also to the Rodney, where fourteen clubs sent delegates. The Great Western Railway Company are also to be applied to for some further privileges on behalf of certain local anglers. A further application was made for a honorary bailiff's warrant for the association waters on behalf of Mr. Hall, secretary of Campbell United Angling Society, and for Mr. Buildham, of the Globe Angling Society, as hon. bailiff of the Lea. The roll was called at 10.30 p.m., when the following fifty-three clubs were represented: Anglers' Pride, Bostonians, Bermondsey Bros., Brunswick Bros., City of London, Cobden, Crown and Buckland, Clapham Junction, Duke of Norfolk, Dalston, Golden Barbel, Good Intent, Globe, Gresham, Greenwich, Great Eastern, Eastern Piscatorials, Hoxton Brothers, Highbury, Izaak Walton, Islington, Jubilee, Mildmay, North Eastern, North London, Midland, Allason United, Campbell, North Western, Clissold, Lady of the Lake, Islington Bros., Odds and Evens, East London, Causton, Sons of the Lea, Allason, Original Alexandra, Prince of Wales, Peckham Bros., Prince Arthur, Rodney, Royal Oak, South Belgravia, Sundial, Social Bros., Waggoners, Wenlock, Hearts of Oak, Camden, North Lambeth, Marylebone.—HON. REPORTER.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—On the 20th inst., our members were at Fittleworth, but only one was successful—viz., Mr. Harding, with roach, he winning Mr. Hill's prize. Mr. Moir also weighed in roach and bream; Mr. Potter roach and dace. The remaining prizes will be fished for on Sept. 27. All members to go where they like; all to go on same morning. The next return visit on the Central Association will take place at the above, when due notice will be given.—W. H. POTTER.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our fifth outing this season ame off on the 20th inst., at Chertsey, and there were wenty-two competitors. The four prizes were all taken s follows: Mr. B. Acland, first, with 1lb. 10¼oz. of roach; Mr. Jones, second, with 1lb. 10oz. of roach and dace; and Mr. King, with 1lb. 8oz. of roach, and also taking fourth prize with the largest roach, 10¾oz., presented by Mr. Higgenbotham, and nearly all weighed in fish. The next isit on the S.L.U.V.L. goes to the above club on Tuesday next, Sept. 29, when we hope to see a good muster.—J. RICH.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 20th inst., ur members mustered twenty strong to fish for prizes at Bourne End, and although the takes were not very large, he prizes were all taken by the following members: Mr. Humphreys winning first prize with jack; Mr. Lambert, un., second, with roach; Mr. Lambert, sen., third, with oach; Mr. G. Merry, fourth, with dace; Mr. W. Embleton, un., fifth, with roach; Mr. Dyer, sixth, with roach; Mr. J. Nunn, jun., also weighed in roach; Mr. Rowe lso weighed in, and Mr. Whitehread with some ood bream and dace. I hope that brother anglers will how up in good force on Monday, Oct. 5, as our visit on he Clerkenwell and District United takes place at the hove house, and all will be heartily welcomed on that ccasion.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, ld Kent-road.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Vednesday, with a poor attendance, which I hope will not e the case next week, the same being quarterly night, so hope they will attend early. Mr. F. W. Martin had the ood fortune on the 20th to take the first prize at he pegged-down match at Tovil, consisting of a pig and dded money. Our other members were not successful at Burnt Mill, in the club union competition. Mr. Palmer had show of fish from Pulborough on the 20th. Mr. Eldridge as another competition on Oct. 4, at Amberley. I should eel obliged to receive the prizes that are promised, early ext week.—A. G. SMITH, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's otel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The members of this club ill fish a match on Sept. 27, for three prizes; all starting y train, leaving Clapham Junction at a quarter to nine. ank only. On the 20th inst. Mr. C. Wastell weighed in a ne show of roach and dace. The date of next punt competition will be fixed on Tuesday next; all members are quested to attend.—GEO. MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, range-road.—Several members were out on the 20th, but ly three returned with fish. Mr. H. Patman, bream, ach, and dace; J. Smith, roach and dace; A. Conn, erch and roach, one perch a nice fish of 1lb. 3½oz., from e Thames.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, outhwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—We had a very nice ow of fish on the 20th inst., the following gentlemen eighing in: Mr. Wheelhouse, roach; Mr. Hacker, roach; r. Roezilier, perch; Mr. J. Barker, carp. On Wednesday ght the committee settled how and when the rest of the izes were to be fished for, elected Mr. Wertheim hon. ember, and Mr. J. Rutland working member. Just at tter end of the meeting, Messrs. J. Barker and Wilson eighed in a splendid show of roach and dace.—F. OBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose d Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the tb inst., the following weighed in: Mr. C. Davis, roach d dace; Mr. Rich, roach and dace. In the report from e river Rothor, at Fittleworth, in your last week's issue, was stated Mr. Pailes, of the Alma A. S., caught a 4lb. eam, it should have been the Bloomsbury Bros. A. S.— WARREN.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauamp-place, S.W.—On the 20th inst., several of our memrs were out, but only one weighed in; the lucky member as Mr. Coombes, who weighed in a nice jack. Mr. J. ll weighed in some nice roach, dace, and chub. All oso members who were not present on Wednesday will ease remember that the train for the competition at lenbridge leaves Victoria at 9.50 a.m. on the 27th inst.— ROACH, sec.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, unswick-road, Bromley, E.—We fished for four prizes the 20th inst., but no one took the required weights to ke a prize. The three prizes for bottom fishing will be ntested for at Dagenham Gulf on the 27th inst.; one rod ly. The jack prize, value 10s. 6d. remains open until esday, October 6. Members are allowed to fish two ys for this prize, but the heaviest one day's take to win. e had a good business meeting on Tuesday last and were ecred by the faces of some old friends. Members please te next Tuesday is half-yearly night. I trust each one ll clear up on that date, so that I may prepare the audit e same week, for presentation to the members on the lowing Tuesday. Our smoking concert takes place on esday, October 6, also distribution of prizes.—T. AWKES, sec.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—We had ice show of fish at our club-room, on the 20th inst. Mr. Flint, had 4¼lb. of roach, bream, and dace; Mr. Burton, ch, bream, and dace, 3lb. 10oz.; Mr. Gurney had 2lb. of ub and perch. Notice to members, we go out for prizes the 27th inst.; we fish for five prizes at Windsor; mems to sign at club-house on Saturday night.—J. PETHER, cretary.

Burton Piscatorials, Globe, Derby-street, King'sss.—Several of our members were out on the 20th inst., d the following were fairly successful: Messrs. C. Biggs, ., Brierly, and Richards. We fish a sweepstake at urne End on October 4, when we should like to see a d muster of members compete.—C. ROBERTS, hon. cretary.

ambridge Friendly Angling Society, Masons' ms, Titchhorne-street, Edgware-road, W.—An outing will take place on October 4, at Goring, from first gate above the ferry down to the bridge (Streatley side); all fish to weigh; one rod only; weigh in at Goring. On the 20th, Messrs. Allen and Wilson had some very nice roach from the Thames.—W. SUTTON, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 13th inst., Mr. Boxall had a nice jack; Mr. A. Chapman, jack and perch; Mr. Chapman, sen., jack; Mr. Shires, tench. On the 20th, Mr. Boxall, jack; Mr. C. Chapman, jack; Mr. Langton, jack and roach; Mr. Fitter, roach and dace; Mr. Sharp, roach; Mr. King, roach; Mr. A. Chapman, jack.—E. T. WHITE.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane. City.—The meeting was well attended on the 21st inst. A lengthy discussion on fish culture and baits emanated from Mr. A. Sowerbutts. The outing, on the 20th, at Woking did not prove to be the success that was anticipated, and nothing has been weighed in since my last report worthy of note. Mr. T. Crumplen, of the Piscatorial Society, has kindly consented to preside at the meeting on Monday next (28th inst.), when Mr. Harry Dunn reads his paper on barbel fishing. I may also mention that the meeting will open at 8.30 with the "Angler's Song," from "Izaak Walton," with additional verses by "Old Izaak," of the *People*. Mr. H. W. Sharp will be the vocalist, and will sing Lawes's original music.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—On the 13th inst., Mr. Macdonnell had dace and flounders, from Amberley. On the 20th inst., Mr. Castle weighed roach, dace, and gudgeon—the heaviest dace 8oz., from the Mole; Mr. Macdonnell, roach and perch, winning the sixth prize in the Working Men's Club Competition, at Burnt Mill.—CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—Since my last, the following members have weighed in fish—viz., Messrs. E. Wilson, 14lb. 12oz. barbel; G. Edwards, 8lb. 9½oz. barbel; Mr. Turner, 5lb. 0½oz. barbel, &c.; A. Painter, 2lb. 3oz. jack, and 1lb. 14oz. roach; Collis, 3lb. 14oz. pike; Robinson, 9lb. 9oz. barbel. On the 27th instant we fish a punt match at Staines.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—The ordinary weekly meeting was held on Monday last, Mr. J. P. Connellan in the chair. Three letters of inquiry as to membership were read. No special catches were reported. A friend of several of our members has lately purchased a number of acres of land abutting on the old Lea. It is a well-known spot, and abounds with fine fish. The only time I visited it I saw a barbel of 4lb. landed. I have reason to believe that our society will have the great privilege of angling in this water. It will now be strictly preserved, and being near Angel-road Station, will be easily accessible to our members. Good accounts still to hand of successes at our private waters, Ramsney Marsh.—HENRY HOWSE, hon. sec.

Clarence Angling Club, Red Lion Hotel, Harrow-road, Paddington, W.—The only fish took during the week were about four dozen roach, several scaling over 1lb., by our president, Mr. J. F. Dawson. Members are requested to attend early on Wednesday next, for particular business which has to be discussed.—ALF. EVANS, secretary.

Clerkenwell and District United.—The next visit on the above will be to the Amicable Waltonians, held at the Sun Tavern, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road, on Monday, October 5.—F. CASTELL, hon. sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—Only two members weighed in fish on the 20th inst., Messrs. E. Baxter and E. George, with a nice show of dace from the Thames.—A. SMITH, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 20th inst., several members were out, but the only gentlemen that were at all successful were Messrs. Webber, Thornton, and Newsome, who had a nice show of bream, roach, perch, and dace. On Tuesday, the 22nd, Mr. Bohill had a nice show of roach from the Lea. Members please note that next Tuesday is quarterly night.—S. MALBY, sec.

Eagle Angling Society, Chesnut-road, Tottenham.—Messrs. Dwyer, Ashmore, Barlow and Bennett have had some good takes of roach, dace, and perch, one perch scaling over 1lb. For the information of members living at a distance, I give a list of prizes already promised by members and friends, open to all members of this society, the first of which takes place on the 27th instant—viz., Dr. Hall's prize, one guinea. Boundary match between St. Margaret's Lock and the next lock towards Ware, river Lea, on September 27. Gross weight of any kind of fish named in book of rules to win, and to be weighed in at headquarters same day. Two rods allowed. Mr. Barlow's prize, an oil-painting, "Jack in a Roach Swim," by Roland Knight. For one day's fishing in any public water, on October 11, or Tuesday, October 13. Members competing must previously declare to the secretary which day they intend to fish. Gross weight of fish named in book of rules to win, and to be weighed in at headquarters the same day. Two rods allowed. Mr. C. Graham Bennett's prize, to the value of half-a-guinea, for the largest pike or jack caught when fishing from the society's private land at Tottenham Lock. To end of season. Mr. Longfellow's prize, to the value of half-a-guinea, for the best dace of 8oz. or over, caught in any public water. To end of season. Mr. Dyer's prize, to the value of half-a-guinea, for the best roach of 1lb. or over, caught in any public water. To end of season. Mr. E. B. Ridgway's prize, a Slater's whole cane rod, for the best perch of 1lb. or over, caught in any public water. To end of season. The secretary will be pleased to receive further offers of prizes from members and friends.—T. F. B., hon. sec.

Eastern Piscatorial Society, Spread Eagle, Gill-street, Limehouse, E.—Our match on the 20th terminated satisfactorily, all the six prizes being taken in the following order: Mr. Bartlett, first; Mr. Jones, second; Mr. Hines, third; Mr. Floyed, fourth; Mr. Boik, fifth; Mr. Turner, sixth. All the above had roach and dace, but no takes large enough for special mention.—W. BARTLETT, hon. secretary.

East London Piscatorial Society, London Hospital Tavern, Whitechapel-road, E.—Our competition outing took place on Thursday, Sept. 17th, at Hampton Court. Mr. Foggie won the first prize, £1 11s. 6d., with 3¼lb.; Mr. Ockelford, third, 10s. 6d., 1¾lb. The other prizes were not taken. Mr. Dyne and Mr. Stammers did not feel inclined to fish, so took a boat and annoyed the competitors by feeding the swans in their swims, but were rewarded for their sportsmanlike behaviour by falling in about 12ft. of water, much to the delight of the others.—FRANK WOODS, secretary.

Eustonian Angling Society, King's Head. Swinton-street, King's Cross.—Since my last report of the 16th inst., Messrs. Abbott, Baily, Drake, and Taverner, have weighed in some very good shows of roach, bream, and dace; not forgetting Mr. Taverner and Baily for their show on the 20th inst. On October 4, we have an outing at Amberley, members and friends included. We should like to see the members attend the club more regularly on Wednesday evenings.—R. MOLL, sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On the 20th inst., Mr. F. Vanhegan and Biggs, weighed in roach, dace, and bream. Gentlemen on the committee for George Watling's benefit, please notice the next meeting will take place on Monday, Sept. 28.—J. W. BIGGS, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had but a small show of fish on the 20th inst., about 12lb. of roach and bream, taken by Messrs. Riggs, Stebbings and Ballard. Other members out but not successful.—A. PAYNE, sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, Yorkminster, Foley-street, Portland-road.—On the 8th inst. Mr. Bishop weighed in a nice show of bream. On the 13th Messrs. A. W. C. Bowring, Chapman, Glaicester, De Perrian, C. Porter, J. Porter, and Bailey had a show of bream, roach, perch, rudd, and dace, 46lb. in all. On the 20th Mr. De Perrian, jack, carp, and bream, 39lb.; also Messrs. Green, Chapman, Clark, Dodd, Perkin, J. Porter, Guynan, and Bailey, some fine shows of bream, roach, dace, jack, and perch—about 100lb. in all. The train starts at nine o'clock from Paddington on the 27th for the sweepstake at Goring. Those down over-night to meet the first train down.—A. FISH, sec.

Good Intent Angling Society, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch.—Thirty of the members of the above club fished a pegged-down match at Shiplake on the 13th inst., the winners being in the following order: First, Mr. Devon, winning a handsome pair of vases, given by Mr. W. G. Wood, of the Hoxton Brothers; second, Mr. F. Grey, one guinea; third, Mr. A. Taylor, one guinea; fourth, Mr. R. Murphy; fifth, Mr. H. J. Tibbatts; sixth, Mr. Maddams; seventh, Mr. J. Smith; eighth, Mr. Snook; ninth, Mr. Bowker; tenth, Mr. Shervill; and several others took fish. On the 20th, Mr. F. Grey brought in a nice show of roach; Mr. Lyte, roach and dace; Mr. Parker, roach. On the 22nd there was a good attendance of members, when it was decided to fish for ten prizes on October 11, at Pangbourne; roam of water. Next Tuesday being quarterly night, I hope all members will make themselves free to compete.—R. MURPHY.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—On the 13th inst., Mr. J. Grande weighed a bream of 3lb. On the 20th, Mr. G. Johnson weighed perch and bream; and J. Grande roach and bream.—G. F. WEAVER, sec.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Robin Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 13th, the following members weighed in some good bream and roach from Pulborough: Messrs. W. Theobald, 2lb. 10oz.; C. Watling, 5lb. 10oz.; J. Hewitt, 7lb. 13oz.; W. Parkin, 6lb. 11oz.; one roach, 1lb. 9½oz.; C. Large, 8oz. On the 20th, Messrs. W. Parkin, 7lb. 2oz.; C. Large, 6lb. 8oz.; C. Watling, 4lb. 14oz.; H. Watling, 4lb.; W. Barnes, 6lb. 12oz.; J. Hewitt, 3lb. 2oz.; S. Hambidge, 3lb. 12oz.—J. A. FITCH, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The ordinary weekly meeting was help on Tuesday, with Mr. C. E. Fosbrooke in the chair. The prizes taken at the sea fishing competition on the 15th inst. were presented. A new member was proposed—Mr. C. S. Bentley presented an addition to the library of three engravings, for which he was thanked. Arrangements were made for the roach competition at Kelvdon next Tuesday, the 29th. There will be four prizes, namely—tackle, worth a guinea; a cigar-holder; tackle worth half a guinea; and tackle half a guinea. The member taking the best three roach to have the first choice, the next best three the second choice, the next best the third, and the next the fourth. Members intending to take part in it will please inform the secretary not later than Saturday. Train will leave Liverpool-street at 9.3 a.m. The secretary reported that the club water had been secured on a three years' lease. Those members who have not received membership tickets should apply to the secretary at once for them, as they will be required to produce them when fishing the club water. It was resolved that a book of reference should be kept, in which members who had been fishing should enter particulars of their sport, accommodation, charges, travelling, &c. It was also agreed that a sea fishing competition between members with rods, and an equal number with hand-lines should be held in the latter part of October; and Mr. Jonas offered a first prize of some article worth a guinea. Dr. Ladell, who was elected a member last week, made his first appearance, and exhibited a splendid tray of nine rudd and bream, weighing 12lb. 11½oz., caught by him the previous day on the Norfolk Broads. Mr. Parker reported having with a friend caught eighty-four flounders and plaice last Friday, and sixty-four on Saturday, many weighing over 1lb. each. Messrs. Young and Birch had caught about 30lb. of codlings off Deal. Dr. Brunton stated that one of our members, Mr. Thomas, had been salmon fishing in the Earn, and had sent him a salmon weighing about 20lb.—caught by himself. The society possesses some valuable papers that have been read before them at various times, and it was resolved, that on and after the 1st January next, each new member shall be presented with a set, on paying a year's subscription. The toast of the successful angler was proposed by Dr. Brunton, and acknowledged by Dr. Ladell, and after the usual toast of "Prosperity to the Gresham Society," the meeting separated.—JAMES TAYLER, sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 20th inst., several of our members were again out, the following bringing up some good shows: Messrs. Braham, junr., roach; Russell, roach; Muller, perch; Geeves, junr., roach and dace; A. Fish, bream and roach; Rider, a good show of perch. On Wednesday last, Mr. A. Fish brought a nice tray of bream and roach, weighing over 12lb., from Dagenham, proving there must still be plenty of fish there.—W. FENNER, secretary.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—On the 20th inst., we were saved from a blank by Mr. J. Huntly, who weighed in bream and roach. On the 27th inst., the members will fish for special prizes at Chesbunt, from the Jolly Bargeman to Aqueduct Lock.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 21, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—On the 20th instant, the following weighed in: Mr. Morris, dace and gudgeon; Mr. Wilson, jack. Messrs. Norman, Pope and Pocock also had fish, but left it too late to get to London in time to weigh in. This, I think, is a great pity, as we might have had a nice show if it had not been for the laxity of these members.—SNAP.

Islington Angling Society, Jubilee House, Hornsey Rise, N.—The usual fortnightly meeting was held on Monday last, at Jubilee House, Hornsey Rise, when Mr. C.

S. Bentley was in the chair. A new member was balloted for and elected, and some other formal business transacted. —C. DOWNING, sec.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—We met on the 17th inst. when it was arranged to have our return visit on No. 2 Eastern District, on Monday, Oct. 5; secretaries will kindly accept this, if not receiving notice. We hope to have a bumper, as it is the first at the new house; W. Stretch in chair. The following weighed in on the 20th inst.: Mr. Key, roach, chub, and gudgeon; Mr. Holder, roach. Others were out but got up too late to weigh in.—J. H. HERBERT, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members will compete for four special prizes on October 4; also for two ditto on Wednesday, October 7. Competitors may choose their own fishing waters for these prizes; no competitor to leave London before five a.m. on the days of the competition. Messrs. C. Layton and A. Furlong weighed in roach on the 20th inst. On Wednesday, 23rd inst., Mr. T. Harrison exhibited three grand roach, which weighed as follows: 2lb. 0¼oz., 2lb. 2oz., 2lb. 2¾oz.; total weight, 6lb. 5¼oz. Mr. H. C. Wheatley weighed in roach on the same day.—H. B.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—A half-yearly meeting of this association will be held at the Queen of England Hotel, Goldhawk-road, W., on Friday evening, October 2, at 8.30 a.m., for the purpose of laying before the members the position of the association, when it is hoped all members will attend. At a committee meeting held on Friday, the 18th, one new angling member was elected, bringing our total number of members up to one hundred and sixteen. Messrs. Carter, Coates, Evans, and Mason have weighed in some very nice shows of roach during the past week.—T. SALTER, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville, N. — On the 20th inst., the following members weighed in: Mr. More, bream and roach; Mr. Belton, roach and dace; Messrs. Watling, Ellingham and Webster, roach; Mr. Richardson, jack; Mr. Porter, while chub fishing with cheese paste at Windsor, hooked and landed a fine barbel, 6lb. 2oz.—W. WATLING, secretary.

Liverpool Angling Association.—Our friendly contest with the St. Helen's Angling Association, in the Knowsley Water, on the 17th, duly came off, and we were beaten after a close and exciting finish, as one decent fish would have made all the difference. However, more power to your elbows, Messrs. Durie, Woods, and Co. We had a dinner in the evening at our club house, at which there was a very good muster. Mr. H. Leaman presided, and Mr. I. H. Jones faced him. A first-class dinner was provided by Mr. Thomas Bush, and it received due recognition. Everything passed off well, the harmony was of a high order, the punch ditto, and twelve o'clock arrived all too soon. Our St. Helen's friends were very much pleased with their reception, and taken altogether, it was a function that leaves behind it pleasant memories, brings everyone nearer to each other, and cements friendships, which last a life time.—R. WOOLFALL.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 20th inst., our members were at various waters, but the sport was not so good as on the previous week. Mr. Sansom had a nice show of tench; Messrs. Mellish, Pearce, A. Clark, and Tilley having roach and dace.—W. F. PEARCE.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road.—We had a good meeting on Tuesday, and three new members joined; we still have room for a few more should any gentleman wish to join. We fish the Welsh Harp on September 27, for prizes, open to all honorary members; the train leaves St. Pancras at 7.30. I hope all who have given their names in will not fail to put in an appearance. Mr. E. Jones saved us from a blank on the 27th inst., with some nice roach. Messrs. H. Stains and S. Higham were also out, but could get no fish to reach our standard.—J. COMBER, sec.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—I have to remind members that the principal competition of the year will take place on Thursday, October 8, for the following valuable prizes: Mr. W. F. Grimmett, plate, five guineas; Mr. J. Sceats, champagne, three guineas; Mr. R. La Feuillade, plate, two guineas; Mr. R. Mudd, plate, one guinea; Mr. J. Webb, cash, half-a-guinea —honorary members only; Mr. J. Bussy, plate, one guinea; Mr. A. Matthews, tackle, half-a-guinea—visitors, non-members only; Mr. A. Matthews, tackle, half-a-guinea. As a large number of friends may be expected to take part in the outing, it has been decided that two parties be formed, one to fish at Richmond, and the other at Twickenham, from punts. In order that I may obtain the necessary punts, members will kindly inform me by October 1 whether they or any of their friends propose to take part in the competition. It has been suggested that we have dinner at the club-house on our return. This and other details will be arranged at the meeting on October 1, when the members' attendance is particularly requested. For the competition to-day (Thursday, Sept. 24), Mr. Newbury was first with 20lb. 3¾oz. barbel, chub, and roach; Mr. Hearn, second; Mr. Bassett, third; Mr. Matthews, fourth; Mr. Grimmett, fifth; Mr. Turnham, sixth. Mr. Mudd was disqualified under Rule 18.—A. E. B.

North Eastern Angling Society, City Arms, 9, Blomfield-street, London-wall, E.C.—On the 17th instant, the return visit was held at the above. There was a fair muster, considering it was a wet night. However, we had a very pleasant evening. Last week two of our members had a couple of days' rod fishing off Deal, and met with very good sport, having a take of three hundred and twelve fish.—G. T. F. FLETCHER, sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W.—On the 17th inst., Mr. Schultz, jun., weighed in roach:—the following members weighed in on the 20th, Messrs. Harris, four, jack and a nice perch, 1lb. 2oz.; Holman, jack; Weaver, roach; and Billings, roach and dace. We have a new member for election next week. I wish to remind members and friends of the brake outing to Boxmoor, on the 27th inst., where there are several prizes to be fished for, and our worthy secretary has endeavoured to secure every accommodation for the excursionists.—G. S.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—The next visit of the No. 1 Eastern District will be held at the above house, on Wednesday, October 7, when any club not having notice will kindly accept this as such. On the 20th inst. several of our members were out, but met with only poor success, Messrs. Bygraves, Harrison, and Neville alone bringing in a few roach and perch.—J. CUTHBERT, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Mr. Daniels had a good show of fish on the 20th inst. from Amberley, and several other members weighed in. A general meeting will take place on Wednesday next, to elect a secretary, and arrange a match. Members are requested to attend.—A. TOZER, secretary.

Piscatorial Society, Mona Hotel, Covent Garden.—Mr. Harden, Sept. 14 and 16, one grilse 9lb., one salmon, 20lb.; Mr. Foreman, Sept. 14, 16, and 17, one grilse, 8lb., three salmon, 51lb.; Sept. 18 and 19, two salmon, 42lb.; total, 124lb.; caught on the Tay. Mr. Fennings, Sept. 23, three large grayling and numerous large roach. Mr. Walker, a splendid lot of large roach, all over 1lb., some nearly 2lb. each, from Ringwood.—T. R. S.

Prince Albert Angling Society, Prince Albert, Lincoln-street, Bow-road.—Our members were out on the 20th inst., the result being, Mr. Fitts, first, with 3lb. 8oz. of bream; also Mr. Ford, 2lb. 8oz. of bream; and Mr. Jessop, roach and dace. We have some important business to discuss on October 1. I hope all members will attend on this occasion as several prizes have been given to the club. —F. PIGNATELLI, hon. sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—On the 20th inst., several members went out to various places on the Thames and association waters when the undermentioned members weighed in: Mr. Harris, perch and roach; Mr. Rowe, bream. I beg to remind members that a match has been arranged to take place on October 18, and that I hope to see a good muster on Wednesday next, to make the conditions and pay up arrears.—J. HARRIS, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—There was only a moderate show of fish on the 20th, Mr. Ivermee having a fine show of tench; Mr. Buckland, bream; Clist and Axworthy having fish. There was a special meeting held on Wednesday last, when it was decided to fish for a series of prizes drawn from the funds of the society, to take place on October 11, from Bourne End Railway Bridge to Marlow Point. All to start by the first train, and return by one train. Two rods allowed, and all fish to weigh.—W. BOWYER, sec.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—On the 20th inst., Mr. Sharpless had a nice show of roach and dace, and Mr. Comley a nice show of roach. On the 21st inst. we had a very good attendance, and it was decided to call a special meeting for the 28th inst. for important business, when I hope to see all members present. There are still several good prizes to be fished for. Mr. Sharpless was elected chairman for the month. We have room for a few more working members. —F. BRADLEY, hon. sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The following members weighed in on 20th: Messrs. Martin, roach and dace; Mitchell, roach and dace; F. Lamberton, jack; F. T. Lamberton, roach; Tidmarsh, barbel; J. Wigley, roach. The punt match takes place on 27th inst. at Twickenham; all members to cease fishing at 6.30 p.m.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—On the 20th inst. we had some very good shows of fish on our trays by Messrs. Chart, Webber, Holder, Harris, &c. We fish on the 27th for Mr. Wood's prize of £1 1s., bank only, one rod, when I hope all members will weigh in. One of our members showed some handsome roach on Wednesday last from private waters; three of them weighed 5lb. 6oz., but the largest was sent to be set up by Cooper, and was not weighed. Having to leave our present club-house through unforeseen circumstances, we are compelled to look for another, and after being discussed by members present it was resolved to call a special meeting for the 30th, to decide respecting the removal. I trust all members will make this a point of attending.—F. C. LONGLAND.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—On the 20th, several of our members were out, but the only gentlemen who had any sport were Messrs. A. Barclay, bream; G. Barclay, jack; J. Holden, roach; F. Barrow, chub and perch; Cox, roach. I have much pleasure in reporting that Mr. F. Barrow, fishing in the Club Union Competition at Burnt Mill on the 20th inst., was fortunate enough to take first prize. On Tuesday, Sept. 22, Mr. G. Barclay had jack and perch and Mr. Cox, roach. A special general meeting has been called for Tuesday, Oct. 6, to discuss important business, when it is hoped everyone will attend.—A. BARCLAY, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—On the 16th inst. the quarterly prizes were handed over to the various winners, viz., Messrs. Wood, J. T. Wright, J. Wright, W. Wink, A. Forrester, H. Howard, and F. Ovens, and J. Wright won the prize given by Mr. Wood, viz., cloth to the value of £1. On the 23rd books were audited by Mr. Green, and found to be correct. Mr. Jarrett has kindly given a set of weights for the use of the club. On the 20th, Messrs. Wood, Stone, Salisbury and Wink had roach, dace, jack, and perch. On the 19th, J. Wright had roach, dace, and gudgeon, 11lb. 9oz. —J. WRIGHT, sec.

Sheffield Angling Association. — The thirteenth annual match of this association was fished on Monday, the 21st, at Saxilby, near Lincoln, in wretched weather. The competitors reached the large total of six hundred and seventy, and were stationed at intervals of 10yds., one half towards Lincoln, the other half towards Torksey. As was expected, the catches were very poor, the weight caught by the winner was 1lb. 5¾oz. The value of the prizes was £65, and was divided into thirty-six money purses, but only twenty-two competitors caught fish. The match was badly managed, as one half fished nearly an hour-and-a-half longer than the other, and the general opinion of the competitors was that the match ought to have been fished at a better place, as the Fossdyke is fished to death. Before concluding this account of the match, I would suggest that this association should, before fishing their match at this place again, stock the waters with fish. When it is borne in mind that this society numbers no less than seven thousand eight hundred members, and a large number of whom take from these waters any and every fish, however small, it is plainly to be seen that any waters will soon be emptied of all their fish.—BREED WHEAT.

Silver Trout Anglers' Association, Darlington.—The members of this club held their annual September contest in the river Swale, near Scruton Hall, the seat of George Elliott, Esq., M.P., who kindly gave permission to the club. On Saturday, the 19th inst., thirty-eight members entered, and thirty-three caught fish of various weights. The first nine on the list caught over 22lb. weight between them. The weather proved favourable, and the water fairly so. It was a "go as you please" match, competitors fishing either fly or bottom. The winners were as follows: First, M. Swainston, taking £1 10s. 6d., the silver cup of the Association, and silver medal (given by the President, Mr. C. H. Sharp), with 4lb. 7¼oz.; second, F. Vareg, prize value £1 8s., with 4lb., 6oz.; third prize, J. Timms, £1 5s. 6d., with 4lb. 4½oz. Others as follows: Messrs. Wood, Hooper, Judson, W. Timms, W. Manghan, Arnett, Taylor, Hindle, Dutton Gillam, Bagshaw, Rutherford, Lloyd, Cummins, Snowden, Greenhalgh, Watson, Dinsdale, Martin, Temple, Wilson, Smythe, Hull, Sharp, Honeyman, Teasdale, Prince, J. Manghan, and Goddard tied for thirty-first prize. The members had a most enjoyable day, and returned to their club-room in the evening.—J. F. SMYTHE, sec.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.—On the 20th inst., Mr. O'Callaghan had a few bream, and Mr. Curtis, tench; Mr. Swales had about 4lb. of roach, dace, and perch from the bank (Thames). On Tuesday last, Mr. Phillips had just on 40lb. of roach, rudd, and jack; the roach were splendid specimens—the seven largest weighing 2lb., 1lb. 14½oz., 1lb. 12½oz., 1lb. 12oz., 1lb. 11½oz., 1lb. 7½oz., and 1lb. 7oz.; one rudd, 1¼lb. Members are reminded that our outing at Goring takes place on the 27th inst. Train leaves Paddington at nine a.m. sharp. The fish will be weighed down there.—PELICAN.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—The roving match on the 20th was a poor success, as only two prizes were taken, the successful members being Mr. Stevens, with jack, and Mr. Dean, perch, leaving four prizes to be fished for. The following members also weighed in fish: Messrs. Hooper, a splendid roach, weighing 2lb. 5oz., which will be preserved; T. Jones, bream and roach; Tolykett, roach and dace; D. Marks, dace; H. Spenceley, dace; R. Spenceley, dace.—R. S., sec.

South London Angling Society, George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell-road, S.E.—In the match on the 13th inst., six of the seven prizes competed for were taken. On the 27th we fish for four prizes, Mr. Hibble's prize included.—J. G. F., sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on the above list will be to the Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, held at the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea, on Tuesday, 29th inst., when I hope to see every society on the list represented. For the information of those who have not yet visited this society, their club-house is about five minutes' walk from Clapham Junction Station, and the Battersea trams pass the top of the High-street.—A. CONN, hon. sec.

St. Andrew's Piscatorial Society, Turk's Head, East-street, W.C.—On the 20th inst. Mr. A. Long had a few good roach, and Mr. Harris had perch. On September 23, Mr. Sparkes, one of our latest members, had 15lb. of barbel, roach, and dace. Members are requested to clear the books for prizes to be fished during October.—B. CHEVALIER.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—Several of our members were out on the 20th inst., but only two weighed in—viz., Mr. Lewis, perch; Mr. Cowley, roach. Tuesday next is quarterly night; members absent without notice will be fined.—H. B.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above were out on the 20th inst., with the following result. Messrs. H. Richards, B. Champion and F. Beak, roach; W. Bennett, bream; A. Smith, perch; and H. Fennell, roach and perch. The members of the above will fish a pegged-down match on October 4, in the Lea, for several very handsome prizes. Mr. W. Windred has given a marble clock for the gross weight of roach. Each fish to weigh 8oz. Mr. Sezfang has given 10s. 6d. worth of tackle for the largest roach taken in the month of February. Two more members are to be ballotted for on Saturday evening.—H. TYLER, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—Several of ours were out on the 20th, but only one turned up, Mr. Clegg, who had roach; Mr. Bird, jun., not being able to reach the club-house in time, brought them up on Monday morning, he having a fine show of roach and jack. We had a fair attendance on the 22nd, Mr. Philips in the chair, faced by Mr. Petty. Mr. Skinner was re-elected delegate for the ensuing quarter. Members who were away last week, if they will kindly show up they will hear something to their advantage.—H. C., hon. sec.

Waltonian Angling Society, the Cape of Good Hope, Albany-street, Regent's-park.—We had only had a very small show of fish on the 20th, Messrs. R. Dodge, roach, 4lb. 8oz.; H. Putnum, roach, 3lb. 15oz.; Miller, roach, 3lb. 8oz.; W. Dodge, roach, 1lb. 2½oz. I hope our members will not forget that next Wednesday is our musical evening; and we hope that we shall have a good muster of members and friends. Ladies also are cordially invited, so I quite expect that we shall have a most enjoyable evening.—J. PACKMAN, sec.

Walham Green and Fulham Angling Society, Albany-street, Regent's Park.—The members of the above held their usual weekly meeting at their club-house, the Stamford Arms, Fulham-road. Mr. H. Sutehall presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and general business transacted. Since my last report several of our members have been out. Mr. Templeman saving us a blank by weighing in a nice show 9lb. 3oz. of roach and dace from Richmond. I have to remind members that a roving match takes place on the 27th inst., and that Wednesday next is quarter night, when all subscriptions are due.—E. SUTEHALL, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 20th inst., Mr. C. Newbury one of our honorary members showed 12lb. 10oz. of roach and barbel; Mr. H. Sloper, 10lb. 8oz. roach and barbel; Mr. F. Hailey, 6lb. roach and bream; Mr. R. J. Dartnall, 5lb. roach and perch; Mr. W. H. Bryant, 3lb. 15oz. roach; Mr. S. Cooper, roach 3lb. 12oz. On Wednesday next the place and conditions of the October competition has to be settled.—R. J. DARTNALL, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—The following members weighed in on the 20th inst: Frances, bream; Kirtland, roach; Baker, jack; our hard-working member, Mr. Dessert, gaining fifth prize in the match promoted by the Working Men's Club and Institution. Our next outing will take place on October 11, at Witham.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out in fair numbers on the 20th inst., to take part in the match, and the prizes were taken as follows: Mr. R. Lowther, first, with bream; Mr. W. Stevens, second, roach, who also took a specimen prize, given by our worthy host; Mr. G. Hobbs, third, roach; Mr. F. Humphreys, fourth, perch; Mr. W. Cox, fifth, perch and dace. Mr. Goodrich, though not in the match, weighed in roach and dace.—R. LOWTHER.

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Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for	Chelsea.	Add	55 min. for	Kew.
	40 ,, ,,	Putney.		75 ,, ,,	Richmond.
	45 ,, ,,	Hammersmith.		80 ,, ,,	Twickenham.
	50 ,, ,,	Barnes.		85 ,, ,,	Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Sept.	26	7.40	8.19
Sunday,	,,	27	9. 6	9.58
Monday,	,,	28	10.44	11.23
Tuesday,	,,	29	11.59	—
Wednesday	,,	30	0.26	0.49
Thursday,	Oct.	1	1. 7	1.26
Friday,	,,	2	1.42	1.58

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—It is very questionable whether the conviction of last week for snatching fish at the Surbiton sewer will have any salutary effect on the real offenders who are constantly engaged in the illegal practice, as the defendant in the case did not belong to the class deserving punishment. There is what may be termed an organised gang of delinquents, and the movements of the river-keepers or anyone likely to interfere with them are watched, and signals given. When the case came on the question of unbaited hooks cropped up, and the presiding Magistrate, who can speak practically, and has done on the evils of snatching, remarked, "he had seen a good deal of snatching with baited hooks to cover their designs." I am, however, told the real offenders are somewhat paralysed with the conviction, and they are likely to be quiet for some time. I think with all the publicity that is given of the bye-laws of the river, the plea of ignorance ought never to be accepted, and when a man conceals an unsizeable fish in his pocket, apart from his other captures, there is an evidence of his guilt, and the plea ought not to be received. In the examination of takes to which I referred last week taking the river from Isleworth to Staines, and not finding one unsizeable fish amongst not less than three hundred anglers, for in this calculation of members I only allow two anglers in each of the eighty-four punts, it is something to be proud of; and being the originator of the movement, I am more than gratified with the result. I am also glad to be able state the two bank anglers who have been found taking unsizeable fish, and who have yet to answer for the offence, are not connected with any angling club. I accidentally on the river last week came in possession of a copy of the "Certificate of Weights," and the sizes of fish adopted by "the Shepherd's Bush Angling Association," and the following are some of them: Pike, 24in.; perch, 9in.; roach, 8in.; barbel, 16in.; dace, 7in.; bream, 12in. As all these are in advance of the present Thames standard, it evidences a move in the right direction; and those who at this time are anxious, and rightly too, for an increased standard to be adopted for our Metropolitan river must feel the movement they have in hand is likely to have a successful issue at no very distant period if they do not ask for too much.—B.

RICHMOND.—H. Howard, in four days, thirty dozen of roach and dace, and nine barbel; J. Brain, in the week, 50lb. of roach and dace; and Henry Mansell, 56lb.

TWICKENHAM.—George Coxen, in four days, six barbel and seventeen dozen of roach and dace; R. Coxen, one day with Mr. Stollery, thirty-three barbel, and another day in two hours with Mr. Tamart, twenty dozen of roach and dace and fourteen barbel; J. Coxen, in four days, 40lb. of roach and dace; John Frost, in four and a-half days, 56lb., nine barbel and five bream; John Spong, in in the week, 70lb., and seven barbel; and F. Wiggins, in five days, 107lb., one bream, and two barbel; Mr. J. K. Bohling, fishing in the deeps, caught a beautiful carp of 5lb. 2oz., on roach tackle, fine drawn gut and No. 10 hook.

TEDDINGTON.—W. McBrido, in three days, eight dozen of roach and dace, three jack, and twenty dozen of fine gudgeon; Mr. Sinibaldi, one jack of 11½lb.; and Mr. Veal one of 10½lb.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, during the week, eighteen dozen of roach and dace, three brace of jack, five barbel, and seven chub; J. Wilkes, twelve dozen of roach and dace, five dozen of gudgeon, two brace of jack, six barbel, a couple of bream, and one brace of perch; and N. Bolton, in four days, twelve dozen of roach and dace, three and a-half brace of jack, two brace of perch, and seven dozen of gudgeon.

SUNBURY.—The boats of Messrs. T. and A. Stroud have taken about seven dozen of roach and dace each per day, and with a supplement of nine brace of jack, the largest fish weighing 10½lb. Mr. Edward Clarke reports he has been doing very well amongst the roach, dace, and barbel during the week.

CHERTSEY.—John Poulter, in three days, eighteen dozen of roach and dace, and seven chub, the largest 2½lb.; L. Hackett, during the week, twenty-two dozen of roach and dace, and seven barbel; Henry Purss has been getting some good takes of roach.

STAINES.—John Keene, jun., has been out all the week, one day with Mr. Hayes, 33lb. of roach and barbel; another day with Mr. Waterer, six dozen of roach, seven barbel, and one brace of splendid perch, the largest perch 1lb. 10oz., all of which were returned to the river again; another day with Mrs. Henderson, eight dozen of roach and dace, and five barbel, all of which were put back again; another day with Mr. Edwards and son, four dozen of roach and dace, and ten barbel; another day with Mr. Codd, two dozen of roach, four jack, and seven barbel; another day with Messrs. Newbury and Sloper four dozen of roach and dace, seven barbel, and two chub; and another day with Mr. Codd, four chub, the largest 4lb.

Upper Thames.—Jack seem to have been affording the best sport during the past week, as from most Upper Thames resorts I hear of takes of four and five per day to anglers who ventured out; but the quality has not been over grand, the big jack still holding to the decaying weed beds. In the Marlow Weir Pool this week, a gentleman fishing with G. Coster, took two jack, scaling 5½lb. and 8lb. respectively. At Hurley, Mr. W. Ford yesterday (Wednesday) had a pretty little jack of 5lb.; and Messrs. Walker, Ford, and Jones essayed the roach, but in the afternoon's fishing only captured some two dozen, chiefly only bait size, and more welcome for that than show or culinary purposes. Water a nice height and stream, but extraordinarily bright after so much rain.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Datchet).—The late rains has done a lot of good to the river, and all the fishing are feeding pretty well, barbel and roach especially, lob worms can be got in any quantities for the trouble of picking up. The weeds seem to be rotting early, we shall soon be able to get at the jack.—G. LUMSDEN.

Thames (Windsor).—Beautiful autumnal weather at time of writing and a rising glass bids fair for good autumn fishing, but as water daily gets brighter, fine tackle must be used. This week the best barbel have been had on fine roach tackle whilst roach fishing, the best 6½lb., from the bank, by Mr. A. Porter, of the Lincoln Angling Society, London. The other extremely handsome specimen was one which I weighed, going 6lb. 1oz., caught by Mr. Willett, of Broadway, Barking, whilst roach and dace fishing with James Gray; this fish is being preserved, and will make a very pretty case. The best miscellaneous basket was one by James Gray, consisting of four barbel, three chub, and five dozen dace, in all 20lb. Very few jack have been landed, and till the weeds rot off will not be sought for much; a brace going 6lb., by Mr. W. Fountain, of Eton, is the only item worth mentioning in this class. Chub should now prefer cheese or greaves to the fly; barbel and dace, greaves; and roach, gentles, paste, or wheat, but all on fine tackle, as water is getting very bright.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—Sport has not been so good this week owing to cold easterly and northerly winds. Mr. Summerson, however, had a good day on Friday. A trout and a chub have been taken this week. These fish are still rather rare as they were only introduced two or three years ago. Mr. Hawkins had a good bag of roach on Saturday. Bream seem to have gone off the feed. Trout fishing is well-nigh over; and pike are not yet well on the run.—THOMAS FORD.

Arun (Pulborough).—Since the discoloured water disappeared excellent angling results have been obtained, although the weather during the past few days has not been at all pleasant. The river keeps in prime order, and I hear of more satisfactory doings amid roach and bream. The second competition of the season, promoted by Mr. A. A. Eldridge, takes place at Amberley, on Sunday, Oct. 4, tickets for which, price 6d., can now be obtained at the Rose and Crown, Goswell-road, London. On the 20th inst., although the weather was rather unpropitious for angling some excellent takes were made, and I hear that quite three hundred anglers were operating between here and Amberley. Messrs. C. Watling, C. Large, W. Parkin, and H. Watling (of the Great Northern Bros. Club), caught 23lb. of roach, bream, and dace between them; Mr. C. Burnett (Reform), secured a handsome show of roach, weighing 10lb.; Mr. F. Vanhegan, had 7lb. of roach and bream; and Mr. W. Biggs, 4lb. Some pretty dishes of fish were also obtained by Messrs. D. Flint (Burdett), C. Walters, and G. Norris (Crown and Buckland), H. Patman, and G. Smith (Bermondsey Bros.), &c. Another fine bream of 3lb. 15oz. was, I hear, killed at Fittleworth. Pike have not yet commenced to feed, but should do so shortly, and I beg to recommend a lively dace or gudgeon as bait. A big carp has played sad havoc with an angler's tackle at Pulborough, carrying away his gut and float, and smashing the top joint of his rod.—GOOSEQUILL.

Barle (Dulverton).—The river is in fine order. Mr. Heath has killed three salmon, of 7lb., 8lb., and 10lb. (the smallest fish the best). Your reporter has had luck, the gafier having muffed four fish. After being fast into a nice one, of I guess fully 15lb., he with the gaff cut off about 18in. of the cast and a Silver Doctor.—IRON BLUE.

Brighton.—SEA FISHING.—Sport with dabs and plaice, with a sprinkling of small conger and gurnard, continues exceptionally good—and boat anglers, who are fortunate enough to secure a supply of "lug worm," are catching from fifty, to a hundred fish per boat, in the course of a few hours fishing.

Chichester and Sussex Rivers. — Since my last letter the weather has changed for the worse, although the rain brought fish on feed, yet in some districts the waters are somewhat clouded. Some of our trout streams dependent on springs are very low, and what few fish are left may be seen floundering in the pools—if pools they may be called—an easy prey to the poacher. From the Arun several good bream and roach have been taken, the heaviest bream notified me weighed 4¾lb. The Rother is in fair order and from the neighbourhood of Fittleworth several good bream and heavy roach are reported. Angling has not been so remunerative in the Pelham portion of the river. The Adur is a favourite resort of Brightonians, and has this week furnished several baskets of roach, a few dace and flat fish. Patrons of the Ouse have taken some good specimens of roach. A pike of 7¾lb. was taken on Monday, in the upper reaches, and at Chichester Canal numerous anglers have been rewarded with sport among the bream and roach. A brace of pike weighing about 4lb. each, was taken near Donnington, on Tuesday with live bait.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—A very heavy rainstorm on Sunday has brought down so much water, that fly fishing is useless; still it will enable the spawning fish to get up. Our keeper, Sandy Mckaye, a pupil of Buckland's, tells me, plenty of "fush" have safely passed the weir at the Mumery. Sea-fishing is still very good, but I fear the mackerel are leaving us, but it has been a capital season, and there is every prospect of good sport in the near future when the equinoxial gales are over.—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—Weather not good for grayling fishing, and trout are now out. Fine weather is now wanted for fishing purposes as well as for agricultural.

Eden (Kent).—Though the river could not be in better condition, roach have been biting very poorly lately. The maggot, red worm, and paste baits have been tried, but with only moderate success, and this towards "the cool of the evening," when a few good fish have been caught. Mr. Godley, sec. of the Marlborough Angling Society, took six nice roach the other evening near Edenbridge, in addition to two and a-half dozen of gudgeon. Mr. Pugh and Mr. Wiseman have had about six dozen of gudgeon between them, and I have made a basket of a few roach and three dozen of gudgeon this week. The best bait for gudgeon is the maggot, and paste made from arrowroot biscuit with the brown coating removed is most taking with the roach.—GOOSEQUILL.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—Owing to the bad weather and the low state of the river, angling has been at a discount lately. The recent rains, however, have done good in bringing the river into flood, so that vast quantities of salmon and salmon trout have been able to get into the upper streams. The river is practically full of fish, and there never was a time when the prospects of good sport were so encouraging. The weather is now fine, and in the course of a day or two the river will be in first-class fishable order.—JNO. J. JACKSON.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—Trolling is now getting more popular than bottom fishing, though roach, perch, and bream are still furnishing a good deal of sport. Bottom fishing is now carried on with more success than for some time past, as the weeds on the drains are dying down and more swims are available. There are a good many weeds, however, still in the waters, which in a general way interfere with the pike fishing. The stormy weather at the end of the week was disappointing to the visitors, but since then things have settled down, and prospects for this week are very good. Among the instances mentioned in the way of catches, I hear, that a gentleman in the Fortyfoot has been averaging six fish a day, taken with small roach; and another on the Donington Fen, caught three pike one day, of an average of 4lb. each.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—There is not much to be said of the angling on the Idle, owing to the storms of Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, but the water is fining down, and the weather has settled, consequently prospects are much improved. It will now be possible to get hold of a few grayling on the upper waters, and possibly in the neighbourhood of Retford. I would recommend grasshopper fishing for them, in preference to flies, as there are so many leaves floating on the surface of the water. It is also a good plan to try with small worm, either swimming it or using it grasshopper fashion. There has not been much done in coarse fishing up to the present, but decent baskets are sure to be made by this.—L.

Ilfracombe.—SEA FISHING.—There has been some fairly good sport this week by anglers fishing from the boats with ground lines, Mr. Hopkins having secured twelve large whiting-pout, and on Wednesday two gentlemen visitors succeeded in landing one hundred and fourteen whiting-pout and codling from off the pier. Mr. Affleck caught some fine codling. Several parties fishing in Rockham Bay hooked from 20lb. to 25lb. of fish each boat. A gentleman informs me he has caught the largest mullet for the season; it weighed 2½lb. Weather at present fine.—E. COMER.

Lea and Stort.—Angling on the whole has only been moderately good, many good catches having been made. In the Stort at Roydon, Mr. Hull has had some very good takes of jack, two of his best going over 12lb., both caught in a very short space of time. An unfortunate affair has happened in the Burnt Mill district. It appears that a gentleman, who holds the power to prevent unruly anglers from trespassing and doing damage, asserted his rights by having the water drawn off on the 20th inst., when a number of anglers, who had assembled for an angling competition, found their occupation or amusement gone. At Rye House there is plenty of good jack up to about 6lb., having been caught, also some few roach and perch. Reports from Broxbourne are generally favourable. Sport at Waltham Abbey has been again very good; on the 20th inst., Mr. Dyer, fishing with a live minnow for bait, was fortunate enough to capture a handsome perch, of 1¾lb., which Mr. H. Avis, of the King's Arms Fishery, has sent for preservation. Mr. Appleton had a nice show of dace and roach. It is proposed to have an open angling competition here shortly, and at the same time a novelty in the shape of a fisherman's obstacle race; money prizes on both affairs will be given. A few jack, roach, &c., have been taken at Ponder's End. Pike and perch have been fairly well on at Games' Fishery, Higham Hill, and some nice bags have been made. Takes of roach and pike have been frequent at Ferrie Boat, Tottenham, the best of the latter weighing about 4lb.—Mr. Bennett has done well, fishing the dry fly in his usual skilful manner.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—Signs are not wanting of the near approach of autumn. The weather changes in a most perplexing manner; one day it is warm and summerlike, and the next more like winter, which, as may be imagined, is not at all in favour of fishing. The attendance for the time of year at the waters continues very good, and, with most of the fresh-water fish in good condition, anglers are anxious to get all the sport possible. Roach fishermen continue actively engaged in their favourite pursuit, and a lot of small fish being required for pike fishing, keeps them constantly at work. At the Leicester and Aylestone Waters some fair pike have been secured during this week, Messrs. Prime and Green being the most successful in this line. The specimens were not large; the heaviest that came under notice being about 4lb. Messrs. Dewick, W. Green, and Prime also showed good lots of roach and perch. From the backwaters at Aylestone a few chub were taken, but nothing of an extraordinary size was landed; perhaps the best was one by Mr. Rylott, weighing 2lb. The resorts near the town have been chiefly receiving the attention of pike anglers, whose efforts received reward in the shape of satisfactory baskets, especially at the private waters which abound in Leicestershire. At the Wreake, sport was encouraging among the roach and pike, and at Narborough the subscribers have again been chiefly trying for pike with success. The waters are now in capital condition, being clear and plenty of it.

Loddon (Earley).—The weather has been very stormy the last week, but the river is in good condition, and good sport has been had. Several anglers have taken good baskets of roach and chub, also a few jack. The weeds are fast dying down this season.—J. R. GOULD.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—From Saturday evening till Tuesday morning we experienced a succession of strong winds W. and N.W., with heavy showers of rain, which caused these rivers to rise some nine inches of stained water. It is now (Wednesday) running down and clearing rapidly, and will be in good order for grayling, by the time these lines are in print, should the present fine weather hold. Some good sport was obtained last week. All the autumn flies are now out. Mid Blue, Whirling, Late Brown, Pale Sept. Dun, Willows, Red Tag, and Green Insect.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Fishing has been very quiet this week, and but few rods have been out. The water should be in good fishing order by the end of the week. The Pinsley is clear, and in order for fishing.—GWYNNE.

Medway (Maidstone).—Water in good condition. A few small pike have been taken—none of any size. Roach and bream are biting moderately well; but it has not come to my knowledge of any large takes of either. The prospects and conditions of water are good for the anglers. Wheat holds good for roach and bream. A good, lively dace should find some success for the angler with the pike.—Wm. Shrubsole.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—Have heard of a magnificent catch of perch by a Peterborough angler. His total amounted to forty good specimens, and they scaled from ¾lb. to 3lb. This is the best catch of the season by a long way, the perch generally having provided but indifferent sport. The fine weather of last week drew many anglers out to try their luck, but the weather had completely altered by Saturday, and this week the elements have been generally unfavourable. Bream have been quite backward lately and little has been done with them. The best have been grassed near Wisbech. Roach have provided the best sport and good takes are to hand almost daily. Mr. Tom Milford has obtained several of ¾lb. during the past week. At Woodstone an eel of 1½lb. was taken. It has been pointed out to me that I failed to report the capture of a fine dace early in the season. The fish in question was hooked near Woodstone Staunch, and was a well-developed specimen of 9oz. A fine dace this for the Nene. Pike have been tried for a good deal, but nothing large has been obtained. Two London anglers, Mr. Macdonald and Mr. Waugh, captured 30lb. last week, but the heaviest only scaled 5½lb.—Nenebank.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—In most all our Eastern Counties' rivers angling has, during the last few days, been fairly good, more especially in the sharp-running streams. To say the roach and dace are well on in such waters as the Yare, Ouse, and Cam is not correct; they are feeding very little. I had a good long journey all along several of these deep, quiet rivers last week, and really the weeds were as green as lettuces, and looked like growing on. I dare not advise anglers at present to venture on any of these. Wait a bit longer, the river at Brandon is much better. I saw one lot of roach on Saturday, eight fish, weighing 9lb.—a beautiful lot. I had a try near Worlington and Mildenhall on Friday, in company with Andrew Antony. We took a lot of about fifty nice fish—some very fine dace, some of them nearly 1lb. each. Fishing in the Yare at present is only a waste of time; the Ouse, below Ely, just the same. We have had a lot of rain and a cold and damp south-west wind. Fish ought to be well on now everywhere. I still advise anglers to try Brandon.—William Howlett.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—Some local fishermen have been out and returned with good fish, Roach and bream have been feeding very fair, wheat and brandlings being the bait. Jack have been feeding very fair, especially the small ones. I have not heard of any good ones being taken, although some have been hooked and lost, but the water retaining its good condition will no doubt afford good sport. H. Rout.

Ouse, &c. (York).—The heavy rains of the past week have again greatly interfered with sport, and caused our main river to rise and run a thick colour, previous to which the Ouse and tributaries had just got into fair fishing order, and some capital catches of roach, chub, and dace were being reported. Last week I paid my last visit of the season to the trout streams of the Pickering, Sinnington and Rye districts, and found the fish in several instances showing signs of spawning. Grayling are in fair condition, and already some splendid fish are being taken in the Rye and Derwent.—Ronald.

Plymouth.—Sea-Fishing.—Sport of all kinds is to be had in and about the Plymouth Sound, the fish being caught are mackerel, pollack, bass, mullet, whiting, poulting, and flat fish, and dozens of the boats that can be obtained from Aldridge's West Hoe Pier for about sixpence per hour are engaged in this sport. The fish are within ten minutes pull of the pier, and it is very seldom that a boat comes back without any. I had some nice ones last week caught at sunset on the Black Indiarubber Sandeel, they were taken on one particular spot, and it is a funny thing I never had a bite unless I rowed over this place, it evidently was a channel where the fish congregated to catch the feeding stuff that was being brought down by the ebb tide. Prawning is still in full force, the tides making out well.—William Hearder.

Scarborough.—(Sea Fishing).—Sport with mackerel has been exceptionally good during the past week. One angler caught about a hundred the other day, in the course of two or three hours, fishing from a boat close to the outer pier. Pier anglers, too, are having good sport with billet, and "par," and dabs are very plentiful; as also silver whiting, in the immediate bay and rock. Cod will soon be abundant over the "scars."—H. S. Harland.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—There has been some better angling during the last week or two, and a good many pike and rough fish have been taken, but trout do not appear to be very plentiful. The wasp maggot has been taking well, and some heavy roach have been taken with paste. A number of fine pike have been taken at Uffington by Messrs. J. Evans (five), Edwards, Breeze, Humphreys (one, about 7lb.) Three good trout were captured on Monday. Mr. Cartwright has landed some big roach, which are taking well. A handsome pike of between 20lb. and 30lb. was last week taken at Welshpool, and has been sent to Mr. H. Shaw for preservation.—Piscator.

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—Some good fish have been taken in the above rivers this week. Roach in particular are well on the feed; several baskets of from 10lb. to 15lb. having been caught. At the time I write both rivers have risen considerably, but keep a good colour for bottom fishing.—R. Wingfield.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—The salmon catches here since I wrote last week have been—Mr. G. Bainbridge, one, 8½lb.; Mr. R. Wandless, three, 14lb., 10lb., and 5lb.; Mr. T. Parkinson, one, 12lb.; Mr. Dent, one, 9lb.; and Mr. Hogg, of Wycliffe, has a total of fourteen fish for the season so far has gone. The river has been very low, but, with the rain of Monday and Tuesday, is now in flood, and by Thursday will be in first-class fishing order. I was on the Estuary on Friday last, and saw salmon leaping on all sides. Doubtless many of these will now run up with this flood.—T. H. R.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this part is running high and has been coloured owing to the stormy weather at the beginning of the week. Bottom fishing with the wasp grub has been successful. The Ony, Corve, Clun, and Ledwyche, are all stained; fishing in them quiet.—S. Ludlow.

Teme (Tenbury).—The water in this district is now running a little stained, and has risen, owing to the heavy falls of rain at the beginning of the week. The weather has taken up a little now and by the end of the week the water should be in good order for either fly or bottom fishing again.—Worcester.

Torridge (Torrington).—River in good order for fishing. J. D. Bastard took four peal; Admiral Bland, two; and S. Jackson, one. Many salmon and peal have been seen jumping. There is plenty of water in the river, and some good fishing may be expected now. If no more rain it will be a good time for float-fishing next week.—Practical Angler.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—The great attraction this week in the Witham district, was the match promoted by the Sheffield Angling Association, which offered many valuable prizes, to be fished for by members. Something like seven hundred turned up to fish. The Fossdyke on either side Saxilby was chosen as the place for the contest, which took place amid a drenching rain on Monday. Fishing is said to have commenced at twelve o'clock and gone on till four in the afternoon, but there have been statements made that the start was delayed considerably, for an hour and a half in fact, and there has been grumbling. The success was but poor as might be expected, the leading take being under 2lb. Angling in other districts this week has been quiet. Next Monday there will be another great gathering of pot-hunters, at Boston, where a committee has gathered subscriptions for the purpose of offering prizes to all-comers. This event will take place on the Cowbridge and Bargate Drains.—Luci.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire).—During the latter end of last week, good sport was general in this locality. Both trout and grayling rising well to the Silver Dun, Ash Dun, and small Red Ant flies. The Derby and Matlock waters were just getting into nice order for fly fishing, when the rain came on the 20th inst., and caused the rivers to rise considerably. Nothing much has been done since then, except by the bottom fishermen. The rivers are now running down nicely, and if the fine weather lasts good sport may be had to the end of the season for trout fishing, Oct. 1st (inclusive). The above named flies will be found the most killing.—Dotterel.

Yare (Norwich).—Sport has been very much better lately. Last Saturday three gentlemen, fishing at Buckenham Ferry, caught seventy-five roach and bream, which number should, if fair-sized fish, weigh at least 3st. or 4st. Yesterday some excellent sport was had at the same station. One gentleman caught, amongst a fair take, one bream of 4lb., and another got eight bream, average about 3lb., and some fine roach of over 1lb. To-day (Thursday) sport has not been so good; whilst at Brundall nothing but bad luck has been experienced. From Cantley I do not hear of anything except the presence of large numbers of bream and roach. On the Wensum, above Hellsdon Bridge, two very large bream—viz., 8lb. 10oz. and 6lb. 8oz.—were caught last Monday week (angling). These were offered for sale and weighed in Norwich.—Robert Moll.

Dovey.—The recent rains have been sufficient to put the upper waters of the Dovey in first-rate condition, and good sport is being had at Mallwyd by the visitors at the Penarth Arms. Mr. W. B. Collyns, jun., killed last week seven salmon, weighing 11½lb., 15½lb., 6½lb., 12lb., 15lb., 11lb., and 15lb. respectively; Dr. Harrison, R.N., Plymouth, killed two salmon, 16lb. and 11lb.; Mr. H. H. Walker, Corwen, killed one salmon and a number of sewin. The river is now very full and in capital order for fly-fishing, and numbers of fish are travelling up daily. The season on this part of the Dovey closes on 29th Nov.—Tackle.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire). — We have had a succession of heavy showers, which keep the rivers in first-rate order for fishing. During the past week the takes of trout both by worm and fly, have been heavier than usual (up to 8lb. or 10lb. per basket). It is however, full late in the season for taking trout, but we yet hope for some sport with the salmon.—H.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—We had the river in flood again about a week ago, since which the water has been rather thick, and only a few salmon and sewin taken, and as for trout fishing, it may now be considered as over for the season. Among the salmon landed during the past few days may be mentioned one of 8lb., by Capt. Clark; one of 10lb., by a visitor; and one of 12lb., by Mr. Llewellen; and several on the Cothy, by Sir James Drummond. Our townsman, Mr. David Edwards, has been the most fortunate angler as regards sewin this season. There are now lots of salmon up, and good sport anticipated. There is some talk of forming an angling club, and of the better preservation of the river in the immediate vicinity of Llandilo, and not without cause, for about half-a-dozen trammel nets, of small mesh, are known to have been worked by night poachers during the season now drawing to a close.—H.

Usk (Abergavenny).—The river is in first-rate condition, and the salmon plentiful. During the last few days, salmon have been caught in the association water by the following gentlemen:—Messrs. Wm. Davis, J. Lamont, J. Clare, H. de Parker Jervis, H. Clare, and Rev. F. de Beamish. Mr. W. Davis caught four to-day (23rd), weighing 18lb., 13lb., 8½lb., and 5½lb. each. Prospect for the next week, good.—Joseph Clare.

Scotch Reports.

Aberfeldy (Breadalbane Arms).—Mr. Blair fished Loch-na-Craig, on the 22nd inst., and got fourteen trout, weighing 4lb., and to-day, nineteen trout, 5½lb.—A. N.

Border Esk.—The Esk is now in good order for salmon fishing, and numbers are being caught both in the lower and double waters, Messrs. Hall and Lupton, Eskdale Temperance Hotel, Langholm, had four sea trout and two dozen yellow trout in the upper waters; Mr. St. George Tucker of the same hotel, had two sea trout, one of 3½lb.; Mr. A. McMillar, had two sea trout, and two whiting; Mr. Thos. Irving, had three sea trout, and three whiting; and Mr. J. Harkness, landed a salmon of 9lb., at the back of Langholm Distillery, a little above the Skippers Budge. From the Cauldron Pool, in the Canonbie Water, Mr. Scott, Holmfoot. landed two salmon, one of 25lb., and another 9lb.; Dr. Burrell, of London, staying at the Cross-keys Hotel, caught three salmon, one of 14lb., from the Red Lynn Pool (a fine stretch of water here, and come-atable on either side), and one of 7lb., from the Willow Pool; Mr. D. Edgar, Rowarburn, had a salmon of 8lb. from the Round Pool, and one of 6lb. from the Red Lynn Pool; Mr. G. Irving, Prior Hill, had two grilse of 6lb. each; Messrs. D. Jardine and W. Davidson, Canonbie, had each a small salmon; Dr. Roper, London, had a good run with a big fish in the Red Lynn Pool, which got away, subsequently the Dr., landed a salmon of 8lb.; Mr. John Wylie, Upper Burnmouth, caught two salmon at a fishing, 15lb., and 5lb. respectively; and Mr. D. Reid, landed a salmon of 18lb., from the Liddle. In the Langholm Water, Mr. Thos. Jamieson, had three salmon, 9½lb., 12lb., and 17½lb. respectively; Mr. W. Irving, had one, 20lb.; Mr. James Scott, one, 5lb.; Mr. Walter Scott, one, 18lb.; and Mr. Carthew-Yorstoun, one of 8lb.—Gilnockie.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—(23rd) Just at the most opportune time the river is again in great flood, and although the much-wished-for fill is more than could be desired, yet its after as well as present effects cannot be over-estimated at this as yet advanced season. On the Queen's Water, at Balmoral and Abergeldie, as well as the Berkhall reaches, a few autumn fish have been landed, while the Invercauld and Cambus O'May Waters have also replied satisfactorily. On the Aboyne reaches Mr. Upcher, and other of Mr. Sanderson's guests, had fair sport last week. On the Desswood Water, Mr. Davidson's keeper landed one of 10lb., while Mr. Henry Champion had one of 9lb. on the Ballogie Water. On the Carlogie section, Captain Charles Campbell landed one of 7lb. on Thursday, while Admiral Sir Michael Seymour had one of 22lb. on the Borrowstone Water; and Admiral Charles G. Fane one of 14lb. on the same water on Friday. On the Kincardine Lodge Water, Mr. William Lamond had one of 14lb. and one of 8lb., on Saturday, while A. Duncan, keeper to Dr. Farquharson, M.P., had one of 20lb. on the Commonty Water. On the Woodend Water has had some splendid sport, as the autumn has gone, landing five fish, scaling respectively 20lb., 9lb., 8lb., 16lb., and 17½lb. On the Crathes Park and Drum Waters good sport has also been had. On the Aboyne reaches several good fish have been taken during the week. On the Huntly Arms Water, Mr. Allan had two, scaling 10½lb. and 19½lb. On the Huntly Lodge Water, Mr. Whiteley had one of 17lb. Large flies are now preferred, especially in the darker waters, and as the shades are coming more quickly down. On the Ythan capital sea trout fishing is being enjoyed on every favourable day.—Deesider.

Deveron (Banffshire).—The rains in the beginning of the week were the heaviest of the season, and in consequence the river Deveron and its tributaries have overflowed their banks to a greater extent than they have done for several years. Great damage has been done, and a large quantity of the crops carried off by the flood. In the end of last week, before the rain commenced, anglers were very successful, and fish, newly run and of good size, were got on most of the beats. On the Netherdale Water, Mr. Fraser, keeper, had four fish, one of 21lb.; on the Forglen Water, Captain Abercromby, landed nearly one dozen fish, ranging in weight from 9lb. to 17lb.; on the Muiresk Water, one fish was killed by Captain Farquhar, of 10lb., and another one of 20lb.; and two by Mr. H. Farquhar Spottiswood, of 9¼lb. and 11½lb.; on the Mayne Section, Mr. Thurburn, had a salmon of 16½lb., and the keeper Mr. J. Sandison, had three, weighing 6½lb., 11lb., and 24lb. On Tuesday and Wednesday the weather was dry, and the water settled down considerably. Anglers are now beginning to experience slight frosts in the evening and morning. There are a number of large fish in the river at present, the height of the water over the Cruive Dykes giving them free access.—H. W.

Dunbeath.—Sir William Montague Call, Bart., Balcraggie Lodge, fishing for a couple of hours on Tuesday evening, landed a salmon of 8lb. This river is in ply only after a spate. Spates have been very frequent during the season, but although carefully fished on these occasions by anglers from Dunbeath Castle, the Lower Dunbeath party and the Balcraggie Lodge party, only one fish—an eight-pounder—has been taken. The net fishings around the mouth, however, have been unusually productive this season.—J. Y.

Helmsdale (Helmsdale).—Beautiful clear and cool weather has succeeded the wet muggy weather of many weeks past, and to the farmer has come in time to save his crops from literally rotting. But for all this change, angling has shown no marked improvement. Now and again a fish is got, but this is the exception and by no means the rule. It is useless speculating as to the cause of such a state of matters, for one is left only as much in the dark as ever; all one can say is, "the fish are there in myriads, and we cannot get them to take." Such is truly the case. Taking a ramble the other day as far as Baden Lock, one could see, even there, eighteen miles from the river mouth, fish disporting themselves in full silvery uniform, showing plainly that many of them had just left the sea, and lost no time in going to the very head of the river. Mr. Muir, the tenant of the shootings and fishings, at Baden Locks gets, a fish on rare occasions, but it cannot be called sport. By the way, this gentleman has made great improvements there. The lodge is greatly enlarged, stables, coach-houses, kennels, &c, have been added to the old lodge, and the place is now quite different from what it ever was before. Owing to the continued wet weather (which is now happily over), a number of the shootings' tenants have left, but possibly with the improved weather may yet return. Sport has been very fair under the circumstances, indeed, much better than was looked for. Referring again to the large number of salmon and grilse on this river, I think it would be an excellent idea to net the pools now, taking out all barren fish, of which there are always great numbers. This would prove very beneficial to the river, for there is no doubt whatever that, owing to the great numbers of fish on the water, many of those fish will, as the water gets low, die, and so pollute the water, and possibly cause disease. This course has often been suggested by gentlemen of great experience in angling and in the preservation of rivers, but has never yet been carried out here, and possibly may not be, but the idea is worth consideration. Sea-fishing is still doing well here, but few are giving it a fair trial.—S. C.

Inveran Hotel Waters (Invershin, N.B.) — On Saturday week Mr. Hall and party from the Sutherland Arms Hotel, fished Loch Craggie and landed eighteen beautiful trout, which averaged about 1lb. each. On Thursday, Mr. Friar, also from the hotel, fished the lower reaches of the Shin, and at Fir Dam landed a grilse which weighed 6½lb. As the weather has now changed for the better, an improvement in sport may be anticipated.—McB.

Naver (Strathavner, Sutherland).—In the course of past week the following sport has been obtained. Colonel Friars, Dalvina Lodge, landed three fish weighing respectively, 5lb., 7lb., and 9lb., and lost another; Major E. A. Burnell, Dalvina Lodge, caught two of 7½lb. and 6lb.; and other two were got, by Mr. P. H. Wormald, Skelpick Lodge. On the Lyre Lodge Water Mr. Geo. B. Stubbard landed two nice fish. one of which weighed 14½lb. The water is at present in good order, and well stocked with fish.—McB.

Ness (Inverness).—This water continues in splendid trim, and fish very plentiful in the pool, but are now very huff in rising to the fly. The following are the takes for the week: On the Ness Castle Water, Mr. Fountaine Walker killed twenty-one grilse and two salmon, 18lb. and 19lb. On Dochfour Water, General Godman, five grilse. On Holm Water, Mr. Bradly Martin, six grilse. On Lower Water, Mr. Bulloch killed three grilse; Mr. Allison, one grilse; General Grant, six grilse. On Freeday, the local anglers killed fourteen grilse.—D. Watson.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—Mr. Turing, from Bedford, was out on Loch-na-Blarloch on

Tuesday, and landed thirth-six trout, which weighed 10lb. in all. On Wednesday, Mr. MacKenzie, Sunderland, fished Loch Sgeir-a-Chath, and got three sea trout, averaging 1½lb.; and Dr. Martin, London, on Loch-na-Caillich, three sea trout, averaging 1lb. each. On Thusday, Mr. MacKenzie, Sunderland, fished Loch Garbetbeg, and grassed three salmon, weighing respectively, 13lb., 12½lb., and 15lb.; and Mr. Clark, Bedford, on Loch Inchard, 140lb. lythe and coal-fish. On Friday, Dr. Martin, London, fished Loch Garbetmore, and landed a grilse, weighing 5lb., and two sea trout, 2lb.; and Mr. Clark, on Loch Garbetbeg, four sea trout, 5lb. On Saturday, Mr. MacKenzie, Sunderland, fished Loch Garbetbeg, and grassed two salmon of 6lb. and 8lb.; Mr. Clark, on Loch Inchard, landed 160lb. of lythe and coal-fish; and Dr. Martin, on Loch-na-Caillich, three sea trout, 3lb. On Monday, this week, Mr. MacKenzie, Sunderland, fished river Laxford, and landed three salmon, 9lb. 6lb., and 6½lb.; Mr. Clark, Bedford, got an eight-pounder on Loch Garbetbeg; and Dr. Martin, London, on Loch Sgeir-a-Chath, three sea trout, averaging 1lb. each.—McB.

South of Scotland.—In every river in the South of Scotland salmon are plentiful, but they are extraordinary shy, and refuse all lures. This is rather singular especially when water and weather have been favourable for over a week. Day after day anglers in large numbers have been whipping favourite pools without a single pull. Flies of all patterns have been put over the fish with the same results. The salmon, too, keep plunging about in some of the pools; in others they boil like taking fishing, but when fished over they never appear to notice the lure. THE ANNAN.—In the Hoddon Castle Water, on Friday evening, Mr. Brook's head keeper, Mr. Sandy Dalziel, killed a beautiful salmon of 23lb. in the bridge pool, and in the churchyard pool we had another salmon of 12lb. Both fish rose at a Brown Turkey fly. On Saturday in Sir Robert Jardine's Water, near Castle Milk, Mr. David Bell, Kettleholm, landed one of 16lb., and on Tuesday, in the same stretch, Mr. Lawson, Lockerbie, killed one of 15lb. In the lower reaches only one poor, ill-conditioned fish, of 10lb. has been landed this week. Mr. W. Wallas, gunmaker, Wigton, killed a few fine fresh run herling on Wednesday, and Mr. Wallas, Loudon, had also several nice ones. To-day (Thursday) rain fell all forenoon, and few faced the weather. The rain cleared off during the afternoon, and while I send off my notes, anglers are out in full force salmon fishing. THE DEE.—The Kirkcudbrightshire Dee remains in first class fishing order and salmon are plentiful. During the week a number of gentlemen have killed salmon, but in a general way the fish are rising indifferently. Trout and herling is not much prosecuted now that salmon are in the rivers, but a few odd baskets are had by those who go in for these fish. The FLEET: Like the Dee, the Fleet, is in good order; salmon are plentiful, but they are very sulky all over the river, and little has been done. The NITH: This river is in good ply, but it is not affording good sport among salmon. In the Thornhill and upper reaches several nice catches of herling and trout have been recently taken with fly. The sea trout, however, are not worth fishing for now, as they are getting black in colour, and quite soft in flesh. Altogether they are out of season, and should be left alone now along with yellow trout. Several of the rivers this week show a fresh run of bright herling in fair, good condition. The weather is still unsettled-looking.—HEATHERBELL.

Tay (Perth).—The weather during the past week has been colder, and therefore more suitable for angling, and fish have been rising much better. The river is still in good order. On the Stanley water Captain Bushman killed three fish, about 20lb. each, and a grilse. On the same water, Mr. E. Foreman, London, killed three, 17lb., 9lb., and 7lb. On the Taymouth water, Col. D. Moray, landed eight fish. On the Delvine water Col. Hornsby Drake killed one fish of 14lb.; Captain Palliser a grilse of 7lb. On the Benchill water, on Friday Sir J. E. Millan killed four, 19lb., 19lb., 9lb., and 9lb. On Saturday Col. Hornsby-Drake killed one, 28lb. On Monday Mr. Field's party had eight fish on Stobhall water, and Mr. Maples two on Burnmouth. On Logierait Hotel water, Mr. T. Wise, London, had a fish of 20lb. Sir J. E. Millin had two on the Benchill water same day, and Mr. McLeon had four on the Redgorton water. On the Delvine water Mr. Du Caine had a grilse of 7lb. on Tuesday. On the Burnmouth water, on Wednesday, Rev. Mr. Cameron and Mr. Archibald Fillieutby killed eight fish and one grilse. Free Water.—Mr. Fenton, one grilse; Mr. Cook, one salmon. On Friday Dr. Orton had one, 18lb.; Mr. Cosgrove, two; Mr. Ireland, one; Mr. Wardrope, a fish and a grilse; Mr. Ramsay, one, 9lb.; Mr. Grant, three grilse; Mr. Piteaithy, one: Mr. Mason, one; Mr. Armstrong, two; Mr. Spiers, two; and Mr. W. Armstrong, two. On Monday Mr. Spiers had four; Mr. Beady, three; Mr. Linday, four; and Mr. Cosgrove three. On Wednesday Mr. Ireland, two fish and a grilse; Mr. Brady, three; Mr. M. Ferlane, one; Mr. Howe, one grilse; Mr. Cosgrove, three; Mr. Wardrope, four; Mr. McIntyre, two; Mr. Malcolm, four; Mr. Than, one.

EARN.—On the Dupplin reserved water, Mr. E. B. Williams killed three, 18lb., 17lb., and 16lb. On the Drummond Castle Water, Mr. M'Leod, London, killed one, 19½lb.; Mr. East, one, 18lb. On the Club Water, Mr. Tach killed one, 20lb.; Mr. D. Forbes- three, 19lb., 18½lb., 13½lb. On the Strowan Water, Colonel Allex, killed one, 16lb.

Thurso and Lochmore (Brawl Castle.).—Since the river closed for salmon fishing, the Brawl Castle anglers have been prosecuting the trout fishing, but as the season for them is almost over, their luck was variable. On Wednesday, Major Nicolson, Mr. Gardner, and Pipe Major Grant, fished Loch Sternster, and caught fourteen trout, the heaviest weighed 1lb. On Thursday, the same party fished Lochmore for trout, and caught forty-five, average weight four to the 1lb. On Friday, Pipe Major Grant fished the river and caught a good basket of trout, the largest weighed 1lb. On Saturday, Lochmore was again tried for trout, but owing to a strong wind, the party only succeeded in getting 5lb., when they were obliged to give it up. The Strathmore Party, consisting of Thomas Baring, Esq., Col. Baring, Master Windham Baring, and friends, caught twenty-nine salmon, and 117lb. of trout, since the 12th of August; Mr. Baring leaves to-day, for the season after enjoying good sport on land and water, and he has taken a lease of Strathmore shooting and fishing for the next four years.—A. H.

Tweed, &c.—Since my last notes, the vale of Tweedside has been nothing more nor less than a scene of deluge and devastation. The splendid sport obtained with salmon, and which was given in your last issue, rather raised the hopes and anticipations of the Waltonians as to a further fillip in the matter of salmon angling. They have had a dreadful take down, and how matters will now turn out is beyond the ken of the wisest. The river ran in good ply last week, and until Saturday evening there was not the slightest indication of the severe and disastrous storm that was so soon to follow the short spell of glorious weather that we had been blest with—blest so far as the ingathering of the crops was concerned, as well as it being in a great measure fairly good for the prosecution of angling for the *salmonadiæ*. Up to midnight on Saturday, the weather was beautiful in the extreme, but shortly after that hour, the elements changed somewhat suddenly. The sky became very much overcast, and rain began to fall in a heavy drizzling sort of fashion, but later on it came down in earnest. This continued all day on the Sunday, and on the evening of the day the wind, which had sprung up from the north-east, had began to blow a gale, while the rain increased in violence and came down in blinding sheets. All through the night of Sunday the storm continued, and on Monday morning at 6.30 the Tweedometer at Kelso Bridge showed a rise of one and a-half feet. From this time the rivers—both Tweed and Tevoit—began to rise very rapidly, and at nine a.m. the gauge showed 7ft. of flood water. As the day wore on this height was further increased to 10ft., and the river still further swelling marked a rise of 11¾ft. at Kelso Mills during the day. This was the highest point the floods reached, and was nearly as high as that reached during the deluge in 1881. Although the storm continued until Tuesday forenoon, the rivers had begun to subside somewhat before this time, and on Wednesday evening the guage marked fully over 2ft. above the normal height. The storm has caused great destruction to property; one railway bridge over the Tweed was washed away, while a great quantity of grain, besides bullocks, &c., have been washed away; and one man was drowned at Galashiels. In consequence of the flood, angling will not be practicable until Friday, and that only on the shallower casts. That this storm will have a tendency to bring fish towards the mouth of the river cannot be gainsaid, and anglers are hopeful that a further fresh run of salmon into the river will be the outcome of the flood; and should this prove correct, good sport may be expected once the salmon have had time to rest, and get lain down in the various fastnesses. The following are the takes got before the river rose, not reported since my last notes: On the Makestown Water, on Wednesday, last week, the Right Hon. D. H. Madden, M.P., had a grand day's sport, killing no less than nine fish—eight salmon and one grilse—the weights of which were, 16½lb, 16lb., 16lb., 16lb., 15lb., 12lb., 12lb., 8lb., and the grilse 6½lb.—a new fly (Jack the Ripper) killing eight of the fish; on the same water, the following day, Mr. Madden had again six fish—20lb., 16½lb., 15½lb., 13½lb., and two grilse of 7lb. each; on Friday he had four weighing 16½lb., 16lb., 10lb., and 8lb.; and on Saturday again he killed a similar number, one salmon and three grilse, their weights being 11½lb., 8lb., 7lb., and 6lb. On the Ednam House Water on Wednesday, Mr. Drummond, had two grilse; on the same day, on the Floors Castle Lower Water, on the "Putt" cast, Lord Alastar Ker, second son of his Grace the Duke of Roxburghe, killed three fish on the upper water. Lord Bowmont had four fish. On the Hendersyde Water, the same day, Sir Richard Waldie Griffith, Bart., had one salmon and a grilse, and Mr. Robertson, one salmon and three grilse (both gentlemen fishing from one boat). On the Spronston water, Mr. Tait, fisherman, had one grilse. On the Florrs water on Thursday Her Grace the Duchess of Roxburghe killed three fish, and the Duke one; on the Hendersyde water, Sir Richard W. Griffith had one salmon, and Mr. Robertson, one of 25lb.; on the Ednam Herne water, Mr. James Steel, jun., had an 8lb. grilse. On Friday, on the Florrs water, the Duchess of Roxburghe had a couple of salmon, and a like number was also killed by the Duke; on the following day, Lord Alistar Ker, had one of 17lb. and one of 18lb., killed at the "Blackstane" (upper water) cast; while on another part the Duke of Roxburghe had one salmon and one grilse. On the Hendersyde water, Colonel Chaplin, V.C., had one salmon the same day. On the same water on Saturday, Mr. Robson, of Oaklands, had one grilse. On the Ashiestiel "nest" water, a fair day's fishing was had by Mr. Usher, Edinburgh, who had three salmon; and on the Leaddon foot pool, Mr. Roberts, Torweedlee, had one fish. Fairly good sport was also got on some of the other waters, viz.—Rutherford, Boldside, Pavilion, and Mertoun.—MAXWHEEL.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—The Ballinderry is now in good form for all-round angling. The most of the fishing done during the past month, is by local anglers. The best taking flies are the Olive, Claret, and Hare's Leg. Coarse fishing in all the reaches is excellent.—J. A. B.

Lakes Ballina.—During this past week some nice baskets of trout has been got in the lakes. Mr. W. Kingston on the 16th, seven trout, 6½lb.; 17th, twelve trout, 12lb.; 18th, five trout, 9½lb., largest trout, 6lb.; Mr. Webbs, six trout, 7½lb., largest fish, 3lb. On the 19th, Mr. W. Kingston had ten trout, 13lb., largest 3lb.; 20th, Mr. W. Kingston and Captain Bond, seventeen trout, 16lb., and returned to the water a good few fish under half-pound. The Messrs. Scroop's are also having some nice baskets of fish. Most days the particulars of number and weight I have not ascertained.—FRANK HEARNS.

Lough Currane (Waterville, County Kerry).—Only a few anglers have been out. The best basket for the week was one of ten white and four brown trout, creeled by a gentleman fishing with Daniol Leary. Other takes varied from six to a dozen trout—white and brown. On the upper lakes (preserved), some large baskets were had on Friday and Saturday. The best I heard of was one of six dozen, by Dr. Sharkey and brother. This included only three white trout however. The weather has been unfavourable for the most part of the time, and is still very unsettled. Sea angling has been good on a few days.—THOS. J. DENNEHY.

Lough Mask (Mount Gable Hotel, Clonbur, County Galway).—The take of fish on Lough Mask for the past week was the largest of the season. Messrs. Small, Melrose, and Laurey, Ceylon, got a pike each, one weighing 33½lb., the other 18lb.; they also got 60lb. of brown trout in three days, all got trawling. Mr. Galagher, Dublin, lost a large lake trout on the 16th inst., supposed to be 14lb.; he played him for thirty minutes, and walked away with his tackle.—SCYMAN SUMMERLY.

Lough Neagh.—Reports from this vast lough, show a falling off in the takes of salmon, and just now trout netting is declining, due to the multitudes of fish running up the inland rivers. The only sport to be found with trout at present, is in the small feeders of the lough when they are high in flood or falling down. On the Duckenstool Stream, on Wednesday last, your correspondent and Mr. Stevonson had seven and nine trout respectively. Bream are getting scarce. Perch and eel fishing are fairly good.—J. A. B.

Suir and Tributaries (Clonmel).—The following is a list of salmon killed on Lord Donoughmore's waters since 28th August. On that date, Hon. G. W. Hely-Hutchinson got one fish, 6¼lb.; 31st, J. Gearon, one of 17lb.; 2nd Sept., Mr. Hely-Hutchinson, one, 15lb.; 3rd, J. Gearon, one of 6lb.; 4th, Mr. Hely-Hutchinson, one of 4lb.; and J. Gearon, two, 4lb., 7lb.; 5th, Mr. Hely-Hutchinson, one of 5½lb.; and within the three following days J. Gearon landed five, 15lb., 6½lb., 8lb., and 5½lb. respectively; 11th, Capt. Armstrong. Mealiffe, got one of 3½lb., and on the 18th four more, 14lb., 8lb., 7lb. and 7lb. Some good trout fishing was also had on the various waters, Dr. Harvey got three dozen on the Anner; Col. Wolseley, twenty-two, on the Suir, all in very good condition.—RICHARD BRADFORD.

THE GREATEST ANGLING SWEEPSTAKES ON RECORD, AT SAXILBY.

THE thirteenth angling sweepstakes, promoted by the Sheffield Anglers' Association, was decided in the waters of the Saxilby Canal, at Saxilby, Lincolnshire, on Monday afternoon, and in point of numbers of anglers engaged exceeded anything of the kind on record. Ever since the formation of the Sheffield Anglers' Association, it has grown in strength, and at the present time the Sheffield Association is the strongest and most wealthy organisation of its kind in England. Upwards of two hundred and fifty angling clubs are affiliated with the association, representing a membership of nearly eight thousand. Of late years the value of the prize money has been increased until the Sheffield Association sweepstakes has become the most important event of the season. This year £65 in money, besides a lot of minor prizes, was given for competition. The weather at Sheffield on Monday morning was very threatening, but, despite this, upwards of one thousand anglers travelled by special train to Saxilby. Of these, six hundred and seventy paid an entrance fee of one shilling each, this being the largest number of anglers that ever competed in an angling sweepstakes in England. Upwards of three hours was consumed in allotting the competitors their stations, each angler having 10yds. of water. With such an enormous number of anglers, the line (including brakes) was four miles in length, one end extending towards Lincoln, and the other towards Torksley. Fishing began at twelve o'clock and continued until four, but owing to the heavy downpour of rain, which fell incessantly throughout the whole of the four hours allotted for fishing, the catches were the lightest ever taken in a Sheffield Association match, the weights ranging from 1lb. 5¼oz. of the first twenty-two successful anglers down to 6½oz. Last year the winner caught upwards of 10lb. weight, but the light catches of Monday's sweepstakes were entirely owing to the inclement nature of the weather, as the Saxilby Canal is well known to be well stocked with coarse fish. The following were the first twenty-two prize-winners:—

	lb.	oz.	£	s.	d.
W. Wostenholme	1	5¾	5	0	0
W. Arnold	1	5¼	4	0	0
G. Allen, jun.	1	3	3	0	0
W. Newbould	0	13½	2	10	0
George Bailey	0	13¼	2	4	0
—Ladlow	0	12¾	1	18	0
B. Nelson	0	11	1	12	0
T. Gunstone	0	10¾	1	10	0
H. Skinner	0	10½	1	8	0
W. Stanilaw	0	10¼	1	7	0
H. Quixall	0	10	1	6	0
Joe Percy	0	9½	1	5	0
W. Blackburn	0	8½	1	4	0
C. Clark	0	7½	1	3	0

Alf. Crofts, 7½oz., and H. Brown, 7½oz., divided £2 3s.; W. Hall, 7¼oz., £1 1s.; W. Smith, 6¾oz.; J. Brooks, 6¾oz.; J. Platt, 6¾oz.; and W. H. Hall, 6¾oz., divided £3 17s.; H. Hardy, 6½oz., 17s.—*Sporting Life.*

THE DUMFRIESSHIRE OTTER HOUNDS.—On Friday morning the cosy and romantically situated little town of Langholm was the scene of unusual excitement, as Mr. Bell Irving, the Master of the Dumfriesshire Otterhounds, made the hills and woods of Eskdale re-echo the shrill notes of his hunting horn at an early hour. There was a good muster, both on the bridge which spans the Esk, and on the river's side. What a splendid sight! There is the huntsman in correct attire, in the midst of the hounds, whose every hair bristles with excitement, and the terriers too, yelping and barking, in their eagerness for the fray, while several ladies bent on following the hunt on foot, assist in forming a picture seldom seen, even in that picturesque district. At the junction of the Esk and Ewes, a little above Langholm Bridge, the hunt commenced amid a grand burst of music. Near one of the pillars on the side of the river, a lively drag took the hounds off at full cry up to Duchess Bridge, when the otter made for the steep bank, and ran half-way up, hotly pursued by the entire pack and in view of the whole field. It was a false move apparent to all, and not the least so to the most interested party, as the "varmint" quickly retraced his steps and reached the river again in safety. The melody now swelled into a copious volume as the otter steered towards Potholm and reached Potholm Pool, where some grand swimming took place. As seen from both banks the spectacle was animated in the extreme, and the excitement was redoubled when the game again took the bank in the hope of reaching the woods. Once more he was doomed to disappointment, as he was quickly driven back to the water. Steadily the hounds worked in the deep pool, until the game was sighted making down-stream. The hounds were now close up, and the varmint was chased into a syke which leads up to Potholm; finding no refuge here, he turned and ran up the bank towards the river, where he was met by the veteran hound, "Chorus," who resolutely seized the animal and a battle royal took place on the greensward. Soon a terrier joined issue, and the whole pack swooping down on the devoted otter, the unequal conflict was soon at an end. It proved to be a fine dog otter, weighing 22lb., and was presented by the Master to His Grace the Duke of Buccleugh, at Langholm Lodge. The hunt was continued up the water towards Billholm, once the residence of John Wilson, son of Professor Wilson, when the field was considerably augmented, among others being the Misses Borthwick, who joined the hunt, and crossed the river several times. Mr. J. W. J. Paterson, Master of the Eskdale hounds, and other well-known gentlemen now appeared on the scene, but although another drag was lifted, the otter holed, and could not be unearthed, consequently the hounds were called off, and most of the party proceeded to Langholm, delighted with the day's sport.—G.

THE SHREWSBURY SEVERN ANGLING SOCIETY AT HAWKESTONE.

THE weather on Thursday, the 17th inst., was not favourable for angling. Anglers never have held an outing on a really favourable day, and suited to everyone's mind; but the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society had been led by past experience of many previous excursions of a like nature to expect a thoroughly enjoyable day, and they were not disappointed. To them the outing was one of exceptional interest, because it was the first of the season; it was to be held at Hawkestone, at Lord Hill's charming estate; because the host and hostess of the hotel hard by are famed for their catering; and lastly, because there are thousands of fish in the spacious lake from an inch or two long to monsters of the deep, whose proportions were only to be darkly hinted at as creatures more to be shunned than courted by the gentle angler. With these pleasant anticipations, therefore, it was a merry party of some forty or fifty anglers that assembled at early morn in the two brakes chartered for their accommodation. All reached Hawkestone in the best of spirits, full of anticipation, and loaded with all the deadly baits that the mind of murderous angler could conceive—from the innocent bread-paste to the deadly spoon-bait, and from the gentle worm to the silvery dace wherewith to lure the voracious pike. The drive from Shrewsbury was a pleasant one, and at ten o'clock the party landed at Hawkestone. A brisk walk through the charming park, dotted with the pretty silver grey, black, white, and grey rabbits, and stately, timid deer, brings the party to the edge of the great lake. Then all is bustle and activity, and very quickly the boats are got out, rods and tackle hurriedly prepared, and places sought by those whose misfortune it is to have to angle from the bank, which on the deep side, where lie the most fish, is thickly wooded. The scene is an animated one—here an expectant boat-load of anglers being rowed to the best part by the sturdy keeper, there a quartet of old hands in the Pengwern dinghy, looking for their own happy hunting-ground, made famous by the splendid captures made there two years ago; and at the side of the lake a line of enthusiastic anglers forcing their way through bush and brier, entangling lines, losing hooks, breaking tackle, tearing clothing, and using—well, language quite appropriate to the occasion. But soon they all settle down; boats are anchored, lines set, temper recovered, and places found on the bank. And then angling begins in real earnest and continues till lunch-time, when there is a general move for the boats which are plying to and from the boathouse, where luncheon is prepared. Here, with pride, Mr. Boulton displays his 7lb. pike and another of smaller dimensions which have fallen victims to his skill; Mr. Cox relates how he has battled with and conquered a 2lb. perch—a beauty, indeed; and many others modestly relate their doings, casually mentioning that they have caught so many, but carefully refraining from remarking upon their size.

Luncheon over, all are soon at work again, and so the fun continues throughout the afternoon. At dusk a general move is made for Hawkstone Hotel, and there the spoil is displayed. Mr. Pritchard has captured a 2lb. bream—the only heavy fish since luncheon time—and many others have brought to bank their half-dozen or so of small perch. The basket of Messrs. Morris, Piper, Gregory, and Smith comes in for a good deal of criticism. It holds no less than one hundred and seventy perch and roach, and two small pike, but as for size, well it is sufficient to mention that one medium-sized creel held the lot. Then the company sat down to one of the best dinners that Host and Hostess Williams have ever prepared.

Mr. Morris presided, and Mr. Williams took the vice-chair, among the anglers present being Messrs. Binnall, J. Turner, H. W. Hughes, Toutham, Ledger, B. Pritchard, H. Smith, Boulton, Gregory, Jones, Kent, B. Harries, Brown, Piper, Hagger, Edwards, Aitken, Cox, Jackson, Jolliffe, &c.

The after-dinner conversation was, of course, all about angling. Mr. Smith related how he had helped to swell that big creel of perch by the aid of two rods and three hand-lines; and Mr. Boulton told an awful tale of the tremendous pike that he had seen in the lake, winding up by expressing his conviction that there were monsters there of unheard-of proportions, so great in fact that he "would not swim across it for a thousand pounds." However, the money was not forthcoming, and the angler's courage was not put to so awful a test, or it would be a question whether avarice would not get the better of his fear.

Dinner over, Mr. Morris gave the loyal toasts and afterwards "Our Noble Selves," or "Success to the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society," a toast that was received with loud applause. There were, he said, few societies that could look back upon such a record as theirs, and which after twelve years' existence were in as lively and prosperous a state as the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society. Mr. J. Williams's name was coupled with the toast which was drunk with the utmost enthuisasm.

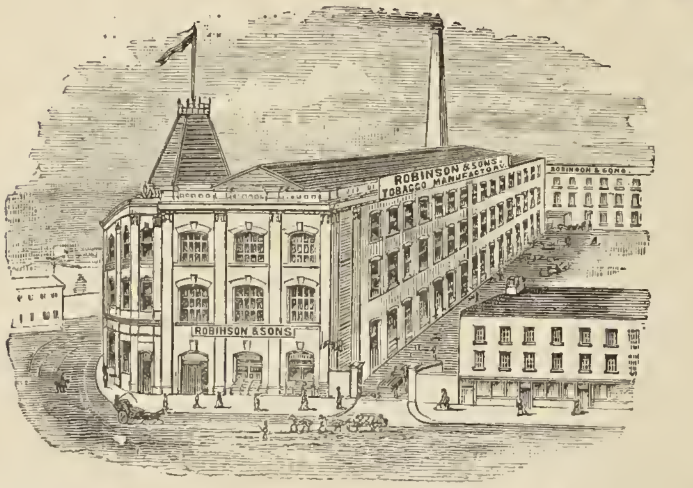
The Hon. Secretary, responding, expressed the pleasure it gave him to see that so many anglers had responded to the invitation to attend that gathering, and he was pleased also to find by the expression of their faces that they had thoroughly enjoyed themselves, although sport had not been so good as they might have wished. With regard to the work of the society, he believed it was doing a good deal for the benefit of the town of Shrewsbury, and although he was not a Shrewsbury man himself, he was ever desirous of assisting them in contributing to the interests of the town. He believed that in the Severn they had a river that ought to be second to none as a trout as well as salmon fishing river. He was glad to say that during that week the Chief Inspector of Fisheries, Mr. Berrington, was making an inspection of the weirs and other obstructions to fish getting up the river, from the estuary to its source. If the desired improvements were carried out they would have salmon angling at Shrewsbury as well as trout fishing. He would suggest that if any of them were riparian owners they should take out a salmon licence and attend the Board of Conservators meetings as *ex-officio* members, thus being able to support them with their vote. They had an important motion coming on at the next meeting, with regard to the extension of the close season, and he hoped that the representatives of the upper waters would all attend and look after their interests. In conclusion he thanked them all for the support he had at all times received from the members of the society and its committee, as their secretary.

The evening's proceedings closed with the health of the host and hostess being heartily drunk. Then there was a general move for the boats, and the party were speedily on their return journey, home being reached at ten o'clock, the whole of the party voting the excursion one of the most enjoyable that the society has ever had.

PULBOROUGH AND AMBERLEY FISHING EXCURSIONS.—The success and pleasure which the last fishing match and outing in the Sussex valley afforded to anglers generally has induced Mr. A. A. Eldridge, of the Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road, to arrange for another open roving contest, which has been fixed for Oct. 4, the competitors on this occasion starting their operations from Amberley. For the last event twenty-seven prizes were awarded, and it is hoped this time, if the necessary subscriptions are forthcoming, to increase the number to thirty. The principal contributions up to the present are Mr. W. Duke, Haughton Bridge Inn, Amberley, £2 2s.; Mr. Eldridge, £2 2s.; Mr. C. Cunningham, St. George and Dragon, Houghton, £1 10s.; Mr. Ratley, the Cricketers, 10s. 6d.; and Mr. Ellwood, Red Lion, Amberley, 11s. 11¾d. The entrance fees of sixpence are to be added to other amounts which are expected to be given, so that in all probability, if the entries are large, as seems likely, there will be an aggregate apportioned sum set apart to be competed for. The conditions and requirements are very simple—no live bait to be used; jack, eels, pope, dabs, bleak and gudgeon barred; Thames measure; no one to fish within ten yards of another without his consent; one rod only to be carried; all competitors to land their own fish; and any disputes that may occur are to be settled by the stewards, who will be conspicuously indicated by a rosette, or some distinctive badge or medal, at the river side. One particular will have to be carefully observed, which is that all competitors must see that their tickets are properly stamped at the Houghton Bridge Inn before leaving for the swims, for anyone neglecting to do so will be disqualified. The tickets for the contest are to be had from Mr. Eldridge only, and all entries will close on the evening of the day prior to that of the contest. The special train will continue to run during the coming month, leaving London Bridge (L. B. and S. C.) platform at five minutes to seven in the morning.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.—At the meeting held on Wednesday, September 23, the hon. sec. heard from two of the members, fishing at the present time in Scotland: Mr. H. Hardes, one salmon, 20lb., one grilse, 9lb.; Mr. E. Foreman, sen., one grilse, 8lb., five salmon, 17lb., 18½lb., 19lb., 20lb., and 22lb.

A STRANGE FISH.—On Thursday week a remarkable fish was caught in the fishermen's net off Ardglass. It was ¾lb. weight, with a head like a pike. From the gills to the tail on each side there was a bright vivid line of deep blue, a ¼in. broad. The top fins of the tail were also a vivid blue. Round the head and shoulders there was a profuse network of deep blue lines about the eighth of an inch broad, which gave the fish an unnatural appearance. Being an object of wonder it was exhibited amongst the inhabitants of Ardglass, who had never seen any fish resembling it. Mr. J. C. Pinkerton, Italian Consul, Belfast, in passing through the town had his attention called to it, and purchased it. Mr. Pinkerton intends preserving this rare specimen, and presenting it to the Belfast Museum.



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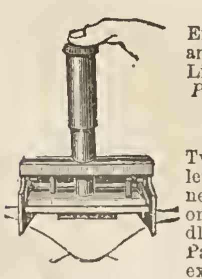

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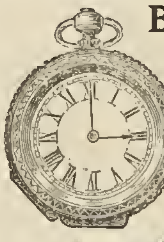

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The Fishing Gazette is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. Marston, the Editor of the Fishing Gazette, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, 1891.

HINTS TO AUTUMN ANGLERS.

LURES.

By Mac.

Under the spinner division of lures are included Phantom, Devon, spoon, and all the natural and imitation baits with which spinning is practised. Amongst these the best in autumn for salmon, sea trout, and finnock are Phantom, Devon, natural minnow, gudgeon, and sand-eel. Phantom, natural minnow, and gudgeon, seem on the whole the most extensively used, hence the deadliest baits for salmon; but not very far from the sea, and when the fish are fresh or moderately fresh-run, the clear Devon is without a doubt very effective in taking toll of the resting travellers. Sand-eel is used only for spinning in tideways for sea trout and finnock, and nowhere where it can be properly used is there any deadlier lure, particularly for the larger fish. It is chiefly from boats that the spinning with it is practised, and undoubtedly—for reasons which it were needless to name here—there is a great future before it. But it comes to us almost exclusively as a summer-time angling variety, and so to speak of it at any length would scarcely be opportune at the present time. The sand-eel, however, we may say is baited on three triangles and a lip hook, on the Chapman spinner, or on the Archer spinner. But no doubt something still better for securing the fish will yet be brought out. Phantom, natural minnow or gudgeon, not one of them is much used for sea trout or finnock fishing; but the Devon—especially the clear one—is, when conditions answer, a nailer in tideways, which no lure, not even sand-eel, tube, haddock liver or worm can excel. The sizes of it most used and most fatal for spinning from boat or bank are those of $1\frac{1}{4}$in., $1\frac{1}{2}$in., and $1\frac{3}{4}$in. in length. No colour of Devon is nearly so fatal as the clear or silver one; perhaps next to it—but a long way behind—comes the bronze or copper-coloured one. For salmon, however, especially when they have been up from the sea a considerable time, the clear Devon has no chance against the coloured—those painted different colours, and to resemble small fishes.

Under the best fishing conditions for finnock and sea trout in tidal waters, the prevailing best size of all of the clear Devon is $1\frac{1}{2}$in. It requires very low fine water, with running tackle to match, for the 1in. and $1\frac{1}{4}$in. sizes. Heavy waters, and rough stormy days, may make it necessary to use a 2in. size. The salmon sizes of the Devon, whatever the colour be, run from 2in. to 3in. It is rare indeed to find any size under 2in., or over 3in. absolutely necessary. The blue, and the brown, are decidedly—of the Phantom class—the best all-round killers. One suits at the one time, and the other at the other best, but I think that, in the main, it is more a matter of preference on the part of the fisher than the fish. The most useful sizes are 5, 6, and 7; 5 being probably the favourite with the bulk of fishers for general work. I place the Phantom far before the Devon as a lure for back-end salmon, which have got pretty far inland, or been over a week's time out of the sea and tideway. Slow spinning with it pays best, and I would seek to emphasise this remark. By no means spin the Phantom fast. Fish it unloaded where there appears likely to be much bother with stones or stuff on the bottom. But have it loaded where the water is very deep or strong; indeed, deep sinking and slow working is best everywhere, except in shallow water, where the bait is constantly in danger of sticking in, or on something or other much less pleasant to the angler to get a hold of than a fish. I have invariably observed that the longer the salmon and grilse are out of the sea, and the farther they get inland or up the rivers, the more do they show a preference for spinning and bottom lures over the fly. This does not mean that they get better and better takers the farther and longer from the sea they are. No; for the fact is they get worse takers. It only means that fly very much sooner than the other lures, and in a far greater degree corresponding with its previous relative merit, loses its effectiveness with the fish.

(To be continued.)

— AT SLAPTON LEY. —

By E. S. Shrubsole.

A dip in the billow,
A stroll by the shore;
Plenty of fishing,
And cream galore!
(With an apology to Mr. Punch.)

There are those who delight in spending a holiday amid a continual round of excitement, noise, and bustle; others assert that perfect happiness is only to be found "in a nook with a hook"; while yet another section of society laud to the skies the advantages of a holiday in bed! It takes all sorts to make a world. Most anglers prefer to spend their holiday far from the haunts of the cheap tripper, away from the noise of popular amusements and promenade bands. By the banks of those

"Shallow rivers to whose falls
Melodious birds sing madrigals"

the quiet piscator finds peace, and the much-needed rest from the hurry and hustle of business. Lingering by the weedy depths of the old mill pool, whose quiet surroundings are intensified by the occasional cry of the moorhen, the hum of innumerable insects, and the brilliant flash of the kingfisher, he finds soothing solace for his jaded spirits. Not for him are the merry-go-rounds and shooting galleries; he finds no pleasure in tourist-thronged continental resorts, "happy days" at Rosherville, racing up and down the Thames, or hurrying to 'Appy 'Ampstead. Popular sea-side resorts have no attraction for him, theatres, music-halls, and exhibitions are a bore; he only wants to obey the father of all anglers,

"And be quiet, and go angling!"

At Slapton Ley, in South Devonshire, such an angler will find a holiday resort after his own heart. Some might say it is too far from everywhere, but this—to me—is its chief attraction. You can sit in your fishing boat all day, and the while you puff the smoke of the fragrant leaf of the New World from the dusky briar of the old, only the ceaseless plash of the waves on the sea shore—the Ley runs parallel with the sea for about two and a-half miles, and only two hundred yards from it—the startled cry of the curlew, the plaintive call of the sandpiper, or the coot! coot! of the wild fowl, will interrupt the silence. Your day-dreams here are delightful—but short. The float that has been dancing upon the surface soon again disappears, and yet another fish is added to your catch.

The route to this angling resort is by Great Western Railway to Kingswear, across the Dart (by steam ferry) to Dartmouth, and then (by coach) to the Royal Sands Hotel, Slapton. It is an interesting railway journey, and the latter portion of it is wonderfully pretty—it is not grand, pretty is the word—the innumerable small bays, the warm-coloured Devonshire cliffs, the quiet and health-promoting sea-side resorts, and, as one lets down the carriage window, the invigorating whiff from the "briny" on one side, and the aroma from the heather on the other, all combine to refresh the traveller and make him forget the long railway journey he has accomplished. There is no fagged feeling when you alight at Kingswear; at any rate I only felt terrificly hungry. I also generally carry a pretty healthy thirst about with me, and I got caught at Dartmouth. A friend of mine had advised me to try the native drink—Plymouth Gin I think they call it—and I did so. Great Scott! I am not the man to refuse a drink, but I'd certainly rather continue thirsty than take another swig at P. G. I had to swallow a pint of milk before I could speak, and then my language was more forcible than polite, I am afraid.

I consider the view of the mouth of the Dart, as seen from the upper part of Dartmouth, with Kingswear so snugly ensconsed on the verdure-clad bank, Kingswear Castle on one side, and Dartmouth Castle on the other, the rich red rocks framing the broad river of glorious green, and the stolen peep at the sea beyond—one of the finest in the kingdom. Some folks call the Dart the English Rhine; the Rhine should be called the continental Dart, for it isn't in it with our lovely west country river.

The coach left Dartmouth for Slapton punctually. I shared the box-seat with an angler also bound for the Ley, and when we found we should probably spend a week at the same hotel, we got quite chummy—as anglers should. He pulled out an old number of the *Fishing Gazette*, dated July 26, 1890, and drew my attention to what Mr. Fountaine had to say of Slapton Ley. I ventured to inquire if he was a constant reader of the *F. G.*

"Oh! yes," he said; "I've taken it for years now. I've got several old numbers with me containing articles that I have read more than once. Do you read it?"

"Well," I returned, "sometimes."

"Ah! then I suppose you have seen some articles by a Mr. Shrubsole?"

I told him I had occasionally noticed them.

"What an awful liar that man is," he continued, "and yet there is something about him interesting. Do you remember his 'Bob Webb's Big Day' in the Christmas number for '89, and 'An Angling Incident Foretold' last Christmas?" I nodded. "Well, would you think the same man wrote them that produces all those stupid lying tales, like that of catching a pike with a slipper, a pike chasing a man for miles up a river, another with 7lb. of pebbles in it, &c., &c.?" I told him I couldn't see why he shouldn't.

"Well, I should like to meet him," he continued, "because he's undoubtedly an enthusiastic angler. Look at that 'Up with the Yellow,' he wrote a short time back. And then he goes and spoils it all by writing up a lot of tackle makers, and we *all* know what *they* are!"

I thought it was getting pretty warm for yours truly, and reminded my companion that Mr. Shrubsole was not the only angling writer who wrote lying tales.

"Certainly not," he said, "but I cannot see the sense of filling a paper devoted to sport with such absurdities. Look at that tale of a perch that followed its master about, begged for worms, and ultimately got drowned—now, what sense is there in that?"

"Well, so far as that goes," I replied, "there might be some truth in it. I know an angler who caught a perch and took it home alive, got a shallow tin dish filled with water, and put it inside a bird-cage with the perch in it. The cage was hung alongside one containing a canary, and in a short time the fish was taught to hop out of the water on to the wood twig, and in course of time it learnt to sing—not quite so melodiously as the canary—but very passable for a perch. It got so used to imitating the bird that when the canary moulted its feathers, the perch moulted its scales. The end of that fish was lamentable—when the canary moulted its tail, the fish tried hard but couldn't do the same, and it died of a broken heart!"

A long-drawn "Ah—h—h!" proceeded from my companion, and when I capped the perch tale by giving him my card, his face was a perfect study. But we got on capitally together, and yet another friendship was shortly after cemented in the angling world.

The coach drive from Dartmouth to Slapton is very enjoyable. On the top of the cliffs a magnificent view of the bay and the surrounding scenery can be had; the latter part of the journey is along by the sands, and we bowled over the level ground, sounded the horn, and pulled up at the hotel in orthodox style.

Why they call it an hotel I am at a loss to understand. I always associate the word hotel with a number and a limited amount of "at home" feeling. Now the Royal Sands is a regular good old-fashioned country inn. You are Mr. Shrubsole there, and not No. 123. You soon become friendly with the inmates, principally fishermen; the host and hostess inspire confidence and a certainty of good things to come directly you look at them; and altogether you feel quite at home. I should take down "Hotel" and put up "Inn."

Of the delightful strolls, with my pipe as my companion in the evenings, of the perfect peace and content that filled my soul during my short stay here, I must say little, but must hasten to describe the fish and fishing at Slapton.

In the first place, then, you can only obtain permission to fish from Mr. Dowse, the landlord of the Sands Hotel. If you stay at the hotel you have your fishing free; if you don't, you have to pay two shillings and sixpence per day for it. The charge for a man and a boat is four shillings per day, and it is impossible to fish the water without. The Ley is about four hundred acres in extent, and provides excellent sport with its big stock of pike, perch, and rudd. Anglers who have fished here for many years say there are not so many big pike caught as there used to be. Of this more anon; all I can say is, there are plenty now. One day while I was there two anglers had twenty runs and nineteen fish, but none above 8lb. Another day an angler had a big-headed fish of 11lb., and yet another one of 8½lb. When the water and weather are right you can make sure of from three to four brace of pike; probably more. When there are not you have to fish hard to get a brace. The local fishermen use clothes-lines and anchors to catch them with. I should advise anyone going down to take a fairly stout line (because of the weeds) and hooks mounted on fairly strong gimp—salmon gut-traces are not needed. The principal style in vogue there for catching them—and certainly the best—is spinning. An ordinary Thames flight is just the thing. You must not use any lead, or your bait will be down among the weeds in a twink. The bottom of the Ley is covered with weed. Spin about a foot, from that to 20in., below the surface, and when a fish strikes your bait, hit him and hold him! By way of change you can resort to a live-bait; gorge-bait fishing is not allowed. The native rudd are the baits used; but wouldn't those pike go for a live Thames dace! The trouble would be to get them down alive; in fact, it would almost be an impossibility. The route is such an out-of-the-way one, the coach drive alone would do for them. But I strongly advise anyone to take some nice fresh dead dace packed in sawdust, and get a fresh supply by post daily. They, of course, are all right for spinning, and form a much more attractive lure than a rudd.

Many fish have been taken here over 20lb. weight. There was a list of them given in our columns on July 26, 1890, page 45. In the bar is hung one of 27½lb., that an angler caught while fishing with Eli, the "boss" boatman here.

For years he had tried to catch a big pike
In the right way.
He'd spin, he'd troll—or trail if you like,
On a bright day;

On a dull day he'd pater.
Try a live bait in deep water,
But his luck he couldn't alter
In any way!

He'd engage the services of fishermen rare
By the week.
He'd go to good water—he got leave there
By his cheek.

He'd try single gut and twisted,
All his efforts were resisted
By the fish, his friends insisted,
For a freak.

As years rolled on he continued to fish
When he was free,
And succeeded at last in gaining his wish
At Slapton Ley;

He was spinning with old Eli
When he uttered quite a wild cry,
Followed by a very deep sigh,
And a "d——!"

He thought he'd hooked and lost that fish,
But he'd not.
It was six p.m. when he struck—with a swish;
A good shot.

All through the night his heart was gay
Thirteen hours he had it in play,
And Eli gaffed it at seven next day;
Great Scott!

If you doubt this, go to Slapton, and see the fish and the inscription at the back of the case for yourself.

When the pike are on the feed at Slapton they will occupy all your time, when they are not, you can fish for perch or rudd. The Ley literally swarms with them. I have taken two hundred and seventy perch in four hours and a-half, none of them any size (the large perch in the Ley, although there are plenty, are not often caught: I suppose it is because they are not *really* fished for); they average rather under than over ½lb. It's rare fine fun, and that's all. Perhaps over-stocking has something to do with it; at any rate, out of the two hundred and seventy I caught, not one would weigh 1lb. In this connection I would like to remark that very few fish are kept. What can you do with them? You are miles away from everywhere, and it's only when you are about to leave that you keep a day's catch to take back with you; or perhaps during your stay you may send a hamper or two to your friends.

What would we give for a few thousands of these perch for our Thames? Is there not some way in which they could be transferred? A small steam-boat could be run on Slapton Sands, some big fish-carriers utilised, and the fish taken to one of the many sea-side stations on the Great Western Railway between Exeter and Kingswear; from thence their transport to some Thames station would be a simple thing. I am sure the Ley could well spare twenty or thirty thousand; those left—and their name would be legion—would fatten, and such a thing as to catch a hundred without getting hold of a few really fine fish would be impossible. In return for their perch the proprietors of Slapton Ley could receive a consignment of pike; fresh blood is wanted. I believe that one great reason of the falling-off in the size of the Ley pike is the continual interbreeding. Mind, I do not say anything against the Slapton Fishery, I think it an excellent one, but I do say that a little fresh blood would soon produce a marked result, and twenty-pounders would be as common as of yore.

There are plenty of fine rudd in the Ley. The most artistic way of catching them during the hot months is to use a 12ft. fly rod and put any attractive large dace fly or small chub fly over them; grand sport can be had, the fish running up to 2lb. each, with plenty of pounders. 20lb. or 30lb. of rudd in a day is not at all an uncommon occurrence. I firmly believe that if a few of the deeper parts of the Ley were cleared of the weeds on the bottom, and properly baited about now, a marvellous catch of rudd would result. I mean, of course, the cleared spots to be fished in the well-known Lea tight-line style. If you run short of baits when pike fishing here, the boatman runs you to some of the reeds, and in a quarter of an hour, fishing about a foot or 18in. deep, you have plenty to go on with.

Can I say more to recommend this fishery to my readers? If so, please suppose it said. As many know, my experiences of English fisheries are pretty decently extended, and without hesitation I say this is one of the best public fisheries we have. It is quiet, healthy, and provides excellent sport. Good accommodation and a very liberal table will be found at the hotel, and charges are moderate throughout. Those who are fond of shooting will find plenty of use for their cartridges here. Ten guns in one day, last winter, had seventeen hundred head of wild fowl of varied sorts. Mr. Dowse has about two thousand five hundred acres of ground to shoot over, and the enormous number of pheasants, partridges, &c., in addition to the wild fowl provide grand sport.

Within five miles is one of the finest sea fishing grounds on the west coast—I allude to that part of Start Bay close to Start Point.

Innumerable pleasure trips by coach and sailing-boat are available, and grand sea bathing—without those abominable bathing machines—is close at hand. Artists will find here many subjects for their pencil and brush; the geologist will not long remain unoccupied; some of the best Devonshire ferns are obtainable in Slapton Woods, and in many other directions the botanist will find much to occupy his time.

Altogether, it is *the* spot for such an angler as I pictured in the opening part of this article; if he goes there he will thank me for the information conveyed through the medium of these columns.

FISHING IN HOLLAND.

By Rux.

Anyone examining a map of Holland will probably be surprised that a country of so singular a formation can exist upon the face of the earth. It will almost seem as if a territory so much cut up by waterways is more suitable for fish and amphibious animals than for the homes of human beings, the inhabitants of which must be in continual fear lest during their slumbers their Vaterland should melt away and suddenly disappear. It has been variously described by different writers: one calling it a kind of transition between land and water; another, a huge crust of earth floating upon the waters; whilst a few speak of it as the boundary line where land ends and the ocean begins. Holland, however, has not only repulsed the assaults of the waters, but has actually mastered them to such a degree that the enemy, which once threatened annihilation to the country, has finally become a source, not of wealth alone, but also a means of defence in the event of war; and the network of canals are now the principal highways and bye-ways in general use.

Although many English tourists pass through a portion of Holland on their way to the German Rhine, it cannot be said that the land of dykes and windmills is a country that is universally patronised by those in search of either sport or scenery.

Close as Holland is to Albion's shores, the tourist, on making his first visit to this portion of the Netherlands, more especially the part known as Zeeland, will be surprised to find the manners, dress, and customs of such near neighbours as different to those that he has been used to meet with in his own dear Isle as those even of the distant lands of China or Japan.

Zeeland is a land of romance and mystery, and in no other country, certainly on the continent of Europe, does anything take place such as happens in Zeeland.

It is here the fishermen catch the mermaid in their nets, whose husband, after having tearfully and vainly begged for his wife to be restored to him, revenges himself by throwing a handful of sand at his tormentors, prophesying that it will block up their harbours. On the shores of the Island of Walcheren the souls of the dead lost at sea come and awake the fishermen from their sleep. Ancient temples and statues of unknown gods and goddesses have been fished up at low tide near Domburg on this island; the gale has brought dead bodies from the pole to the Island of Schowen; carcases, half men, half vessel, floating mummies, swaddled up in trunks of trees, specimens of which can be seen in the Town Hall of Zierkze.

With so many canals and inland lakes, to say nothing of such splendid rivers as the Scheldt, Rhine, and Maas, it is natural to suppose fish is plentiful. In days of old the Dutch possessed the largest fishing fleet in the world, and it is asserted by some writers that the piles on which the city of Amsterdam is built are driven into a strata, mainly composed of the bones of herring.

There is no mistake about a purchaser obtaining fresh fish in Holland, as the methodical Dutchman disposes of his herring and mackerel alive and kicking. It is rather amusing to watch a crowd of customers, assembled on the banks of one of the canals, where is moored a "smack." A board is nailed to the mast, bearing the announcement, "Vish to Koop" (Fish to sell). In the boat stands the proprietor, having before him, fastened to an upright piece of wood, a weighing apparatus, consisting of a beam, with a scale to hold the weights on one end, and an open bag or net on the other. In the centre of the boat is a large tank, in which fish of all sorts and sizes swim. The boatman holds a rod, with a net at the end, and with this instrument doles out the fish to customers according to requirements.

Although the natives of Holland are exceptionally good sea fishermen they cannot claim to be true disciples of Izaak Walton. Their rods, lines, and hooks are of a very primitive description, and their mode of angling peculiar and somewhat different to the artistic styles practised by the British sportsman. The Dutch fisherman can be seen lazily seated on the bank of a canal, anxiously watching his float in hopes of a bite, and every now and then he will violently strike the surface of the water with the top of his rod, thus making a great splash; the theory being that the disturbance in the water attracts the fish, which, strange to relate, the fisherman generally manages to catch. The Dutchman has also another method of taking fish, which may not exactly meet with the approbation of a true lover of the gentle art. The fisherman is provided with a long pole, forked at the end, so as to keep open a bag-net which is fastened to it. With this instrument in his hands he creeps along the canal bank facing the sun, so that his shadow may not be cast on the water, and looks out for fish, which his experienced eye generally soon detects. He then cautiously puts his net under the fish, which he sees stationary before him, and quickly lifts it out of the water.

There are plenty of salmon in the rivers of Holland, especially in the Maas; but unfortunately they afford no sport, as the fish will neither take fly nor bait. The *modus operandi* of net-fishing is, however, interesting, although, perhaps, to lovers of the rod a rather tantalising sight. A small steamer tows the line attached to one end of the net, while on the bank men haul on another one. The steamer having proceeded, say quarter of a mile, returns and joins the men. As soon as both ends are united the two lines are fastened together, and the net with the spoil is drawn out on the bank with the aid of a horse.

Although the several waters of Holland afford little or no fly-fishing, the canals are well stocked with pike, perch, roach, carp, and eels; and excellent sport can be had bait-fishing.

Should a small pleasure party visit Holland, the most comfortable way to traverse these water highways is in a flat-bottomed smack, which can be obtained at reasonable rates at such seaport towns as Flushing or Ternewzen. The main cabins of these craft are large and roomy but will no doubt require a little fitting up for the sportsman's comfort. Hammocks with cork mattresses will be found convenient for sleeping berths, which, together with blankets, should be purchased in England. A small cooking-stove, with necessary utensils, a mess kit, and provisions to complete the outfit, can be bought in Holland.

For the privilege of using rod or gun in this country the visitor requires a licence, which costs about eight guilders (£1), and can be procured through the *Ontvanger* (tax collector) of any town the traveller determines to use as his headquarters during his visit to the country.

In the principal cities some of the hotels are very good; but in the smaller towns and villages it is difficult, and almost impossible to obtain accommodation. This, however, makes but little difference to the fisherman who has procured a fifteen-ton schuyt, and had it fitted out as a small floating palace to suit his requirements. Provisions are cheap, and excellent tea, wine, and spirits can be purchased in Holland.

The traveller will find the Dutch a thrifty people; and although to some they may appear somewhat tardy in their movements, are obliging and honest in their dealings.

Should the sportsman determine to remain in the province of Zeeland for some time he will find Ternewzen a convenient rendezvous. The most direct route to reach this point is by the boats which leave either Harwich or Queensboro' for Flushing, from whence small steamers cross the Western Scheldt three times a day.

For several seasons the writer made Ternewzen his headquarters, and on the canal and also on the lagoons at Axel, through which the former passes, on its way to Ghent, had some capital sport with both rod and gun. The angling in the canal is free; but to either fish or shoot on the lagoons it will be necessary to ask permission from the Boer's, who live in the neighbourhood, and hold the controlling interest. A silver key, costing a few shillings, will be almost certain to open the door to intending fishermen.

Although the angler or gunner in these parts will be in the wilds of Holland, a short trip by the spoor (train) will take him to Ghent, and a few hours to the Belgian capital (Brussels)—both cities too well known to the travelling community to require any further comment.

Unfortunately the fishing in Dutch waters will in no way compare with that to be obtained in the streams of many other countries; yet to the sportsman who is willing for a time to dispense with scientific angling with the fly the canals of Holland are to be commended.

To the lovers of wild-fowl shooting the chance, both on the coast and inland, of making big bags is excellent.

The skating is renowned; and although the canals, both in summer and winter, are the principal highways of the inhabitants, yet in no country in Europe is there better opportunity for a "wheelman" to test his capabilities than on some of the splendidly-kept roads of the Netherlands.

To add to the above inducements, there is something so quaint in this country, so different in every respect to all its neighbours, that the visitor will be doubtlessly much interested in a land so ably described by Oliver Goldsmith in the "Traveller":—

> "To men of other minds my fancy flies,
> Embosomed in the deep where Holland lies."

Notes

An angling friend, who has been at Newtown Stewart, Ireland, writes: "By the way, Newtown Stewart is a capital place, and fully bears out all Professor Brown said in his letter in the *Gazette* in spring. I killed five salmon one day on the fly, and had I not been flooded away during the following week, I think there would have been no difficulty in repeating the performance. Trouting is also first-rate in spring. I made excellent baskets in very bad weather in April last."

A fine specimen of the black otter, measuring three feet nine inches, was caught at Burnhervie, near Kemnay, Aberdeenshire, the other day.

Mr. Alfred Nuthall, J.P., of Kingston-on-Thames, and chairman of the T.A.P.S., in writing from Scarborough, where he is now visiting says: "I have had some excellent sport here. During the last three days I have taken, with rod and line, some good baskets of codling, silver whiting, gurnets, and dabs. Sea fishing here is now in perfection; but anglers must be fairly good sailors, as at this time of the year there are occasional nasty ground-swells on. If the weather permits, I intend to see what can be done with the rod and line—Nottingham reel and single salmon gut trace and hooks. I am using one of Slater's new rods and reel, which carries two hundred yards of dressed line well."

Mr. C. W. Gedney, writing from his old quarters on the Bann, says that, thanks to the wet autumn, all the flax water has long since disappeared, and there is now a good stock of clean fish in the river. A succession of gales have somewhat interfered with sport during the past fortnight, and the water is still very high; but his record of only two blank days out of eight (up to date of writing) is not a bad score on a semi-public river. As yet the big autumn fish have not put in an appearance there, and 17lb. has been the largest taken within the past fortnight, the average being from 10lb. to 12lb. The strong southerly gales now prevailing will, however, bring the laggards up, he says, and as there are only two rods on the long stretch of water available to persons taking weekly tickets (price one guinea), persons on the look-out for autumn salmon fishing might do worse than take a trip to the Bann, making Kilrea their headquarters. The killing flies have been Dan O'Fee's Blue and Claret and his dressing of the Judge. The gold spoon has also killed in the high water.

The death is announced of Mr. Robert Fraser Hall, which took place at his residence, 31, Prospect-vale, Fairfield, Liverpool, on Saturday week. Mr. Hall, who was at one time connected with the Post-office at Carlisle, was well known in this district because of his amiable and kindly disposition. He was a noted angler, and his feats in this particular sport will be long remembered by those who knew him. Deceased was forty-six years of ago.

A friend who is salmon fishing in Scotland, who recently killed five fish in one day, including a thirty-two pounder, describes a bit of extraordinary bad luck. He says he "lost fourteen fish in succession without one taking a proper hold." He is a first-rate fisherman, which makes the affair all the more extraordinary. In the spring we lost five or six fish in succession (not on the same day), and then killed six in succession, all on the same day.

So far this is the best back-end angling season that has been experienced on the river Ythan for a number of years. Some of the parties having permits from Lord Aberdeen have been getting two and three fine large fish in a day's fishing.

As a statement made by "Mac" in his article last week may cause some to wonder, and be misleading to others, he desires to take the earliest opportunity of correcting it. For "rivers north of the Ness" substitute "*not* north of the Ness." The omission of the word *not* escaped "Mac's" notice when correcting proof. Not one river north of the Ness, the Brora excepted, has a run, in good strength, in September and early in October, of the class of fish found at the same time in great abundance in such rivers as Spey, Deveron, Don, Dee, North Esk, Tay, Forth and Tweed.

Eight hundred fish—salmon and grilse—have already been killed on one of the hotel fisheries in Scotland this year. For April one of the rods had close upon a hundred. Should the water pretty continuously during this month be in good ply, it is not unlikely that the take for the whole year will reach the four figures. We do not give the name of the fishery. You know——, following a big fish "rise" to the anglers might be a big rent "rise" upon the lessee! It is often so.

Although the netting season is over, and the sale of salmon in England is illegal, enormous quantities of back-end fish continue to be received for sale by Scotch fishmongers. This sort of thing in the "extended time"—surely meant by the framers of the Act to be a time *solely* for sport, not profit—is getting worse every year; and so long as there is nothing in Scotch fishery law to prevent it, poachers may kill and consign with impunity. There is urgent need, in view of the prodigious development of a traffic so contrary to the spirit of the Act, that the Scotch Fishery Board should promptly take steps for dealing effectively with the matter. It has several times been brought under their notice by their inspector, Mr. Young.

The Scotch Fishery Board has recently issued their Report for the year 1890. As was the Report for the previous year, it is divided into three parts: Statistics; salmon fisheries; scientific investigations. Probably some of the things in Part II. will prove of interest to salmon anglers.

Last week the Duke of Richmond and Gordon presided at a meeting of the Spey Board. His Grace, it is understood, heartily approves of everything being done that looks likely to increase the stock of Spey fish, and better the angling all along the river, without at the same time depreciating the value of any individual fishery.

Once more, as has been the case for several years back, the talk is revived of the Deveron proprietors being about to buy up the Duke of Fife's Rackdyke and net fishings *in the river*, which would be stopped in order to convert the Deveron from a purely netting into a first-rate spring and summer angling river. But will this ever be done? No more praiseworthy fishery enterprise could the proprietors show.

The Duchess of Roxburghe is amongst the successful salmon anglers on the Tweed this autumn. A remarkably lucky rod has been the Attorney-General for Ireland, who in four days caught twenty-three fish, his best day being nine.

Some first-rate large fish are being caught on the Panmure Arms Hotel Waters of the North Esk at Edzell, Forfarshire. The fishing is *free*.

The Fiddich grilse and sea trout fishing, to which we recently directed the attention of anglers, has not for years been so good at any time, as it was last week. The water was in perfect order, and fish were coming up in great numbers from the Spey.

A very large burn trout (from the Bervic Burn), but in wretched condition—a regular "cock-kipper"—was shown in the window of James Brown, fishmonger, Aberdeen, last week.

Not for long have Shin, Oykel, and Cassley, fished nearly so well as this year. The benefit to the angling on these rivers, which it was anticipated would result from the Duke of Sutherland abandoning his netting, has been—and speedily too—even more than fully realised. The Shin fished well up to the very last day.

With the beginning of the tailing away of the late great flood, an immense number of "brown and black toads," of little (migratory), back-lying fishes, cleared the falls of Feugh at Banchory.

Sir John Gladstone, Bart., of Fasque, caught four large salmon on the North Esk within an hour on Friday evening last week. His uncle (the ex-Premier) was his guest at the time.

As a result of the alterations made on the Muggiemoss Mill dam-dyke last year, fish can now pretty readily get up the Don to the waters farther inland than the several mill obstructions. There can be no doubt of this, for last week, during the pretty heavy waters, most suitable for ascent, great shoals of fish were noticed clearing the uppermost dyke. Fishing the Manar Water, twelve miles farther inland, Colonel Martin had eight fish on Monday of this week. This is only one proof of the possibilities of Don, were it used as it ought to be.

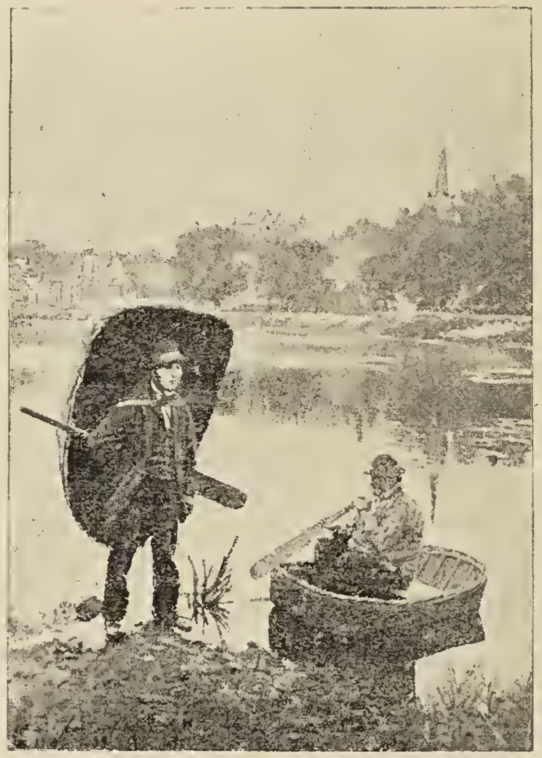
The *free* water of the Tay, Perth, has been fishing remarkably well; indeed licking hollow nearly all other *free* waters in yielding sport with good back-end salmon.

Since the heavy spate of last week, a considerable number of salmon have been observed leaping in the sea at the entrance to the river Deveron in their endeavour to ascend. At the junction with the sea the beach is composed of an immense quantity of small pebbles, and when there is a continuation of drought, combined with the action of the sea, the estuary, which is so narrow that it could be almost leapt, gets obstructed, so that an occasional spate is required for washing away the *débris*. At the Raik cottages, where the dykes are situated, the fish were very numerous, their passage over the dykes and through the cruives being eagerly watched. Many of them got right up to the Cabrach, the uppermost section of the river. Of late the volume of water has become rather low for the best of sport being had.

Notes and Queries

When Sale of Salmon is Prohibited.—No fresh salmon may be sold between 3rd September and 1st February, except such as can be proved to come from parts beyond the seas, or to have been taken, if in the United Kingdom, in legal netting season and in legal manner. Salmon, dried, pickled, or cured abroad, or, if within the United Kingdom, between 1st February and 3rd November, may be sold after that date. The onus of proof that the fish were caught out of the United Kingdom, or, if within the Kingdom, that they were caught during the legal netting season by legal means, or that, if pickled, they were pickled between 1st February and 3rd November, lies with the person selling or exposing for sale. The exportation of salmon is prohibited between 3rd September and 30th April, unless it can be proved that the salmon exported or entered for exportation was caught during the time at which its sale would be legal in the United Kingdom: the *onus probandi* lies with the person exporting. The capture and sale of "unclean" salmon—*i.e.*, salmon recently spawned or full of spawn, are prohibited under heavy penalties. Roe may not be used as a bait in salmon angling.

Coracles.—This very ancient form of boat is probably well known to many of our west country readers. It is the lightest boat in use in this country, and also probably the most difficult to manage, and we should not advise anyone who cannot swim to make one and try it on deep water. Fishermen on the Wye and Severn are wonderfully at home in these big waterproofed, flat-bottomed, clothes-basket-like affairs, which are propelled with one paddle. The ancient Britons made them of skins stretched over a wicker frame. We believe well-tarred canvas is used now.



CORACLE MEN.
(Showing Coracles as used and carried by Fishermen on the Wye, at Ross, &c.)

A Threatened Drought.—One day, a good many years ago, a friend and I had had a great day's trout fishing from Overscaig on Loch Shin, Griam, and Merkland, having killed nearly 80lb. of trout and *ferox*. On returning to our lonely little hostelry we were naturally triumphant, and sat down to a somewhat late dinner at peace with all mankind, to say nothing of the inhabitants of the lochs. The day had been a thoroughly enjoyable one, not too hot, and just the right amount of breeze to render fly-fishing delightful; little did we know the trial that was in store for us! On getting up from the loch-side to our inn, we gradually became aware that something had gone wrong in the establishment; there was a certain air of sadness about everybody, our jolly hostess—was not herself, our boatmen speedily became similarly affected, and even the stalwart wench who waited upon and generally did for us was evidently depressed by the prevailing epidemic. What could it mean? Both Willie and I began to imagine all sorts of disasters. Was anyone dead in the house? Had we arrived at the last of the tough old hens, upon which we had latterly been so freely feasted? Had the herd of swine from which we derived our matutinal bacon betaken themselves to the moors to escape their impending fate? Had Annie, the other maid, eloped with an exciseman? And so on. But all these dreadful suppositions were as nothing to the terrible reality which our hostess communicated to us with tears in her eyes. The whisky had given out! There was no getting over the awful fact. There had been, it would seem, a funeral in the neighbourhood on the previous day, and the consumption of the national beverage (it was supplied from Overscaig) in connection with the ceremony, had been so tremendous, that only about a gallon was left on the premises for home consumption, and even this pitiful quantity had been consumed that morning by some of the thirsty mourners making their way home. The cause of the general melancholy was now clear, and Willie and I, after discovering that there was not a drop left in our somewhat roomy flasks, began to feel dreadfully down in the mouth too. However Annie had been dispatched post-haste on foot to Lairg—a distance of fifteen miles—at noon with instructions to bring a supply of the much-required beverage, by hook or crook, and her advent was momentarily expected. As the time wore on to eleven o'clock and there was no sign of that young lady, things began to assume a serious aspect, and a greatly-increased anxiety manifested itself. In fact, each individual of our little household, though not caring to put such a thing in words, was beginning to realise that it was quite possible that he or she might really have to retire to rest without whisky. Dreadful thought! A melancholy silence prevailed throughout the establishment, no one caring for conversation. Soon after eleven o'clock, however, when the tension was becoming too great, and hope was almost dead, a frantic yell came from the hillside, and one of our gillies, who had ascended to a point which commanded an extensive view of the road to Lairg, rushed in with the joyful intelligence that a cart was coming up the loch side! The effect of this information was nothing short of magical. The lugubrious countenances of the gillies bore once more a solemn grin. Friend Willie, who had given up hope and partially undressed, once more descended from above stairs, and in an extremely airy attire executed a *pas seul* on an old chair, which did not prove equal to the occasion, and the dancer came to the ground in somewhat undignified fashion. Our hostess and her remaining handmaiden piled more peat on to the fire, and an immense black kettle on the top; while an old shepherd, one of the mourners at the previous day's ceremony, whose morning pick-me-up had proved too much for him, and who had been asleep by the fireside for many hours, woke up looking quite spry and began taking snuff with energy. Sundry collies appeared from different corners and exchanged friendly remarks; the confounded old cocks awakened to a sense of duty by the unwonted commotion, began to crow, and amidst a general chorus of delight, the fair Annie drove her cart up to the door, pointing triumphantly to the barrel of whisky which it contained, and informing her jubilant audience that "the rest were comin'" (meaning, of course, the other barrels)! Quickly was that cask conveyed indoors, and quickly was it tapped, a liberal portion of its contents being run into a large brown jug; and within ten minutes of its arrival, everybody was enjoying his or her "tumbler." Somebody produced a fiddle, and it was well into the small hours before the members of the household were wrapt in slumber and the unhappy cocks got a chance of going to roost.—R. P.

Dumfriesshire Otter Hounds.—In consequence of the sudden change in the temperature of the Border rivers, the above hounds will cease hunting for the season. The pack, which is a recently-formed one, has been most successful during the past few months.—G.

DAPPING WITH THE GREEN DRAKE IN IRELAND.

BY QUILL GNAT.

(Continued from page 186.)

THE next day we commenced operations in good time. The captain had been making the most tremendous fuss about starting at four o'clock. This determination he expressed in the smoking room overnight, but when the morning came, and the faithful James made row enough at the door to awaken the Seven Sleepers, I heard a voice issuing from the bedclothes: "Shan't get up till eight o'clock; there is too much wind for dapping." Really it was a good fishing morning, but eventually we did not get to our boat until nine o'clock. The spot we intended to try first was about twelve miles up the lough; we determined, therefore, to take the little yacht and sail up, as there was a fair wind.

Merrily we danced over the waves, the breeze freshening every minute, until we had quite as much as we wanted; still our little craft behaved beautifully, and soon we were in sight of the bay, wherein the big 'uns are supposed to dwell. All at once the captain's henchman and first mate, who was pacing the deck with bare feet, shouted out, "Sail ahead! and bedad, your honour, I'm thinking it must be the *Ocean Swift*." As we drew on, the graceful outlines of another yacht, somewhat larger than ours, appeared in view, and in two minutes James's conjecture proved correct, and we knew that the vessel in question had on board a crew of fishing friends who had agreed to join us some time before. We soon made out for a certainty that there was somebody on board, for a deep voice, with the richest of brogues, called out, "Halloa! ye poachin' divils, ye're too late entirely; is it whisky ye're lookin' for?" We all scrambled on board, and there was a great talking and shaking of hands, mingled with a mysterious noise as of clinking glasses, and an occasional short, sharp explosion, followed by a rushing, gurgling sound, most significant to the well-trained ear. Meanwhile, the owner of the voice, who was introduced to me as "The Murragh," slyly lifted a hatchway in the floor of the little cabin, and showed me a well full of magnificent trout, many of them 5lb. and 6lb. weight, and all in the pink of condition; this sight filled me with inexpressible yearnings. The captain, too, was equally moved to action, and we soon "ceased firing" and took to our respective boats. There was no trouble in getting flies, they were "up" in countless myriads, and every bush and rock was covered with them. We picked our baskets full in ten minutes, and then rowed quietly to the head of the bay and the three boats commenced to dap in earnest. We drifted in line, a very little distance between each boat, so that we were all well within hail of each other. The "Murragh" was mighty at anecdote and chaff, and kept us in a roar of laughter until somebody "*sthuck in a fish.*" Instantly a calm succeeded the storm, and all eyes were intently watching the lucky James as he adroitly handed his rod to the captain. The fish was about 3lb., and was soon guided into the net, the usual scream being the signal of the successful application of the "*Praste.*"

The day was cloudy, and there was a good deal of wind, which made the water rather lumpy. I mounted three flies, and they floated beautifully on the black-looking waves; we were nearing some shallows, and I fancied I saw a slight rise near the point of a rock. I looked again and suddenly I saw a very large trout roll like a porpoise lazily at a May-fly, and take him down. I guided my bunch of flies as well as I could in the wind, and put them over the exact spot—one moment of breathless suspense, and with a rush the big fish made sure of his morsel. I waited the customary four seconds, and then the line suddenly tightened and I was fast. This fish went down directly, and kept up a sullen tugging in deep water for quite ten minutes, then all at once he slowly came towards the surface, and James was ready with the net. I saw his golden body become more distinct as I shortened line; but just as he was in the jaws of the net, he seemed to become suddenly aware of his danger, for with a tremendous rush he was off like lightning, and my good little reel screamed as the scared fish ran off at least 50yd. of line. I managed at last to turn him, and then he showed himself twice clean out of the water. "A ten-pounder," I shouted in my excitement, and at the time I fully believed he would weigh all that. Slowly but surely the rushes became shorter and less frequent, but still the fish played very strong, and I must confess my hand shook a little as he made his last dive into the peaty-looking depths. Gradually I drew him (still reluctant) to the surface, and as I saw him encircled by the deadly mesh, I could not restrain a shout of triumph, to which the other boats responded in real sympathetic style, for they had all seen my rod curved like a half-hoop for fully twenty minutes, and were as much pleased with my success as I was myself.

Tight lines once more, and the spring balance was brought into requisition. Seven pounds and a-half was the weight, and though I quite thought the fish was heavier, I was satisfied with him as he lay on the seat of the boat, and showed us his noble proportions and lovely colouring. During the day I landed ten more fish, but none larger than my first beauty, and the smallest weighed 3lb. Now to moralise on the extraordinary flukiness of luck: on this day the captain did not land *one fish*, although we were all fishing the same water, and the old Murragh beat the best of us two to one; this no doubt, as far as he was concerned, owing to his wonderful skill, for it is admitted that he has no superior in the art of dapping, and he is the keenest fisherman I ever knew. One of our party was so struck with the "Murragh's" adroitness and success, that he wrote a little poem on him, with which I will finish my paper, and will only add that I hope many readers of the *F. G.* will have as much enjoyment out of a month's dapping as the writer.

"THE COMING OF THE MURRAGH."

(After Tennyso

What means this awful stillness in the air?
This subtle expectation, dimly felt,
As if some dread event shall come to pass,
As if some presence strange and undefined
Is haunting this fair landscape; e'en the birds
Have hushed their warbling, dumb with dread, and as
We gaze into the waters deep below,
We see the threatened trout with flashing speed,
Retire into the cavernous recess
Of overhanging rock or green-hued weed.
The May-fly wings his devious flight to shore,
Nor stays to light on bush or waving branch,
But hides in secret cracks and holes, as though
To escape from something not yet known; the lake
Is calm and placid, but anon we see
A tiny ruffling billow sweep across,
As if some troublous warning did foretell
The deeds of death and slaughter yet to come.
What means this? Do we ask? Look yonder, now,
Far off a cloud of Murraghs fills the sky;
They flee before the presence of a man,
"Bearded like pard" and of ferocious mien;
In his cruel hand he wields the dreadful wand,
His fingers toy with hook and crafty bait;
His eyes shoot fire, and every hiding fish
Is withered by the terror of his glance.
Fly! fly! while yet there's time, ye spotted trout,
And all ye comely May-flies, whose desire
Is to escape the deadly pointed steel,
Creep in your nooks, for lo! 'tis he! 'tis he!
The Mossy Pussed[*] Murragh, full equipped—
And, see already some are all too late,
For signs of gore are on his hands, and there
Upon the advancing vessel lie the spoils.
Oh! men of "Annagh," lesser stars than this,
Look to your laurels, for in very truth,
This Anak among fishermen is here,
And 'ere he leaves the shores of "Derg," the bays
And waters will unfold a tale of woe,
And many a gallant fish will rue the hour
When first they saw the face of Mossy Puss.

THE WINTER GARDEN & AQUARIUM AT SOUTHPORT, AND SOME NOTES OF THE SEA FISHING.

BY T. R. SACHS.

THIS extensive and beautiful aquarium and winter garden is the most popular resort in Southport, being open all the year round, affording amusement and recreation in a variety of forms, and in quick succession. The conservatory is one of the finest in the kingdom. The aquarium is one of the most complete in this country, and contains a good collection of fishes and zoophytes. The theatre and circus attached to the building are open throughout the year, and the best talent from London and elsewhere is engaged. The hall is fitted with a proscenium and stage for miscellaneous entertainments, and a spring floor for dancing. This magnificent establishment was opened on September 16, 1874, by the late mayor, Mr. Walter Smith, J.P., Mr. John Long being manager and secretary.

The late Frank Buckland, M.A., H.M. Inspector of Fisheries, having accepted the invitation to deliver the opening address, he brought some of his pisciculture friends, as assistants, with him, consisting of Mr. A. D. Bartlett, of the Zoological Gardens, London; Mr. T. R. Sachs, representing the Thames Angling, Piscatorial, and other London angling societies; the late Mr. H. L. Rolfe, the well-known fish artist; Mr. Parnaby, fish culturist. Mr. Sproat, of Lancaster; Mr. Parry Evans, of Wales, both contributing live shell fish and salmon for the tanks. Mr. Lloyd, of the Hamburgh and Crystal Palace Aquariums; Mr. Searle, secretary to Mr. Buckland; and Mr. Edon, of the Buckland Museum, South Kensington, our railway and hotel expenses being paid by the chairman and directors of the Aquarium and Winter Gardens.

The opening address was full of practical facts, Mr. Buckland describing the contents of each tank in an instructive and interesting manner. He said: "I believe that this magnificent institution will do more in the way of educating the people and bringing an increased supply than any institution in this neighbourhood." He remarked that the salmon was the king of fishes; that the value of the Scotch fisheries was over £300,000 a year, and the English £100,000 a year. What they had to do with the salmon was to leave it alone, and to give it free access to the breeding-grounds. The prevention of the pollution of rivers was really most important. If they would give him clean water for the fish, they would have it cheaper, and very few (if any) doctor's bills to pay.

After a long address, which was frequently applauded, Mr. Buckland concluded by stating that the Southport Aquarium promised to be of the highest national importance, because it would teach people to observe living objects, to be kind to all animals, and, above all, to read the unwritten but most striking works of the Creator, as demonstrated even in the humblest of fishes, and culminating in man himself, to whom was given dominion not only over the beasts of the field and the fowls of the air, but also the fishes of the sea. The large tanks are well supplied with sea fish and shell fish. The fresh-water tanks were also full of fish. Several fine golden tench, presented by the late Mr. Higford Burr, of Aldermaston, near Reading, were safely conveyed by Mr. Edon. I noticed there were no barbel, bream, dace, or gudgeon—species not known thereabouts—so on my return I enlisted the assistance of Mr. W. H. Brougham, the secretary of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, who got some of our Thames river-keepers to catch some large barbel, dace, and gudgeon. The bream supply I took charge of, and caught some large specimens at Walton, and, by arrangement, Mr. Brougham and self brought them all alive to the Aquarium at Southport, the directors of the N.W. Railway kindly granting us a separate compartment and free transit to our destination, our hotel expenses being defrayed by the chairman and directors of Winter Garden and Aquarium. Mr. Brougham, as a member of the Press, duly reported our proceedings in several London and country newspapers, and sent copies to the chairman and directors, who, in return, sent Mr. Brougham a handsome cheque for five guineas (perseverance rewarded). Southport is known as the Brighton of Lancashire. Many well-to-do business men of Liverpool, Manchester, Preston, &c., reside the best part of the year here, going to their several occupations in the morning, returning to this salubrious place in the evening. The pier is somewhat similar to the one at Southend in the Thames as regards length. The total length is 1,450yds. (4,350ft.); Margate Pier is 600ft.; Deal Pier, 1,000ft. in length, thus showing the difference in length. The extreme length of the pier need be no drawback to bad walkers, as a steam-tram frequently runs down for 1,200yds. The cars are comfortable, and the charge is twopence a single journey and threepence a return ticket. The end of the pier is T shaped, containing a broad platform at the end, on which is a large pavilion for musical performances and shelters for the promenaders. This extreme end of the pier is one of the most popular resorts in Southport. It is there the girls get the bloom on their cheeks again, and the pale town faces become ruddy from the sea breezes and the sun.

The fishing from the pier is now very good. A paragraph in the *Southport Guardian*, May 3, 1891, describes the fishing as extraordinary, one hand-line taking 148lb. in ten and a-half hours, and that the Ribble navigation scheme is making

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[*] Mossy Puss (another name for the Murragh).

Southport Channel the best fishing ground on the Lancashire Coast, by driving the fish out of the filthy channel towards the sandy shores of Southport. The hand-liners throw from thirty to forty yards of line with a 3lb. sinker, but complain that the baits are soon eaten off by hermit crabs.

A fishing rod prevents this annoyance, as the line is then kept in a slanting position, leaving only the bottom hook, intended for a dab or codling, for an occasional crab to feast upon; sand-worms are the usual baits; mussels when procurable; cockles are plentiful, close at hand. A friend recently visiting Southport adopted my plan of fishing with rod and paternoster line, made up with three hooks; he had excellent sport and astonished the visitors with the science and skill he displayed in catching so many more fish than the hand-liners with their many hooks, the latter being a dirty and dangerous style of fishing compared to the more artistic and gentlemanly angling with rod and line, and the comparatively clean tail of a hermit crab for bait on each hook, as they are the most tempting for all kinds of sea fish, and stay on the hooks.

On the South Land end of the pier is a large tract of land which was practically waste, and has now been converted into an ornamental recreation ground with a central lake, the area of which is sixteen acres, on which many pleasure boats ply for hire, and can be engaged for sailing, rowing, or fishing, netting and trawling being strictly prohibited.

On the North Land side of pier are very extensive sands. Some sailors have sailing clippers on four wheels; when all a-board, one of the men hoists the sails, and away she goes over miles of hard sand. There are numbers of bathing machines and capital donkeys, and I was glad to see that the boys were kind to their animals. Altogether I think Southport the most charming sea-side resort I ever visited. Suitable fishing-tackle can be had of Mr. William Bolton, The Armoury, 35, Tulketh-street, to whom I am indebted for an account of the recent improvements as regards the fishing and the new lake. It is not generally known that another mode of occupation at Southport (which is quite out of the ordinary line) and which affords abundant employment, is the training of greyhounds for coursing at the Waterloo meeting and elsewhere.

CHUB AND DACE: AND ANGLING FOR THEM.

BY ALFRED JARDINE.

(Continued from page 197.)

HAVING subscribed to the *Fishing Gazette* from the earliest period that its popular Editor became proprietor of the Journal—which I am glad to say is in largely increasing request among the anglers of England, Scotland and Ireland, as well as those of Greater Britain and the continent—in going through some back numbers of 1886, I found two recipes for chub-baits, which are described as "of surpassing excellence." One is a paste compounded of old ripe cheese and bacon fat, pounded together in a mortar. I feel positive this is a good bait. Cheese of itself when old, grows hard in the water; and though butter is often mixed with it to keep it soft, bacon fat answers the purpose better, because it not only imparts an enticing flavour, but it makes a much tougher bait, which holds together better on the hook or triangle.

About the beginning of this century, shrimps or prawns skinned and beaten up with a little honey in a mortar, into a stiff paste, was recommended as a very killing bait for large chub in the Thames, and I have no doubt, if used by any of my readers who are inclined to try it, that it would compass the death of many a lusty fish; indeed, there are few better baits for chub and barbel than a large boiled prawn skinned, or the tail of a boiled cray-fish, and these can now be obtained at Sweeting's and most fishmongers. When chub are in the weir-pools—and for some weeks yet, a goodly few big ones will keep in the deep "weir eddies"—a sporting and successful way to capture them is to fish with a large minnow, or three-inch gudgeon, on a single hook, placed either through their top lip or their back fin; the tackle being four feet of sound trout gut, a cork roach-float, and three or four B shots, to keep the live-bait down. Fishing weir eddies this way, many large chub and good-sized pike, too, are captured. This used to be a favourite method of mine some years since, when fishing the Colne below Rickmansworth, Harefield, and especially Denham, thence to Uxbridge, on to West Drayton; but I am told the fishing of to-day in those portions of that stream, is not nearly so good as the time I am alluding to—viz., ten or twelve years ago. Before Colonel Lambert's decease I frequently fished Denham Park, where were weirs, not large but lovely, from an angler's point of view; and with a minnow or small gudgeon, on tackle such as already described, I have taken as many as thirty chub a day, from 2½lb. down to 1lb., with an occasional four-pounder. I once got a trout of 5lb., which I returned to the river, it being the "fence season," and pike of 14lb. and 10lb.; but smaller pike of 3lb., 4lb., and 5lb., in quantities, which, on light float-tackle, give really splendid sport.

As the Colne is not considered to hold large pike, I may, perhaps, here mention that my old friend, Mr. W. H. Brougham, the highly-respected secretary of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, was my companion on a portion of the Colne when I caught (and he gaffed for me) a pike weighing 18lb.

But the glories of the Colne have departed! Tapping the "watersheds" by artesian wells has robbed the river of its natural volume of water; and the filth from sewers, pig-styes, slaughter-houses, &c., poured into it and its tributaries, the Chess, the Gade, the Mimram, &c., has resulted in much destruction of all kinds of fish—*but worst of all the trout.*

The Thames is, unfortunately, not an exception as regards this decadence of sport. Steam launches hurrying hither and thither, the wash of their screws, the enormous flotillas of rowing-boats and towing-boats have so harassed and frightened fish away from their usual and natural spawning beds—that where there was once good chub fishing in the old times when Thames was quiet and sedate—the days of Mrs. Bond, of Kingston; Mrs. Harris, of Lincoln Arms, Weybridge; Mrs. Parslow, of the Anglers, Marlow; or Wm. Hull, of the Old French Horn, Sonning; where anglers could obtain good fare and civility, without being charged exorbitantly *for the reverse*, and they could depend on a well-aired bed, with sheets "smelling of lavender"—*those* were the days when chub could be caught in such quantities, in favourable weather, rowing down-stream from Oxford to Sunbury, that all anglers could do was to give away their captures to the villagers residing near the river, the usual catch per rod being fifty or sixty pounds weight per day.

In the Loddon, or some of the quiet back-waters where steam-launches do not venture because there are no exits, good sport can yet be had. I have in my mind's eye such "old-world" bits of the river as "the Fleet" at Datchet; also that splendid bend of the Thames at Cookham, where, I believe, *might* has assumed a *right* to shut out anglers; Sonning, the backwaters of Mapledurham, and Cleve. But, over all the above, for quietude, where fishing is yet excellent—because "pot-boilers" never venture into these sylvan retreats—the backwaters of Long Wittenham and Sutton Courtney, each nearly a mile in length, abound with chub and fish of all kinds, and the winter fishing in these two beautiful parts of the *old Thames* (before the river was straightened and "canalised" here and there for barge traffic) yet remain to gladden the persistent angler who doesn't mind "roughing it" in a clean little country inn. The difficulty is to get to these last-named backwaters. I think Abingdon is the most convenient railway station for either, involving cab drives of from three miles to Sutton Courtney, and six miles to Long Wittenham.

About a mile below the last-named village are the woods of Clifton Hampden, overhanging the river, numberless boughs projecting many feet athwart the stream, under which is splendid chub fishing, either with fly or "floating"—Nottingham style. Much of this part of the water can be "waded," and the river bed appears to be a hard sandstone.

Three miles (or a little less) down-stream is Day's Lock and Weir, an excellent water for chub, perch and barbel. As a rule (by previously writing) a comfortable bedroom, fair attendance, and decent cooking, can be obtained at the lock-keeper's cottage; but the angler must either take with him his "commissariat," or arrange to have it sent from Abingdon (six miles away), or from the village of Clifton Hampden, which is closely adjacent.

About the group of islands just above the Great Western Railway bridge, which crosses the Thames at Moulsford, good chubbing is to be had by a *quiet* and painstaking angler; also at Cleve (two miles below), and from Streatley down to "the Grotto" are numerous fine "chubby places," all well known to Mr. R. E. Mills, landlord of the Swan Hotel, Streatley, than whom a more skilful and reliable professional angler does not exist on any part of the Thames. His inn, the Swan, is so well managed, and the comforts of anglers so studied, the tariff of charges being very moderate, that it is *the* inn of all others there, or in the village of Goring opposite, for anglers going to that part of the Thames to stay at.

Pangbourne Reach, on to Mapledurham and Tilehurst, is a section of the river noted for chub. Mr. Wm. Hull, late of the French Horn at Sonning, who now keeps the Elephant Hotel at Pangbourne, is an excellent angler, and knows all the likeliest swims, eddies, banks, and bushes in that part of the river; and then Wm. Hull is such a capital fellow himself, that I advise anyone going for a few days to Pangbourne to make the Elephant his headquarters, for nothing delights Hull so much as to do his utmost to secure his patrons good sport.

For autumn and winter fishing, the eighteen or twenty miles of water between Abingdon and Pangbourne are about the best of the Thames; and after the tourist season this part of the river is very little disturbed by steam-launches or pleasure boats; thus chub and other fish lose somewhat of their "fearfulness," and heavy captures often fill the baskets of anglers.

At Shiplake, Wargrave, from thence to Marsh Lock, the "chubbing" is fairly good. In the time of *old* Marsh Lock, before the present structure was erected, and spoiled the barbel and chub swims, large captures were of frequent occurrence here. A tree, bearing luscious black-heart cherries, overhung the old lock pool; and the dead ripe fruit dropping into the river was eagerly swallowed by the chub, of which there were many large ones about this place; and a source of amusement to boating parties going through the lock, while they waited the transit of their boats, was to pitch cherries in and see the fish swallow them, as the fruit floated along the stream by the old campsheating.

Legering is at times a successful way to angle for chub. Worms, cheese paste, a bunch of gentles, or wasp grubs, are all killing baits; and the tackle previously described for barbel and bream will do excellently well.

Approaching frosty nights (there have already been some frosts) will induce chub to seek their winter retreats; and of all methods the "Nottingham style" (using pith and brains for bait) is the most successful for winter fishing. I shall describe the "how, the where, and the when" probably next week, but, at any rate, in an early issue of the *Fishing Gazette*.

(To be continued.)

SOME NOTES ON THE BEDFORDSHIRE OUSE.

BY AN OLD HAND.

(Continued from page 199.)

FLY FISHING.—The fly-fisherman requires a good strong rod and tackle for chub fishing, a rod that will stand a heavy strain—a good shaking—and prevent large chub from rushing into the weeds and rushes, &c., and ten to one end in breaking the tackle. A large assortment of flies is not necessary, for experience proves that the Black and Red Palmer in two or three sizes are sufficient. A few good rudd are taken with the fly when the river is in flood. I think I hear some of you exclaim:—"Rudd taken with the fly when the river is in flood?" My answer is this: when the river is in flood or the lochs below St. Ives are opened for any purpose, the fishing at Holywell down to Swavesey is much better, because the water often comes on the banks, and even the meadows in parts, then the fish affect the quiet places near the sides in search of food, and the fly comes in useful; but the difficulty is for those living at a distance to know this. I have no doubt that the water would be coloured after heavy rain, but not too much for a fly in the places mentioned above, for the river, comparatively speaking, soon clears.

And what does my old favourite, "The Scientific Angler" say with reference to using a fly in a discoloured water? Another useful "child of fancy" is the flat gold-bodied whistler fly; this is hackled with red-brown pigeon's breast, or that of the whistling plover, from which it takes its name; and this fly is really valuable for discoloured and even thick rising water; and upon the Wharfe we, upon a late occasion, took trout sufficient to fill our creel five times, had they been all retained, whilst several anglers who had repaired to the same length returned to the hotel under the impression that the water was too thick for the worm. "Too thick for the worm?" I just wonder what the Old Rooster would say to that party! How these remarks will gladden his soul, to be sure.

Period.—July and August: Flies for dace, roach and rudd, the Black and Grey Gnat are most reliable. For chub, in August and September, the Black and Red Palmer, both of large size, and the larger the fly the larger the chub; in short, avoid using small flies in the Ouse, because there is such a number of bleak and other small fry causing great annoyance to the angler, and my advice to fly-fishermen generally is, *Always* use large flies. There is a fly called the "White Zulu," which is freely taken by perch, chub, roach, and rudd; and fine sport is often had in the shallows with perch by using two flies. They will take the tail fly, and a half pounder gives very good sport; and if *anglers* could be induced to return all perch say under six ounces, what a grand perch river this would soon be.

To resume. Instead of being on a length of gut, have gut-eyed hooks—for this reason, when a chub is struck, he goes off with such a rocket-like rush for the nearest weeds, rushes, sedges, or round a stick, &c., that it is the dome of St. Paul's to a cocoa-nut that the gut breaks at the head of the fly. Then follows a "D" of unusually large dimensions, and a most intense feeling of disgust takes full possession of one; therefore I say use gut eyed hooks, and so prevent most of this annoyance. "You prefer to use small flies tied on in the ordinary manner. Very good. Then the next best thing is to go and enjoy yourself in your own fashion; then you will be able to sing the following refrain—and use gut-eyed hooks:

"Never meet troubles half way,
Nor sigh o'er the things that are past;
And if bad luck comes in your way,
You are happy because it can't last"—

last—with gut eyed hooks. One evening I saw a fellow fishing near Over Ferry lose three chub in the space of about twenty minutes, simply because he did not use gut-eyed hooks, and you should have seen his face, dear friends.

Some Swims, &c.—From St. Ives locks for about a quarter of a mile, to "Friend's Corner," the water is from 8ft. to 9ft. in depth, and at the "corner" the river opens out into a splendid sheet of water, and contains roach, perch, jack, and on certain occasions bream. By Jove! the pike that *have been* taken in this glorious sheet of water. From here to the railway bridge is but a short distance, and several good roach and bream swims may be fished from a boat in that seclusion, quiet, and peace, so beloved of the angler, where the water "dimples in the dark of rushy coves;" and the most taking and lovely swims are sometimes to be found. Just below the railway bridge are the well-known Drayton shallows, and next we come to the celebrated "Church Hole," nearly opposite Holywell Church (which can be seen in the distance), and good roach are often taken in this swim; then the water is shallow again until within about one hundred yards of Holywell Ferry. At this point there is 8ft. or 9ft. of water, and good perch are sometimes taken with the minnow and small gudgeon, and large chub have also been taken here with similar lures.

Crossing over to Holywell side of the river, excellent fly-fishing may be had for about a mile down to Swavesey Gravel, the water on this side being shallow all the way, and chub, roach, and rudd affect this reach in fair numbers. But near Holywell Ferry, on the opposite side to the above shallow, and magnificent high thorn-hedge (*i.e.*, on the Swavesey side of the river), it is deep water nearly all the way down from Holywell Ferry to Swavesey, the shallow on the Holywell side of the river reaching the same distance.

"Ducker's Hole," a splendid place for bottom fishing, and a good haunt for pike, is opposite the high thorn-hedge previously mentioned, and is some 20yds. in length, and about 9ft. or 10ft. in depth.

Good perch are sometimes taken about here, with live-bait, small gudgeon being a favourite lure. On the Swavesey side of the river there are several splendid swims for bottom-fishing that may be fished mainly with a float, either from the bank or a boat; the latter for preference, because one has more command over the swims, and there is not half the difficulty in landing the fish; for instance, at the time of my last visit this side was very greasy, sloppy, and muddy, and good thick waterproof boots are very necessary to one's comfort. When fishing many of the swims from this river's bank, a net with a good long handle is very essential, the sedge and rushes in places being very thick.

I met in the most unexpected manner a Londoner, a man well known to me, who proved a rattling good companion during my stay, and who lost a very good fish from this cause. There are often four things to contend against when about to net a fish: the pasty slippery banks, bullrushes, water-flags, and weeds, which often run in a regular line for some distance, from four to six feet or more from the side. To some this may seem so much twaddle; but those who are strangers to the river should not forget that nine-tenths of this annoyance may be avoided by fishing from a boat, which may be obtained at Holywell Ferry. Walter Metcalfe is the boatman—a very decent fellow, and his charges are reasonable for live-baits, boat, and attendance; and good accommodation can be obtained at the inn close to the river, kept by Mrs. Jackson, and in the height of the season two or three days' notice should always be given to prevent disappointment.

As some of your readers may not know the size chub attain in this river, here are a few specimens: Last year Mr. J. Miller, of Cambridge, took six chub near St. Ives, with large Black Palmer, that weighed 30lb. On another occasion he took six chub with small gudgeon, and the largest fish weighed 7¼lb., and measured 22in. in length. This fish is preserved. Last year the same gentleman caught at Over Staunch one Loch Leven trout, 7¼lb. in weight, with a small gudgeon on a fine roach tackle. A carp was also taken with white paste that weighed 4½lb.; and Mr. W. O. Hattersley, of Cambridge, took three chub near St. Ives that weighed 15lb. with the Zulu-fly. These fish are preserved. It fairly takes one's breath away to mention such takes; and yet there are persons who say, "There are no fish worth catching in this water." But let an angler get fairly hold of a chub similar to the above, and he will see the necessity of being thoroughly prepared for any emergency, for one never knows what may happen. Had the chub weighing 7¼lb. been caught four or five years ago, instead of last year, I should have come to the conclusion that it was the "historical chub," which so many of us heard about, but none ever saw.

(To be continued.)

Grayling in the Eden at Appleby.—"Speaking of this fish reminds me of a letter which I received last week from a gentleman at Appleby, informing me that he had caught two grayling weighing ¾lb. each on the Eden. These will no doubt be a portion of the batch turned into the river about four years ago by Mr. C. D. Thompson, of Seaton Carew, near Hartlepool. They were put in as fry, and for some time not a trace could be seen of them. Last autumn, however, I heard of several having been caught with fly, and now this is the latest instance. Whether the Eden will ever become a good river for them remains to be seen. I am inclined to think that it will, especially on the upper lengths."—Halcyon, in *Leeds Mercury*.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E

A TREATYSE OF FYSSHYNGE WYTH AN ANGLE.

By Dame Juliana Berners.

Written Four Hundred Years Ago.

(Continued from page 21.)

If ye woll be crafty in anglynge: ye must fyrst lerne to make your harnays. That is to wyte your rodde: your lynes of dyuers colours. After that ye must know how ye shall angle: in what place of the water: how deep: and what time of day. For what manere of fysshe: in what wedyr. How many impedymentes there ben in fysshynge y^t is callyd anglynge. And in specyall wyth what baytys to every dyvers fysshe in eche moneth of the yere. How ye shall make your baytes brede, where ye shall fynde theym: and how ye shall kepe theym. And for the moost crafty thynge: how ye shall make youre hokes of stele and of osmonde: some for the dubbe, and some for the flote: and the grounde, as ye shall here after al theyse fynde expressed openly vnto your knowledge. And how ye shall make your rodde craftly here I shall teche you. Ye shall kytte betwene Myghelmas and Candylmas a fayr staffe of a fadom and a halfe longe: and arme grete of hasyll: wylowe: or aspe. And bethe hym in an hote own: and sette hym luyn. Thenne let him cole and drye a moneth. Take thenne and frette hym faste wyth a cockeshotecorde, and bynde hym to a fourme or an euyn square grete tree. Take thenne a plummer's wire that is euyn and streyte and sharpe at the one ende. And hete the sharpe ende in a charcole fyre tyll it be whyte: and brenne the staffe therwyth thorugh: euer streyte in the pythe at bothe endes tyll they mete. And after that brenne hym in the nether ende with a byrde broche, and wyth other broches eche gretter than other. And ever the greetest the laste: so that ye make your hole aye tapre were. Thenne lete hym lye still, and kele two dayes. Vnfrette hym thenne and lete hym drye in an hous roof in the smoke tyll he be thrugh drye. In the same season take a fayr yerde of grene hasyll and beth hym euyn end streyghte, and lete it drye with the staff. And whan they ben drye, make the yerde mete vnto the hole in the staffe: vnto halfe the length of the staffe. And to perfourme that other halfe of the croppe. Take a fair shote of blacke thornn crabbe tree, medeler, or of tenypre kytte in the same season: and well bethyd and streyghte. And frette theym togyder fetely: soo that the croppe maye iustly entre all in to the sayd hole. Thenne shaue your staffe wexe. Thenne vyrell the staffe at bothe endes wyth longe hopis of yren or laton in the clennest wyse wyth a pike in the nether ende fastnyd wyth a rennynge vyce: to take in and out your croppe. Thenne set your croppe an hondfull within the ouer ende of your staffe in souche wise that it be as bigge there as in ony other place aboue. Thenne arme your croppe at thouer ende downe to y^e frette wyth a lyne of vj. heeres. And dubbe the lyne and frette it fast in y^e toppe wyth a bowe to fasten on your lyne. And thus shall ye make you a rodde soo preuy that ye maye walke therwyth: and there shall noo man wyte where abowte yee goo. It woll be lyghte and full nymbyll to fysshe wyth at your luste.

After that ye haue made thus your rodde: ye must lerne to coloure your lynes of heer in this wise. Firste ye must take of a whyte horse taylle the lengest heere and fayrest that ye can finde. And euer the rounder it be the better it is. Departe it into vj. partes: and euery parte ye shall colour by hymselfe in dyuers colours, as yelowe, grene: browne: tawney: russet: and duske colours. And for to make a good grene colour on your heer ye shall doo thus. Take small ale a quarte and put it in a lytyll panne: and put therto halfe a pounde of alym. And put therto your heer: and lete it boylle softly half-an-houre. And whan it is yelow on the scume put therin your heer wyth halfe a pounde of coporose betyn in powdre, and lete it boylle halfe a myle waye: and thenne sette it downe, and let it kele fyue or fyxe houres. Thenne take out the heer and drye it. And it is thenne the fynest grene that is for the water. And euer the more ye put thereto of coporose the better it is, or elles in stede of it vertgrees.

A nother wyse ye maye make more bryghter grene, as thus sete woode your heer in an woodefatte a lyght plunket colour. And thenne sethe hym in olde or wyxin lyke. As I have sayd sauynge ye shall not put therto neyther coporosenne vertgrees. For to make your heer yelow, dyght it with alym, as I have sayd before; and after that wyth oldys or wyxin, without coporose or vertgrees. A nother yelow ye shall make thus: Take smalle ale a potell: and stampe thre handful of walnot leues, and put togider: and put in your heer tyll that it be as depe as ye woll haue it. For to make russet heer: Take stronge lye a pynt, and halfe-a-pounde of sote, and a lytyl iuce of walnot leuys, and a quarte of alym, and put theym alle togydder in a panne and boylle theym well. And whan it is colde, put in youre heer tyll it be as derke as ye woll haue it. For to make a browne colour: Take a pounde of sote and a quarte of ale, and seth it wyth as many walnot leuys as ye maye. And whan they wexe blacke, sette it from the fire. And put therin your heer, and lete it lye styll tyll it be as browne as yo woll haue it. For to make a nother browne: Take strong ale and sote, and tempre them togyder, and put therin your heer two dayes and two nyghtes, and it shall be ryght a good colour.

For to make a tawney coloure: Take lyme and water, and put theym togyder, and also put your heer therin foure or fyue houres. Thenne take it out and put it in a Tanner's ose a day, and it shall be also fyne a tawney colour as nedyth to you purpoos. The sprte parte of youre heer ye shall kepe styll whyte for lynes for the dubbyd hoke to fysshe for the trought and graylynge, and for smalle lynes for to trye for the roche and the darse. Whan your heer is thus colourid: ye must knowe for whiche waters and for whyche seasons they shall serue.

The grene colour in all clere water from Apryll tyll Septembre. The yelowe coloure in euery clere water from Septembre tyll Nouembre: For it is lyke y^e wedys and other manere grasse which growyth in the waters and ryuers whan they ben broken. The russet colour servyth all the wynter vnto the ende of Apryll, as well in ryvers as in poles or lakys. The browne colour seruyth for that water that is blacke dedisshe in ryuers or in other waters. The tawney colour for those waters that ben hethy or morysshe.

Now must ye make youre lynes in this wyse. Fyrste, loke that ye haue an Instrument lyke vnto this fygure portrayed folowynge. Thenne take your heer and kytte of the smalle ende an hondfull large or more. For it is neyther stronge nor yet sure. Thenne torne the toppe to the taylle eueryche ylyke moche. And departe it into thre partyes. Thenne knytte euery part at the one ende by hymself. And at the other ende knytte till thre togyder; and put y^e same ende in that other ende of your Instrument that hath but one clyft. And sett that other ende faste wyth the wegge foure fyngers in alle shorter than your heer. Thenne twyne euery warpe one way and ylyke moche: and fasten theym in thre clystes ylyke streyghte. Take thenne out that other ende and twyne it that waye that it woll desyre ynough. Thenne streyne it a lytyll: and knytte it for ondoynge and that is good. And for to knowe to make your Instrument: loo here it is in fygure. And it shall be made of tree sauynge the bolte vndernethe which: shall be of yren.[*]

Whan ye haue as many of the lynkys as ye suppose wol suffyce for the length of a lyne: then must ye knytte theym togyder wyth a water knotte, or elles a duchys knotte. And whan your knotte is knytte, kytte of y^e voyde shorte endes a strawe brede from tho knotte. Thus shal ye make youre lynes fayr and fyne: and also ryght sure for ony manere fysshe. And by cause that ye sholde knowe bothe the water knotte and also the duchys knotte: loo theym here in fygure caste vnto the lyknesse of the draughte.

Ye shall vnderstonde that the most subtyll and hardyste crafte in makynge of your harnays is for to make your hokis. For whoos makyng ye must haue fete fyles, thynn and sharpe, and smallo beten. A semy clamm of yren, a bender, a payr of longe and smalle tongys: an harde knyfo somdeale thycke: an anuelde: and a lytyll hamour. And for smalle fysshe ye shall make your hokes of the smallest quarell nedlys that ye can fynde of stele, and in this wyse. Ye shall put the quaroll in a redde charkcole fyre tyll that it be of the same colour that the fyre is. Thenne take hym out and lete hym kele: and ye shal fynde hym well alayd for to fyle. Thenne reyse the berde wyth your knyfe, and make the poynt sharpe. Thenne alaye hym agayn: for elles he woll breke in the bendyng. Thenne bende hym lyke to the bende fyguryd herafter in example. And gretter hokes ye small make in the same wyse of gretter nedles: as broderer's nedlis: or tayler's: or shomaker's nedlis spere poyntes, and of shomaker's nalles in especyall the beste for grete fyssho. And that they bonde atte the poynt whan thoy ben assayed, for clles they ben not good. Whan the hoke is bendyd bete the hynder ende abrode, and fyle it smothe for fretynge of thy lyne. Thenne sodaynly quenche it in water: and it woll be harde and strong. And for to hauc knowlege of your Instruments: lo theym here in figure portrayd.[*] Whan ye haue made thus your hokis: thenne must ye set theym on your lynes acordynge in gretnesse and strength in this wyse. Ye shal take smalle redde silke, and yf it be for a grete hoke thenne double it: not twynyd. And elles for small hokys lete it be syngle: and therwyth frette thycke the lyne there, as the one ende of your hoke shal sytte a strawe brede. Thenne sette there your hoke: and frette hym wyth the same threde y^e two partes of the lengthe that shall be frette in all.

And whan ye come to the thyrde parte, thenne torne the end of your lyne agayn vpon the frette double, and frette it so double that other thyrd part. Thenne put your threde in at the hose twys or thries, and let it goo at eche tyme rounde abowte the yerde of your hoke; thenne wete the hose and drawe it tyll that it be faste, and loke that your lyne lye euermore wythin your hokys, and not without; thenne kytte of the lyngs ende and the threde as nyghe as ye maye: sauynge the frette.

Now ye knowe wyth how grete hokys ye shall angle to euery fysshe. Now I woll tell you wyth how many heeres ye shall to euery manere of fisshe. For the menow, wyth a lyne of one heere. For the waxyng roche, the blecke, and the gogyn and the ruffe, wyth a lyne of two heeris. For the darse and the grete roche, with a lyne of thre heeres. For the perche, the flounder, and bremet, with foure heeres. For the cheuen chubbe, the breme, the tenche, and the ele, wyth vj. heeres. For the troughte: graylynge: barbyll, and the grete chewyn, wyth ix. heeres. For the grete troughte, wyth xii. heeres. For the samon, wyth xv. heeres. And for the pyke, wyth a chalke lyne made browne with your browne colour aforsayd: arrayd with a wyre. As ye shall here herafter whan I speke of the pyke.

Your lynes must be plumbid wyth lede. And ye shall wyte y^t the nexte plumbe vnto the hoke shall be therefro a large fote and more. And euery plumbe of a quantyte to the gretnes of the lyne. There be thre manere of plumbis for a grounde lyne rennynge. And for the flote set upon the grounde lyne lyenge x. plumbes joynge all togider to the grounde lyne rennynge ix. or x. smalle. The flote plumbe shall be so heuy y^t the leest plucke of ony fysshe maye pull it downe in to y^e water. And make your plumbis rounde and smothe y^t they stycke not on stonys or on wedys. And for the more vnderstondynge to theym here in fygure [†] (No. 1).

Thenne shall ye make your flotys in this wyse. Take a fayr corke that is clene, without many holes. And bore it thrugh wyth a smalle hote yren: and putt therein a penne luste and streyghte. Euer the more flote the gretter penne and greter hole. Then shape it grete in the myddis and small at bothe endys. And specyally sharpe in the nether ende; and lyke vnto the fygures folowynge. And make theym smothe on a gryndyng stone: or on a tyle stone. And loke that the flote for one heer be no more than a pese. For two heeres: as a beene: for twelue heeres: as a walnot. And soo euery lyne after the proporcion. All manere lynes that be not for the grounde must have flotes. And the rennynge grounde lyne must haue a flote [‡] (No. 2).

A CORRESPONDENT writes: "The Tees is full of salmon. Have been out four times; each time I have got one from 5lb. to 10½lb. each. The Wear is swarming with bull trout, and a large number have been killed, some up to 10lb. in weight."

Waltoniana

THE Thames remains in excellent condition. There is a good head of water, which is, however, rather bright, so fine tackle should be used. There has been no considerable growth of weeds this year, and the "aquatic verdure," to quote a river reporter, already shows signs of decay. I always look upon October as the best month of the year for Thames fishing. The weather is generally sufficiently genial, and pleasure boats are few. Never is the river more beautiful.

I HEAR that nothing is settled at present concerning the Hungerford water. It is just possible that the commoners will keep the water in their own hands, and sell tickets to visitors. There is not too much trout fishing of the kind to be got, and the arrangement would be a very satisfactory one for anglers generally, for the commoners, and for the people of Hungerford.

A LADY named Mrs. Herbert Keily has had the good fortune to catch a chub over five pounds in weight on Nottingham tackle at Great Marlow. Her husband, who is a devoted fisherman, and has fished for chub hundreds of times, had never the luck to land a chub over 4lb. 2oz. It seems that fortune favours the fair as well as the brave.

THE capture of a graining was reported from the Welland last week. The weight was put at three pounds. As the graining is a variety of dace, it is almost impossible that the fish taken should be of that species, for whoever heard of—I mean, whoever *saw*—a dace of anything approaching the weight mentioned? It seems just possible, by the way, that graining is only a local name for dace.

IT is sometimes a very serious thing to write "yards" when "inches" are intended. I sincerely hope no one has been endeavouring to imitate the method of roach fishing described in an article of mine, headed "Some Kennet Roach," which was published recently. Having mentioned that the fish were swimming over some weeds, and not far beneath the surface, I went on to say that I placed my float eighteen yards from the bait, so that the latter might clear the weeds. Of course I should have written "inches," and the only marvel is that the Editor has not been deluged with letters from that curious class of people who see in a slip of that kind, or a printer's error, an opportunity of pointing out what an ignorant fool the writer was, and how very much better informed they are themselves.

SEA anglers are sometimes sea-bathers, and sea-bathers occasionally encounter jelly-fish, to their sorrow. It may, therefore, be useful to state that, according to the *Lancet*, a generally refrigerant and laxative course of treatment, combined with warm bathing, will usually relieve the pain produced by contact with this nettle of the sea. Poor Captain Webb was badly stung by a jelly-fish during his swim across the Channel. It is the brownish red jelly-fish which sting. The blueish white ones are supposed to be harmless. I was once stung myself in a curious manner. I was playing a large lythe in a Scotch sea loch, when the line cut a huge jelly-fish almost in two. My reel had stuck, and I was drawing in the line with my fingers, when suddenly I found my hand smarting as if it had come in contact with a quantity of nettles. There were small portions of the jelly-fish on the line, and these seemed to have the same power of inflicting pain as the complete fish.

ABOUT the one living thing which a pike will not swallow is a toad. Valuable as this creature is in a garden, it is a most venomous beast, but its poison is in its skin. Dr. Leonard Gutherie, who has been experimenting with toads, found that the venom is a thick milky fluid, in appearance and taste like the juice of the dandelion. A sub-cutaneous injection killed small birds in six minutes, and dogs and guinea-pigs in half an hour to an hour and a-half. A common lizard which bit a toad, immediately afterwards rushed wildly about, and burrowing its head in the sand, died in less than two minutes. After carrying a ad in his hand the doctor noticed a numbness and tingling of his skin. Altogether it is evident that the pike exercises a wise discretion in rejecting toads.

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[*] In the original here follows a rude diagram.

[*] In the original here follow rude diagrams representing hooks.

[†] In the original here follows rude diagrams representing the leads (No. 1).

[‡] In the original here follow rude diagrams representing the floats (No. 2).

JACK have been feeding well in the Thames recently, affording sport to those who know how to catch them. Thames pike are exceedingly artful. In fact, it may be said, that the education of most Thames fish has not been entirely neglected. The one fish which does not seem to profit by the educational advantages which are afforded it by anglers is the gudgeon. He bites as freely as ever, and almost if not quite as large takes of these toothsome little fish are made as in former years. Where there is no local fishery society to keep illegal cast-netting in check, the gudgeon will be found very small, in fact, little larger than can pass comfortably through the meshes of a cast-net. Cast-netting for gudgeon is quite a profitable employment to the less scrupulous of professional Thames fishermen. About sixpence a dozen is given for the fish by the hotel-keepers and others who want them (the gudgeon—not the hotel-keeper) for breakfast, and six dozen or more may be easily netted in a morning by a skilful netsman. Moreover, all's gudgeon that come to the net, and the river suffers considerably where the practice is not prevented.

TEMPLAR.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. B.: We regret very much that the sentence you very properly object to appeared during our absence, and through oversight in not sending us proof.

W. R.: We have replied direct about the fish you sent. It looked like a dace infested with some parasite, but was in far too "high" a condition to examine.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. PRITT.

LOUGH MASK.

DEAR SIR,—In the Irish angling reports appearing in the *Fishing Gazette* of Saturday last I see that a friend and myself are credited with having taken in three days, on Lough Mask, in addition to two pike of 33lb. and 18lb. weight, 60lb. of brown trout, besides smaller pike and perch. So far as the pike are concerned the report is correct, but as for the trout—well! I have not actual figures by me, but I have no hesitation in saying that the weight named as the result of three days' fishing (60lbs.) much more accurately represents the total amount taken by our party of four rods during a stay of two weeks. Our best day's take consisted of fifteen trout, weighing 22lb. Frequently we had only four or five fish to our four rods. Had the weather been more favourable, I have no doubt we would have done better, as on more than one occasion we were blown off the lochs. Almost all the fish were taken trolling, fly being practically useless. Earlier in the season it might do some execution, and if so, the sport would be good, as the fish run large; but judging from the takes chronicled in the visitors' book kept at the inn, it is seldom tried, Phantom and Angel minnows being invariably mentioned as the baits used.

Pike are far too numerous for the welfare of the trout, and I regret to say that the cross-line and otter are still in common use by the natives on Lough Mask. The Connemara Angling Association has, I believe, succeeded in checking if not in doing away entirely with these evils on Lough Corrib; but on Lough Mask (to my mind the better trouting lough of the two) the otter is openly worked, and must be very prejudicial to the fishing.

We found the pike very destructive to tackle when trolling for trout, as they took the Phantom minnow readily, and often succeeded in cutting the gut-trace and going off with the bait. When, however, as sometimes happened, they were hooked in the corner of the month, and could not get at the trace, they usually paid the penalty, and we accounted for a considerable number running from about 1lb. up to 18lb. during our stay, the larger ones making a good fight on a trout-rod and tackle. The thirty-three-pounder fell a victim to a large Brown Phantom, and gave splendid sport. On the day I took him a Mr. Gallaher, who was staying at the inn, trolling a large spoon mounted on gimp, took in Lough Mask two very handsome trout of 4lb. and 2lb., and finally lost his bait through the trace breaking when playing a large fish, which he believed to be a trout. I mention this as I would not have believed that trout would have taken a bait so coarsely mounted. The day was very dark and stormy, which may partly account for it.—Yours faithfully,

W. F. LAURIE.

Flyfishers' Club.

LARGE ROACH.

DEAR SIR,—Knowing the great interest taken by anglers in large fish, I thought you would like this account.

One of our members (Mr. H. Coleman) weighed in, on the 27th ult., at our club-room, the George Hotel, Fonthill-road, Finsbury Park, nine roach, weighing 15lb. 1oz., two of which weighed 4lb. 7½oz. The weights of each fish will be found in our club report. The nine fish have been placed in the hands of Mr. Gibson for preservation, and when this, as we think, grand case adorns our club-room walls, shall be happy to show them to any friend that may pay us a visit.—Yours faithfully,

A. PAYNE,
Sec. Globe Angling Society.

AN EXTRAORDINARY SPECTACLE.

SIR,—I am suffering from a congested liver, and take rowing exercise of a morning on the Serpentine with beneficial results. Being also an angler, and a subscriber to the *Fishing Gazette*, I have read your correspondent "Rus's" letter in last week's number, and do not think he knows much about the piscatory art, or has ever seen the elderly gentleman fishing, or he would not have written that the angler in question was fishing from a punt. There are no fishing punts on the Serpentine, and never likely to be, so I am told. There are over seventy pleasure boats, and on a fine Saturday or Sunday afternoon they are mostly engaged. I think the gentleman alluded to shows good "generalship" in enjoying his pastime in the morning, as I do mine, as then there are but few boats about, and I am told by the boatmen that the titled elderly gentleman seldom comes, and when he does he catches many fish.—Yours truly,

TRUTH AND JUSTICE.

THE THURSO RIVER.

SIR,—I am quite prepared to undertake a journey far north as the Thurso river this present month (October) to see *real autumn migrating* fish, such as ascend in abundance the *naturally* late and long-seasoned rivers. I make this offer in reply to "Volta," who writes to you last week, characterising as "a bold assertion, *which* shows that the writer is not acquainted with the river," a statement in "Notes" of previous week, a statement which, as everyone with a fair knowledge of the "far North" rivers knows, is substantially true as concerns every river north of the Brora. Guarantee given that I shall have the facility for seeing—caught by net or rod as experiment—such fish as your correspondent mentions, not late ascending back-lying fish off colour and very soft, but true autumn migrating fish, gravid it is true, yet bright as a new shilling and of large size, I am prepared to undertake the journey, along with a naturalist and fish culturist, any time up to 16th instant.

I beg pardon for saying that it seems to me that "Volta" does not know what a real autumn salmon is. It must be some of the small head of winter salmon, which are known to affect the Thurso, that he refers to, since he says *clean* fish in October. I should infer that he means by *clean*, fish that are unencumbered with ova or milt.

We want to get at the truth by careful actual experiment and demonstration; and I make the above offer, but only on condition of seeing what I have hitherto believed does not exist, and what the competent fish culturists of the north tell me could not be made to exist, reasoning from the failures of previous attempts on the Thurso with the ova of the late-ascending fish of long seasoned rivers. A straggling bright fish may be found in any river in autumn, but that does not constitute a "run" or migration, or prove anything as to the possibilities of a great or any further increase of the kind[*] of fish in the season.

Not only does "Volta's" letter show him to be rather mixed, but it indicates that he is wholly without personal knowledge of autumn rivers or real undelayed natural autumn running fish. Let him sign his real name to show who he is, otherwise I must decline to continue the correspondence, or accept his invitation to the Thurso (on the conditions stated) should he give it.—Yours, &c.,

W. MURDOCH.

Crown-street, Aberdeen.

KNEE-CAP FOR ANGLERS.

DEAR SIR,—I noticed some little time ago in the *Fishing Gazette* a query (letter) as to the best kind of knee-cap for fishing—*i.e.*, for kneeling on the damp grass. I have since invented one (waterproof), and have to arrange straps so as to prevent undue pressure on tendons. Cost—india-rubber, 10½d.; straps, 1s.; total, 1s. 10½d. I forward it by this post for your inspection.—Faithfully yours,

H. S. HARLAND.

8, Arundel-terrace, Brighton.

[It seems to us that this very strong, simple, and cheap affair would answer very well indeed as a protection to waders when kneeling in dry-fly fishing. Here is Mr. Harland's description of it: "A piece of highly-elastic vulcanised india-rubber sheeting, about ⅛in. thick, cut to size of 10in. broad (to cross over knee) and 8in. deep (to cover trousers above and below knee); corners rounded off. Two ½in. leather straps, to be sewn on to rubber sheeting (about an inch from top and bottom edge of rubber); each strap to be sewn on with a tab of leather on converse side, to prevent stitching from tearing through rubber. Although the buckle portion of straps are sewn close up to one side, the knee-cap can be worn on either leg by reversion of application."—ED.]

PRODUCTIVE SEA TROUT LOCHS.

DEAR SIR,—I have been reading up my *Fishing Gazettes* since I returned to town, and in your issue of September 5, I find in your "Notes" that you call Loch Stack "the most productive sea trout loch in Scotland." While I admit quite readily that Loch Stack is a splendid loch, you will pardon me, I am sure, for saying that there are many lochs quite as good in Scotland, and some—one at least—even better. There is a loch in South Uist in which I have occasionally had the pleasure and privilege of fishing, and I append my results in that loch during four seasons. I have had to run the chance of good and bad days from season to season, hence could I have chosen my days, the result would probably have been proportionately better.

1887.—August 10, fifty-two sea trout, 104½lb.; best fish, 5½lb., 5½lb., 5lb., 5lb., 5lb., 5lb., 4¾lb., 4½lb., 4½lb., 4¼lb., 3½lb., 3¼lb., 3lb., 3lb., 2¾lb., 2½lb., 2½lb., 2¼lb., 2lb., 2lb., 2lb., and 2lb. (fishing from the shore). August 15, eleven sea trout, 13½lb.; best fish, 3½lb. and 3lb. (fishing from the shore). August 20, twenty-eight sea trout, 35lb.; best fish, 7¼lb., 3lb., and 2lb. (one and a-half hours' fishing from boat).

1888.—August 21, twenty-five sea trout, 28½lb.; best fish, 4½lb., 2½lb., 2¼lb., and 2lb. (two and a-half hours from boat). August 22, thirty-three sea trout, 38lb.; best fish, 3½lb., 2¼lb., 2lb., 2lb. and 1¾lb. (three and a-half hours from boat).

1889.—August 20, forty-six trout, 50lb.; best fish, 3¼lb., 2½lb., 2lb., and 2lb. August 22, twenty-five sea trout, 24lb.; best fish, 3½lb., 2½lb., and 2lb. (from shore—gale of wind). August 26, fifty-seven sea trout, 51½lb.; best fish, 4½lb., 3lb., 3lb., 2½lb., 2½lb., 2lb., 2lb., &c.

1890.—Did not fish the loch.

1891.—April 6, five sea trout, 21¼lb.; the best fish, 8¼lb ,5lb., 3½lb., 3lb. (one and a-half hours—calm), and 1¾lb. April 7, sixteen sea trout, 28lb.; best fish, 7¼lb., 2¾lb., 2¼lb., 2lb., 2lb., 2lb., and 2lb. April 8, two sea trout, 2lb. (too cold and stormy for fishing). April 9, eighteen sea trout, 24lb.; best fish, 5lb., 2¾lb., 2½lb. April 11, nineteen sea trout, 25¼lb.; best fish, 5¼lb., 4¼lb., 3½lb., 3lb., and 1¾lb. April 13, thirteen sea trout, 18lb.; best fish, 4lb., 3lb., 1¾lb., 1¾lb., 1¾lb., and 1½lb. Sept. 7, seventeen sea trout, 25lb.; best fish, 4¼lb., 4lb., 2lb., and 1¾lb. (almost calm).

Total days fished, fifteen; total sea trout, three hundred and sixty-seven; weighing 491¾lb.; average, twenty-four fish, 32¾lb. (nearly) per day.

The average weight of the fish is of no moment, as the average weight is no guide to the *ordinary* weight, which is a very different matter. The ordinary sea trout—*i.e.*, the size of sea trout of which one catches the greatest number, runs from ¾lb. to 1lb., but their gameness is proverbial. It should be noted that I had to take my chance of bad days, and had to work very hard and persistently on some occasions to get fish at all. All the fish were killed with a single-handed rod and ordinary loch trout flies, of which I lost only one. This happened this spring on a small fish. I should like to see a Loch Stack record of all days—good and bad—to beat this over the same or an equal number of seasons. The best autumn fly this year in the Hebrides has been the Black and Silver, but more of this in the future.—Yours truly, Duine Môr.

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[*] The same bright, but rather gravid, large fish.

P.S.—You will observe that there are some seventy-four fish 2lb. and over in the above record. These seventy-four trout weighed 243¾lb., leaving two hundred and ninety-three trout, weighing 248lb. The latter are the *ordinary* sea trout, running, as their aggregate weight indicates, from ¾lb. to 1lb. People are apt to forget that if one hundred fish of ¾lb. weigh only 75lb., three hundred fish of that weight would weigh 225lb. Some are slightly under ¾lb., others again a little over it, but 14oz. may be taken as the true average of these game little fish, *big ones being excluded*. No account is taken of brown trout. D. M.

KENNET ROACH.

Sir,—The Kennet roach are handsome in their compactness, and in quality too, under normal circumstances, excellent. "Templar" stated the other day that the Kennet in the Newbury free borough water was a place to try for "specimen" fish, but he doubted if the fish were hardly fit to be eaten. Now, by a curious coincidence, samples of the water two miles above the borough and two miles below the town have been analysed, and no difference, it is said, could be detected in either sample. It is only natural that the inhabitants of the prosperous county town of Berkshire (Reading) should have become uneasy, because its water supply comes from the Kennet, fifteen or sixteen miles lower down. It remains, however, for some very clever sanitary "doctor" to determine once and for all why the water of an inland canalled stream, in a fair test, taken some distance below the sewage outfall, is of fairish quality. What becomes of the *noxious* portion of the excrement? There's the rub! "Templar" must have caught his show of Kennet roach a bit within two miles of Newbury Bridge; and as there is possibly another and nearer outfall-drain supplying into the Kennet, the question as to the fatness of the nine roach, and their quality for the table, comes uppermost. Perhaps the gases are absorbed by the rushes, and weeds, and trees. There are, in short, a hundred secrets about the pure—if the term be permissible—sewage from a small country town, where no chemical or metallic waste mixes with it. Again, the query might be put, "Did he eat any of those roach?" Nay, did "Redspinner" try the flavour of his Kennet-caught dace? Where even the night-cart had shot its contents into this beautiful stream, the writer, some years ago, caught roach on the morrow, and the taste of these fish was normal. And this was half-a-mile or more above Ham swing-bridge. If only "Templar" could trust himself to angle for roach, say about twenty yards below the southern drain outfall at Newbury Bridge, and have the contents of the roach's stomach scientifically examined, and then wrap each roach in fresh-buttered paper, and bake the fish, doubtless some qualified persons would taste the flesh and flavour minus condiments, and give an unbiassed opinion. We know only too well the effect of very "mixed" sewage in a tidal stream like the Thames, and the Lea, near London. What we want to be as certain as may be is, the *effect* on coarse or other fish taken not far from a simple sewage-laden drain; and also if fish are at all affected thereby a couple of miles below the contamination.—Yours truly, W. F.

A REPUDIATION.

Sir,—On perusing the Supplement of your excellent Journal of September 26, under Reports from Clubs column, I was not a little astonished to find that according to the report sent you for insertion by the secretary of the East London Piscatorial Society, my name and that of my friend, Mr. Stammers, was held up to the ridicule of the public in a most contemptible manner, without the slightest cause or offence on either his or my own part. I beg to state, in justification of my friend's character as also of my own, to the many friends I have who regularly read your Journal, that the whole of the wording of the secretary's report is misleading, and in a great part entirely false. It is true that Mr. Stammers fell into the water on essaying to land, and in order to help him out of his disagreeable position, I got one of my own legs partly immersed, but this was no "reward for unsportsmanlike behaviour" on our part, the mishap being simply one of the many accidents that may happen in like circumstances, and was not at all due to the fact of our not taking part in the competition.

The secretary stated in the paragraph complained of that we "did not feel inclined to fish," whereas the truth is we were only too eager to share in the competition ourselves, and would have done so had we not found on our arrival at Hampton Court that there were only two punt fishermen there, they being already engaged by the secretary and others. It was impossible for us even to get a man to punt us to a swim, and we thereupon travelled to Hampton, but to meet with precisely the same disappointment. Under these circumstances we hired a boat and went to visit those who by strategy had anticipated us in securing the punts, but we had no intention whatever to interfere.

The secretary, therefore, has misrepresented me and my friends quite gratuitously, and as I am not disposed to put myself to the trouble again of refuting his falsehoods, or teaching him elementary lessons in politeness to fellow member fishermen, I have resigned my connection with the society, and enrolled myself under gentlemanly officials in another.

I trust that, as I have been so freely maligned in your Journal—although you, Sir, of course are in no way responsible for it—you will do me the justice of inserting this.—Your obedient servant,

W. E. Dyne.

A COMPLAINT FROM KINGSTON.

Sir,—I wish to draw the special attention of the Thames Angling Preservation Society to the exceedingly shabby conduct of a prominent Kingston tradesman's assistant, which occurred last week. I went out with some friends in a punt for a few hours' fishing, taking up our position near the bridge, having three days previously baited the swim. We fished the first day unmolested and realised some good sport. The second day, however, this man, much to our surprise, not to say disgust, thought proper to steer his master's punt right across our tackle, at the stern of which hung a chain, which dragged the bed of the river, and which was evidently planned to annoy us, and destroy our sport and pleasure. Comment is needless. On the third day we again went out and occupied the same position. I succeeded in hooking a large fish, which took refuge beneath the buttress of the bridge, and while in the act of "raking," for the purpose of getting the fish away, a quantity of tar and paraffin, which had been deposited in the bed of the river by some person or persons unknown, came bubbling to the surface. You can imagine our feelings at the discovery of such a dastardly cowardly act, which we could only attribute to the sheer jealousy of some individual, be he whom he may, and for whom we could not help expressing our most profound pity. I merely state these facts with a view to warn anglers what to expect if these acts are permitted to continue, and with the hope that the matter will receive the attention of the proper authorities.

Thanking you in anticipation, I enclose my card, and beg to subscribe myself, yours obediently,

Barble.

[We should imagine the Thames Conservators would be the people to prevent tar being thrown into the river, and hope they will take the matter up.—Ed.]

LARGE CHUB.

Sir,—In an article on "Chub Fishing," by Mr. A. Jardine, which has just made its welcome appearance in the *Fishing Gazette* that gentleman says: "To capture a six-pounder is an event, in fact, a triumph which has not fallen to the lot of many anglers." Perhaps the following instances, where this exceptional weight is said to have been exceeded, may be worth discussing.

In the *Field* of the 9th January, 1886, Mr. Sydney R. Osborne (Brighton) refers to a chub taken by his brother in the Ouse, which weighed 7lb. 6oz.

Five years since a lively correspondence was carried on in the *Fishing Gazette*, arising from the assertion of one of your river reporters that in the Ouse, Brandon, Norfolk, chub of 7lb. weight were not uncommon, and you, Mr. Editor, offered five shillings a pound for every chub over 7lb. your correspondent could send; and I am not sure that you did not go the length of saying you would *eat them*. However, in the result, on the 4th September, 1886, Mr. J. Ralph, of the Ram Hotel, Brandon, vouched for the accuracy of the report of the recent capture, by one of the railway employees, of a chub of 7lb. 2oz.

The following is an extract from the report of the United Brothers Angling Society (Kidderminster), in *Fishing Gazette* of the 6th November, 1886; after noting the capture of a 5lb. chub, the writer continues, "This is the best fish of its class I have heard of being taken for some years out of the Severn. Some few years ago two of our anglers, in a catch of 70lb., had a brace of chub which weighed 6¼lb. and 7¼lb. respectively, while another fish was taken with the net that weighed 9lb. This fish had been hooked three times previously, there being the gut bottoms attached to its mouth when taken in the net."

Mr. Jardine, after enumerating some of the finest specimen chub shown in the International Fisheries Exhibition, 1883, which varied from 5lb. 4oz. to 6lb. 2oz., refers to a heavier specimen which was also exhibited, the name of the captor of which he had forgotten. On reference to the official catalogue, I find exhibit No. 927 thus described:—

"*Exhibitor*—Mr. G. G. Taylor, chub, weight 7lb., caught in the Thames, 14th August, 1881, said by the papers at the time to be the largest preserved in the United Kingdom."

The *Referee* of the 21st August, 1881 (probably referring to the same fish), states that a chub of 6lb. was caught at Hampton, by Mr. Taylor, of the First Surrey Piscatorials; but *Bell's Life* of the same date gave the weight as 6½lb.

As these weights are contradictory, it would be interesting to know what Mr. Taylor's fish actually did weigh, for curiously enough the special prize of £2 10s. for best (which I assume means largest), specimen chub was awarded to the Friendly Angling Society for their 5lb. 12oz. fish.—Yours, &c., Giant.

FISHING IN THE ITALIAN LAKES.

Sir,—Can any of your readers give information as to whether any fishing can be obtained in the Italian lakes? If so, of what sort?—Yours, &c.,

F. A. M.

REPORTS OF LARGE BREAM.

Dear Sir,—In your issue of the 26th of September, page 203 of the Supplement, your Norfolk correspondent reports the capture on the 13th, at Drayton on the Wensum, of two bream, "one weighing *7lb. 2oz.*, the other exactly *8lb.*

On page 208, Robert Moll, your correspondent from the Yare, says: "On the Wensum, above Hellsden Bridge, two very large bream—viz., *8lb. 10oz.*, and *6lb. 8oz.*, were caught last Monday week (angling)."

I think both these writers must be referring to the same fish, as the dates are 13th and 14th, a discrepancy which might easily occur, and the weight of the brace is in each case exactly *15lb. 2oz.;* it is also practically impossible that four fish of any such size should be caught on consecutive days, and from the same river. So, assuming the reports to refer to the same fish, which, if either, is correct? The first states that the fish are being set up by a local taxidermist; the second that they were offered for sale and *weighed* in Norwich.

I do not mean to cast the slightest imputation on your correspondents, but one must be incorrect; and personally, I should think, both are, as I do not believe in two bream of such a size being taken, and I think it would be worth while to sift the matter a little. Perhaps your courteous correspondent, "Giant," would favour me with an account of the largest authentic weights of bream taken during recent years.—Yours, &c., Blatherwycke.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1891.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

THE final business in connection with the late Birmingham and District Annual Contest was brought to a satisfactory termination on Friday evening, September 25, upon which occasion, the members and friends were called together to witness the important ceremony of the distribution of prizes to the successful competitors in the late Pershore contest. Shortly after eight o'clock, nearly every seat in the large assembly room was filled, and the harmony was commenced. Mr. T. Coles distributed the prizes. The first winner, Mr. G. Douglas, upon being called upon to step forward, was received with quite an ovation, so were the other thirty-five prize winners, especially those who had upon former occasions been fortunate enough to secure prizes. After the disposal of the prizes two of the members of the Oak Society played some excellent selections on the English concertinas. A very pleasant evening was brought to a close by singing the National Anthem.

THE committee of the Birmingham Association met on Thursday evening to make arrangements for their forthcoming contest, which takes place this day (Saturday, Oct. 3). The chairman, in opening the meeting, pointed out that he had been in communication with Mr. D. Arkell, the hon. sec. of the Midland Piscatorial Society, with a view of obtaining permission for the committee to fish their contest in the water rented by this society in the Trent, at Alrewas, and that he had received a reply from Mr. Arkell to the effect that he would place their water at the disposal of the committee, and also assist as much as possible in any way that he could, in order to make the contest a success. It is needless to say that this offer was unanimously accepted, and that a vote of thanks be forwarded to Mr. Arkell for his kindness. A prize purchasing committee, which consisted of Messrs. Coles, Dance, and White, were appointed; several gentlemen also promised prizes. After the contest the committee will be the guests of the Midland Piscatorials, and a substantial dinner will be served up at one of the fishing pubs at Alrewas.

SOME two months ago a challenge was thrown out by one or two members of the St. George's Society, for a certain member to fish any other member of any club connected with the Birmingham Association. Several members visited the St. George's club-house with a view of arranging a match, but owing to the would-be contestants not coming to terms, nothing came of the challenge until last week, when Mr. G. Jarrett, of the Deritend Society, put in an appearance, and expressed his willingness to try conclusions with Mr. C. Wainwright, the St. George's champion, who, as a prize winner, holds the record of the Midlands, he having competed in six club contests, and carried off the first prizes from four clubs, and two second prizes from the others, independent of a few special prizes for the best fish taken. Jarrott also has a good reputation, having taken first honours on more than one occasion from the Deritend Society, to which he belongs. The arrangements for the match were soon ratified and the choice of the water fell to the lot of the knight of St. George, and he decided to take his foe to the St. George's Water at Tamworth, and the match was fished there on Saturday last, the conditions of which were that two swims were to be marked out, and the spinning of the coin should decide as to the choice, which fell to Jarrett. The match was of two hours' duration, and only roach to count. In the first hour Wainwright took three roach and several other fish, whilst Jarrett never had a bite, but he stuck to his task, and finally won by five fish to four. Mr. J. Bourne acted as referee and master of the ceremonies.

FISHING in the Avon is now at its prime as the water has been reported to me by several of the Birmingham anglers to be in good condition, especially for the roach fishermen. These fish are taking white stewed wheat freely, and some decent catches have been had with this bait. Perch have been running well at the minnow, and some very decent fish have fell a prey to this seductive bait. Some few chub have been taken; but the bream seem to have gone very quiet in the Pershore district; the water has been drawn off for some purpose or other, and I should advise my readers to give this part of the Avon a rest for awhile. On the Trent and Severn matters have been very quiet, owing to the bad state of the water through the recent rains, but as these Notes leave me I hear that the water is getting into nice order again.

THE contest mentioned by me last week as promoted by Mr. C. Littlehales, is unavoidably postponed.

THE Birmingham Anglers' Benevolent contest will take place on October 4, at Tunhill Heath. Members only will be allowed to compete. Entrance fee sixpence each. Tickets may be obtained on the morning of the contest at New-street Station, or on the ground previous to the contest. The train will leave the Midland platform at 8.20, which I hope to see crowded, as the whole of the proceeds from the contest are handed over to the general funds of the society.

A SPECIAL general meeting of the Birmingham Association will be held on Thursday evening next, October 8, at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield, for the purpose of discussing the important question of the association acquiring water for the whole of the members, and also to take into consideration the depleted state of the public rivers in the Midlands. The chair will be taken at 8.15 prompt, when I hope to see all the delegates in their places.

EXCITING ANGLING ACCIDENT.—Last week while Miss Heaven and Miss Kennedy, from Menaltrie House, Ballater, were perch fishing on the Loch of Aboyne, a rather exciting incident occurred. Miss Heaven hooked a large pike, which on feeling the hook leaped out of the water, and, on falling back, foul-hooked on Miss Kennedy's tackle also. A very exciting scene followed. Both ladies held on to the fish, which afforded them lively sport for some time, till at length Miss Kennedy's tackle gave way, after which Miss Heaven eventually landed the pike, which scaled 5lb. Miss Heaven also landed another on the same occasion which weighed 8lb.—G. M.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

THOSE who confine their attentions to trout fishing are lamenting the close of the season, disappointing as it has proved to be. It is quite a month since one well-known stream was closed to all, and with the termination of September trout fishing generally in this district may be considered at an end. Ichabod is written in many a diary, if not in one word, yet the prevailing entries proclaim the same verdict. For the past week or ten days the fish taken have plainly indicated the approaching close season: many were far advanced in spawn, and the colour of many others showed evident signs of being out of that condition so much admired by all true anglers.

COARSE fish, judging from reports to hand, are feeding freely, and consequently better catches are effected. Club contests especially point to this improved state of things, as nothing like the amount of prizes remain unawarded as in the case of the contests of July and August. Still, however, the prizes remaining on hand would stock a moderate-sized general store.

AMONGST the individual reports nothing of a startling character is before us. Fair all-round sport has been obtained by many. Mr. Gibson had a good day in the Dane; Messrs. Sam Brooks, Wolstencroft, and others have done well in private waters. Another good lot of gudgeon has been taken from the Dane; fourteen of these weighed 1lb. 7oz., the largest 2½oz. Perhaps one of the youngest anglers in Manchester is J. M. S., a boy of eleven years. This precocious juvenile on the 19th of September took unaided twelve nice fish in a local stream.

GOOD reliable reports of the various rivers and streams are things not to be met with every day, and at present we are entirely at the mercy of weather reporters, and such is the conflicting tone of many of them, that we are utterly bewildered. A local visited one brook last Saturday, which on Thursday was reported in good order, and had the pleasure of finding it almost dry. An association providing reliable reports of the various streams visited by Lancashire anglers would be liberally supported.

THE most interesting and enjoyable event of the season in connection with the Hulme Crown was satisfactorily contested on September 26. The club visited the Lostock Canal, and were favoured with grand weather and, for a change, plenty of fish. The following is a complete list in the order of merit: Messrs. Geo. Thompson (special), Geo. Yates, Wm. Maxwell, John Hampson, J. Buckley, James Fitton, Henry Eaton, Fred Hartley, A. Atherton, Geo. Lloyd.

THE Neptunes seem to be remarkably unfortunate in their matches, as only Messrs. Earnshaw and Harvey succeeded in taking fish, and consequently prizes. The Ellesmere Club were more fortunate, and managed to award all their prizes thus: Messrs. J. Coates, T. Hampson, T. Pilling, J. Buckley, A. Tomlinson, F. Bibby, W. Brown, W. Taylor, H. Brooks. The Bridgewater Club have succeeded in disposing of several more prizes, but have yet five on hand. The following obtained a position on the list of winners: Messrs. J. Dixon, G. Bardesley, A. Bowers, sen., T. Horrocks, J. Mellor, A. Bowers, jun., J. Cartwright, W. English, J. Hudson, F. Fleet.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

THE fishing in this district during the past week has been very fair, considering the time of year, and the few anglers who have been out have all caught fish. The weather has been delightful, and wind and temperature all that could be desired. Just now bream are not biting well on the usual fishing grounds for these fish, though they are present in good numbers, sporting about on the surface. The best way to get good baskets is to go to some place out of the way of the wherry traffic (such as our free broads), and by ground-baiting in the first place very sparingly, draw the fish round the angler, putting in more from time to time as sport slackens; instead of, as usual in this district, putting in an immense quantity at first, and then putting in no more.

ON the Yare, at Cantley and Langley, at the end of last and beginning of this week, a few catches of bream and roach were made, but a more than ordinarily strong salt tide on Monday has driven the fish higher up the river.

ON Sept. 24, a friend and myself had thirty-two bream and roach at Brundall, largest bream 1½lb.; all the others were fair fish. On Saturday, at Brundall, a few small baskets were made; and at Buckenham one gentleman had eleven good bream of from 2lb. to 3¾lb. each. On the 27th ult., one boat fishing at Langley had about a stone of bream, and a few of the same fish were also taken at Rockland. On Monday there were three boats fishing in Buckenham Reach, each securing some fair roach. To-day (Wednesday) seven or eight good bream were taken by one rod near Langley Dyke.

ON the Bure there has not been much fishing, though this river is full of fish and the water is in good condition. On Thursday, at Ranworth, one boat had three-score very good bream. On Friday, near Horning Church, about one and a-half stone of roach and bream were taken by two rods. The same day some fair pike were taken on this river, amongst others one of 11lb., on Heigham Sounds, was taken with a spinning dead-bait. On Monday, a fair catch of bream and roach was made at Salhouse.

ON Sept. 21 a fine trout of 6lb. 1oz. was caught on the Wensum, near Whitwell. This fish, a male, is a cross between *fario* and *ferox*, and measures 25in. in total length. On Friday, from the same river, another trout of 3lb. was taken.

GREAT RUN OF SALMON IN THE SALWAY RIVERS.—On Saturday afternoon, an immense run of salmon took place to the Salway rivers. The salmon swarmed up the Annan in hundreds over the salmon pass at Annan Bridge, their ascent being watched by a large number of people. Such a large run of salmon in the month of September has never been known before. Many of the salmon were over 30lb. each.—HEATHERBELL.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

THERE has not been much sport enjoyed since the writing of my last Notes. At King's Mills, Mr. Walter Marshall and Mr. J. Greaves, members of the Nottingham Wellington Society, bagged some respectable roach with maggot and creed wheat; and at Weston, Mr. J. Riddier, of the same association, killed amongst other perch a fine specimen of nearly 1½lb. At Fiskerton, three or four members of the Nottingham Bowling Green Inn Society have done well amongst the roach and dace with the maggot, and one of them (Mr. Roper) landed a very peculiar species of fish for the Trent. Its head was like that of a bleak, with scales resembling those of a dace. I was shown the fish, and formed an opinion it was a graining. Mr. Roper was extremely anxious to know its origin, and forwarded it, I believe, to the Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*. At Holme Pierrepont, Mr. Stevenson, one of the subscribers, has been busy amongst dace and chub with the maggot; and on Tuesday the same description of bait accounted for eleven handsome chub to the rods of Mr. S. Pogson, Mr. J. Theaker, and Mr. W. White, of the Bowling Green Inn Society. On the same day I fished a section of the lower Dove and returned with a mixed bag of roach, dace, chub, barbel, and perch. One of the perch weighed a fraction over a pound, and the whole were caught with a bunch of cockspur worm, threaded on a No. 7 hook. Pike are running, and several of good size have been taken in private waters. The heaviest weighed 15lb., and fell to the rod of Mr. Hoe, late of the Wellington Society. The fish measured 3ft. 2in. in length, and ought, in condition, to have weighed 20lb.

WHAT hundreds of fish are killed over the "churchwarden" and the friendly glass to be sure! Many anglers of my acquaintance when making merry, transport, as it were, themselves into dreamland, and so magnify their takes as to make them positively ridiculous. An old saying runs—

"Whisky hot, whisky cold,
Whisky tepid, how oft were sold."

And sold have been three of our local fishermen—and all over the flowing bowl. At Host Sam Pogson's, the Bowling Green, his snug bar as frequently contains farmers and gamekeepers as it does followers of good Old Izaak. The other night the farming division was very ably represented by a gentleman out of Lincolnshire. The conversation turned on angling, and more particularly on the growth and edible qualities of trout. He, or rather his fishery, contained no end of trout. He cared nothing for Loch Leven fish, or for that matter, none but those caught in his own dear river, the Witham.

"Trent eels and Witham Pike,
No one ever saw the like."

Trout, however, were his special fancy, and he claimed to possess not a few of them. But he was not avaricious, for if his old friend Mr. Pogson and his good friends liked to have a day amongst them they were at perfect liberty to do so. His two boys were devoted anglers, and at times they had brought home some stones of trout. He could not say how they caught them; they might or might not have "tickled" them, but he would swear that the last they got was that on the shallows and weighed over 1lb.! Needless, after this, to say that the invitation was readily accepted, and in order to be in time for the journey Mr. Samiwell and his good friends—Mr. "Pepperum" Smith, and Mr. "Rabbit Pie" Theaker—actually sat up to get up, for the train to Great Ponton started as early as five a.m. Most elaborate arrangements were made for the outing, for the intended terrific onslaught on the great family of *Salmo fario*. Maggots galore, wasp-grubs by the hundred, and worms by the thousand were put up, and as a parting reminder to Mrs. P. the kind loving husband—(they are always most affectionate when an outing is in store)—he doubly impressed upon her the necessity of getting in a stone of the best dripping and purchasing an extra half-dozen of frying pans. The train started, the party landed and eager were the friends, to get among 'em. "Rabbit Pie" was content to skirmish, and the result of his skirmishing only too plainly demonstrated the fact that Farmer Take-em-in's preserves were something like old Uncle Prisillica's in the same county. Water there was, but no fish, excepting one closely bred family of five—Bob, Sarah, a son, and two daughters. Take-em-in appeared on the scene, was on good terms with his guests, and sincerely hoped they would fill their baskets. "But how fell'em?" said "Rabbit." "Why," replied he, "out of their habitation; out of their holes!" "Rabbit," who had surveyed three miles of the stream without discovering so much as three inches of water, declared there were no holes. Take-em-in (emphatically): "No holes! There will be if you *dig 'em!*" "Rabbit:" "But what about your stories of trout the other night?" Take-em-in: "Why you are sure it was the *whisky* that was talking, not me." At this time Samiwell and his friend of the wine trade were wet through, and heartily wished themselves back at Nottingham. "Rabbit" further questioned Mr. Take-em-in as to how his sons had enjoyed the wonderful sport he had described in Samiwell's cosy bar. Rising to the occasion, Take-em-in blurted out: "Do you ever take any notice of what ye'r sons tell you? The fish were at home, I saw 'em and that's enough for me!" *Perhaps* they sneaked 'em out of the Squire's water. "Enough!" cried "Rabbit," "Samiwell, I am off. We have been 'squired' afore. This is another Priscillica's adventure—to his own dear low drink—although to complete the party we ought to have with us Mr. 'Marvellous' Trivett, of Mansfield." Cooling down somewhat, Mr. Samiwell confessed they had been sold; but as the day was still young he had yet hopes of returning home with some kind of spoil. He, therefore, very quickly engaged a horse and trap, and drove Mr. "Rabbit" and Mr. "Pepperum" to a neighbouring private canal, in which Mr. "Rabbit" set to work to secure a supply of pike bait. These, fortunately, were soon forthcoming; and in addition to becoming the happy possessor of seven rattling good pike, Mr. "Samiwell" further launched out in the purchase of a couple of live sucking-pigs—which he intended as a present to the honorary astronomer (Mr. Joseph Minion) of the angling society held at his hostelry. The fish were kept alive, and were placed, with the pigs, in a convenient jack. The pigs were of a silvery-grey colour, and were only parted with on account of the purchaser being an intimate friend of the seller. After a long journey back to Nottingham the familiar platform was sighted, and on it, in full astronomical garb, stood the veritable Joseph himself. "Pleased to see you," exclaimed Mr. P. "You can give us a helping hand by carrying home the bag." The astronomer: "Delighted, sir! delighted!" Seizing it, he threw it across his massive shoulder, and hoped whatever was inside would not *bite* him. He liked *eels* but not *pikes*. Just before reaching the Bowling Green, the astronomer was suddenly observed to turn deadly pale; and placing his hand to his side, he swore something in the sack had made a hole in it. He felt he had been crippled for life, and asked to be relieved of his burden. In the club-room all was bustle and excitement, and as soon as the contents of the sack was toppled out and Joseph caught sight of the quadrupeds he darted frantically for the door, exclaiming, "Oh, horror! badgers! badgers! For Tarter! (Mr. Pogson's favourite, rough coated terrier). In vain his friends tried to explain they were pigs. "No pigs for me!" cried Joseph. "Astronomers, you fools, neither study 'grunters' nor badgers. Good night!" Thus ended a memorable "splodging" day. Sturdy John Theaker retired soon after Joseph, and on calling upon him the next morning, his good wife assured me that he had been dreaming during the night of nothing but pigs and pike, badgers and Tarter. He, however, quickly asked for the remnants of Mr. George Bate's historical Bleak Hills rabbit pie.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

The trouting season ends but indifferently well, and little or nothing has been done during the week. Taking the season as a whole, it has not been a successful one, though at times we have had short periods of good angling weather and successful fishing. The summer, however, has been an exceptionally unfavourable one, and it is hoped that the comparative smallness of the takes are due to the unpropitious elements, and the constant discolouration of the river by flood-water rather than to a decrease in the supply of fish. The minnow anglers have been far, the most successful under these circumstances; and fly-fishers have had but few favourable days throughout the season. Of the former Mr. Dixon has been about the most successful of local anglers, while the professionals have had fair takes. While trout fishing has thus been exceptionally bad, the rough fishing, on the other hand, has been as satisfactory as could be desired, in fact there are by far too many rough fish in the river. Many good roach have been taken of late with the wasp, maggot, and paste. Pike fishing has been good during the past week or two, and there seems to have been a large increase in the numbers of these fish since the bye-law prohibiting all netting except for salmon within the limits of the Borough of Shrewsbury was passed.

I have often referred in my Notes to the excellent pike fishing which may be had in the many fine lakes in the locality of Shrewsbury, in which permission to fish is not very difficult to obtain from the generous landowners, especially if sought through the medium of an angling society. Shrewsbury anglers, however, seem somewhat slow to appreciate the fine sport that may thus be obtained, and it is but seldom one hears of any of them making such a fine capture as that which two members of the Ironbridge Severn Angling and Protection Society made last week in Bomere Pool, a splendid sheet of water some three miles from Shrewsbury. The pool contains numbers of roach and other rough fish, as well as many fine pike, but the two anglers confined their attentions to the latter, capturing in the course of the day nine handsome fish, the whole weighing 27lb.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

Grayling fishing in this district is now in full swing, and with weather and water in good condition, some halcyon days should yet be in store for the ardent handler of the rod and line. By the beginning of the week, the rivers, which had been flooded by recent rains, had run down to something like a fishable state, and from nearly all the Yorkshire streams came the welcome words, "prospects good." Many anglers have journeyed to the Wensleydale district, where, in the neighbourhood of Middleham, some grand dishes of from six to twelve brace of grayling have often been made. The fish are reported to be in good condition, and rise fairly well to Fog Black, Red Tag, Honey Dun, and the more generally used Bradshaw's Fancy. Both the Yore and Swale have been in excellent order for angling. The Wharfe and the Nidd have also afforded capital sport for their many frequenters, while the Codbeck at Thirsk has attracted a goodly few.

Pike angling has also found a respectable number of followers here, and some fine specimens have been captured. A farm servant in the employ of Mr. Geoffrey Nicholson, at Home Bridge, near Malton, while out in the river Derwent the other day hooked and successfully landed a splendid pike, weighing over 16lb. Two similar fish of about the same weight were captured in the river Foss at York, about a week ago, and several gentlemen have since been trying their luck in that stream, but, as far as my knowledge extends, without any special result.

With reference to the trouting season in this district, a local newspaper, under the heading of "A Successful Fly-Fisher," says: "Mr. Reginald Swalwell, of the Vicarage, Sinnington, near Pickering, has again this year caught a great quantity of trout, numbering in all over 1,300.

The members of the York Waltonian Angling Society, met together and fished their last match of the season, at Kirkham Abbey, on the 23rd of September last. Leaving York shortly before nine, they arrived at Kirkham in time to commence "operations" at ten o'clock, and fishing continued up to half-past six at night, an interval of about an hour's duration only being allowed for refreshments. In consequence of the prevalence of a strong current the take was not heavy, and "weighing in" was soon over. After tea had been partaken of, the party, highly satisfied with what was the best outing the club had had since its formation returned home. The prize-takers were as follows: First, given by the president, Mr. T. Horsley, Mr. E. Walker; second, given by the vice-president, Mr. J. Masterman, Mr. E. Staines; third, Secretary's prize, Mr. Watson; fourth, Mr. C. Slater; fifth, Mr. A. Simpson; sixth, Mr. Masterman; seventh, Mr. A. Butler; and eighth, Mr. Hewson.

Although the prices of fishing licences cannot be said to be very heavy, there are always a few rod-holders who will endeavour to engage in their favourite sport without paying the necessary shillings and pence. But the last persons in the world one would expect to do such a thing are the clergy. Of such offenders the Yorkshire Fishery Board have this week made one or two examples. At the Wath (North Riding), Petty Sessions, on Saturday, before Sir Reginald Graham, Bart., and other magistrates, the Rev. H. T. Hutchinson, of Melmerley, clerk in holy orders, and curate in charge of the parish, was summoned at the instance of Ralph Colbeck, water bailiff, for fishing in the river Ure with a rod and line without a proper licence, on the 11th of Sept. last. Mr. Edmundson, (Edmundson and Gowland), prosecuted on behalf of the Fishery Board. It seemed defendant had been angling in the Ure, and when asked if he had a licence said, "it was at home." Nevertheless he neither appeared in court nor produced the licence. The chairman said he had received a letter from the defendant in which he stated that the matter of a licence had "entirely escaped his memory," for which negligence he expressed regret. A fine of five shillings and costs, amounting in all to nineteen shillings, was imposed.

At the Howden Petty Sessions, on Saturday, William Smith, fisherman, of Goole, appeared in answer to a charge of unlawfully taking salmon, other than with the rod and line, during the close season, from the river Ouse. Mr. G. Wintringham Cutts, solicitor, Goole, prosecuted on behalf of the Yorkshire Fishery Board, and Mr. Everatt Hind defended. Evidence was adduced by George Cook, water bailiff, and another bailiff, to show that on the 19th of September last defendant was observed to cross from the Dutch river at Goole in a boat to a sandbank on the East Riding side of the river, and take a salmon from a shallow and kill it. He was afterwards observed conveying it to his home. The defence was that the fish was dead when taken by the defendant, having been killed by the impure state of the water. This the Bench, however, failed to see, and imposed a penalty of fifty shillings and costs.

NOTES FROM TYRONE.

Contrary to general expectations, this week was not a good one on the Tyrone rivers. This was probably due to the nightly frosts, and low, clear water, with just sufficient rain to make things uncomfortable for the bank angler, without raising the water, or putting it on colour.

The Ballinderry, Torrent, Blackwater, and other streams in the eastern section have not been fished heavily, and any trout taken were small. Last week, only one salmon, a nineteen-pounder, was killed on the Ballinderry.

Reports from the northern waters show that salmon and trout fishing is not very brilliant on the Strule, Mourne, Castledorf, &c., and, again, the very changeable weather must account for the falling-off. On the Holm reaches of the Strule (the stretches I am best acquainted with) trouting ought to be good just now. This water is a favourite resort of the officers and men of the Depot Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers.

At the last Ballymena petty sessions (Co. Antrim) four farmers were fined from 1s. to 10s. each for allowing flux water to enter the Devenagh river; and at the Monaghan petty sessions another farmer was fined for letting the same infernal liquid into the Drumveruttеn reaches of the Blackwater, in the nominal sum of 1s. How can we expect but that salmon and trout will decrease in our rivers when such ridiculously small fines are imposed for the wholesale destruction of these fish? The imposition of a shilling fine is a mere farcical administration of the Irish Fisheries Law. The maximum fine for the offence is £2, and this should be the minimum fine.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* Fishing Gazette, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* Club Report *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly meeting of the General Committee will take place on Monday evening next, October 5, at 8.30.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Anglers' Association.—Eastern District No. 1.—The next return visit on the above will be to the Odds and Evens, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, East-road, on Wednesday next, when I hope to have the pleasure of meeting many of our angling friends, so that we may have the usual good attendance that we have always had at this club.—G. Manning.

Anglers' Association.—Eastern District No. 2.—The next return visit on this list will take place at the Islington Brothers Angling Society on Monday next, Oct. 5, at their new home, the Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road, Essex-road (at the side of the New River). Mr. Levett, the genial host, who is a well-known angler, says he knows the requirements of an angling society, and I think we know the wants of a good host, so all angling friends in this district are requested to lay aside their roach poles and bring their briar roots and cane and give him a bumper. Mr. Stretch will be at the head of the swim with a collection of new songs for this night only.—F. Thorling.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The next meeting of the committee will take place on Friday evening, Oct. 9, at 8.30.—R. Ghurney, sec.

The London United Anglers' Societies Fourth Annual Angling Competition, in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—On Friday, the 25th ult., the usual fortnightly meeting took place, when Messrs. Spenceley, C. Lake, E. Lake, Farnee, and E. Wood were added to the committee. The following is the list of prizes up to date: Mr. Teale, Rye House, a prize; Mr. Sowerbutt, jun., a tackle book (filled); Mr. Sowerbutt, senr., a roach rod (these were left over from the Gresham competition); Mr. Wood, of the Hoxton Brothers, a prize, value £1 1s.; Mr. Slade, Dalston, a Pitt's helmet; Mr. Webber, Dalston, fishing box; Mr. Cuthbert, Odds and Evens, a prize, value 5s.; Globe Angling Society, 10s. 6d.; Sociable Brothers, 10s. 6d.; Prince Arthur, 10s. 6d.; Mr. Hewett, of the Good Intent, a tobacco stand, value 10s. 6d.; Mr. Medcalf, Amicable Brothers, a roach box; Mr. Farebrother, Amicable Brothers, a prize, value 5s.; Mr. Abrahams, Allason United, a gold ring; ditto, an ebony walking-stick; Mr. Patman, Bermondsey Brothers, a telescope, stick, and net; Mr, Page Wood, of Huntingdon, patent hook book (fitted),. Presented by the Langley Committee: a cardigan jacket, ink stand, tobacco stand, album, electro biscuit box, electro butter dish, twelve tea spoons, and carving knife and fork. The next meeting will be held on Friday, October 9.—S. Malby, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—On the 27th ult., Mr. Moir weighed in roach and bream, but was unable to take one of the remaining three prizes, which still stands over, as he went out on Saturday night; so they will be fished for on October 4. All members to go where they please; but must go on the morning of the competition only. The next return visit on the Central Association will take place at the above on Monday, October 19, when Mr. F. Crumplen has kindly consented to read an interesting paper. We have still a few vacancies for some good working members.—W. H. Potter, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our return visit of Tuesday last was a great success, although only ten clubs were represented, some turned up in strong force—namely. the Battersea Friendly, the Clapham Junction, and the Waggoners. The chair was occupied by Mr. D. Cooper, faced by Mr. H. Lovett, and we had a very pleasant evening. Mr. W. Cooper presented the club with a handsome silver cup to be fished for. We return our sincere thanks to those clubs who answered to the roll-call. Several of ours were out on the 27th ult., and the following weighed in: Mr. James, 5½lb. of roach and dace; Mr. B. Acland, 3¾lb. of roach; Mr. A. Bond, 3lb. 7oz. of roach and dace; Mr. King, roach; Mr. Lovett, dace; Mr. Blyth, dace; Mr. G. Rich, Mr. Knowler, roach and dace, and we made two new members last week, and two more to be proposed members are requested to attend next meeting night to arrange our next outing.—J. Rich, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On Sept. 27th we had a very fine show of fish on the trays contributed by the following members: Mr. W. Embleton, jun., having a fine show of roach, dace, and jack; Mr. G. Merry, a nice show of roach and perch; Mr. George, dace; Mr. W. Hake, roach; Mr. Lattimore, bream; Mr. Whitehead, bream and dace; Mr. Reeks, roach; Mr. Lambarth, Mr. Roach, and Mr. Munday, a very fine show of dace. On Monday next, Oct 5, the visit on the Clerkenwell and District takes place at the above house, when we hope to have a good muster of brother anglers and friends.—E. R. Embleton, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The quarterly meeting of the above society was held at the club-house on Wednesday, with a good attendance. After the usual business, we had the distribution of prizes which had been won during the quarter amounting to about eight guineas, the prize-winners being Messrs. T. Simpkins, Scott, Bowling, Wade, Watkins, Martin, F. Davis, Palmer, Bodell, and myself. I take this opportunity of thanking our patrons and friends who so kindly gave us their support, notably our worthy host and treasurer, Mr. A. Bolland, who is always to the front; also Mr. John Lee Cole, Mr. Quodling, Mr. Mead, and other gentlemen. Members are reminded that on the 4th inst. Mr. Eldridge will hold another competition, so I hope they will turn up and support him in his efforts to provide a good prize list and a pleasant day's outing.—A. G. Smith.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, Great Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—A good muster of members fished for our monthly prizes on September 27, at Caversham. The result being: J. Savage, first, roach; H. Scott, second, roach; J, Tucker, third, roach and perch; and W. Gibbs, fourth, roach. After the match we paid a visit to the Reading Waltonians, held at the Moderation, Caversham Bridge.—J. Tucker, hon. sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday last, Mr. Charles Wastell in the chair. The prize list was extended, and the secretary announced they had now over £40 worth of prizes. Notwithstanding the increase in the standard of fish weighable at this club, big shows have been the rule so far this season, and as a matter of fact, the members are now convinced of the wisdom of the step inaugurated in this club by Mr. E. S. Shrubsole. There will be a match fished at Amberley on October 4 for two prizes. A punt competition is fixed for October 11, at Staines. Entries should be made not later than Saturday, October 10, and should be made on Tuesday next. Prizes value £5 will be fished for. On Tuesday, October 6, a special meeting will be held to consider and pass the half-yearly balance-sheet. Other important matters have also to be dealt with and the secretary sincerely hopes the members will show up in large numbers. This society is now in a prosperous condition and offers a good opportunity for anglers in the district who wish to join a club. The meetings are well attended. The winter programme of readings and concerts, &c., will be ready shortly. The result of the match at Staines on September 27 was as follows: W. Chettle, first; J. Antliff, second.—George Mumford, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—Several members were out on the 27th ult., but only one turned up to weigh in, Mr. James Smith saving the club from a blank with 7lb. of roach from Amberley.—A. Conn, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—On September 27 the clerk of the scales was not kept busy, only two gentlemen weighing in—Mr. Wheelhouse, roach and chub; Mr. F. Barker, roach and dace. I beg to remind members that the half-yearly meeting takes place on October 14, when I hope to see a good muster of members.—F. Roberts, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the 27th inst. the following weighed in: Mr. Rich, jack and roach, heaviest jack 3lb. 15½oz.; Mr. C. Davis, roach.—D. Warren.

Bostonian Angling Society.—The following have had fair takes: Mr. Rundall, roach, heaviest 1lb. 4oz. and 1lb. 2oz.; Mr. Hoare, roach; Mr. Lawson, roach, heaviest over 1lb.; Mr. Clark, jack and roach; Mr. Brown, perch; Mr. Chapman, jack; Mr. Halsell, chub; Mr. West, dace. Our next outing will take place at Pangbourne on Oct. 14; there are seven valuable prizes to be competed for. Members will oblige by attending next meeting night (Wednesday), as there will be something of an interesting nature brought forward.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On the 27th inst., seventeen members turned up for the competition at Edenbridge. The takes were not extraordinary. Mr. Brown came in first as usual, and Mr. Aitchison, second; the other fifteen members tied. A competition for the five prizes which were not won on the 27th ult. will take place on the river Chelmer on the 11th inst.—H. Roach,

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—We fished for three prizes at Dagenham on the 27th ult., with the following result: Mr. G. Meaning, first; J. Watkins, second; G. Meaning, third. The half-guinea jack prize will remain open until October 6. Since my last report the following have weighed in: Messrs. Tucker, G. Meaning, J. Watkins, G. Meaning, Howell, Foster and Wilson, bream; Messrs. G. Meaning, Howell, Tucker, Foster, Wilson, and Hawkes, roach; and Mr. Tucker, jack. Members who were absent on Tuesday last please note that our half-yearly smoking concert and prize distribution takes place on Tuesday next. Chair to be taken at 8.30 prompt. We can assure all a good evening, both vocal and instrumental. Secretaries and members of clubs please accept this invitation.—T. Hawkes, sec.

Buxton Brothers' Angling Society, Walthamstow.—On the 27th ult. some of our members were out at Enfield Lock, with the following results: J. Stevens, roach: W. Davis, roach; J. Howell, roach. On the 28th ult, R. Quartermas, roach; J. Stevens, two jack. On the 30th ult. our adjourned meeting was largely attended, members showing up in full force. It was arranged to have a friendly gathering at the Rye House on Oct. 4, when it is hoped that there will be a good muster. Members are reminded that specimen fish prizes count on that day.—A. Shuker, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On Sept. 27 the following members had good shows of fish: Mr. King, roach; Mr. Langton, jack; Mr. A. Chapman, jack; Mr. Boxall, jack; Mr. C. Chapman, jack.—E. T. White, sec.

Campbell United Angling Society, Sir Colin Campbell, High-road, Kilburn.—Several members took part in the match on September 20, no one having sufficient weight to take a prize. It will be fished again at Staines, on October 11, roving between Staines Bridge and Penton Hook; bank only; two rods; jack barred. All members to meet at Brondesbury Station (N.L.R.) at eight o'clock on the morning. Those coming down later must report themselves to the first member they come to in the usual way. The only members to weigh in on the 27th ult., were Mr. J. Tanner, jack; and Mr. Hiseock, roach.—E. W. Ward, hon. sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—The announcement that Mr. Harry Dunn would read a paper on "Barbel Fishing," and that Mr. H. W. Sharp would sing Izaak Walton's "Angler's Song," with additional verses to Lawes' original music, drew a large and appreciative audience on Monday last. Mr. T. Crumplen took the chair. If the Causton A.S., was frequently able to submit so attractive a programme, the prudent host, Mr. Tom Keeble, might conveniently consider the desirability of structural alterations within the walls of the Coffee Pot Tavern. In the language of the playbill there was a crowded house and standing-room only. With regard to Mr. Dunn's paper and the discussion that ensued it would be *infra dig.* on my part to make any comment here, especially when there were so many gentlemen of great authority on the subject taking notes. It is sufficient for me to say that Mr. Harry Dunn thoroughly deserved the hearty vote of thanks of which he was the recipient. The fitness and charm of Izaak Walton's song, as rendered by Mr. Sharp, made an impression upon all, and was encored again and again. Mr. Edgar S. Shrubsole, Mr. G. E. Simms, Mr. John Kelly, Silver Trout, and Mr. G. Evans, Westbourne Park Piscatorial, were unanimously elected hon. life members, and in returning thanks for their election each one presented the society with a prize. During the evening Mr. F. North exhibited a fine show of roach. After a vote of thanks to Mr. Crumplen for presiding, the meeting was closed with the Angler's Song. Mr. G. E. Simms will read the next paper before this society, and others are promised by Mr. Shrubsole and Mr. Crumplen.—John Smith, hon. sec.

Caxtonian Angling Society.—This flourishing society, whose headquarters are at the Falcon Hotel, Gough-square, Fleet-street, held their second annual roach competition (specimen fish only), on Thursday, Sept. 24, at Richmond. There was a very good attendance, and tickets were examined at 10.20, and returned at 6.15 p.m. A capital take all round rewarded the efforts of the competitors. The first prize, was won by Mr. A. J. Parker whose largest fish scaled 13lb. ¾oz.; Mr. W. H. Cate, jun., took second prize 9½oz.; Mr. A. J. Parker's gross catch weighed 22¾lb., comprising 18lb. 10oz. of dace, above 8in., and the rest good-sized roach. He fished with Brain, jun., who was most assiduous in his attentions.

Central Association.—The next monthly delegate meeting will take place at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, on Monday, the 5th inst., at 8.30 p.m.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—On September 27, twenty-one members went to Staines to compete in punts for five prizes, but sport kept very dull. only four prizes being won as follows: Mr. Chapman, first; Mr. Wilson, second; Mr. May, third; and Mr. F. T. Tringham, fourth; the following also had fish, Mr. Trowbridge jack; and Mr. Markworth, bream, 7lb. 3oz., one fish, 3lb.—A. Trowbridge, secretary.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—The ordinary weekly meeting of this society was held on Monday, 28th September, Mr. J. P. Wheeldon in the chair. During the evening applications were made for rules of the society by intending members. As there was no particular catches to report, a very pleasant evening was spent in discussing angling matters generally, and the meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman.—A. W. Oliver, assistant sec.

Cliftonville Angling Society, Cliftonville Hotel, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey.—A roving match will take place on October 4, for two prizes. Members can obtain full particulars at the club-house. Those members wishing to assist in arranging a smoking concert for the benefit of the club funds will oblige by giving in their names at once.—P. Gardner, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We had a very fair show of fish on the 27th ult., by Messrs. E. George, with dace; E. Baker, dace; T. Youngman, roach; A. Duncan, roach; E. Baxter, chub; A. Smith, tench. Tuesday next is quarterly night, and I hope all members will attend, as we have some important business to settle. I also remind members that the annual concert takes place on October 26, the tickets are now ready.—A. Smith, sec.

Corinthian Angling Club, Prince of Wales Hotel, Eastbourne-terrace, W.—On Sept. 30 the following gentlemen were duly elected active members: Messrs. Rubenstein, Nicholson, and Nash. I have great pleasure in recording the capture of an exceptionally handsome perch, weight 3lb. 4oz., taken by Mr. J. C. Arthur, from Norfolk Broads. Mr. Arthur has been good enough to send the fish for preservation, and when completed will adorn the walls of our club-house. Several other of our members have been out.

Crewe No. 1 Angling Society.—The last club match of the season took place on September 19, some sixty members taking part in the contest. The match was fished in the Canal, at Nantwich. £5 in prizes was voted from the funds of the club. Messrs. J. Whitfield, R. Cole, J. Singleton, W. Callis, W. Butt, and H. Thomas, were amongst the chief prize winners. The catches were very small, as is usually the case in canal matches, but it would of course be injudicious to take so many members to any particular club water. Since I wrote last I may mention a grand catch of roach by C. Condliffe, at Buttington, also roach and chub by J. Bate and J. Thomas. Four and a-half brace of nice trout by F. A. Williams, and on another occasion a trout of 1lb. 2oz. The fishing and weighing in for specimen fish extends to December 31 for the current season—except for trout, which is now closed. I give you the weights of first, second, and third, in each class up to the present date, viz., Roach, J. Thomas, 1lb. 9½oz., 1lb. 7½oz.; J. Bate, 1lb. 6oz., 1lb. 5oz.; R. Cole, 1lb. 4¼oz. Dace, G. Kelshaw, 9oz.; J. Collins, 8½oz., 8oz. Gudgeon, J. Wilson, 1½oz.; F. Talbot, 1¼oz. Ruff, W. Mayhanks, 1½oz., 1¾oz.; J. Pagan, 1½oz. Pike, F. Warham, 6lb. 14¼oz.; F. Talbot, 3lb. 2oz., 3lb. 1oz. Champion prize fish for the season—Chub, J. Thomas, 3lb. 12½oz.; T. Fotherby, 3lb. 13½oz. It will be seen that Mr. Thomas's splendid chub which he had "set up" by Cooper and Sons, of London, has been beaten by Mr. T. Fotherby, by 1oz., a grand specimen of chub taken with worm in the River Severn. Perch, J. Thomas, 13¾oz.; G. Capel, 1lb. 10¼oz. Bream, F. Talbot, 2lb. ¾oz.; J. Whitfield, 1lb. 9oz.; D. Emerton, 1lb. 8oz. Trout, D. Emerton, 1lb. 3½oz.; F. A. Williams, 1lb. 1oz.; J. Bate, 1lb. ¼oz. Tench, carp, and rudd, remain without a single fish being weighed in at present. Some important business was done at the last club meeting respecting the annual club dinner, and a revision of the rules. Note.—Our kindred club, the Izaak Walton Angling Society, have sustained a severe loss by the death of their esteemed chairman, Mr. J. Astley, whose place has been filled by Mr. W. Eardley. This society is progressing very favourably.—F. A. Williams.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On September 27, a few members were out, but owing to the bright water met with very little sport: Messrs. Parram, Killick, and Wild, having a few nice roach, dace, and perch; Mr. Thornton had two fine carp, scaling 5lb. the two. Members please note that Tuesday next is general meeting night, when we have to elect a chairman.—S. Malby, sec.

Earlsfield Angling Society, Half-way House, Earls-street, Bayswater.—There will be a special general meeting on October 7 to elect officers for the ensuing quarter, and to arrange for an outing on October 11. There is also another matter of great importance to the club to be discussed. We have had several decent shows of fish lately by Mr. Biederman and other members, but the takes have not so far come up to general expectations.—R. W. Birn, hon. secretary.

General Post Office Angling Society.—The meetings of this society are now held at the Falcon Hotel, Falcon-square, every Thursday, at eight p.m. The progress of this society, notwithstanding our quietness, has been favourable, having made several new members since my last report. We have also made a few alterations in the rules, which give greater facilities to the members, one of the alterations being that, in future, all prizes will be taken with specimen fish only. At a meeting on the 17th of September, the books were audited, a good balance being found in the treasurer's hands. The following gentlemen were also elected to act as committee-men in their respective branches: Mr. Boone, Parcel Post; Mr. George Foreighnana, Register Branch; Mr. Whitmore, Inland Branch; and Mr. Sholter, Newspaper Branch. Officers in either of these branches can obtain all information from any of these gentlemen respecting enrolment, &c. On Thursday, Oct. 1, we compete at Rye House for four prizes of £1 each. Competitions will also be held every Thursday during this month. The number of members in this society being unlimited, we shall be pleased to make any brother officer a member. I will gladly send, free of charge, full particulars as to membership, &c., upon receipt of request for same addressed to me at the E.C.D.O.—L. W. Donne, secretary.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We fished for three prizes in the Lea on the 27th ult., but none of them were won on account of the water being so bright, but we were amply rewarded for our bad luck by a splendid show of roach, taken by Mr. Coleman, and shown in the club-room, nine fish weighing 15lb. 1oz., the five largest fish weighing 2lb. 4oz., 2lb. 3½oz., 1lb. 15¼oz., 1lb. 13oz., and 1lb. 10¾oz., the four smallest weighing a trifle over 1lb. 1oz. each. They are at Mr. Gibson's to be mounted in one case and will be on show at the above society when finished. Mr. Slade also showed a few fish. These weights are authentic.—A. Payne, sec.

Good Intent Angling Society, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch.—There was a good show of roach and dace brought in on September 27 by Messrs. F. Grey, Lyte, Taylor, Hugget, and Whitmore. The members will fish for prizes on October 11th at Pangbourne; roam of water.—R. Murphy.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—At our meeting on Sept. 29, Mr. A. Wheeler in the chair, it was decided that we fish a pegged-down match at Taplow, on October 18. On the 27th ult., Mr. W. Savage weighed perch, and Mr. F. Bates, roach.—G. F. Weaver, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—At the usual weekly meeting on Tuesday, Mr. John Hearn was in the chair. Several members had fished in the roach competition in the society's water at Kelvedon that day, with the result that Mr. E. C. Clements had taken the first prize of tackle, with three roach, weighing 2lb. 10¼oz. The other prizes were not taken, it being necessary under the rules that nothing less than three fish of ½lb. each would weigh in. Mr. Parker reported having taken thirty good flat fish at Leigh, and Dr. Davidson twenty-one. Dr. Brunton had been grayling fishing in Wiltshire, and taken eight fish, weighing 13½lb.

Hertford Angling Preservation Society, (G. E. R.) Station Hotel, Hertford.—On Monday evening, Mr. Herbert Johnson, a member of this club, weighed in a trout, in capital condition. It was 18in. in length, 13½in. in girth, and weighed just 3½lb. The fish were taken on a tight line while roach fishing with paste, a No. 8 hook, and 2 yards. of fine drawn gut, the fortunate captor was without a landing net, and had to send a boy some distance for one, he had the fish on nearly three-quarters of an hour before bringing it to bank. After being weighed in, the fish was sent to Cooper and Son, Radnor-street, for preservation, and will be added to the collection now in possession of the society.—W. Waller, vice-president.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sister's-road, Finsbury Park.—The twenty-third annual supper of the above was held on Thursday evening, the 24th ult., at the Hornsey Wood Tavern, Finsbury Park, N., the headquarters. A large number of members and friends did ample justice to an excellent repast, provided by the host, Mr. H. F. Foale. The president, Mr. James E. Wheatley, occupied the chair, with the worthy host in the vice. The cloth being cleared, and the usual loyal toasts drunk, the toast of the evening "Prosperity to the Highbury Angling Society" was proposed by the vice-chairman, coupled with the name of the popular president, Mr. J. E. Wheatley, who on rising to respond, was received with great cheering. In a very happy speech he gave a *resumé* of the flourishing condition of the club, which he was instrumental in founding twenty-three years ago, and which he stated was never in a better position than at the present time, and trusted that the members would continue to combine to make their club even a greater success than it was at present. The health of the vice-chairman was proposed by Mr. J. K. Devonshire, and responded to by Mr. Foale. The remainder of the evening (an extension of time having been obtained) was then devoted to harmony, and several very excellent songs were rendered in first-class style by the members and friends. Mr. Heath, at the conclusion of the harmony, proposed the health of Mr. J. T. Griffiths, the energetic secretary, which was drank with great enthusiam, this bringing to a close one of the most enjoyable evenings ever passed by these disciples of "Old Isaac."—J. T. Griffiths, sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—The members fished for prizes on September 27, at Cheshunt, three only being won: First, S. Cole, roach; second, H. Da Costa, perch; third, T. Haycox, perch.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—We met, as usual, on the 24th ult., when two new members were proposed. Several of our members were out on the 27th ult., when the following weighed in: Mr. Croker, roach; Mr. Willsher, roach and gudgeon; Mr. Key, roach and gudgeon; Mr. Stretch, roach and gudgeon; Mr. H. Herbert, gudgeon. Our return visit on No. 2 Eastern District takes place next Monday, October 5, when we hope to have an enjoyable evening. We have room for a few more members.—J. H. Herbert, secretary.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members will compete for four special prizes on the 4th instant, and for three on Wednesday next, the 7th instant. Competitors may choose their own fishing waters for these prizes, but must not leave London before five a.m. on the days of the competitions. Mr. A. Furlong weighed in roach and perch on September 27.—H. B.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—During the past week the following members have weighed in: Messrs. J. Hollyman (9lb. 3¼oz. roach and dace), Prole (9lb. 0¼oz. roach and dace), T. Salter (4lb. 11oz. barbel and roach), Master (3lb. 11oz. roach and dace), Wilmot (2lb. 6oz. roach), Mason (1lb. 10oz. roach). Next week the winners of the September competitions will be given.—T. Salter, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 27th ult. the following weighed in some fish: Mr. Belton, roach and dace; Messrs. Porter, Nelson, Ellingham, Watling, and Webster, perch and roach. Messrs. Moore and Findley showed some nice roach on the 23rd ult., from the Thames. I hope members in arrears will show up and clear the books.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—At our last week's meeting there were twenty members—or about as many as there ought to be—and the following resolutions were passed: "That one guinea be given to the keeper of the Ruabon Reservoir, as a gratuity expressive of our gratification at the efficient way in which he has looked after the water." "That there be an outing to the Ruabon Reservoir on 8th of October, for which the vice-president, Mr. R. Whittington, gives a mackintosh, of not less value than two guineas, for the heaviest take of fish; and that there be another outing to the Vyrnwy." Mr. R. Roberts, when away on his holidays, had some rare old sport, taking large numbers of perch, roach, &c., nearly every day; but generally speaking sport for many miles round Liverpool has been very indifferent. I hope to have two or three days on the Dove, at Rocester, next week, and am looking confidently forward for some grand grayling, as they are there.—Richard Woolfall.

Liverpool East End Friendly Angling Association 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool.—We had a fair muster on Sept. 29, when it was proposed that we have a match on Oct. 11, to take place on the river Dee, Chester. Conditions: no competitor to use more than one rod; also, no fish to be weighed in under 3oz.; all competitors to go by the train from Woodside on morning of match. Any member not abiding by these rules will be disqualified from weighing in for prizes. We have a special meeting on the 6th to decide about the prizes that are for specimen fish, which will be presented at the close of the year. Members who have been out have had fair sport with roach and perch, &c., taking into consideration the inclement weather they have had to contend with. Hoping all members will attend next meeting.—T. C. Segar, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 27th ult., our members were at various waters, but the shows of fish were small, Messrs. W. Pearce, Sansom, Milburn, A. Clark, and Penfold weighing in roach, dace, perch, and tench.—W. F. Pearce.

Mitre Brothers Angling Society, Mitre Tavern, Kingsgate-street, Holborn.—Members of the above society were all out on September 27, but only two weighed in fish—Mr. Irish, with chub; Mr. Timmis, with a nice show of perch and dace from the Thames.—J. Jolliffe, sec.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—Concerning our grand outing next Thursday the following resolution was carried at our meeting on Oct. 1: "All to go by the 7.35 a.m. to Richmond and Twickenham." Punts to be at White Cross and Queen's Head at 8.30. Start fishing at nine, and cease at five. Captain: Messrs. Grimmett and Baldwin, to arrange partners and draw for punts on the 8th. Sweepstakes one shilling each, to be divided into three prizes, for puntsmen. One rod to each member. Fish were weighed in on Thursday by Messrs. Bailey, barbel, roach and dace, 4lb. 12oz.; Marks, barbel, roach, and dace, 2lb. 12oz.; and Matthews, chub, roach, and barbel, 10lb. 7½oz.—A. E. Baldwin, sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 108, Westminster Bridge-road.—The following prizes are to be fished for during October and November: October only, best show of gudgeon (not less than five inches); chub (not less than 2½lb.) October and November, pike (not less than 5lb), roach (not less than 1lb.). T. Daws is the winner of the dace prize for September. Other prizes will be announced on a future date.—F. WALLIS, sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland Park, N.W.—Our brake outing took place, on the 27th ult., to Boxmoor, and it turned out a grand success, and great credit is due to our worthy secretary for the excellent manner in which everything was arranged, but sport was very indifferent; Mr. Billings coming to the front with roach and dace winning the first prize, given by Mr. Weaver, the secretary; and Mr. Marsh, dace, winning a rod, presented for the occasion by several friends.—G. S.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—On the 27th ult., Mr. Bygrave brought in a nice show of rudd, and F. Harrison saved himself from a blank by bringing in a perch. Secretaries of clubs are reminded of our visit next Wednesday, October 7, on the No. 1 Eastern list.—J. CUTHBERT, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Mr. Holt and Mr. Daniels were out on the 27th ult., and had a nice show of perch and bream. The next series of prizes will be fished for on October 11, open match; members can leave town on Saturday night. Mr. Bellehambers was duly elected a fishing member of this society, and Mr. Fautley was elected secretary.—A. TOZER, sec.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Old St. Pancras-road, N.W.—On the 27th ult., thirty members competed for three valuable prizes, the first being won by our old member, Mr. W. Andree, with a nice tray of roach; the second by our worthy chairman, Mr. Heelas; the third by Mr. Marcs. Messrs. Carr, Brown, Reed, Keen, Homan, Raymond, C. Dove, Foster, Elbourn, and Morgan having a few fish each. Last Tuesday being quarterly night, we had a good muster, making two more new members. There is to be a fishing and shooting contest on the 4th inst. between the secretary and Mr. Forster, the host. Betting odds on Forster.—W. ELBOURN, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—On September 27th, Mr. Cook weighed in a nice show of roach from Hayes. A match has been arranged to take place at Langley, for five prizes, on October 18; meet at Westbourne Park Station, at 8.15; two rods; all fish to weigh according to club rules, no live-bait to be taken down. Members coming down by later trains must register themselves to the secretary or chairman before fishing, which will commence at 9.45 a.m., and cease at six o'clock. For further particulars apply at club-house.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—The following members weighed in on September 27, Mr. Davis, a fine show of tench, 6lb. 8oz.; Robbins, roach; Hayden, roach; Twomey, jack and roach; and Ivermees, tench. Members wishing to take part in the match on Oct. 4, at Bourne End, are reminded that they must all go by the first train same morning.—W. B.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—Mr. Skinner's prize of 10s. 6d., for the heaviest weight of fish in one day, during the month of September, was won by Mr. Cromley, with 1lb. 10¼oz. of roach; Mr. Sharpless being second, with 1lb. 9¼oz. of roach and dace. I hope to see all members attend on the 5th inst., as something of great importance to the club will be brought before them.—F. BRADLEY, hon. sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The result of our punt match at Twickenham on Sept. 27 was a success. Fifteen members competed, they all getting fish, as follows: Messrs. T. Lines, roach, dace, and gudgeon, first; E. Pyne, roach, dace, gudgeon, and barbel, second; F. T. Lamberton, roach, dace, and gudgeon, third; H. Mitchell, roach, dace, and gudgeon, fourth; Searle, dace and gudgeon; J. Wigley, roach and dace; Tidmarsh, dace and gudgeon; W. Lamberton, dace and gudgeon; J. Clarke, jack; Naylor, dace; Stonold, roach and dace; P. Martin, dace; F. Lamberton, roach and dace. Best and Utting did not weigh. Mr. J. Davis weighed in dace on Wednesday.—F. T. LAMBERTON, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, the Hope Tavern, Tottenham-street, Tottenham Court-road.—On the 21st we fished Mr. Wood's prize of £1 1s., which was won by Mr. Chant, with 2lb. 9oz. of roach from Upper Thames. Messrs. Webber, Gibbons, Harris, Bacon, Wood, Jaquet likewise weighed in roach and dace, &c. We had a special meeting on the 30th to consider the removal of the club to a more suitable house, and after being discussed by members present, it was proposed and carried unanimously that we remove to the Queen's Arms Hotel, Bateman-street, Soho. Wednesday, October 7, will be our first meeting night at the new house. On the 11th inst. we have an outing for several prizes.—F. C. LONGLAND.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—Several of our members were out on Sept. 27, but the only members who met with any success were Messrs. J. Holden, A. Barclay, F. Barclay, J. Stanley, with roach, dace, and chub.—A. BARCLAY, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—We did not have a very grand show of fish on Sept. 27. Messrs. Forrester and Stone were the only members who weighed in, and they had dace only. Other members had fish, but did not weigh in. Mr. Wink presented to the club a frame for the club-card, written by Mr. Stone; a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him. Several members intend to compete for the prizes in the tournament on Oct. 1. No business of importance took place on Wednesday.—J. WRIGHT, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road. — On the 20th ult., the following members weighed in a few fish: Messrs. G. Sanders, dace; E. W. North, roach and dace, 4lb. 15oz.; J. Petrie, roach and dace, 3lb. 5¼oz. On September 27th only two members weighed in: Messrs. W. North, a fine tray of roach, 15lb. 10¼oz.; J. Petrie, roach and gudgeon (one gudgeon 1¼oz.) Mr. J. R. Wallage was duly elected a working member of this society. The following members have been successful during September: Messrs. C. Smith, jun., winning 10s. 6d. for heaviest chub; W. North, gross weight of roach, 10s. 6d. On Monday last a smoking concert took place on behalf of S. E. Cane, who wishes to thank those gentlemen who so kindly assisted him. Members will greatly oblige by attending on our meeting nights in full force in future.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—Messrs. Warsap and Benwell, sen., on Saturday last were busy among the roach and dace, weighing in over 6lb. Our standard is one inch longer than the Thames size. The vice-president and Mr. Benwell, jun., have been away four days, but did not get much sport, owing to the state of the water. The president has gone for his holidays, and we are expecting to hear of continual tight lines. Mr. Snell, our newly-elected member has opened his account with 6lb. ¾oz. Members who have entered for the match on Oct. 25, "President v. Vice-President," will have full details sent them later on.—C. B.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden. On the 27th ult. our outing took place at Goring, and all the prizes were taken in the following order: Messrs. Smales, jun., first; Pettit, second; and Williams, third. On Tuesday last we had a very good meeting, and although two of our members had gone to special good private waters, they had no luck, and it was left to our worthy president (Mr. Frank Gritlin) to save the society from a blank, which he did with a show of roach, dace, and gudgeon from the tidal waters.—PELICAN.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—We fish the Forty Guinea for the remaining prizes on the 4th inst. Train leaves at 9.13 a.m. from Bethnal Green for Rye House. Members weighing in fish on the 27th ult. were Mr. Polykett, some very nice dace; Mr. A. Myers, roach and dace; Mr. H. Spenceley, dace.—R. S., secretary.

South London Angling Society, George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell-road, S.E.—At the outing on Sept 27 all the prizes were taken. Our next outing for prizes takes place on Wednesday week next. I am happy to say that our old and prominent member (Mr. Goody) is somewhat better after the serious operation he has undergone.—J. J. F., sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—A visit of the clubs enrolled on the above list was paid to the Amicable Excelsior A.S. on September 29, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. Although the number of clubs represented were not so large as usual, most of those that were turned up in strong force, fairly filling the room. On the roll being called at eleven o'clock, the following clubs responded: Bermondsey Brothers, Rodney, Anglers' Pride, St. George's, Waggoners, St. Alban's and Excelsior, Battersea Friendly, Clapham Junction, South Belgravia, and Amicable Excelsior. Unfortunately the three following societies on the list—the Cliftonville, Earlsfield, and Original North Lambeth were not represented, consequently the next visit will go to the Bermondsey Brothers A.S., Pitt's Head, Grange-road. Due notice of date next week.—A. CONN, hon. sec.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Rhodeswell-road, Stepney.—On Sept. 27, Mr. Jolly saved us from a blank by bringing to the scale two jack; heaviest fish, 7lb. 9oz.—E. N. P., hon. sec.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—The members of the above club have decided to fish at Chelmsford on the 4th inst. for the remaining prizes of the club. The members are kindly requested to take notice that next Wednesday, Oct. 7, is quarterly night, when it is hoped that they will attend.—G. MORTON, sec.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—Several of our members were out on September 27, when Messrs. Harwood, Hare, and Lewis, weighed in. We had a full meeting on Tuesday last, being quarterly night. Messrs. Carpenter and Mackenzie were elected on committee, in place of two members resigned. The half-yearly supper is arranged to take place on October 21.—H. R.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above were out on the 27th ult., with the following result: Mr. W. Tyler, bream; W. Windred, weighed in a jack. Other members were out but returned with blanks. Members of the above will fish a peg-down match on the 4th inst., in the Lea for several very handsome prizes.—H. TYLER, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—We had a fair attendance on the 29th ult., Mr. Philips in the chair, faced by Mr. Petty. After our financial business was disposed of, nothing of importance was done, owing to some of them wanting to get away to the Amicable Excelsior Visit. Several of ours were out on the 27th, the following weighed in: Mr. Clegg, roach: Mr. Russ, perch and dace, one perch 1lb. 5½oz.: Mr. Bird, sen., roach and jack. Others had fish, but did not arrive. Members will oblige by attending a little earlier on Tuesday evenings. I shall be extremely obliged.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walham Green and Fulham Angling Society, Albany-street, Regent's Park.—On September 27th, the members were out fishing a roving match from the bank only for two prizes presented by Mr. A. Glass and T. Allder, jun., with the following result: Mr. W. Achong a show of perch, taking first; Mr. Maslin, a show of gudgeon, second.—E. SUTEHALL, sec.

Waltonian Angling Society, the Cape of Good Hope, Albany-street, Regent's-park.—Most of our members were out on September 27, and had a most enjoyable day. The takes of fish were quite equal to any we have had this season. Messrs. Leaver, roach, &c., 8lb. 7¼oz.; Sexton, jun., roach, 7lb. 2¼oz.; Sexton, roach, &c., 6lb. 12½oz.; J. Dodge, roach, 3lb. 4oz.; R. Dodge, roach, 2lb. 4oz.; Miller, roach, 1lb. 14oz. H. Putman, Dodge, sen., and Dodge, jun., also weighed in.—J. PACKMAN, sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth-S.E.—On September 23, at our pegged-down match at Pangbourne, only two prizes were taken—Mr. W. J. Crisp, first; Mr. E. Lees, second. The other prizes will go on to the October outing. If the fish would not feed in the day, the members were on feed at night at the club-house. On their return there was a leg-of-mutton supper, provided by Messrs. W. J. Crisp and H. Lees, and a very enjoyable day and evening was spent. On the 30th ult., Mr. J. Crisp weighed in 13lb. 14½oz., jack; 1lb. 12oz., perch; roach, perch, and jack, gross, 18lb. 13¼oz.; Mr. Piolaini, jack, 7lb. 8oz.; roach, 3lb. 0¼oz., one roach, 1lb. 10oz. Both takes from the river Lea. The river Lea is "looking up" to get two such fine takes.—CHARLES HIBBLE, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 27th ult., Mr. S. Cooper weighed in 4lb. 7oz. bream; Mr. R. J. Dartnall, 3lb. 13oz. roach; and Mr. W. Gordon, 3lb. 5oz. roach. The September competition will take place on Oct. 4 at Amberley; roving; all members to go down by the first or second train; meet outside Amberley Station; show fish at 5.30 at the Cricketers. Mr. Ephraim Alfred Holbrow was proposed as a member. Ballot on Wednesday next.—R. J. DARTNALL, secretary.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 27th ult., but sport was very poor, as only the following weighed in fish: Mr. Stevens, bream; Mr. Hobbs, bream; Mr. Robathan, perch. Hoping to have a better report next time.—R. LOWTHER, sec.

Woolwich Brothers Angling Society, Green Man, High-street, Plumstead.—The members held a competition at Kingston on the 26th ult. for three prizes. Only two were taken, by Messrs. H. Cresswell and P. Smith. The members generously decided to present W. Stevenson with the third prize, for the energy he displayed in his endeavour to obtain it.—J. R. HOWCROFT, sec.

Holloway's Pills.—In the complaints peculiar to females these Pills are unrivalled. Their use by the fair sex has become so constant for the removal of their ailments that barely a toilet is without them. Amongst all classes, from the domestic servant to the peeress, universal favour is accorded to these renovating Pills; their invigorating and purifying properties render them safe and invaluable in all cases; they may be taken by females of all ages for any disorganisation or irregularity of the system, speedily removing the cause and restoring the sufferer to robust health. As a family medicine they are invaluable for subduing the maladies of young and old.

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REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

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Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea.		Add	55 min. for Kew.	
	40 ,, ,, Putney.			75 ,, ,, Richmond.	
	45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.			80 ,, ,, Twickenham.	
	50 ,, ,, Barnes.			85 ,, ,, Teddington.	

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Oct.	3	2.13	2.26
Sunday,	,,	4	2.39	2.54
Monday,	,,	5	3. 7	3.21
Tuesday,	,,	6	3.36	3.51
Wednesday	,,	7	4. 5	4.20
Thursday,	,,	8	4.35	4.50
Friday,	,,	9	5. 8	5.26

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—The present time is one of the important periods in the work of Thames preservation, and the river requires almost constant watching to prevent its being netted to meet the demands for white coarse fish, which at certain dates are very great. At one time it was a most serious business to protect the river from a daring gang of poachers, but which is now thoroughly broken up. Of late years a regularly organised system has been adopted for watching the river by the combined action of the keepers employed by the Thames Conservators and those of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, with some of the fishermen whose services are paid by the committee of the T.A.P.S.; and so complete have been the arrangements, that the work has been carried out with perfectly satisfactory results. I need scarcely add, the same system has been adopted for the present season, and it is hoped with the same success. The activity and energy of the head river-keeper, William Douglas, of the T.A.P.S., in another examination of the takes of both classes of anglers has led to the detection of another offender on the banks with a considerable number of unsizeable fish, and the worst feature in the case is, that he has been previously cautioned against the offence, and in his guilt he cannot possibly plead ignorance. It has always been my motto to temper justice with mercy. I have never been anxious to make the law oppressive, and on more than one occasion, when I considered the fine too heavy, I have appealed to the bench for a reduction, and, in so doing, I believe I have made a friend rather than an enemy to the river. This has practically been the case where I have been satisfied the offender had really been ignorant of the law; but in those instances where offenders have been previously cautioned, I should leave the law to take its course. If the weather and water continues right, I am of opinion there will be some good jack fishing in the Thames. Directly after receiving the report in last week's *Fishing Gazette* of the capture of two good fish at Teddington, I received another account of a similar fish being caught at the same place.—B

RICHMOND.—H. Wheeler, in one day, twenty-five barbel; H. Howard, in five days, 40lb. of roach and dace; Job Brain, during the week, 70lb. and six barbel; Henry Mansell, 80lb. of roach and dace during the week.

TWICKENHAM.—Richard Coxen, in three days with Mr Tarrant, 30lb. of roach and dace, and a barbel of 4lb. George Coxen, in three days, 46lb.; John Coxen, in two days, 20lb.; John Frost, in two and a-half days, 20lb.; J. Dunn, in two days, 16lb.; John Coxen, sen., in the week, thirty dozen; Pert Hammerton, in four days, 38lb., four barbel, and one bream; John Spong, in six days, 80lb. and eleven barbel.

TEDDINGTON.—Joseph Baldwin, in three days, twelve dozen of roach and dace; W. McBride, in four days, sixteen dozen, and a barbel of 4lb. One of the bank anglers got a barbel of 6lb.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, during the week, nineteen barbel, two brace of jack, two chub, and twelve dozen of roach and dace; N. Bolton, in the same time, ten dozen of roach and dace, eighteen barbel and one chub; J. Wilkes, in three half-days, five barbel, and one dozen of very fine roach; J. Knight, in four days, thirty barbel, five chub, and twelve dozen of roach and dace; Mr. Matthews, during the week, ten barbel and seven jack.

HAMPTON COURT.—William Milbourne writes: "The water is very low and bright, and we are not doing much in the fishing."

SUNBURY.—Messrs. T. and A. Stroud, during the week, eighteen dozen of roach and dace, fourteen barbel, and a trout of 9lb., which was returned to the river again.

CHERTSEY.—John Poulter, in one day, with Mr. C. Wastell, ten dozen of roach and dace, the greater portion being returned; H. Purss, with a gentleman, has been making some good shows of roach.

Staines.—John Keene, jun., has been out all the week, and has done well, his best days were one with Mr. Newbury, who got 28lb. of chub, barbel, and dace, and another with Mr. Waters and brother, 50lb. of barbel and four dozen of roach and dace, all taken on the finest tackle, and returned to the river again.

Upper Thames.—As I write (Thursday evening) it is raining very heavily, and this will have the effect of improving the river for all-round fishing. Roach, chub, and perch work has been of late very dreary work in consequence of the brightness of the water, but jack fishing at nearly every station on the Upper Thames has been excellent, as evidenced by one angler, Mr. Troup, in the Harleyford Waters, getting thirty-seven fish in the past fortnight, best 7lb.; Wood, the Temple lock-keeper, had a jack of 9lb., on Friday; and a patron of W. Coster, two nice fish of 7lb. and 5lb., the same day. The river is in nice height and current, but very bright; roach, chub, and perch seem shy, but jack just the reverse.—Marlow Buzz.

Thames (Windsor).—As usual at this time of year the water is getting very bright, and only the finest tackle will be of use. Baskets have been poor during the past week though a brace of handsome chub was had by Lumsden, of Dachet going 5lb. and 3lb. Cheese and greaves appear to be best bait for them now, very few rising to the fly. Roach are shy but a few baskets have been taken though can hear of nothing worthy of special mention. Weeds are still dense, and till a few frosty nights have passed will be a great hindrance to those who spin for them. Gudgeon feed fairly well mid-day which in the early part of the week was very pleasant on the river.—B. R. B.

Ancholme District.—It has been too windy for successful angling during the whole of the past week. Trout-fishing, so far as this district is concerned, ended yesterday (Wednesday). It has been a pretty fair season; but the number of anglers increases from year to year, and as not one angler in a hundred thinks anything about re-stocking, the streams, which are generally small, get depleted. One beck which held a nice store of fish, has been nearly cleared out by one persistent angler. It is no wonder riparian owners begin to be chary of giving permits. I had a day at Croxby Lake on Tuesday with a friend, but the waves were so huge, we only got five perch and one eel. Huge carp of 15lb. to 20lb. kept jumping out of the water in a very tantalising way.—Thomas Ford.

Arun (Pulborough).—The fishing in this favourite river of the London club angler continues good, but since I wrote the water has become rather bright, and anglers will now have to exercise extra caution when at a swim. With the avent of October, jack should be on the prowl and I hear that one or two fish, including a ten-pounder, have already been gaffed. This week a nice carp of 3lb. has been caught in the Amberley reach of the river by Mr. Malcolm, London club-fisherman. On the 27th ult., the "special" leaving London Bridge at 6.55 a.m., for Pulborough and Amberley was crowded with anglers and excursionists. Many of the anglers experienced satisfactory sport, and I hear that Mr. C. Walters, of the Crown and Buckland Angler's Society made a basket of 8lb. of bream and roach. The Great Northern Brothers Club had several representatives out, including Messrs. C. Watling, C. Large, and W. Parkin; they each took about 5lb. of bream and roach. Mr. J. Smith (of the Bermondsey Brothers) had another good take of 7lb. of bream and roach, and Mr. F. Vanhegan weighed in 4lb. of bream and roach to the Funny Folks' Club. Good takes of bream were made by Messrs. Macdonald (City of London), Malcolm, Fletcher, and J. Cartwright, whilst Mr. S. Smith dropped in amongst a few decent roach. Fine weather prevailing, the competition on the 4th inst., at Amberley should be a most successful one. Two "specials" are to be run, and a large gathering of Metropolitan anglers is expected on the banks of the river.—Goosequill.

Barle (Dulverton).—To-day (Sept. 30) closes the trout fishing. The season has proved a good one, and larger and better fish have been killed than for very many seasons past; local and visiting anglers have alike done well. Salmon fishing closes on Oct 31., but we shall require higher water to do any good. Fine and warmer, with high winds.—Iron Blue.

Brighton.—Sea Angling.—Boat angling has been quite in abeyance this week, owing to the rough sea. The wind is in the S.W., and judging from appearances, boat anglers will have to wait until Saturday or Monday next ere they can again go in for sport.—H.

Chichester and Sussex Rivers.—For some days we have experienced grand weather, with frosts in the early morning; but to-day (Thursday) rain is falling heavily. Anglers have been numerous at Chichester Canal, and good takes of bream, roach, and eels have been made. There is a heavy pike located at the basin, evidently a fellow fish to the one found dead last week, after breaking away. The water is too weedy for spinning, and live-baiting, both for eels and pike, is the only available method. Good takes of bream and roach have been made from the Arun, some good fish among them. The Adur has afforded good sport among dace, roach, and flat fish; and from the Ouse I hear of a pike close upon 8lb., and several roach up to 1lb. The Rother is in good order. Roach have been feeding well at Selham, and several heavy bream obtained near Fittleworth. Sea fishing is remunerative among the whiting, plaice, and conger. Some good fish have been taken from the piers on the coast.—George F. Salter.

Derwent (Ambergate).—The trout season, which closed on Wednesday, has not been up to the average, owing to the continual wet weather. Throughout the summer months the streams in this locality have been rendered totally unfit for fly-fishing, except at brief intervals. The grayling season is promising better, and fair sport is being had on the Derwent. Mr. J. Musgrave took eight brace on Saturday last between the post-office and the Wire Mills, with the Blue Dun and Throstle-winged Dun, his best fish scaling 1lb. Prospects are good for next week with fine weather.—Amber Dun.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—With a rainfall of something like half an inch an hour, more or less kept up during the early part of the week, the rivers have been useless, except for that dirty but seductive sport, "bobbing" for eels. Still, although too early to damage the spawning beds, the heavy floods have materially assisted the fish to surmount the weirs. Mr. George Drinkwater has kindly presented a large number of trout towards stocking the large reservoir, an act of kindness duly appreciated by all our local anglers. Sea Fishing.—Seldom or ever do I recollect a better season, and the cry is "Still they come." Afloat or ashore, with proper gear and bait, it is hard to go wrong. A comparative novice ought to catch his own weight of fish in a week. A local paper mentions that a mackerel was taken by Mr. Callow, the length of which was two feet. If the foot rule with which it was measured numbered twelve full inches to the foot, I would like to have seen that fish. No weight or other dimensions are given.—Stormy Petrel.

Dove and Tributaries.—Sport has not been good on the Birdsgrove Water these last few days, though on the Okeover length near some good sport has been had, the Rev. T. Barrington Mills bagging seven brace one day and several other fair bags with the fly, the Red Spinner proving useful. This last week the Little Pale Blue is on strong, and the Whirling Blue is about pretty plentifully.

Eden (Carlisle).—Stormy, unsettled weather, accompanied by frequent floods, is disturbing the plans and calculations of salmon anglers. Last week it looked as if they were in for a real good time, fish being very plentiful, and the river in good order. Since then we have had two heavy spates, and the river will not be in order again this week. Archdeacon Prescott and his son have each killed a good fish; Mr. John MacInnes, two; Mr. H. Clutterbuck, one; Mr. Sayers, Mr. Jos. Fox, T. Bone, R. Bone, and R. McAllister, each one; and R. Ellwood, two in the Association waters. Mr. J. Austin, three at Langwathby; Mr. E. Raine, two at Edenhall; Mr. T. Robinson, one at Cargo, weights from 10lb. to 22lb. On Monday, Colonel Sharp killed two at Crosby, 17lb. and 18lb.; and the same day, Tom Bone had four, in the Association water, 22lb., 20lb., 18lb., 10lb. I hear that Mr. Slater killed three fish in the Esk on Wednesday, 18lb., 15lb., 10lb. The fifteen-pounder was a fresh run spring fish. I have known them to be taken in October, but never before in September.—Silver Grey.

Leicester.—A falling off has been noticeable in the turn-out of anglers at the fishing resorts at Leicester and neighbourhood, a walk along the side of the river and canal showing only the professional element at work. Owing to the changeable weather, roach fishing could not be so generally pursued. Anglers have had to fall back upon pike, perch and chub fishing, and as there are some fine pike in the long stretch of water from Leicester to Aylestone, and a good many anglers are skilled in this branch of the art, invariably a goodly show is made. The more successful of those who sought for jack were Messrs. E. Bott, H. Prime, and A. Tompkins; Messrs. Prime and Bacchus also showed fair takes of roach early in the week. The indefatigable Mr. R. Rylott, of cricketing and angling fame, did well chub fishing in the brook at Aylestone. Away from Leicester pike fishing has again been the chief sport, and although no large-sized specimens were captured anglers did well with fish from 3lb. to 5lb. The heavy rains on Thursday put a stop to fishing on that day, the downpour lasting nearly the whole time. Waters in good condition.

Loddon (Earley).—The last few days the weather here has cleared up, and I trust we may look forward for a fine October. The river here is in capital condition, and some good sport has been had with roach, chub, and jack. Several chub have been taken up to 3½lb.—J. R. Gould.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams are running in order for fishing, and the cold weather has brought the grayling well on the feed, and some good sport has been had with them. Grayling fishing may now be said to have begun in earnest. Trout fishing is now at an end. The Pinsley is now clear and in good order for fishing. —Gwynne.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Rivers in capital order and some good sport has been obtained during the week. Rain fell for a time this (Thursday) morning, after which grayling were rising very freely, and good baskets have been made, but the results of several rods not yet known—one basket I saw of eight and a-half brace of beautiful fish, taken with Late Brown, Red Tag, and Green Insect. Flies named in my last week's report all good. Prospects of sport the coming week are very good.—R. T. Williams.

Medway (Maidstone).—Water in splendid condition; some good roach taken at Farleigh. The anglers who were trying other swims did not meet with much success. Conditions are favourable for the angler, but the swims must be well baited to ensure success. Pike ought to feed well now, and the weeds are getting rotten. Fine tackle and a lively bait should ensure sport, there are plenty waiting the skilful angler's wiles, but they want working for.—W. Shrubsole.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—A heavy rain to-day (Thursday), which will spoil the pleasures of the half-holiday anglers. The best sport of late has been obtained by club anglers. Mr. Geo. Brandford has had four bream, the largest weighing 3½lb., and Mr. Tom Milford some capital roach. It is a noteworthy fact that nearly all the fish taken at the recent competition were bleak. How can the members expect good sport when they fix upon a spot in such a noisy neighbourhood. I am confident that the angling tournaments held annually would be much more successful, if the place selected was further from the noise and turmoil of a city's din.—Nenebank.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—I am very pleased to be able to report better doings all through our three counties in the way of angling since my last week's report. I do not say the improvement is great; still, it is much better. I had a try myself at the West Row Staunch on Friday, and took a nice lot of 18lb., some good roach amongst them, but the greater part were dace. Fishing back to Barton Mills, I saw two gentlemen with a splendid lot of roach over 20lb., several of them 1¾lb. and in prime condition. Several of our anglers were at Brandon on Monday (29th), and took some nice lots of roach and dace. The pike are beginning to feed well there now. Mr. Rolph, the landlord of the Ram Inn, on the river, has trimmed up several of the swims, so that they are now fishable. He has also a new punt or two. You cannot fish this water well without a boat. There are some very excellent fish all along the swims at Lakenheath Bridge, near the railway-station. I hear of a net being seen in the possession of a certain person frequenting this stream. He had better not be caught with it. The Littleport fish are not well on yet, though better. Two gentlemen wired me from Norwich: "Fishing in the Yare on Tuesday, 30th; excellent sport; roach and bream feeding well at Cantley, Buckenham, and Brundall, also at Hellsdon. Wasp Grub and creed wheat are the baits most used, and there is an abundant supply of both now." The bream are only just coming on in the Nene, Northamptonshire. They are very late indeed there this year. Weather at time of writing bright and warm, but rather like rain.—William Howlett.

Ouse (Offord)—I sent you a report on 27th of August of a large take of bream, taken by Mr. and Mrs. Abbott, from a swim in Mr. Priestley's meadow. I now have to report of another large take from the same swim, which I must say beats Mr. Abbott's record, taken by Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie, on Saturday last—thirty bream, some weighing over 3lb. I did not weigh them all, as I was busy harvesting. I never saw a better lot of fish taken from these waters. I mixed some grains with clay, put them in the boat, and Mr. McKenzie threw some in between eight and nine o'clock in the morning. A shower of rain came on about half-past ten, and at two o'clock they had not had a touch, but a few minutes after the sport begun, and kept on until they were obliged to leave off to catch train for London.—H. Collins.

Penzance (Cornwall).—Sea Fishing.—Excellent sport has been had, both off the piers and in the bay, during the past week. Mackerel and plaice continue plentiful. Dory and other small fish are being caught, and good sport is being had with whiting pollack, some of large size having been taken. A fine turbot, close upon 20lb. in weight, was caught by a fortunate angler a few days ago, within about fifty yards of the pier end.—H.

Plymouth.—Sea-Fishing.—Fish of all kinds have been very plentiful during the week. Some good baskets of pollock have been landed. Mr. Henson, who is here at the Grand Theatre this week, had some good sport—whiting, pollock, and mackerel. He told me that he was literally tired of the sport with the former. The mackerel seem inclined to break up their shoals and go to the bottom, when they can be caught from anchored boats in about five fathoms of water in the Sound.—William Hearder.

Scarborough.—(Sea Fishing).—After a remarkable mackerel season, remarkable for their great abundance and lengthened stay in the immediate bay, they appear to have now left us, but there are yet plenty of silver whiting, gurnard and dabs to catch by boat anglers. Pier anglers are also having good sport with billet, about 1lb. in weight, a few heavier fish being also taken. Rock cod may be looked for now over the "scars" and in Cayton Bay, for which mussel is by far the best bait.—H.

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—Both rivers are in splendid order for fishing, and many is the good basket that has been taken the last few days. One gentleman on Tuesday last had over 10lb., mostly large dace, but including two brace of good grayling; another fishing same day had nearly as many; in fact, light baskets have been more the exception than the rule lately. Roach are feeding well in the Severn.—R. Wingfield.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—The advent of October 1, brings to an end the trout fishing season on the Severn—a season which to Shrewsbury anglers has been one of continuous ill success. Not a single trout of any weight has been captured for weeks, and some further far more practical steps will have to be taken, if Shrewsbury anglers are to have good trout fishing in the future, to restrict the river. Coarse fishing on the other hand has been good, and some good roach have been taken, Mr. A. Ellis and many other local anglers having had good takes. Pike fishing has not been so successful of late, as the river has not been in good condition for the live-bait.—Piscator.

Taw (North Devon).—Rivers were in pink of perfection, but the rain has been sufficient to discolour it again. Trout fishing is now over. Salmon with the rod goes on until Nov. 15. A few salmon were taken last week with the fly. There is a growing desire to suspend the minnow on the rivers. This has been an extraordinary bad season. Peal and salmon have not been so plentiful, notwithstanding the high water, as years ago.—Rusty Game.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—This river, since I last wrote you, has been in good order for fishing. On Thursday last, Mr. R. Wandless was very successful, killing five salmon, weighing 14lb., 10lb., 9lb., 7lb., and 5lb. respectively. On Friday, Mr. G. Bainbridge, got one weighing 9lb.; Mr. T. Parkinson one, weighing 12lb.; and the writer one, 8¾lb. Mr. Ramsey, of Gainford, has killed eight fish this season so far, the average weight being 9lb. 6oz. per fish. The water is in capital order and doubtless more will be accounted for by Saturday night. On Saturday I had the last day at trout this season, in the Summit pond, and had good sport, the best five trout weighing 4lb. 1oz.—J. H. R.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme is now running in capital order for angling, being clear and a nice level. The weather has been changeable, and slight showers of rain have fallen, but have not altered the colour. The nights have been cold and frosty, with foggy mornings, and the grayling have been more on the feed, and have been rising well. Wasp grub fishing has been tried in the evening, and some fine trout have been landed. The trout season is now ended, and generally the past season has been a good one, the fish caught having been larger than usual. Some good fish have been taken in the Corve.—S. Ludlow.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this part the water is in capital order for angling, being a nice colour. The weather has been good for angling, and with the cold nights and foggy mornings, the grayling have been more on the move and have been rising well.—Worcester.

Trent (Newark).—An unsatisfactory barbel season is rapidly drawing to a close in the Newark district of the Trent, and anglers have all but given up attempting their capture, atmospheric disturbances and fluctuating waters during the past three weeks, completely throwing them off, and neither worms nor greaves have proved seductive, save an occasional odd fish. Chub fishing is a dead failure, and although the Trent is running in magnificent condition for roach and dace taking gentles, but few have been secured, Mr. J. C. Smith's take of forty good specimens of the latter in about a couple of hours on Friday last, standing far in advance of any other take of the week. Messrs. Dale and Houlton brought a successful season to a close in the Ponton length of the Witham, on Tuesday, by the capture of six and a-half brace of trout, and the former's total for the season from this excellent length in the hands of a Newark gentleman, registers seventy-seven trout, several weighing from 1½lb. to 2lb. each. A flush of water would prove beneficial in removing the decayed flannel weed, and a tinge of frost would possibly sharpen the appetites of *Cyprinus cephalus*, of which there are immense quantities in the upper portion of the Rolleston Waters.—Trentsider.

Wharfe, Yore, Swale, Nidd, &c.—Last Saturday a very heavy flood came down these rivers, especially the Yore; since then sport has been good, especially with the maggot. Mr. Charles Bradford killed about 20lb. of trout, grayling, chub and dace on the Yore last Monday and Tuesday. Mr. J. Wilkinson and Mr. Musgrave also had good baskets. Poult Bloa (with rusty body); Brown Owl; Blue Hawk and Red Tag are the best flies at present.—F. M. Walbran.

Wye and Derwent (Derbyshire).—Angling has not been very good on either river this, last week of the season for trout fishing, in consequence of the high wind and the discoloured state of the water. Some very large fish have been taken on the lower lengths of the Wye with the Red Ant, and Stone Midge flies. Both trout and grayling have been killed upwards of 3lb. weight, but baskets have been small in quantity. The Derwent about Darley, Matlock, and Cromford, has been fairly well patronised, but anglers have not met with much sport. Fly fishing, although a few brace have been killed by the bottom fishermen. The season for trout fishing is now at an end, and has been the worst one I remember.—Dotterel.

Tenby (South Wales). — Sea Fishing. — Mackerel continue plentiful, and bass are also numerous, and some good takes have also been made of whiting, gurnard, and flat fish.—H.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—We have had changeable weather, and two or three days of flood water during the past week, which has much interfered with sport. There are now plenty of salmon up, and a few heavy fish have been' hooked during the past week, but lost by breakage of tackle. Several sewin have been landed on minnow and worm, but they are now hardly worth catching, being too late in the season. We have now said good bye to trout until next year, but are looking forward to a good catch or two of salmon ere the season closes.—H.

Scotch Reports.

Auchintaple Loch (Forfarshire).—On Wednesday last Mr. Hammersley, Glenisla House, landed a fine trout, weighing 3lb.; on Saturday Mr. Hammersley and Mr. Sydney Campbell, caught six, weighing 7lb.—G. G.

Breadalbane Arms (Aberfeldy).—Mr. Mackay fished Loch-na-Craig on Friday, and got fifteen trout, which weighed 5½lb.—A. N.

Border Esk.—During the past week this river has risen considerably, and some bait-fishing was indulged in for two or three days. The number of salmon in the Esk is unprecedentedly large this season, particularly in the middle reaches, and one of the best pools is said to contain five hundred salmon; but as yet they are not taking well. In the water above Langholm, at Blackstones, Mr. Andrew Bell, Westerhall, had a salmon weighing 8lb., and a sea trout about 2lb. In Langholm water a number of anglers have had good baskets of sea trout and yellow trout. On Saturday Mr. Wm. Storey had five sea trout; and Mr. Urquhart had four sea trout; Mr. Thomas Hounam had two sea trout and a number of yellow trout; Mr. Thomas Irving and Thomas McLellan have also had good hauls of sea trout and herling. On Monday, Mr. George Maxwell, the "laird" of Broomholm, had a capital basket of sea trout, herling, and yellow trout; at a night's fishing Mr. J. Irving had four sea trout, two of them weighing 5lb.; at Skipper's Bridge, Mr. H. W. Dodds had three herling and a basket of yellow trout; and Mr. Jos. Anderson had some sea trout. There's a tremendous assembly of fish in the Canonbie Water, principally in the Cauldron and Willow Pools, and the takes have been heavy. Mr. Thos. Jameson, Westerhall, had three salmon, 8lb., 12lb., and 15lb., in the Willow Pool, with the fly; Mr. Munro, Edinburgh, had a salmon, 13½lb., in the Cauldon Pool, and at another fishing a salmon of 16lb. in the same water; Mr. D. Edgar, Rowanburn, caught two salmon, one in the Moat Pool and one in the Willow Pool; Mr. Walter Scott, Holmfoot, had a salmon, 9lb., and a large number of sea trout and herling in the Willow and Cauldron Pools; Mr. G. Irving had a small salmon of 6lb. in Trimble's Pool, and a nice grilse, 6½lb.; Mr. R. Steele, Rowanburn, landed two salmon over 20lb. each; and on Saturday, Mr. D. Edgar had a salmon of 14lb. in the double water; Mr. R. Snodgrass, Canonbie Manse, one, 15lb., in the Prior Pool; F. Little, Byreburnfoot, in Byreburn Water, two grilse, 6lb. and 7lb.; Mr. D. Little, Byreburn, in same water a grilse, 7lb.; Dr. Roper, staying at Cross Keys Hotel, a salmon of 18lb., in the Willow Pool, and one of 20lb. in the Cauldron Pool; Mr. T. Jameson, Westerhall, one, 24lb., in the Willow Pool; Major Irwin, Woodhouse, one, 15lb., in the Bridge Pool; and Mr. May, Liverpoool, one of 18½lb. in the Willow Pool. Lower waters: Between the Metal Bridge and Longtown, Mr. Wrightson had a fine salmon, 21½lb.: Mr. Mason, Rockliffe, had one, 8lb.; and Mr. Lamonby, Lesmahagow, had a salmon in the same water; Mr. Brown, of Scambank, had one, 20lb.; and Miss Graham, of Netherby Hall, had a nice salmon in the water above Longtown. The fishing is fairly good all down the water, but as will be seen from the above records, it is best in the middle reaches, and will doubtless improve during the forthcoming week, as the weather at present is particularly suitable for keeping both the Esk and Liddle in good fishing fettle.—Gilnockie.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—Very little angling has been done for some time back owing to the unsettled nature of the weather. Most of the sportsmen have now left for the South. Mr. Godman and party had fair sport on the Amat Lodge waters; on Monday week, they landed three fish. Mr. Hartley and party had several on the Braelangwell Lodge waters, and Mr. Hendorson, Invercharron House, and party had a good few on the Craig's water. Mr. W. Allis Smith, of Glencalvie, gets an occasional salmon on the upper waters. On Monday, this week, Mr. John Macleod fished the waters connected with the Balnagown Arms Hotel, and landed a splendid salmon weighing 18lb.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—The autumn fishing on the Dee is now in full swing and is proving to the full the success anticipated of it. On the lower and middle reaches this is especially the case where fish are abundant of excellent quality and heavy weights. The migration is moving gradually into the upper reaches, and all over the closing month of the season promises a rich return indeed. On the Invercauld Private Waters Miss Borthwick landed three, Mr. E. Villers, four; and Lord Garioch two fish on Tuesday last; and several have been got since. These are mostly red fish, but on the lower sections the fish are almost entirely fresh run with sea lice adhering. Similar successes have been met with on the Balmoral, Invercauld, Ballater, and other higher sections. On the Upper Dess Water, Mr. Milne, has landed a good few, and on Tuesday had a beauty of over 20lb. On the Lower Dess, Mr. Walter Davidson, landed one of 9lb., two of 17lb. and 24lb., three of 7lb., 9lb., and 17lb., and one of 19lb. During the week on the Kincardine Lodge Water, Mr. Lamond had two of 9lb. and 19lb., two of 14½lb. and 15lb., one of 9lb., and one of 12lb.; while Mr. William Blacklaws had one of 9lb. on same water. On the Borrowstone Water, Admiral Sir Michael Seymour had one of 9lb. and another of 15lb., while Admiral Charles G. Fane, had one of 9lb., two of 17lb. and 6lb., a beauty of 22lb. and another of 16lb. on the same water. On the Carlogie Water Mr. A. Campbell, had one of 20lb., one of 9lb., three of 14lb., 15½lb. and 21lb., and a sea trout of 2lb.; while Captain George Campbell, landed one of 18½lb., and two of 12lb. and 14lb. on Tuesday, and Captain Charles Campbell, one of 16lb. and two of 19½lb. and 8½lb. on the same water. On the Ballogie section, Mr. W. Nicol and keepers landed one of 30lb, three of 14lb., 18lb., and 23lb., one of 19lb., and several others, weights, not to hand. On the Sluie Water, Mr. G. F. Chalmers had one of 15lb., one of 13lb., and two of other weights; while Mr. Henry Champisn had two on the Borrowstone Water on Tuesday, of 17lb. and 17lb. On the Woodend Water, Mr. F. Watson landed ten fish during the week of 6lb., 7lb., 19lb., 9lb., 6lb., 19lb., 19lb., 19lb., and 21lb., respectively; while Mrs. Watson had a beauty on Friday of 21lb. to her own rod. On the Commonty Water, Duncan, keeper, had fair success, having one or two heavy weights. On the Blackhall Castle Water, Mr. G. T. Hay and party landed four of 9lb., 15lb., 16lb., and 23lb. on Tuesday; four of 7lb. 19lb., 19lb. and 20lb., on Wednesday; one on Thursday of 20lb., seven on Friday, scaling 24lb., 21lb., 7lb., 16lb., 15lb., 19lb., and 17lb., and two on Saturday of 8lb. and 16lb. Mr. Hay had also seven fish the week previous, varying from 7lb. to 20lb. On the Lower Crathes Mr. J. C. Wardie and party are having very good sport, while the Carnton Inchmarlo and other reaches are also fishing well. On the Drum Water, on Friday, Mr. F. H. Irvine, Mr. Fletcher, and Mr. Buckley landed fourteen beautiful salmon, ranging from 14½lb. to 27lb.; while on Saturday Mr. Irvine had three fish to his own rod, of 8lb., 9lb., and 21lb.; and Mr. Fletcher one of 8lb. On the Lower Inchmarlo Water a good many fish have been got. Mr. Duncan Davidson had five on Monday, yielding a total of 95lb., and four on Tuesday giving a total of 74lb. On the Park Water splendid sport is being got daily, nine fish of the average weights having been got on Friday last. The fly is the chief lure and two-inch Gordons and fancies like Jock. Scott and Silver Doctor are most in evidence.

Deveron (Banffshire).—The river Deveron was in capital fishing condition during the past week, and anglers have had good sport. On the Netherdale section, Mr. R. Maitland had eight salmon, ranging in weight from 7lb. to 29lb.; Mr. Hunt had three salmon of 6½lb., 7½lb., and 9lb.; Mr. Maitland, another of 11lb.; Mr. J. Bain, one of 10lb.; and Mr. Fraser, three of 7lb., 9lb., and 19lb. On the Mayno Section, Mr. Thurburnt, the keeper had a few of fair size. On the Carnonsie Section, Col. Napier, had six in the end of last week, the heaviest weighing 24lb. On the Dunlugees Water, three fish were landed last week, and two on Tuesday. On the Muiresk Section, on Monday, Mr. A. Forbes had two, weighing 8½lb. and 16lb. On the Forglen Water, Viscount Carps and Captain Abercromby had nearly a score of fish weighing from 9lb. to 17lb. each. On the Laither's Water, Mr. Stuart had four fish, one of 18lb. On the Marnoch Section, Mr. Porter had six fish, of 5lb. to 19lb. each; and on the Cormehaugh Water, two of 10lb. and 20lb. Several fish were also caught on the Duff House Water, and on the free water at Huntly. The pools are well-stocked, and good sport may be looked for during the remainder of the season. This week little rain fell on the river, and during the morning and evening the frosts are setting in pretty keen.—H. W.

Don (Aberdeenshire).—The floods of last week have done immense good to this river. When the water had somewhat fallen, the number of fish observed clearing the dam dykes was extraordinary. A good few salmon have already been got on the stretches from Inverurie and Kintore to Grandholm and the cruives, while the sea trout and finnock fishing on the Nether reaches have been more prolific of sport than has been the case for many years back. As specimens of the baskets got, it may be mentioned that one day last week, Mr. Robert Gibb had thirty-one trout, many of them 1½lb. and over, while on the same occasion, Mr. J. Baird had thirty fish, and Mr. Andrew Murray twenty. These are perhaps exceptional compared with what the Don has yielded of recent years, and savour more of former days.—Don.

Dunbeath.—Sir William Montague Call, Bart., Balcraggie Lodge, fished the upper waters on Monday last, and landed one salmon of 6lb. Lady Call and party were out during the week, and made good baskets. The South Dunbeath party had fair sport on Monday. A local angler killed over a dozen nice trout. Mr. Black, Elgin, and Mr. Adam Mackay, Inver House, fishing the tidal waters on Friday, made an excellent basket of sea trout and brown trout.—J. Y.

Inveran Hotel Waters (Invershin, N.B.) — Pretty fair sport is still being obtained. In the course of the past week by Mr. Blanco White, Mr. Dickenson and others from the Sutherland Arms Hotel, some of the fish landed exceeded 20lb. in weight.—McB.

Lairg (N.B.).—Angling at this centre is all but over for the season. A few good baskets were made last week. Mr. Hennekman, fishing Loch Cracail, killed thirteen trout, weighing 1½lb.; Mr. Castle made a basket of nine trout, 3¾lb., on Loch Shin, on Saturday. On the same loch on Monday, Mr. Lord had good sport. Local anglers have been very successful. Weather boisterous.—J. Y.

Liddle.—The heavy rains of the past week have flooded the Liddle, which is now in capital order for salmon fishing, and a large number have been landed both in the upper and lower reaches. Mr. W. Irving, Prior Hill, caught a salmon of 20lb.; Mr. D. Edgar, Rowanburn, one of 15lb.; Mr. W. Crozier had two, 13lb. and 6lb.; Mr. R. Crozier, four sea trout and several herling. Saturday being a half-holiday at Hawick, a large number of anglers deserted the Teviot, and fairly lived on the Liddle, in the vicinity of the "Copshaw"; but the heavy rain on Friday night had flooded the river to an inconvenient height for good sport, which was a great disappointment for the Hawick callants.—G.

Loch Craggie (Lairg, N.B.).—Recently Mr. Richardson and party (four rods), Achany Lodge, made a basket of forty-nine trout, weighing 18lb.—J. Y.

Loch Doula (Lairg, N.B.).—Some excellent baskets were made on this loch of late. The Messrs. Hall killed thirty-two fair trout, aggregating 22lb. On another day Lord Fitzhardinge and party (two rods), Lairg Lodge, caught eighteen trout, 8lb.—J. Y.

Loch Migdale (Bonarbridge, N.B.).—This excellent loch has been yielding capital sport in trout angling. Fish invariably in good condition, and weigh all over close on ½lb. on the average. Messrs. Gedge, London, were out from the Balnagown Arms Hotel, Ardgay, on Thursday last, and landed thirty-six beautiful trout, averaging close on ½lb. Miss Stobart, Pepper Arden, Northallerton, was out from the Bridge Hotel, Bonarbridge, on Friday, and landed sixteen trout, which weighed 7lb. in all. Although Saturday was an exceptionally stormy day, Messrs. Gedge succeeded in making a basket of twenty-six trout, averaging about ½lb. each.—McB.

Naver (via Thurso, N.B.) — The weather has been most unfavourable, and sport with the rod fell off accordingly. Rod fishing closed on Wednesday, and almost all the sportsmen have betaken themselves southwards. Since last reported Mr. P. H. Wormald, Skelpick Lodge, grassed three salmon and one grilse; Mr. Stubbard, Lyre Lodge, also succeeded in landing three fish, the heaviest of which weighed 10lb.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B).—Notwithstanding the boisterous nature of the weather, fairly good sport is still being got by anglers at this remote locality. Since last reported the record has been as follows: On Tuesday, 22nd inst., Mr. Clark, Bedford, fished Loch Inchard, and caught sixteen coal fish, which aggregated 365lb.; Mr. Heinemann, London, on Loch Sgeir-a-Chath, had five sea trout, 6lb. in all; Rev. W. Mackenzie, Sunderland, on Loch Garbetbeg, six sea trout, 5lb.; and Dr. Martin, London, on Loch-na-Caillich, five sea trout, 3lb. On Wednesday, Loch Inchard was fished by Miss Heinemann and Mrs. Matthey, London, who landed ten coal fish, aggregating 141lb.; and by Mr. Clark, Bedford, who got twelve coal fish, 147lb.; Rev. W. Mackenzie fished Loch Garbet, and caught two salmon, 6lb. and 8lb., and half-dozen sea trout, 3lb.; Dr. Martin, London, on Loch Sgeir-a-Chath, had five sea trout, 6lb. On Thursday, Loch Inchard was fished by Mr. Matthey London, who landed two coal fish, 29lb.; by Dr. Martin, three coal fish, 34lb.; and by Mr. Clark, seven, 70lb. On Friday, Mr. Heinemann tried Loch Sandwood, and got three sea trout, averaging 2lb. each, and a grilse of 6lb. On Saturday, Rev. W. Mackenzie, Sunderland, was out on river Dionard, and grassed a salmon, 9½lb.; Mr. Heinemann landed a salmon of 8lb. on Loch Garbet; and Mr. Matthey, a 5lb. grilse on same loch.—McB.

Shin.—On Monday of last week, Mr. Richardson's party, Achamy Lodge, landed five salmon. On Friday, three fish, weighing respectively 15lb., 16lb., and 18lb., were taken off the upper reaches by Mr. Watney's party, Tressaday Lodge, Rogart.

South of Scotland.—Heavy rains and frequent floods have very much interfered with the salmon angling in the South of Scotland rivers since my last report. The nature of the weather too has been extremely stormy, strong gales of wind prevailing every alternate day. Nevertheless a good number of salmon have fallen to the rods on the different rivers, and sea trout and herling fishing has also been good.

Annan.—On Saturday afternoon the Annan was in flood, and so were all the other district rivers. Salmon literally swarmed up this river over the salmon pass at Annan Bridge. The run commenced between three and four o'clock, and long after dark the fish were still running as hard as ever. A few anglers went out worm-fishing, and were rewarded with good catches of sea trout and herling. Dr. McNaughton, Blackpool, killed a basketful of sea trout and herling. Mr. Peter, London, killed a salmon of 7½lb., and a fine lot of herling, and a sea trout in the Northfield Water. Mr. Thomas Faulder, Dumfries Railway Station, caught a fine basket, and others had various catches, from six to ten herling each. On the previous day Mr. Johnston had a small salmon, and on Thursday evening Mr. Thomas Hoare, Kinmount House, killed a salmon in Hoddom Castle Water with minnow. Will Robinson, fisherman to Mr. Gardiner, The Distillery, landed a salmon of 15lb. in the Blackpool Water. Mr. John Bell-Irving, keeper to James Riley, killed with fly a small salmon of 8lb., in Mount Annan Water. Mr. Bell-Irving landed two beautiful fish of 20lb. and 17½lb., out of the Salmon Pool of Mount Annan; and Mr. Dirim's fisherman killed a grilse. On Monday the water was in good order, but a strong gale of wind rendered casting a difficult matter. Mr. Andrew Bell killed in the Tower Pool a good fish of 16lb., with Grey Turkey Fly, and several fish were hooked and lost in this water. In Hoddom Castle section Mr. D. Tweedie, Ecclefechan, landed one of 10lb., and got broken with a large salmon. Mr. David Johnston landed one salmon of 18lb. in Castle Milk Water, belonging to Sir Robert Jardine, Bart., M.P. This fish was taken with spoon-bait. Mr. Rae, Ecclefechan, ran a big fish for some time, which eventually broke the cast as it was being gaffed. The Rev. George Kennedy killed a very fine basket of sea trout and herling, in all a basket of thirty-nine. Mr. McGiverin, Postmaster, Annan, killed a dozen herling with silver minnow (Devon), and another outing he had eight herling. Mr. Harry Hudson, Oldham, caught eight herling with worm. Others had six and eight each. On Wednesday Mr. James Dixon, baker, killed with a large Grey Turkey Fly a pretty little salmon of 10lb., out of the Howes Pool of the lower water, and he lost a big fish on the same fly.

Nith.—The Nith has been in frequent flood, and the unsettled state of the water has kept salmon running to the higher waters. I hear of several good salmon being caught in the higher reaches, and with a good show of salmon in the pools, some sport should be had whenever the water settles down.

Kirkcudbright, Dee.—In this river there is an excellent show of salmon in the favourite pools. On odd days a few fish have fallen to the rods, chiefly with fly. A very fine run of salmon came on at the end of the week, and capital angling is anticipated shortly.

Fleet.—Like the other district streams, both water and weather have been against the angler in salmon fishing. Still a few nice fish are reported as having been landed. Herling are showing well, and several good baskets have been had with worm bait in the floods. Another deluge of rain has fallen, and all the district rivers are in very heavy flood to-day (Thursday), there is little prospect of fly fishing before Saturday morning. The weather is very unsettled, and with a low reading of the barometer there will likely be more rain.—Heatherbell.

Spey (Elgin).—Splendid sport was got on the Spey last week. The river is well stocked with salmon and in excellent condition. On the Wester Elchies water, on Tuesday, Mr. Nacks had a fish of 17lb., and on Wednesday Sir Archibald Smith, had three fish, 4lb., 9lb. and 7lb.; on Thursday, two fish of 8lb. and 7lb. On Saturday, Mr. J. F. Smith had a salmon of 14lb.; and on the same day Mr. Nicks had a beauty of 18lb. On the Aberlour House Waters, on Thursday, Mr. Nicholson had a salmon of 9lb., Mr. Teacher, Glasgow, who rents part of the Easter Elchies Water, on Tuesday, had a salmon of 12lb.; and Major Grant, Clengraut, on the same day had also one of 12lb. On Wednesday, Mr. Teacher had three grilse, averaging 6½lb. each. On Thursday, Mr. Teacher had two fish weighing 17lb. and 7½lb., respectively; Major Grant of Glengrant, one of 16lb., and Mr. Edwards, Craigellachie, one of 16½lh. On the Arkinneay Water, Mr. Frank O. Methered, Great Marlow, had a fish of 10lb. The Fiddich was in good fishing trim last week; Mr. Reid of Hazelwood had a basket of 8lb. of trout, one of which weighed 2lb., while another weighed 1½lb. On Wednesday, Mr. Reid had four trout, weighing 2lb. each. The fish were got in the pool between Balvenie.—H. Logie.

Tay (Perth).—The river has been running high and rather out of ply, owing to the heavy rain we have had. Some good sport, however, has been got. Fish are still plentiful. On the Stanley Water, Messrs. A. O. Worthington and Son, Killin, on Thursday, killed three fish and a grilse, weighing 15lb., 14lb., 12lb., and 8lb.; on the same water, Mr. E. Foreman, London, had two, 20lb. and 9lb. Messrs. Field and party killed thirty-three on the Stobhali beats. On the Delvine Lower Water, Mr. Hornsby Drake had a fish of 17lb.; and Major Douglas one of 16lb. Mr. R. Wyman, London, had two on the Bertha Water, on Friday, 22lb. and 18lb. On Stanley Water, Mr. E. F. Foreman had four, 18lb., 17lb., 16lb., and 9lb.; and on the same water Mr. A. O. Worthington had a grilse. On the Benehill Water, Sir J. E. Millais killed four, 21lb., 20lb., 20lb., and 9lb. Mr. W. Malloch fished the Stanley Water on Monday, and killed two, 19lb. and 9lb. On the Delvine Upper Water, Dr. Wyman killed two, 17lb. and 16lb.; and Mr. R. Wyman, two, 9lb. and 8lb. On the Ridgorton Water, on Tuesday, Mr. M'Lean killed eleven; and Mr. M. Graham five. A fish of 20lb. was got on the Scone Palace Water. Lord Garrioch fished the Delvine Lower Water, and killed a fish of 13lb. On Almondmouth Water, Captain Livingstone killed four, largest 20lb. On the Benshill Water, on Wednesday, September 30, Sir J. E. Millais killed three, and on same, last week, he killed four, 23lb., 21lb., 18lb., and 14lb.; Mr. Marples and party, on Burnmouth, killed ten fish on Monday; an on the same water on Wednesday, Rev. Mr. Cameron and Mr. Archibald Tillicoulty. killed eight fish and a grilse, total weight 170lb.

FREE WATER.—On Thursday Mr. Gordon Cotton had a grilse; Mr. J. Cosgrove, four; Mr. D. Malloch, one, 18lb.; Mr. Cook, one, 16lb.; Dr. Orton, two, 28lb. and 16lb.; Mr. Wardrope, one; On Friday Mr. Ireland had one; Mr. Wardrope, one; Mr. E. P. Landon, London, three, 17lb. 16lb., and 9lb.; Mr. T. Pierrie, fish and a grilse; Mr. Wilkinson, London, one. On Monday Mr. Bruce, had a fish of 18lb.; Mr. Cosgrove, one grilse. On Tuesday Mr. Lon had a grilse; Mr. Nicoll, Dundee, one. On Wednesday Mr. Brady had one; Mr. Wardrope, two; another gentlemen, two; Mr. Dunsmore, three; Mr. Forbes, one salmon and a grilse; Mr. Murdoch, one salmon and a grilse.

EARN.—The recent rains have brought the river into capital ply, and good sport is being got. The upper reaches are said to be full of fish. On the Drummond Castle Water, Mr. Rae, Edinburgh, had a fish 15½lb.; Mr. P. Cresar, one, 18½lb.; Mr. J. B. Aitken, Glasgow, one, 18lb. On the Club Water, Mr. D. Forbes, had one, 13lb.; Mr P. Galloway, Edinburgh, one, 22lb., and Mr. Jack, one, 18lb. On Monday, Mr. P. White had one, 20lb.; Dr. Forbes, two, 19lb. and 14lb.; Mr. Ferguson, one, 15lb.; Mr. Jack, five, 22lb., 20lb., 18lb., 7lb., and 6lb.; Mr. Wilkinson, London, one, 7lb.; Mr. East, London, one, 16lb.; Major Gibson, Crieff, two. On the Trinity Gash Water, Mr. E. P. Landor, London, had a fish on Tuesday. On the Club Water at Crieff, Mr. G. J. Comrie killed one, 10lb.; Mr. C. M'Cowan, three, 20lb., 10lb., and 9lb.; Mr. Jack, four, 18lb., 16½lb., 16lb., and 10lb.; Mr. D. Forbes, one, 17lb. Two fish were also got on the Ochterlyre Water.

Whitadder (Ellemford).—It is forty-six years since the river was in such flood as it was on the 22nd and 23rd. From all directions are reports of loss of corn, turnips, hay, and trees; also of sheep and fencing. The shepherds here were up all night removing sheep and cattle. In some cases this was attended with great danger, as the water rose so rapidly. In the beginning of the season we had scarcely any rain, and the river had not been so small for many a year. Dr. Ruck, of Rochdale, has been fishing here for the last few days. His takes have been from 3lb. to 5lb. Three gentlemen arrived on Saturday for Monday's fishing. They never threw a line for wind and rain. Tuesday was no better. It proved in their case that the anticipation was a great deal better than the reality.—R. J. FENTON.

Tweed.—The past week has been an in-and-out one for the Waltonian, and since my last notes we have again had a couple of swell floods in both the Tweed and Teviot. The rivers during the latter part of last week had run in pretty much up to Saturday, and although the colour of the water was very bad, yet they were of a fishable size on that day in the neighbourhood of Kelso, while farther up the river angling was practicable on the previous day. Although the conditions have militated much against the disciple of the gentle art, still, strange to say, a good many salmon have been killed, anglers having gone on whenever there was a chance, trying to make the most of it, and making up for lost time. On Saturday afternoon a most unexpected flood of 3½ft. occurred, and it was just as well that it happened, as it put the rivers into a much better colour, and made successful angling practicable on Monday. As showing the variable nature of our climate, however, heavy rains from the westward and upper districts once more brought down both rivers on Tuesday, the gauge at Kelso Bridge again registering 3½ft. of water above the normal level. The salmon angler has thus had again to lay past his gear, and rest on his oars contented for a short while. Fishing will be practicable on some of the more favoured and shallower casts to-day (Thursday), and should no more rain interfere with the disciples of Old Izaak, good sport is anticipated on Friday and Saturday amongst the salmon species. Both last week and during the present one, many capital baskets of trout have been killed with bait on both Tweed and Teviot. On the former river Mr. A. Steel, jun., had two nice dishes of 10lb each; Joseph Watson, 8lb.; Jas. Oliver, four baskets of 10lb., 4lb., 6lb., and 8lb.; David Brown, several baskets of from 5lb. up to 9lb.; Jas. Mabon, 8lb. and 10lb.; George Watson, 8lb. and 7lb.; and many other baskets have been killed, varying from 3lb. upwards. The following salmon takes have also been recorded, in addition to those given in my last list: On Monday, on the famous Makerstown casts, the Right Hon. D. H. Madden, M.P., had five fish—15lb., 16½lb., 18lb., 19½lb., and 22½lb. Colonel Chaplin, on the Hendersyde Water, had two fish, and Sir Richard Waldie Griffith, Bart., on the same water, had one grilse. On his water at Mertoun, Lord Brougham and Vaux, had four fish. On the Ednam House Water, Mr. Drummond had one salmon of 13lb., and a grilse. Mr. Dryton, on the Rutherford Water, had two salmon. The same gentleman, and a party of friends, on this water recently had very good sport. On the 13th, Mr. Dryton killed one salmon of 11lb.; on the 16th, he had half-a-dozen—11lb., 18lb., 12lb., 17lb., 17lb., and 22lb.; on the 18th, a grilse of 6lb.; on the 19th, one salmon of 13lb.; while Mr. Hamilton, killed four fish of 5lb. each, one of 13lb., and one of 14lb. On the Lees Water, Colonel Biden killed nine fish on Monday; and on the same day, Mr. Barclay, on the Learmouth Water had four. On the Tweed, near Thornilee, Sheriff Orphoot had a 14lb. salmon. The Hon. Henry Scott, on the Mertoun Water, the same day had one grilse.—MAXWHEEL.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—Trouting is not as good as it has been in the past fortnight, from the unfavourable weather. On the Claggan and Finway reaches sport has been limited to the taking of a few brace of pike and an odd trout. The Desu Creght, Tullyleggan, Loughrea, and Kellymoon preserves have not been heavily fished, while the free Tullyleggan waters have been tried by your correspondent and others with poor results. The Ardtrea reaches, and also the Lough waters have done better, and a good many anglers have been out. Salmon have run up as far as Lough Corrie, but as the river is low, few have got over since the last flood. Best taking flies: Olive, Claret, and Hares Lug.—J. W. B.

Lough Neagh.—The stormy weather has interfered with the several fisheries of the South. Trammel netting has ceased; and indeed the netting of salmon and trout may be said to be almost over, as the takes latterly are small, but may improve a little yet. Pollen fishing is declining, and the only paying industry at present is the eel-fishing. Multitudes of these are running to the South from the small lakes, and night lines have taken great hauls, the best baits being a small pollen and large earth worm. In the feeders of the Lough, brown trout are taking the worms, but are not rising to any fly.—J. A. B.

SALMON AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACTS, 1861 to 1886, AND FISHERIES ACT, 1891.

[We have received the following from the Fisheries Department Board of Trade.—ED.]

CERTIFICATE OF THE FORMATION OF THE STOUR (SUFFOLK AND ESSEX) FISHERY DISTRICT.

The Board of Trade, by virtue of the powers conferred upon them by the Fisheries Act, 1891, and otherwise, do hereby form a fishery district for the river Stour (dividing the counties of Suffolk and Essex), its estuary, and its tributaries, and the under-mentioned waters and coasts, which are hereby declared to belong thereto—namely, all such waters and coasts as lie within the area comprised within the following lines:—(1) A straight line drawn from Landguard Point in the county of Suffolk to the beacon at the seaward extremity of the breakwater at Blackman's Head, near Harwich, in the county of Essex; (2) a line drawn from the said beacon along the said breakwater, and continued along the watershed of all the rivers and streams flowing into the said estuary, or into any estuary connected therewith, until it reaches the said Landguard Point; such lines being more particularly laid down in the map marked S. 1324—1891, and deposited herewith with the clerk of the County Council of the Eastern Division of Suffolk.

And the Board of Trade do hereby fix the number of Conservators to be appointed as a Board for the said fishery district, and the number of the members of the Board of Conservators to be appointed by each county in the district as follows—namely, the number of such Conservators shall be twenty-seven, whereof six members shall be appointed by the County Council of the Eastern Division of Suffolk, six members shall be appointed by the County Council of the Western Division of Suffolk, twelve members shall be appointed by the County Council of Essex, one member shall be appointed by the County Council of Cambridgeshire, and two members shall be appointed by the Council of the County Borough of Ipswich.

The members shall be appointed annually at the meeting of the appointing bodies respectively held next after the 31st day of October in each year.

Provided that the first members, other than the members representing the county of Essex, shall be appointed at the meeting of the respective councils held next after the date hereof, and shall, together with the existing members of the Board of Conservators of the Stour (Essex) Fishery District, hold office until the appointment of their successors as hereinbefore prescribed.

The first meeting of the Board shall be held at the Town Hall, Colchester, on the 21st day of November next, at 11.30 o'clock a.m.

Signed and sealed by order of the Board of Trade, this 23rd day of September, 1891.

A. D. BERRINGTON,
An Assistant Secretary to the said Board.

NEW PATENTS.

THE following is a weekly list of New Piscatorial Patents, specially complied for the *F. G.* by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Patent Agents and Engineers, 76, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., authorised Attorneys for the procuration of English and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks:—

15,950.—Samuel Allcock, of Standard Works, Redditch, for "Improved fishing gimp-lines."

15,930.—T. McCammon Irwin, of Glasgow, for "Improvements in fishing reels."

COMPETITION IN AID OF T.A.P.S.—Up to date the best catches in this competition have been: Mr. Grimmett, from punt, at Goring, 14lb. 12oz., roach and dace; Mr. Nowbury, from punt, at Staines, 20lb. 3¾oz., barbel, chub, roach and dace, including specimen chub, 2lb. 9¾oz.; and Mr. Matthews, 10lb. 7½oz., of chub, roach, and barbel (punt) from Staines.—A. E. BALDWIN.

THE OPEN ROVING FISHING CONTEST AT AMBERLEY.—The principal prizes to be awarded to the successful competitors in Mr. A. A. Eldridge's second open contest on the 4th inst. are: First, £2 2s.; second, £1 10s.; third, £1; fourth, 15s.; fifth, 11s. 11¾d.; sixth, 10s.; seventh, 10s.; and eighth, 10s. The other minor prizes are 7s. and 5s.; a prize of 5s. being given for the largest roach. The river Arun at Pulborough, on the 27th ult., was in splendid condition, the weather was fine and warm, with a nice gentle breeze, and there were some extraordinary large takes of bream and roach.

SALMON POACHERS CONVICTED.—A whole batch of Solway salmon fishers were brought up before the sheriff in the Dumfries Sheriff Court on Tuesday, and heavily fined for salmon poaching in the Firth. An Annan fisherman was fined £5 17s. 4d. this week for salmon poaching in the Solway on a Sunday.

SEIZURE OF UNSEASONABLE SALMON.—The Dumfries police, armed with a search warrant, seized a large hamper of salmon in possession of an Annan fish merchant the other day. It is alleged by the police that the salmon were poached in the Solway.

IMPORTANT FISHERY CASE AT BARNARD CASTLE.

At the Barnard Castle Petty Sessions, on Wednesday last, John Grieves, Henry Buckle, and Jacob Walton, gamekeepers on the Raby Park estate, were charged with taking six trout by other means than by a properly licensed fishing weir, fishing mill dam, fixed engine, instrument, net, or other device for catching trout. Mr. M. B. Dodds (Stockton) appeared on behalf of the Tees Salmon Fishery Board, and Mr. R. Luck, barrister (Darlington), instructed by Messrs. W. and W. J. Watson, solicitors, Barnard Castle, defended. Mr. Dodds said the proceedings were taken under the 22nd section of the Fisheries Act 1876, and of the 7th section of the Act of 1878. On Sept. 22, Inspector Mabon, the Fishery Board's chief water-bailiff, having heard that becks in the vicinity of Raby were frequently netted for trout, proceeded with another bailiff, named Wall, to Staindrop. At that place they met the head gamekeeper of the estate—George Buckley, who, in answer to the inspector's queries, said they would find the men, now charged, fishing in the Grand Beck, a stream which flowed through Raby Park, and a tributary of the Tees. They then went to find the men and met Grieves and Buckle returning from the beck, the third defendant, Walton, having gone home by another way. The men's clothes were wet, and Buckle carried a fishing creel containing six trout, which all bore the marks of a net. The inspector charged them with netting the beck, and they admitted having done so, not only on that occasion but for a considerable time previously. The inspector inquired where the net was, and was told that it was near George Buckle's house. He there found it drying on some railings. Mr. Dodds concluded by saying that nets not being included in the Board's bye-laws were unauthorised instruments for taking trout, and the Board were resolved to support their bye-laws to the utmost, whether they were contravened by rich men or poor men.

Inspector Mabon was called and corroborated counsel's evidence. In answer to Mr. Dodds, witness said Grand Beck was in the Tees Salmon Fishery Board's district. The net he found was one of the most dangerous kind and was known as an "armoured" net. The two defendants had admitted that they knew that in fishing with the net they were following an illegal course, but said they must carry out their orders. Mr. Luck, to witness: Have you a certificate of your appointment? Yes (produced). On whose authority did you institute these proceedings? I submitted the case to the Fishery Board, and they instructed me what to do. Mr. Dodds read a notification from the minute book of the Finance and Watch Committee ordering proceedings to be taken against the three defendants.

Mr. Luck submitted on the case of Anderson and Hamlin, that no proof was afforded that the inspector was authorised by the Board to take proceedings, and that fact was conclusive of the whole case. Again, he maintained that in such a case as the one before them, sanction to prosecute must be given by the whole Board, and the Board had no authority to relegate its power to the Finance and Watch Committee.—Mr. Dodds contended that such cases did come within the province of the committee named, and the Bench must decide what the powers of the committee were. He submitted that they had followed their present mode of procedure for ten years.—After retiring for consideration, the Chairman said the Bench had decided to let the case go forward and try it on its merits. Mr. Luck stated that with regard to the defendant Walton he was only there from what had been told to Inspector Mabon, and under those circumstances he applied for his immediate dismissal.—The Bench consented.—Inspector Mabon, replying to Mr. Luck, said he was cognisant the defendants had been in the habit of netting for fish on the estate for a long period, and on the occasion of their being charged they gave him all information voluntarily and kept nothing back.—The Bench inquired why, if the alleged offence had been systematically pursued for a long period, proceedings had not been taken sooner?—Inspector Mabon said he had reported a similar case three years ago to the Board, when fifty-two trout were taken, but the case had never come before the magistrates. He had written to Mr. Scarth on the subject, but had not mentioned the matter to Mr. Buckle, the head gamekeeper—that was before the present case.

Mr. Luck said there was a meeting of the Fishery Board on July 28, 1890, at which a resolution was passed to the effect that for each and every net other than landing-nets used for taking trout by any person other than a riparian owner or his duly authorised agent, fishing within his own waters, a sum of £1 13s. 4d. should be charged. The resolution was submitted to the Board of Trade for confirmation, but that authority replied that it was not in their power to confirm a provision which put one class of persons, such as riparian owners, on a different footing from the rest of the public. Although the resolution had not been confirmed, it had not been rescinded by the Fishery Board. —Police-constable Wall was then called, and corroborated the inspector's evidence, adding that in the conversation with the head gamekeeper, the latter had admitted the illegality of the practice complained of.—Mr. Luck called Inspector Mabon as to whether Mr. George Buckle had admitted that fact, to which the inspector said he had.

Mr. Luck for the defence, said his contention was that the Fishery Laws were passed for two great purposes, (1) to improve the fish supply and therefore increase the food for the people of this country, and (2) subsidiary thereto, for the purpose of improving the sport provided for those who fished with rod and line. He submitted that two modes of fishing were perfectly legal—the one by net and the other by rod and line. Mr. Luck then reviewed the powers and province of Fishing Boards, and said that if fishing by net were legal it would be *ultra vires* on the part of the Board to pass bye-laws prohibiting the use of the net. It was clear that the Board had the power to grant licences for taking trout with a net, but they did not do so, and then they prosecuted the defendants because they did not take out licences. Upon the merits of the case he submitted that the prosecution was a very harsh one indeed. The practice of taking the fish had gone on for many years, and he thought a warning might have been given before taking extreme measures, as a matter of courtesy.

Mr. George Buckle was then called, and said he was head gamekeeper on Raby Park estate, and he had known trout to be taken by net ever since 1875, and the practice had been carried on openly. He emphatically denied having admitted to Inspector Mabon that he knew such the practice to be illegal. In fact a former water bailiff, named Hankey had sometimes assisted the keepers to get the fish.

The Bench retired to consider the case, and in giving their decision said that after looking into the case from every point they had resolved to dismiss the defendants.

Night Poaching.—At the Ware Bench, on Tuesday, three men were convicted of night poaching in the river Lea, near Ware Bridge, on August 12, and fined ten shillings each, and the net ordered to be destroyed. G. Corble, Esq., Clerk to the Lea Conservancy Board, prosecuted. The case was proved by Inspector Cannon and P. C. Wheakley, who acted with great ability in detecting the defendants, which will be duly recognised by the Anglers' Association. R. Ghurney attended to watch the case on behalf of the anglers, and had the pleasure of assisting in the destruction of the net, which was a large east net.

Capture of an Enormous Seal at Plymouth.—On Sept. 24, whilst the *Electric*, a trawler belonging to this port, was fishing six miles south-west of the Eddystone, it was found when the trawl was got on board that there was an enormous seal, about 7ft. or 8ft. long, in the cod end. It was nearly dead, and expired about half-an-hour after being placed upon deck. It weighed some 7cwt. or 8cwt., and had a skin like an old horse, an iron grey, with white spots, and teeth in the jaw just like a mastiff. It is being exhibited on the Promenade Pier. The men think that the seal must have been caught just as the trawl was shot, as they had a very poor catch.

Seizure of Poached Salmon.—On Saturday, Sergeant Pool and Inspector Mackintosh, of the Dumfriesshire Police armed with a search warrant, visited an Annan fishmonger who was suspected as dealing in poached salmon, and succeeded in seizing a number of salmon alleged to have been poached in the Solway. The bailiffs also took possession of several salmon nets belonging to some fishermen. The salmon and nets were taken to Dumfries County Police Offices by the evening express from Annan.—Heatherbell.

***** Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

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Fishing Gazette

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10TH, 1891.

LMON AND SEA TROUT FISHING IN SMALL RIVERS.

BY DUINE MÔR.

HERE are certain salmon and sea trout rivers Scotland which, though aspiring to the dignity river in the proper acceptation of the term, en in flood, are yet more truly described large burns. These streams are capable of sion into three classes. First, we have the y stream, usually flowing through moorland a wide rock-strewn bed, which is only rely covered when a big brown spate is roaring vard. To this class belong such streams as Laggan, in Islay, the Glendale, in Skye, the chrie, in Arran, the Array, the Barr, and to e extent the Carradale, in Argyleshire, and r rivers too numerous to mention. Of these Laggan and the Barr—both admirable little non and sea trout streams—"come down" with mpetuous rapidity quite equal to that of the y or the Findhorn. Indeed I question if there any two rivers in Scotland which rise faster, yet do not expend their force too quickly; I have very vivid memories of more than one ting from the eager embrace of their advancing ds. The second class of small river is all over e gentle; this class usually flows through dow-land, and combines sharp stream with pool. The stream is confined, as a rule, veen high grassy banks, and is, in fact, lowland, ost English in its character. The Sorn, in y, the Dean, in Forfarshire (though more of out than a salmon stream, and an excellent very early trout stream it is), the erstwhile famous Chisken Water, in Kintyre, the Conyglen, in the same district, the Endrick, in Stirlingshire (in some of its reaches at least), and the Blackwater or Feorline, in Arran, are examples of this kind of river. The third class of river is peculiar to a particular kind of country, and is only found on flat plains like the Machar land of South Uist and the Lewes, and in Caithness-shire. These streams are better described as "ditches." When in their best order they are, as often as not, divided up into a series of pools, without any current, and require a strong breeze either up or down—up for choice, as the fish lie with their heads towards the direction of the imaginary current. The Roag (or Howmore, if you will) in South Uist, the Lacisdale, in Harris, and the Wester, in Caithness-shire, are typical examples.

In the rude brawling rivers, I have found both fly and bait deadly; in the smoother and gentler streams fly as a rule is most deadly, though occasionally the fish will take the worm while in the "ditches," though I have *experimenti gratia* tried the bait when there was no wind, I have never succeeded in taking anything with it, but eels and an occasional flounder.

In the first-class of rivers, if the spate be big and heavy, it is usually also very dirty, and the fish seem not to be on the outlook for the fly, at least I have never done any great execution with it. The fish in such floods are not settled, but are either running up or are driven by the force of the main current out of the pools, if resting in them. In either case they are to be caught in the small side currents quite close to the shore, or in back waters, never in the main stream. The best fish, apart from those running, are naturally to be found in the best feeding places. Suppose, for example, there be a big pool in which under ordinary conditions the fish rest, but which under the extraordinary condition of a big spate is simply a sea of dirty roaring troubled water, the fish will leave it and lie in some little rippling side current or run, which is not there at all save in heavy floods. It is beside some such spate-created little pool that the angler should take his stand so long as the spate is on. He need not leave it, provided he has chosen it with judgment; all running fish will pass through it, or at least many of them will, while resting fish, becoming restless or hungry, are sure in this class of stream to move more or less into it. To speak of larger rivers, there is just such a little hole as this, in heavy spates, in the Hoddam Bridge pool of the Annan, where I once (August, 1883), killed without moving, two grilse of some 5lb. or 6lb. each, some thirty sea trout and herling, and a goodly number of yellow trout. Some of the sea trout ran as heavy as 3½lb., but I am writing from memory, so will not dogmatise as to the weight. There are several other places in my mind's eye, but I need not detail them here, though I cannot help recalling "a slaughter grim and great," at the mouth of Glen Barr river, in August, 1882, when in such little sidepools, five rods—no, I will "draw the veil of reticence over the effulgence of consummate achievement" if such fishing as that was deserves any such high-sounding praise. The best kind of rod for this sort of fishing is a good strong fourteen "footer." I have found an ordinary bait hook better than Stewart's tackle, because it is more easily dislodged, and in this kind of fishing, where many of the fish are small, the quicker they are "yanked out" the better, and the sooner your bait is back again the greater your chance, for the fish move in small shoals, and rest for some time in the side current. The bait should be dropped close by the shore, and be allowed to travel slowly downstream just on the bottom, and just off it. The smaller fish require but little striking, salmon, grilse, or large sea trout, none at all—for they must have some time to properly take the bait and their own weight, as in fishing with the prawn when they begin to *move* with the bait, is usually sufficient to hook them. On this point the angler has, however, to use his own discretion, and a little practice will soon enable him to judge as to the proper time to strike, should he deem it necessary in any case to strike at all. A strain put on gently and slowly is my usual method. Large earth worms I have found best, and my method of securing them was to put a lantern out in a garden, and then to pick them up. Of course they may be secured by digging, but there is no necessity for such a laborious method being adopted. Worms come to the surface at night, and the light serves a double purpose; it attracts the worms and enables the gatherer to see them.* It is not a very sporting method of hooking fish (though not by any manner of means so easy as one might imagine), but once hooked, if the fish be a good one and rush into the main current, the playing of the fish is just the same as if he had been hooked casting with the fly. Of course he is either speedily lost or quickly landed, for no fish could live long in such a heavy water as necessitates the adoption of this method.

In these small rivers, when dead low after a long drought, it is almost impossible to take fish by any method, as the water is usually far too clear and shallow. Towards evening a fish may be persuaded to rise to a small fly, but, as a rule, unless there be a strong up-stream breeze, the prospect of sport is quite hopeless. After a protracted period of dry weather in the Highlands, the approaching greater deluge is often harbingered by a strong N.W. wind, with heavy showers. When one of these is *rattling* on the surface of the water I have frequently taken large sea trout by gently dropping a worm into some hole where they were congregated, taking care, however, only to make the attempt during the downpour. It is, however, when those streams are fining off after the main body of the spate is over, or when the spate has only been moderate, that the best sport is to be obtained. The water should be the colour of strong tea, and the breeze across and downstream to make the conditions ideal. If the weather has been cloudy, and the fish have been rising when it was so, they generally go "off" when the sun comes out, and *vice versa* if not rising; that is to say, when it is cloudy, a burst of sunshine often brings them up. This is especially true in my experience towards the afternoon, for, though at all times of the day any climatic change will, in the majority of cases, alter the mood of fish, in the afternoon and evening any such change is even more efficacious than in the morning. I am strongly of opinion on this ground that the *Salmonidæ* (fresh-run fish being disregarded) are rather night than day feeders. I have killed both salmon and sea trout with all kinds of flies in these little rivers, with every kind of fly, in fact, from a Jock Scott to an ordinary teal and red, so that any fly will kill. My choice (from fancy, perhaps) is an old-fashioned Scotch salmon fly—a turkey wing, plain cock hackle, and a rough yellow pig's wool body. The taste of salmon for flies may have altered in the ample Tay and silver Tweed, but in these smaller rivers they are still the unsophisticated fish of the early angling days of Stoddart, and simple in their dietary longings. The fish in these kind of rivers rarely exceed 10lb. in weight, and may be said to average about 7lb. With a 12ft. or 13ft. rod they give grand sport, however, on these impetuous streams.

In the second class of river, bait is, as I have said, not very deadly, and, curiously enough, the salmon and sea trout will rise to the fly in them even when they are coming down very "dirty." In their stiller reaches, a heavy spate and a good breeze are essential to sport, though I have picked up an odd fish by careful casting even in very low water; this has, however, only been where the stream, being confined between high banks, has narrowed down, and so made a strong current into the pool below in all conditions of water. In a spate these places are, of course, unfishable, and should be passed over, with, perhaps, in some cases, a cast or two at the tail; but the fish during spates, if they do rise in such places, are apt to come wildly, miss the fly, and so take fright. The angler must, therefore, fish very carefully and cautiously.

The third class of river, the "ditch," I have seen only in the Hebrides and in Caithness-shire. They are peculiar streams, and could only be found in a very level country. The Roag, or Upper Howmore, in South Uist, is a typical example. It is an ordinary burn, rocky and impetuous until it reaches the public road within a mile of the sea; then it enters a grassy flat and completely changes its mood, and flows quietly and placidly between green banks fringed with rushes until it loses itself in Loch Roag. When low, the upper portion is nearly dry, while the lower—the fishable portion—is broken up into a series of long, dark, peat-coloured pools of, at places, considerable depth and width. This is its best fishing condition. This applies equally to all rivers of this nature. A strong breeze is an essential to good sport, and fly is the only lure. The biggest basket of sea trout I have ever killed (fifty-two trout, 104½lb.) was secured in a river of this kind when dead-low, in half-a-gale of wind, blowing straight up-stream.* There are peculiar difficulties attached to fishing in these kind of streams. In the first place, owing to the uniform nature of the pool and the dark colour of the water, one cannot tell, if a stranger, where a fish may rise. It is, in fact, quite impossible to determine on places where fish may be expected, and hence the rise, when it comes, is apt to flurry the angler and make him strike too quickly. Even to one who knows the stream, this kind of angling is by no means easy, for the following reasons: A short line should be used, and the near side, almost at the angler's feet, first fished. The fish come at one time with a boiling rush, which startles the angler into too early striking against his will, while, at another, the fish rises slowly and majestically from the bottom, and unless one is possessed of great self-control the consequence too often is an impatient strike, and the fish refuses to move again.

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* Worms are said to be blind, but they are most certainly sensitive to light, and are commonly described as being afraid of any bright light. In spite of this alleged fear, I found the above method very efficacious in securing a good supply of bait.

The same may be said of any rise in these kind of waters. The easiest rise to take is one made the moment the fly touches the water, and is at its farthest distance from the angler. Plenty of time must, therefore, be given in the case of a wild or a slow rise; in any case, if the fish comes boldly and yet deliberately, he will hook himself in "the turn" of his rise. The rod should be double-handed, and about 14ft. in length, the flies ordinary sea trout flies for loch fishing, and the gut as strong as possible—*i.e.*, as strong as is consistent with delicacy. The playing of the fish is not difficult. Determination in gently, or rather gradually, giving the butt should be the angler's watchword, if the fish goes for the weeds, but it is wonderful how seldom they do so. They prefer wild rushing and jumping in the middle, scorn any sanctuary, and prefer to die in fair fight. It is best to endeavour to take them back over water already fished; but this is not absolutely necessary, for sea trout are not so easily disturbed as their yellow cousins. In any case, the fish should be followed. This is very easily done, owing to the level bank. If they are allowed a long rush they are almost certain to be lost; if kept in check, they are equally certain to be landed, provided they are fairly well hooked: The great charm of some of these streams (?) is that the fish will rise in almost any kind of weather, provided there be a good breeze. They are very useful adjuncts to any loch, and I have frequently done great execution in them when the connecting loch was hopelessly "dour."

These three classes of small salmon and sea trout river, though not affording the fierce excitement which a struggle with some giant of his race in the more celebrated and larger rivers sends thrilling through the frame, yield, nevertheless, sport which no angler could afford to despise, and one might, to use a homely phrase, "go farther and fare a great deal worse" in his search for "glorious hours" of crowded angling life.

THE DECLINE OF THE TWEED AS A SALMON RIVER.

By R. P.

From many a fine river in Great Britain where formerly these noble fish used to swarm, the salmon have been expatriated, never, in our day at any rate, to return. In many others, their numbers have been reduced to a mere tenth of those which used to frequent the formerly pure and healthy—now filthy and polluted waters.

An example of what pollution and the modern system of drainage combined can do to a magnificent salmon river may with advantage be observed in the extremely interesting statistics of the yield of the great border stream, for no less a period than seventy-eight years, furnished by the courtesy of Mr. Tait, clerk to the Tweed Commissioners, to the Inspector of Salmon Fisheries for Scotland.

By the kindness of the Editor, an article upon the Tweed appeared in October, 1889, from my pen; and more recently, also, under the heading of "British and Norwegian Salmon Fisheries," I endeavoured to draw attention amongst other matters to the enormous extent to which the rivers of the United Kingdom have suffered from the pollution caused by manufactories of various kinds, mining industries, &c. I trust, therefore, I shall be forgiven for being somewhat statistical in the first place.

The returns given below do not pretend to be absolutely accurate, but they are generally believed in the district to be very nearly so. Much labour and research have been devoted to their compilation, and I venture to think that such reliable and interesting figures as these are obtainable in regard to extremely few great salmon streams.

The return of salmon, grilse, and trout, taken in the river Tweed from 1805 to 1885, both years inclusive (prior to 1857 the net fishing closed on the 14th October; from 1857 to 1859 on 30th September; and since 1859 on 14th September), is as follows:—

Year.	Salmon.	Grilse.	Migratory Trout.	Total.
1808	37,333	25,324	21,033	83,690
1809	30,949	32,679	21,402	85,030
1810	40,782	49,332	23,963	114,077
1811	38,566	24,852	12,439	75,857
1812	27,711	82,538	33,604	143,853
1813	35,273	61,643	36,319	133,235
1814	58,890	73,521	34,161	166,572
1815	41,044	97,734	39,653	178,431
1816	54,041	120,594	62,074	236,709
1817	36,199	66,694	37,131	140,024
1818	39,267	59,848	37,346	136,461
1819	31,895	71,813	47,386	151,094
1820	28,288	116,495	61,454	206,237
1821	34,657	55,291	61,339	151,287
1822	25,250	47,266	70,413	142,929
1823	12,122	50,794	49,934	112,850
1824	23,644	73,381	71,161	168,218
1825	18,957	61,506	59,531	139,994
1826	12,040	85,378	59,203	156,621
1827	10,725	54,034	43,441	108,200
1828	13,511	39,248	39,563	92,322
1829	5,350	34,773	64,630	104,753
1830	7,415	66,520	37,486	111,421
1831	13,197	43,244	77,037	133,478
1832	9,709	41,411	77,308	128,428
1833	10,428	93,939	60,178	164,545
1834	16,106	59,262	48,852	124,220
1835	22,642	87,707	82,229	192,578
1836	16,957	34,846	63,616	115,419
1837	14,577	60,429	57,426	132,432
1838	12,785	78,577	40,876	132,238
1839	15,503	35,449	56,124	107,081
1840	10,920	52,117	56,342	119,379
1841	16,464	71,254	64,672	152,390
1842	19,198	109,935	76,071	205,204
1843	17,777	66,293	54,209	138,279
1844	21,830	88,003	99,256	209,089
1845	18,962	69,752	54,355	143,069
1846	17,878	37,500	38,679	94,057
1847	9,032	53,075	67,796	129,903
1848	9,478	97,102	52,541	159,121
1849	11,484	59,405	39,435	110,324
1850	9,522	33,864	49,701	93,087
1851	8,789	16,855	45,326	70,970
1852	5,808	28,902	24,773	59,483
1853	9,139	49,075	37,341	89,615
1854	15,299	16,739	32,645	64,683
1855	6,329	13,952	23,736	44,917
1856	4,885	33,992	30,597	69,474
1857	11,475	46.553	31,846	89,874
1858	14,614	23,590	41,059	79,263
1859	12,273	13,952	35,081	61,306
1860	8,940	20,323	26,052	55,315
1861	5,379	15,036	28,607	49,022
1862	8,467	25,042	20,988	54,497
1863	11,053	26,239	23,757	61,049
1864	7,982	27,294	39,250	74,526
1865	5,745	13,947	26,976	46,668
1866	8,468	23,979	44,408	76,855
1867	10,572	23,448	35,355	69,375
1868	12,938	4,078	31,605	48,621
1869	6,932	9,622	43,287	59,841
1870	8,682	17,968	22,858	49,503
1871	7,686	22,198	36,236	66,120
1872	17,245	15,693	22,260	55,198
1873	12,685	18,533	29,531	60,749
1874	9,967	8,725	18,874	37,566
1875	6,653	15,430	16,902	38,985
1876	8,829	21,623	24,450	54,902
1877	13,640	14,070	27,047	54,757
1878	10,271	4,061	20,997	35,329
1879	6,958	10,641	27,475	45,974
1880	6,064	6,322	14,222	26,608
1881	10,067	25,736	27,582	63,385
1882	17,525	6,435	19,778	43,738
1883	12,864	20,266	27,202	60,332
1884	7,689	10,402	14,983	33,074
1885	10,545	18,779	27,113	56,437

From the above figures it is abundantly evident that a very great falling-off in the yearly takes of salmon, grilse, and trout, on this important river, occurred during the latter years of the period referred to.

During the first half of the said period—thirty-nine years—ending in 1846, the Tweed produced upwards of five millions of salmon, grilse, and trout, or an average of nearly 140,000 fish a year.

On four occasions the river produced, it will be observed, 200,000 fish in the course of a single year, and on three occasions upwards of 100,000 grilse in the same time. The largest number of salmon in any one year, was in 1814, when 58,890 were taken; of grilse in 1816, when 120,594 were captured; and of migratory trout in 1844, wh nearly 100,000 were taken. The most producti year on the Tweed, of which any record exis was 1816. That year there were taken on t river, 54,041 salmon, 120,594 grilse, and 62,0 trout; in all, no less than 236,709 fish.

In 1820 upwards of 208,000 fish were taken, a a total of 150,000 was not infrequently reach In 1814 upwards of 58,000 salmon alone we taken, and this number *exceeds that for any* *consecutive years since 1846*. The take of grilse in 18 exceeded that for the eight years from 1867 1874. According to a letter in the *Edinbu* *Magazine*, of April, 1888, the rental of the lowerm fourteen miles of the Tweed, was upwards £5,400, and the expenses of fishing £5,000; a the writer calculated that in order to pay th sums, a minimum of 208,000 salmon, in additi to grilse and trout, must have been produced. T rental of the Tweed fisheries reached th maximum in the great year 1816, when th amounted to over £13,700. I should doubt wheth the average of 140,000 fish obtained from the ri during those thirty-nine years in question, is on any other stream in the kingdom nowadays

For the second period of similar length—fr 1847 to 1885, both years inclusive—the avera was considerably less than half, being only ab 64,000 fish, or two and a-half millions in all.

The largest number of salmon were taken 1882, when 17,575 were got; of grilse, in 18 when 97,102 were got; and of trout, in 1847, wh 67,796 were captured.

"Some curious results," writes the Fish Inspector in his 1890 report, "with regard to t increase in the proportion of bull trout to salm and grilse in the last period of thirty-nine yea as contrasted with the first, are afforded by t above table. From 1808 to 1816, with the exc tion of three years, the number of trout was l than that of either salmon or grilse; and fr 1808 up to 1829 the number of salmon and gri combined always exceeded that of trout. 1 was the first year when the trout exceeded number the salmon and grilse combin Between 1839 and 1885 this has happened eighteen years; and in one of those years—1 —the number of trout was considerably more th double that of salmon and grilse united—certai not a healthy sign of a salmon river. Yet it be found on reference to the table that althou the take of salmon and grilse has so grea fallen off in the last half of the period tabula as to be often surpassed by the take of trout, t even the number of trout during the last perio not nearly equal to what it was in the first peri as up to 1848 the take of trout varied from 12, to 99,250, and averaged 50,000 annually; where since 1848 the largest take has been 49,701, a the smallest, 14,222.

"As was pointed out by Mr. Walpole and my in our report of 1875 on the operation of the Tw Fishery Acts of 1857 and 1859, there is a rema able coincidence between the general drainage the Tweed Valley that followed upon the adva of money on easy terms by Parliament in 1846 the landlords of the United Kingdom and the f ing-off in the productiveness of the Tweed fisher The character of the floods was changed. T land, instead of being like a sponge which gradually squeezed out, became intersected b network of drains, which discharged the act rainfall into the river in a few hours. The ri now rises suddenly and falls suddenly, instead being in flood more or less for a week, so t migratory fish, like salmon, which run in flo or rather when the water is beginning to sub and clear after a flood, have far less opportu than formerly of entering the river. This ca joined to the wholesale pollution of the Tw and its tributaries, and the extensive poach which prevails, seem to render it improbable the Tweed will ever again produce two hund thousand fish in a year, as it occasionally di the earlier years of the present century."

The statistics above given seem to show high cultivation and other results of adva civilisation, which cannot be interfered with, decidedly inimical to the productiveness of salmon rivers; and that "probably the only to restore that productiveness and to maintain to follow the example of the United States Canada, and establish Government hatcheries the artificial breeding of the *Salmonidæ*."

Disease, arising no doubt from the s

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* This basket was practically killed in the loch, as the so-called river is just a continuation of the loch narrowed down, and is, in fact, a very narrow loch.

causes, has been more or less prevalent of late years in the river. During the ten years, from 1880 to 1889, the total number of dead and dying fish removed from the river and buried amounted to 75,065, but in 1890 the number so dealt with did not reach this average, only 5,087 being thus treated. The great majority of these were fish that had spawned, few unspawned fish being affected by the disease.

In addition to the other evils from which the Tweed suffers there may be reckoned extensive and organised poaching. In spite of a well-organised force of water-bailiffs in the service of the Tweed Commissioners, this is carried on on the river itself in the close months to a great extent; but the coast at the mouth of the river is the scene where these lawless operations are carried on most vigorously, numbers of boats and fishermen being year after year employed in the work in open defiance of the law.

So unable to cope with this army or rather fleet of poachers with the resources at their disposal did the Commissioners find themselves, that they applied to Government for a gun-boat to be stationed at the river's mouth to assist the bailiffs in enforcing the law; but so far it would appear the Government have not thought fit to grant this request. According to the Commissioners' report for last year, however, it would seem that the previous winter they succeeded in reading the poachers a somewhat severe lesson. A tug-boat was employed for the protection of the bailiffs, and after sundry encounters the poachers were beaten off with a loss of two hundred and twenty-seven nets.

Such are the evils and such the difficulties with which the legal guardians of the famous Border river have to contend, and which have brought about the tremendous decline in its salmon fisheries.

LONDON CLUBS.

THE CAMBRIDGE FRIENDLY.

By Edgar S. Shrubsole.

During the past twelve months a decided move has been made by many London clubs in the direction of an advance in the size of fish weighable for competition and a reduction of the number of prizes given for gross weight. No one has watched the improvement in the tone of the London clubs with more satisfaction than myself, although I am delighted to know that many supporters of the idea of popularising angling as a sport and a means of healthful recreation are continually cropping up. Those gentlemen who for years have fought the fight against an adverse and "okkard" opposition may well tell those who have now to continue the good work that it is no easy task they have put their hand to; but a *bona fide* sportsman is ever ready to advance the interests of sport, for sport's sake; and the very encouraging results of the efforts of those gentlemen who were prominently connected with the movement last winter will I hope give them heart to continue their exertions through the winter to come. Not the least important factor in this connection is the exhaustive and continual discussion of the matter among anglers at their club-house; advocates of the increase in the standard and the reduction of the number of gross weight prizes have everything to gain by these free discussions, and they should be encouraged.

I am led to make these few introductory remarks by the fact that when I lately paid a visit to the Cambridge Friendly Angling Society, the principal item in the evening's programme was the discussion of the advisability of calling a meeting in connection with that society, to determine whether or no the Cambridge Friendlyites should join the rapidly-increasing ranks of those who are determined to do their level best to show by their example, and endeavour to convince by their action, that really the interests of London anglers lie in proving beyond doubt they have the love of sport at heart, and they are determined to do each and everyone what they can to promote the encouragement of preservation and honest angling in place of the "don't-care-what-becomes-of-the-river-as-long-as-we-can-win-prizes" sort of feeling that unfortunately has prevailed only too much in the past. On the evening I allude to it was decided unanimously that the meeting should be called, and the matter discussed. I hope it will be well attended, and that not only the Cambridge Friendlyites will be induced to increase their standard and encourage their specimen-fish advocates, but that other clubs will also be induced to favourably consider the matter, and that this meeting of the Cambridge may be the forerunner of many such during the ensuing autumn, winter, and spring.

The genial secretary tells me that this club, like many others, suffers from a dearth of attendance of members, notwithstanding what has been done to improve it. Probably the important matter they now propose to take in hand will alter this—it should do. The society was founded in 1878, by Messrs. Townsend, Hart, Gould, and Osmond, who were originally members of the Norfolk Angling Society. These gentlemen took offices and piloted the Cambridge through its earliest stages. On March 5, 1879, Mr. W. Sutton was elected secretary, and still retains that office; in his hands the interests of the club have been safe, and he certainly deserves the united support of the members in the measures he proposes for the benefit of all those concerned.

The society—which is limited to fifty members—was for many years held at the Rent Day Tavern, Cambridge-street, Hyde Park-square, but in consequence of the house so frequently changing hands, was removed to its present quarters, the Masons' Arms, Tichborne-street, Edgware-road, W., where a very cosy room is at the disposal of the members, and where some very decent specimen fish are hung upon the walls, including a pike of 18lb. 12oz., caught by Mr. J. Lawler at Amberley, *whilst carp fishing with paste;* a carp weighing 12lb. 12oz., taken by Mr. Warsop in the Lea; another weighing 8lb. 4oz., taken by Mr. J. Welch, from the Welsh Harp; and a third, weighing 6lb. 7½oz., caught by Mr. C. Wright, at Richmond Park; a bream, 6lb. 12½oz., taken by Mr. J. Welch, from the Ouse; another, 4lb. 8½oz., taken by Mr. Buttery; and a third, 3lb. 9oz., taken by Mr. J. Welch, at Amberley, while roach fishing. A tench, 4lb. 9½oz., takon by Mr. Warsop from the Lea; another, 2lb. 13oz., taken by Mr. W. Buttery, at Marlow; and a brace weighing 6lb. 8¾oz., taken by Mr. Townsend. A chub, 4lb. 7½oz., taken by Mr. J. Gower from the Ouse. A brace of perch, weighing 4lb. 8oz., taken by Mr. T. Wilson from the Thames; and a second brace, 4lb. 4½oz., taken by Messrs. Lawler and Gould. A case of four rudd, combined weight 7lb. 1½oz., taken by Messrs. Warsop and Edwards from the Lea; a single rudd, 2lb. 4oz., taken by Mr. Warsop from the Lea. Two dace, 1lb. 8¼oz., taken by Mr. Warsop from the Lea. A roach, 1lb. 13¼oz., taken by Mr. Carrill from the Thames; another by Mr. Satch, from the Colne, weight 1lb. 12oz. A barbel, 6lb. 8½oz., taken by Mr. Vinceut from the Thames at Pangbourne; and last, but not least, a fine grayling, taken by Mr. Warsop.

The society includes many able exponents of the gentle art, and several good shows of fish have been made, including Mr. Welch's catch of bream from the Ouse, nearly 100lb. Mr. Welch has also shown several takes of roach averaging 30lb. Mr. J. Lawler's take of 33lb. of roach from the bank at Pangbourne is very creditable, as is also Mr. Townsend's catch of tench, 24lb., among which were six specimens. Messrs. Warsop, Edwards, and Turner have also had large catches.

At the annual dinner, somo fifty members and friends usually sit down, and on this occasion the prizes won during the season are distributed, consisting of four gross weight prizes and ten specimen fish prizes, beside numerous gifts in specie and kind from the members and friends.

The society is enrolled with the Anglers' Association, and most of the members belong to the Anglers' Benevolent Society. The financial position is satisfactory. Many good anglers have been members in the past, including Messrs. Townsend, Hart, Gould, Satch, and Porter, now deceased; and Messrs. Cornell, Carter, Smith, Sutton, Carrill, Warsop, Wilson, Welch, Weldhon, Dobel, and others, who still remain members. Altogether, the club is a very good little one, and any anglers passing that way should give the members a call. I can vouch for the fact that there are many good fellows there, who will give any brother angler a hearty welcome.

The Gordon Castle party have been enjoying magnificent sport on the Duke's miles of the Spey.

Notes

Mr. A. Mackrill, one of the best and most enthusiastic anglers we have the pleasure of knowing, writes: "I had a day's fishing at Walton, with my old fisherman George Hone (yesterday). Have not fished the Thames for nearly three years; caught one fish only, but it was one of the most perfect Thames trout I ever saw, weighing 6lb, in splendid condition. After showing it to some "locals," we returned it to the water. I caught it on the very finest tackle and had grand sport."

We learn that one of the sons of Mr. P. Geen, of Richmond, has just been elected to an Open Classical Exhibition of £40 a year at St. John's College, Cambridge. We congratulate the worthy president of the Anglers' Association on the honour gained by his son, who is, we believe, a pupil at the Godolphin School, Hammersmith.

Last week, on the Nether Don fishings, several of the rods had twenty and thirty-pound baskets of sea trout in a few hours' fishing.

Bait fishing on the Border Esk closed for the season on Wednesday, the 30th ult., but fly-fishing, having a mouth's longer grace, continues up to the 31st inst.

Last Saturday, no fewer than sixteen salmon were landed on the cheap ticket water of the Don at Kintore. The daily take for about a fortnight past has been six to seven fish. Only one solitary "beastie" has yet been got with fly. The bunch of big lob-worms is the great nailer.

Never has the North Esk's early back-end fishing been known to be so good as this year. Not quite a fortnight ago, one gentleman killed with fly (?) nine fish in little over half a day.

Mr. Donald Watson, tackle maker, 19, Ingles-street, Inverness, writes: "On Friday last, above the wooden bridge which spans the Ness, a large seal was seen by a few local anglers to be busily swimming about, and to now and again make a furious charge as if after some fish unseen by them. By-and-by its motions took it near the bank, when all of a sudden a large conger eel, 4ft. 9in. in length and 9lb. in weight, which it had been pursuing, ran itself high and dry upon the beach. I think this an interesting item for 'Notes' column of *F. G.*"

The greatest takes to one rod in a day on Scotch rivers for the fortnight—up to the middle of the present week—have been three nines, an eight, and two sevens.

Lord Aberdeen's complimentary ticket water of the Ythan, many miles in extent, has been yielding ten to twenty salmon daily during the past fortnight.

The other week a splendid sea trout, weighing 14½lb., was killed on the river Ugie, Aberdeenshire, by an English angler. A fish like this is something to be proud of.

Our correspondent "Mac" commenced his back-end salmon angling on Wednesday, last week, by hooking a 28lb. fresh-run salmon at the *second* cast.

Mr. James Wright, Sprouston, Kelso, writes: "The fishing on the Tweed has been very good up to now. We have plenty of fish and ouly need settled weather to bring about good sport. All the week before was blank owing to floods. Last week, Monday was the only fishing day, when Colonel Biden killed nine fish at Leos. Mr. Madden got five at Makerston. This gentleman has had the fishing for the month of September, and out of the month he has only had ten days' fishing, when he killed forty-fivo fish, mostly salmon. The Blue Doctor has been the killing fly up to now, but the weather has been warm and mild, which may have had something to do with it.

The river Garry and Loch Oich salmon rod fishing has been let to Mr. John Balfour, of Balbirnie, Fifeshire. In spring the sport with large fish is second to none obtained in Scotland.

NOTED THAMES PROFESSIONAL FISHERMEN.

No. VIII.—ROBERT PLUMMER, OF MONKEY ISLAND.

By "The Judicious Hooker."

Reader mine, what shall I say to you of that truly notable Thames angler whose portrait adorns this page, and a few particulars as to whose career I am about to furnish you with—Robert (to his friends and patrons always "Old Bob") Plummer! Can I not appeal to the thousands of Thames anglers and boating men who have stayed their stay at the quaintly-named "Monkey Island," which makes such a comfortable halting-place for a cool drink in summer and something—but no! Mr. Editor, no "peaching"—in winter, midway between Maidenhead and Windsor. Space, however, forbids that I should dilate on the manifold attractions of the island and its inn, which both derive their name from a summer-house built by the third Duke of Marlborough, "the ceiling of which," to quote Taunt's excellent guide to the Thames—"is adorned with paintings of monkeys engaged at all sorts of sport . . . . the 'monkey room' being still in good preservation, and the fishing all round thoroughly good. The stream from Bray Lock past here to the turn is the swiftest on the Thames." So wrote Henry W. Taunt in 1873, and the surrounding circumstances have not altered one iota from that day to this, nor are they likely to change while Plummer lives, unless, indeed, the Conservancy dredgers should pitch upon the shallows as a scene for their operations in the general attempt of that body to canalise the river.

MR. R. PLUMMER.

The famous ceiling of the "Monkey Room" is not now in such "good preservation" as it was in 1873, in fact, it is about to be restored; but the real old-fashioned hostelry has lost none of its repute, and I do not know a more comfortable place to stay at on the whole river, or one where the angler meets with a more hearty welcome, and on parting with his host, "parts" with a better will, than the Monkey Island Hotel.

Robert Plummer, the subject of the present sketch, was born at the "Ray Mead" Hotel, some sixty-six years ago, but I am glad to say he neither looks nor feels his age, having never abused his constitution, but always followed the golden rule of temperance and plenty of hard work in the open air. His father was "boss" of the wharves at Ray Mead, and first opened the hotel there: so that my hero did not become an angler *per saltum*, but was gently initiated into the noble art, first passing his "mods." (as all really "gallant fishers" have) through the "bent pin, cotton, and minnow" stage (not plucked), thence graduating through the good old twisted horse-hair hook ("greats") as being cheaper than gut of the novitiate of we middle-aged anglers, and never losing, but ever increasing his love for the sport, until now you will find him a "don" indeed, for no man on the river is possessed of better tackle, or is more expert in its use under all varying conditions, and as applied to the slaughter of all sorts of our fish quarries.

But, reader, an you be yourself a skilful angler, you will agree with your humble servant that, as Mr. Punch's old lady had it, "*Experientia does it.*" Experience was, indeed, the teacher of friend Plummer, for he learned his book under the guidance of those grand old worthies, the original Ned Andrews (the grandfather of the present ex-Thames punting champion) and old "Si." Wilder (father of the present "King Fisher," Harry Wilder). As soon as he could toddle about, little Bob Plummer was to be seen—no matter how much the "schoolmaster abroad" might be looking after him, and no matter what the weather—in the company of these heroes of a bygone age, and many a wrinkle he picked up in his juvenile peregrinations and stored in his memory, and many a rattling good tale he can tell of those "good old times."

I know that our Editor approves of such articles as I have already written, mainly on the ground that I have already chronicled many a fact as to sport on the Thames in days gone by that was worthy of record, and might have escaped notice but for my interviewing of the older hands: and so I make no apology for placing on record some of "old Bob" Plummer's reminiscences, and giving them the place of honour in this article. I may say that I gathered them from his own lips, and that I, as all who know him, have absolute faith in his veracity. He told me, during our chat: "At that time the fishing was altogether different from what it is now. As a boy, I used to help in the netting, and in old Lord Orkney's time I have seen a ton of fish taken in one netting out of Boulter's Lock Pool. In those days, we boys at Ray Mead used to angle with an ash-pole as a rod, a line of water-cord with a bit of lead tied on, and a gimp hook, and literally threw out the barbel 'neck and crop,' thinking nothing of getting many barbel of 3lb. to 4lb. of a morning before we went to school. In the netting days, the then Lord Orkney, of Taplow Court, used to take the trout and the best of the other fish and put them in his stews, and all the rest used to be 'chucked around' equally by Si. Wilder among the crowd assembled." This Lord Orkney, of whom I have heard other old Thames-side men besides Plummer discourse, seems to have been a thoroughly typical "fine old English gentleman," and one of the best all-round sportsmen that ever lived, ever kind to all who lived on his estate, loving the poor, and a true friend to all who deserved his friendship.

This is digressing; but I cannot help thinking what a National Gallery picture we should have had (never mind the price) if Mr. Dendy Sadler had lived in those days, and reproduced on canvas the noble lord superintending old Si. Wilder's distribution of a hundredweight of fish among the thirty or forty expectants gathered around.

To resume Bob Plummer's relation of his experiences as a youth. He says: I have seen old Si. Wilder and old Ned Andrews go to the Bell's mill-tail, and using the fly, fill the well of their punt with chub, 1½cwt. to 2cwt. at a time. In those days, old Dicky Lovegrove used to rent the rod eyots, and the fishing from the Ray Mead up to Cliveden; and he used to net two or three times a week, having old Bob Emery, of Bray, and another—whose name I forget—to buy the fish of him and hawk them for sale for four or five miles around, generally selling the fish in sixpenny or fourpenny "strings." (What a chance for some of the "gross-weight" men!) At that time angling was so good that you could go out and catch twenty times the quantity of fish with rod and line that you can at the present day, but few anglers then frequented the river. There used to be some "rows" over the trimmers for jack, but otherwise everybody seemed to do as he liked.

Plummer could never divest himself of his keen interest in "the contemplative man's recreation," and used occasionally, besides "fishing on his own hook" to take gentlemen out angling long before he took the lease of the Monkey Island Hotel—and that is now twenty-nine years ago. From that date to this he has been known as one of the best "professional fishermen" on the Thames, and in saying this, I do not at all fear being accused of using the *argumentum ad hominem*.

Having brought the dear old boy up to this stage of affairs, an adjournment was necessary for needed refreshment, after which I put to him a good old string of questions, and append a summary of his answers—which, premising that he has never kept a diary (alack and alas!) may yet be taken as accurate, barring minute details.

Trout.—The first question naturally was, as to the trout in the district. On this point Mr. Plummer assured me that there were now more trout in his immediate neighbourhood than he had seen for the last twenty years, great numbers of them, from 1lb. to 1½lb., having been seen by visitors, as well as himself, standing on the steps of his hotel on fine evenings last summer, feeding on the beautiful gravel shallows which lie at the tail of Monkey Island. With justifiable pride, Mr. Plummer states that in his opinion all, or most of these troutlets (Thames size being remembered, but which will certainly be catchable in a season or two) are what are left of the 15,000 and the 7,000 good strong fry which he "turned in" four and three years ago, respectively. I have seen many abortive attempts to stock the Thames with "fry," and have for the last ten or twelve years "sworn by" yearlings or two-year-olds, of the best breeds, as the only fish worth introducing to the Metropolitan river; but certainly if fry are to have a chance at all, the splendid gravel shallows in the Monkey Island district would give that chance; and the facts I have quoted bear out this view. Plummer's biggest trout was one of 10lb., caught by Mr. Chapman, but he has landed for patrons a good many scaling between 6lb. and 8lb., and there are still some good ones in the neighbourhood. One "curious incident *re* trout" he related to me which is worth reproduction—viz., that when, as a little boy, he was whipping for dace with a shred of bacon stolen from the larder (pence wherewith to buy gentles being short—who does not remember this same experience) he hooked and landed, unaided, a trout of about 3lb. So endeth the chapter as to trout.

Perch.—Now as to that splendid sporting fish, when I and Plummer were young, *Perca fluviatilis*. Alas! that this the most game fish next to the salmon and the trout, that ever swam in Thames water, should make so poor a show of late years—why nobody can tell. But still there is hope, if anglers will do, as most of the up-river fishermen are doing, return all they take of this toothsome and gallant fish. If this rule were observed for two or three years more, I have no doubt but that the stock of "pounders," aye, and even of larger fish, would then become restored. Well, Plummer tells me that years ago, the water being fit and the supply of minnows plentiful, they used to think nothing of getting 20lb. weight of perch in an afternoon. He once saw a patron of Harry Wilder's (Mr. Norris, of Sion House, Isleworth), take well over 1 cwt. of perch in one day. He has never seen a heavier perch killed in this district than one of 2½lb., but numbers used to be taken every favourable day, ranging from 1½lb. up to that weight. It is not the same by any means now, but there is hope for the future, as Plummer and his men seldom cast the bait net without taking in it half-a-dozen or more perch of 2in. to 3in. in length, which at any rate is a hopeful sign.

Barbel.—Of barbel, friend Plummer told me that he has seen old "Nottingham George," and his patrons, casting off the bank on the Berks side, just below the island, make immense bags, pretty well, sometimes, 2 cwt. of barbel and chub mixed in one day, always fishing with a float in the Nottingham style, which, as all my readers should remember, was introduced to Thames anglers by old "Nottingham George." The prospects as to barbel are again hopeful in this district, as Plummer has lately seen large shoals of this excellent sporting fish of a good size, besides hundreds of smaller ones, in their old haunts; and, like other people at other stations, his patrons have succeeded in making pretty good baskets of late. As it is my purpose in these articles to record all large takes that come under my notice, I may here mention that the largest individual barbel Plummer ever landed was one of about 12lb.; and that the best day he remembers was some sixteen or seventeen years ago, when Capt. Conway, under his tutelage, brought to the well 105lb. of barbel.

Roach.—As to roach fishing, it seems from Plummer's account, as to the accuracy of which no one can have any doubt, that from twenty-five to fifteen or twelve years ago, these fish simply were bent upon their own destruction in quantities that would indeed puzzle the modern angler for the "river sheep." *Par exemple*, he tells me of a bit of sport enjoyed one October afternoon in 1876, by those well-known City anglers, Mr. Harry Hughes and his brother John, who did not "get on" until about one p.m., but then, being introduced by my hero to "the Queen's Deep" (still a splendid place for the roach fisher) had such grand sport that when they knocked off at 4 30, the roach caught—not one of them being under six inches, and the largest not more than 1½lb.—weighed together 145lb. Oh, for the good old days! ye roachers—never to return, I fear, although the sport in the Monkey Island district is still by no means to be despised by banker or punter. Captain Orton used to distinguish himself, also, in those days, while fishing from Plummer's punt; but the biggest roach he ever caught was one scaling 2lb. 5oz.

With Chub, a fish which seems to more and more commend itself to the average winter as well as summer angler, I can say of my own personal knowledge that the waters around Monkey Island are almost over-populated. Still there are first-rate "boughs" here spared by the conservancy men, and eke overhanging shelves; and when the water is right no chub fisher need go away, if he knows at all how to set to work, without several three and four-pounders in his creel. Friend Plummer, however, has a most righteous grievance against the fellows who come around in the summer, "whipping" for chub, and killing everything they hook, even retaining "skewers" of a ¼lb. in weight, which, when interrogated from the bank, they swear are dace. On one occasion Mr. Jones, with one of Plummer's men, took 45lb. of chub from the boughs at the Queen's Eyot (a famous spot) besides being more than once smashed by "whoppers."

Pike Fishing in this district, which used to be grand some twenty years ago, has greatly fallen off during the last few years, although the section between Bray and Windsor will still bear favourable comparison with most other reaches on the Thames. As friend Plummer sagely remarked to me, "We should soon have plenty of nice jack again if people would not be such fools, in their own interest, as to kill everything they hook, but would only put the little ones back. No jack ought to be taken under 3lb., and I should like to chuck any man into the river whom I caught doing such a mean trick!" Bravo, Plummer!

In the coffee-room at the Monkey Island Hotel there is the skin, very fairly well set up, of a pike of 30lb., caught by Mr. P. himself at the tail of the island some ten years ago; but the champion pike of this neighbourhood was one of 31lb. some ounces, landed by Mr. A. K. Dyer, while stopping at the hotel, and being attended by friend Bob, which was an exceedingly well-made fish, measuring 42in. in length. This fine specimen of *Esox lucius* was caught in "the deep," and was, I believe, set up. Plummer has witnessed and assisted at the capture of many a pike from 10lb. to 20lb., but "not thinking much of them," has kept no record. That pike are not extinct in the neighbourhood, I can vouch, for it was only last winter that two novices, attended by Plummer's man, Chapman (who, by the way, is an excellent and civil attendant on anglers, and knows all the water), took six, five of which, all pretty much of a size, were retained, and averaged 4lb., while they broke away with two rare good fish.

There are very few bream or tench in this reach of the Thames—only a short number of the latter—and only one of the former (caught by Lady de Grey Winton, and scaling over 6lb.) being recorded.

Speaking of Lady Winton reminds me that "young Bob Plummer"—the eldest son of the subject of this sketch, and of whom I may have more to say another day—is "retained" by her ladyship for the summer months, and has piloted her—especially in the Marlow district—to the slaughter of vast quantities of barbel and other fish. Having been thoroughly well trained by his paternal progenitor, young Bob is almost as good a fisherman (if not quite) as his father.

Anyone wanting a day's or a week's real angling on the Thames cannot do better than give the genial, thorough, and most civil host of the "Monkey Island" inn a call. He will find, if he takes my tip, the best of cookery, the most moderate of charges, and the most cordial of welcomes. If, to quote Artemus Ward, "you don't hanker arter bacon" (and friend Plummer fattens scores of piggies purchased from the Royal farm at adjacent Windsor), "you can help yourself to cabbage," or any other vegetable you like, for he has a garden of some two acres; and not only that, but his milch cows and his ducks and hens are always in the best of order, and warranted to render the choicest of country produce. *Experientia docet.* As to his old whisky, why—*verb. sap.*—it is not to be beaten anywhere in "the three counties," or else I would not have risked an outbreak of our Editor's ire by mentioning a fluid which has been so often and so sternly tabooed in these columns. But there it is! Before parting company with friend Plummer, I naturally asked his opinion on some few of the points which are, in my opinion, of prime importance to Thames anglers and others who frequent the river in the winter as well as the summer months.

In closing my history of Ned Sheppard, of Purley (*Fishing Gazette*, Nov. 29, 1890), I gave brief expression to the views of that experienced angler and shot on the two almost vital matters, of the right to shoot wild fowl on the Thames, and on the much-vexed question of the close season for fish.

As to the former, Mr. Plummer assures me that quantities of wild fowl frequent his district; and that, before steam-tugs came into vogue, he had no trouble in knocking over a few nice duck, and any quantity of snipe. He says, however, that the night travelling of the tugs greatly frightens away the wild fowl from the river, and this any practical man can thoroughly understand. He entirely agrees with Sheppard and other good men and true, that shooting should be allowed on the Thames from December 1 to the last day of February.

On the subject of the alteration of the fence seasons for fish he also practically agrees, holding that the revised bye-laws (if ever they are brought about) should permit angling for roach, chub, tench, and other soft-mouthed fish, at any rate, up to the last day of March or the middle of April. While the first of May would be, perhaps, the most proper time to begin fishing for Thames trout, Plummer feels that such a limitation would make the trout season very short, as these fish cannot very well be angled for after the reeds have grown; and, as a compromise—thoroughly agreeing that the present opening day is too early on account of the condition of the fish—he suggests that the fence season for them should be extended to the middle of April. Personally, I have always advocated most strongly that Thames trout should not be fished for before May 1, but "half a loaf is better than no bread;" and, at any rate, I am in thorough accord with him and the bulk of Thames fishermen, in the hope that ere long the bye-laws as to seasons may be again revised.

Last week the Don—on which the fishing has been remarkably good—yielded more really large fish than any other Scotch back-end river. Over half-a-dozen, exceeding 30lb. in weight, were landed.

CHUB AND DACE: AND ANGLING FOR THEM.

By Alfred Jardine.

(*Continued from page 216.*)

Although I referred to the official catalogue of the International Fisheries Exhibition, I quite overlooked Mr. G. G. Taylor's exhibit of a chub (No. 927), said to weigh 7lb., "and to be the largest preserved in the United Kingdom." My mistake was unintentional, but had the effect of eliciting an interesting letter from your correspondent "Giant," who records the captures of chub, weighing respectively 6lb., 7lb. 2oz., 7lb. 4oz., 7lb. 6oz., and 9lb; the latter, however, was caught in a net.

In fishing with "bullock's pith" (which is the marrow from the spine of an ox or a cow, and can be got from a butcher's, and should be quite fresh); to toughen it, boil it for three minutes, with a dessertspoonful of salt in the water; then, after it is removed and got cold, cut it into one-inch lengths, and keep them clean in damp linen or calico. When used, the outside covering, or integument, must be taken off, which leaves the pith white and tempting. A No. 4 hook is the best size; and when baiting it, one should first slit up the piece of pith with sharp-pointed scissors, and removing the skin, insert the hook, and put its point through several times, until all the hook and the barb are entirely covered. Pith is a capital bait for clear water on frosty days (if rivers are free from snow-broth), and is invariably used with the brains of either a sheep or bullock, for ground-bait.

In angling for chub by this method, Nottingham tackle should be employed, which enables the angler to fish a river for fifteen or even twenty yards down-stream; the likeliest swims being those close to, or under, boughs, and by steep water-washed banks that are undermined by the current. Such places the largest fish frequent, especially where the water is four or five feet in depth.

If fishing from the bank, extreme quiet is necessary, for heavy footfalls are transmitted to the water, and vibrations alarm the fish, which most probably will vacate the swim. If from a punt or boat, the same caution should be observed as was described in a former article when fly-fishing, or "whipping" the boughs with a frog, the tail of a lob-worm, or a bunch of gentles, &c. A long boat-hook should be used, to hang on with to sedges or bushes growing on the margin, and the boat or punt silently dropped, yard by yard, along the river, while the chubby places are carefully fished. Or a companion may hold on to a twig here and there, and materially assist the angler, while he tries a favourite bough or swim. A ryepeck should seldom be put overboard, when chubbing, for the least scraping against the punt, or on a hard gravel bottom, will frighten every fish from the vicinity.

The *brains* (from animals freshly slaughtered) *should be boiled*, if they are *chewed* and spat into the stream for ground-bait; or they may be held just under water and crushed by the fingers, and a little cast in *sparingly*, the bait (pith) allowed to float a few inches off the bottom—or, may be, at *mid-water*—according to how the fish are feeding. The bait follows a *little behind*, or after the brains, which attract the chub, and put them on the *qui vive* for the more tempting morsel of pith. When a fish is hooked it must be kept away from submerged roots, &c., and reeled up as quickly to the landing-net as is consistent, avoiding a smash of the tackle. It is not necessary to ground-bait a swim beforehand when fishing with pith, as seldom more than two or three chub can be caught from the same swim, or bough, without scaring the rest; hence it is best to quietly move down-stream from place to place. When pith has been scarce I have found an excellent substitute in maccaroni, stewed in milk, which, when cold, is out into suitable lengths; the gut can be then pushed through the hollow tube or pipe, till the bait rests on the hook. A good plan is to use a small buckle swivel, placing the gut loop in the buckle; thus a fresh bait is easily put on.

Leuciscus-cephalus, as a fish which fights well for liberty, is not by any means to be despised; and the first desperate efforts made by a three-pounder to gain its stronghold among submerged roots or water-logged boughs is well worth experiencing; yet, foiled in this attempt, he passively gives in, and is easily secured, for, being "leather-lipped," the hook seldom breaks away from its hold. For this kind of fishing, the line should be a fine plaited silk one, on a Nottingham reel that runs perfectly "sweet" and true, for the "chubbing-float" should travel according to the strength of stream; in fact, the current takes the float, with the line, *off from the reel* in a natural way, the revolution of the reel being checked by a slight pressure of a finger, so that the pith-bait follows just behind the chewed brains, of which a very small quantity is sufficient to attract the fish. After guiding the bait under boughs, or among eddies and other likely places, on reaching the end of a swim, there may be thirty yards or more of line out, and should a chub be hooked this distance off (which is not infrequent), the angler will have to show skill and care, for the tackle is somewhat fragile; but delicate manipulation will achieve the capture.

On completing a "swim," hold the float a second or two, for it is *then* a chub often takes the bait; but if not, then lift the whole length of line from the water, smartly tap the butt-end of the rod, which will shake most of the wet from the line, and wind up quickly. This dodge of shaking the wet off prevents the line sticking in the rod-rings, and gives facility to the following swim.

The next part of my subject naturally is, "*where to go* chubbing."

It is not the case that what *were* chub-holes, or chub-boughs, are *always so.* Currents alter in their "set," or flow; banks break away, and clay or gravel is deposited by floods; so that "deeps" become partly filled up, and (in a measure) shallow; trees are felled and boughs lopped, thus altering, as time passes, the character of the fishing; and under such altered conditions fish migrate to other parts of the water.

Alders and pollard willows, growing on the river's banks, get undermined by winter floods and fall into the water, thus forming strongholds for chub. Many of the old weirs and moss-grown camp-sheatings have disappeared, being replaced by iron or concrete structures, to the detriment of the fishing, where (a few years ago) to have good sport was the rule rather than the exception. Many first-rate places celebrated for fine chub a comparatively short while since, are now ruined, much of which is to be attributed to the "wash" of the ever-increasing numbers of steam launches.

However, good fishing is still to be had high up above Oxford, to nearly the source of the Thames; also from Abingdon to Sutton Mill, thence along the backwaters from Sutton Pool to Culham Lock. The three miles of quiet, undisturbed water at Long Wittenham, and under Clifden Hampden woods, is very fine winter chubbing. The river at Day's Lock, Shillingford, Bensington Pool, and Wallingford, on, past Moulsford G.W. Railway Bridge to Cleeve, and from Streatley, Pangbourne to Mapledurham, is fringed every here and there with bushes and pollards, the usual haunts of chub; to fish for which, with greater chances of success, a punt and an attendant is necessary.

The Thames from Mapledurham to Sonning is heavily fished by the anglers of Reading; but below Sonning, thence to Shiplake, and on to Marsh Lock, will be found numerous boughs overhanging deep streams, many hollow clay-banks and quiet eddies, where chub congregate during the autumn and winter months.

At Reading the Kennet adds her waters to the Thames, and grows chub of large size. Close to Wargrave the Loddon drops in, and for some distance up that stream to Twyford Mill, the "chubbing" is excellent; but is fished by the Reading and Henley Angling Society—unless the angler is a member he cannot; and if not, I advise him to take a conveyance from Twyford or Reading to Loddon Bridge, or to go from Waterloo Station to Earley, and from thence walk to Loddon Bridge (one mile), where the landlord of the inn (Mr. J. R. Gould, who is himself a disciple of Izaak Walton) makes visitors comfortable, and introduces them to some right good "chubby swims." It was here that my friend, the late H. L. Rolfe, "inducted" me into the mysteries of "swimming" a frog under and among the boughs—for chub, a very killing method, which I have previously described.

Other fish inhabit this part of the Loddon; and pike, perch, carp, roach, &c., are often caught of handsome dimensions.

About three meadows above Loddon Bridge, on the right-hand side, a mill-stream falls in, just where the river makes a considerable bend. The water here is moderately deep, with the bottom cleanly scoured, and holds some grand chub. At this place, one winter day, my old friend, J. W. Gant, fishing with greaves on Nottingham tackle, captured (during three hours' fishing) a fine lot of chub, including one of 5¼lb., three of 4lb. each, and two of 3lb. each.

The waters about Henley, Hambledon, Temple Weir, Great Marlow, Cookham, and Cleveden, seldom disappoint a "winter chubbist"; while the annals of big catches and large specimens, secured at Maidenhead, Bray, and Monkey Island by such past masters of "the gentle art" as Mr. F. H. Lemann, and many others I could mention, are enough to fill a volume.

Nearer London, at Datchet, is the "Fleet," a part of the old Thames not used now for navigation, and it is a capital length of water. The same can be said of the willow-fringed banks below Staines (on the Surrey side), and Penton Hook for winter chubbing.

Then, nearer still, and easier of access, is the "Chalk Hole" at Shepperton; and half-a-mile lower down is a nice bit of deep, streamy water, alongside the residence of the late Mr. Lindsay, where the lawn abuts on the river, that, when the Thames is not "in flood," should account for the capture of some fine "chevins."

As an edible fish, chub are scarcely worth cooking: it is watery, coarse, and tasteless. Small half-pound fish, crimped and fried dry, are eatable, but not nearly so nice as dace, which are delicate fare. Perhaps the best way is to cook chub as roach often are—viz., baked in a pie-dish, with a modicum of vinegar, some mixed spices, and two or three bay leaves: done thus, and left to grow cold, they will "set" into a stiffish jelly, and prove to be a not indifferent breakfast relish.

The following Table of the "Comparative Weights and Lengths of Chub"* may be interesting and useful to our readers:—

Length	Weight.		Length	Weight.		Length	Weight.	
Inches.	lbs.	oz.	Inches.	lbs.	oz.	Inches.	lbs.	oz.
9	0	12	14	1	9¼	19	3	15¼
10	0	13¾	15	1	14½	20	4	9½
11	0	14¾	16	2	5½	21	5	5¼
12	1	0	17	2	13¼	22	6	2½
13	1	4¼	18	3	5½	23	7	0½

(*To be continued.*)

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* From "The Badminton Library."

Waltoniana

Looking through the last number of the Journal of the Marine Biological Society, I came upon a note written by the director concerning an attempt which was made to acclimatise grayling in salt-water. Some grayling and Loch Leven trout were sent to the laboratory by Mr. Greig, the Devonshire fish culturist. The fish averaged four and a-half inches in length, so were presumably large yearlings or small two-year-olds. They arrived in good condition, and as an experiment one fish of each kind was placed in sea water. In about two hours the grayling died, and the trout only survived double that time. The rest of the fish were put into water which was only slightly salt, and sea water was added gradually. When the hydrometer registered only fifteen degs., the fish sickened and four died. Unfortunately at this time the fresh-water supply was accidentally cut off for four days, and all the grayling died and many of the trout. Three of the latter survived, and eventually were placed in pure salt water, in which, when the report was written, they appeared healthy and were feeding well. Mr. Calderwood adds, "If they continue to thrive it will be instructive to watch their development, though we can scarcely hope that they will propagate their species."

If by "propagating their species" Mr. Calderwood referred to the deposition, fertilization, and incubation of ova in sea water, he might have said at once that the thing was impossible, but if he only doubted whether ova will be developed by these trout in the tanks of the laboratory, he might have gone so far as to say that there was some probability of the thing happening. Both salmon and sea trout develop ova while in salt water, and sometimes make their redds at the mouth of rivers. But eggs deposited in such places surely die. That has been proved, both by careful experiment and observation. If there is anyone at the laboratory who understands stripping trout it will be very interesting to see if eggs can be obtained from these fish and fertilised. The accident which led to the death of the grayling was most unfortunate, as it would be very interesting to know with some degree of certainty whether or no these delicate fish can be made to live in sea water. By the way, as good a fish story as any I ever heard is to be found in Mackenzio's "Salmon Fisheries of Scotland": "One of the luminaries of the Scottish bar, distinguished by his grave eloquence, declared that if all the rivers in the kingdom were blocked up, salmon would become more plentiful than ever, as they would then be forced to spawn in the sea." So much for Scottish legal luminaries!

A few days back an Irish friend wrote me that, the doctor having ordered his mother to eat fish,* he went to a certain tributary of the Shannon, and in an hour caught nine large trout, varying in weight from 2lb. downwards: "Knowing that the fish were up for spawning, I refrained from killing any more, though I think I might have filled my creel twice over." I have fished that river myself, but never has it fell to my lot to catch a two-pounder in it. The stream flows into the tideway of the Shannon, where the water is brackish, and usually only small fish—yearlings, I think—are to be found in it. Immediately the fish grow to any size they go down into the brackish water, where they doubtless find much more food than is forthcoming in the rocky bed of the tributary. Should there come a flood, some of them run up for a time to feed, but on the water subsiding they drop back again into the salt water. In the autumn they ascend the river for a mile or so to deposit their eggs. The tideway of the Shannon is to them very much what the sea is to the salmon, and a lake to a lake trout. In the autumn of the year these estuary trout ascend the tributary, the salmon leaves the sea for the great rivers and in some cases the small ones, and the lake trout leaves his streamless home for the burns and rivulets in which he can breed.

"W. F.'s" letter in reference to some remarks of mine on Kennet roach greatly amused me last week. I hasten, in reply, to say that I did not eat any of those roach taken within two miles of Newbury, and that all the analysts in the kingdom will not make me believe that water taken from the Kennet, so near the town, is pure and fit to drink. It is quite possible that by the time the water has flowed from Newbury to the point in question, all the solid matter in the noxious fluid has settled at the bottom of the river, but there may be, and probably are, harmful and horrible somethings left in the water which the analysts have at present no means of discovering. In any case, at the first flood a certain portion of the matter which has settled is washed farther down-stream, and so on until, in the course of years, the whole of the river between Newbury and Reading is paved in its more slowly-flowing reaches with sewage mud. This savoury mixture, on being disturbed by floods, woodcutters, or dredgers, absolutely must seriously pollute the water. I am really sorry not to be able to comply with "W. F.'s" suggestion as to catching roach close to a sewage outfall, analysing their stomachs, and then eating the remainder of their bodies. No, emphatically I will not do it. I did once taste a trout from a sewage-laden tributary of the Kennet, close to Newbury, and never wish to repeat the experiment. I think, also, I may answer for "Redspinner" that he did not eat any of the dace mentioned by "W. F.," nor do I think "W. F." will find him more obliging than the writer. Doubtless "W. F." does not consider my opinion unbiassed. If so, he is right, for I have a bias as strong as the strongest of strong men in favour of keeping our rivers free from pollution of every sort or kind, and, if I had my way, would make every river polluter drink nothing but water taken from the stream he pollutes until he saw the error of his ways—and no whisky with that water, either. Templar.

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* A good old chestnut.—Ed.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

F. H. F.: We do not think you can do better than get John Bickerdyke's books on the subject, advertised in our columns. We prefer hooks tied on gut in the ordinary way for all kinds of bottom fishing.

J. E. S.: Will bear your suggestion in mind.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. Pritt.

REPORTS OF LARGE BREAM.

Dear Sir,—I noticed last week that one of you correspondents, calling himself "Blatherwycke," was induced by a difference in the figures, as given by Mr. R. Moll and myself, of the sizes of two large bream, caught in the Wensum, on Sept. 13, to altogether disbelieve both of us. This is rather bad form on the part of "Blatherwycke," especially after his saying that he did not wish "to cast any imputation on your correspondents." Perhaps he has never seen big bream, and this made him inclined to doubt the truth of the figures I gave. I did not give *my* weights of the two fish and size of the largest without having first seen them and receiving the weights from the taxidermist who is now setting them up.

Perhaps the following account of the fish will dispel any doubts "Blatherwycke" may have of the veracity of my statements: The two bream were caught on the 13th September, at Drayton, on the Wensum, above Hellesden Bridge, by a working man, who next day offered them for sale in Norwich, and finally disposed of them to a gentleman, who placed them in the hands of Mr. Cole, of this city, for preservation. It was at his house I saw them, and took the following dimensions—viz.: One bream, 8lb.; length (nose to tip of tail, when spread out naturally), 25½in.; girth, 21in. One bream, 7lb 2oz.; length, 24in.; girth, 19in.

I do not see why it is "practically impossible" for four such fish to be taken from the same water on consecutive days, though I do not think there were more than two fish caught; and what Mr. Moll referred to were the same as those I wrote of. But if the fish are there (and they are), why should it not be possible (I do not say likely) that four fish should be taken in two days?

The weights of fish given below will prove that, though bream of this size are unusual, they are not unknown in the waters of Norfolk. I have one in my possession of 9¼lb., taken from the same stream; and Mr. T. E. Gunn, of St. Giles's-street, Norwich, has about a dozen, of from 7½lb. to 8½lb. each, in his shop at the present time. These were all taken from our local waters, some of them from the very spot as the two under discussion.

I trust "Blatherwycke" will be convinced by what I have said, and that he will be assured that whatever I may contribute to your pages will bear any "sifting into." I might add that some years ago a bream of 11½lb., was taken in a pond at Beeston Regis, and I believe that there are five fish of very good size in the South Kensington collection of fish.—I am, &c.,

Your Norfolk Correspondent.

THE READING OF PAPERS AT ANGLING CLUBS.

Dear Sir,—Will you be good enough to allow me to announce, through the medium of your columns, that a meeting of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Clubs will be held at the Citizen, 70, Houndsditch (Host Tibbatt's house), on Friday next, October 16, at 8.30 p.m., to arrange the programme for the ensuing winter season, deliberate upon the advisability of printing and publishing the papers read by the members, considerably extending the efforts of the society, receiving applications from clubs and deciding thereupon, and several other important matters.

I sincerely hope that all those who so staunchly supported me during last winter will attend this meeting. I also hope we shall be assisted by many who, from various causes, could not lend us their powerful aid and counsel before, but who have kindly offered me, during the summer, to do what they could when we made another start.

Any of those secretaries of clubs who would like one of our members to read a paper before their society, should attend this meeting, so that dates, &c., may be arranged. Application by post, addressed to me at the Citizen, will also be entertained.

Among the many papers promised so far are the following: Mr. Francis M. Walbran, of Leeds, Yorkshire, a lecture upon "Two Yorkshire Rivers," illustrated by several beautiful dissolving views; Mr. W. J. Cummins, of Bishop Auckland, a paper on "Fishing in Canada," with an exhibition of suitable tackle, and many very amusing anecdotes; Mr. E. S. Shrubsole, a paper upon "Fishing Baskets, Bags, and Creels," with an exhibition of upward of one hundred different appliances for carrying an angler's impedimenta and fish. Papers by our president, Mr. R. B. Marston, Mr. T. Crumplin, Mr. L. S. Fountaine, Mr. G. H. Howard, Mr. J. B. Orr, Mr. J. Tayler, Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, &c., the titles, &c., of which will be shortly determined and duly announced in these columns.

Any and every angler feeling an interest in these matters will please attend the meeting. I have been asked lately, "What has become of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers in Clubs?" and have answered "It's very much alive, and will soon be at work again." That the gentlemen associated together for such a good purpose will receive hearty support is the earnest wish of the Hon. Sec.—Yours truly,

Edgar S. Shrubsole.

WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION, CHICAGO, U.S.A., 1893.

Dear Sir,—I have been asked by Mr. J. H. Collins, the Chief of the Department of Fish and Fisheries of the World's Columbian Exposition of Chicago, 1893, for the addresses of Government officials, firms, or individuals having connection with fisheries or fish culture. If not trespassing on your courtesy, would you kindly mention in your valuable paper the fact that the above gentleman would be glad to hear from any persons desiring to exhibit or seeking for any information on this subject.—Yours faithfully,

Edward Fox,
Acting Resident Commissioner.
London Offices: 72, Victoria-street, S.W.

CLOSING TIME FOR TROUT.

Sir,—In the waters of Anglesey and Carnarvonshire, placed under Boards of Conservators, trout fishing ceases on the last day of September. There is, I presume, a law enacted to that effect, but, irrespective of that, the natural instinct of an angler ought to be a sufficient guide when to cease fishing. The sickly condition of trout at the end of September appeals more effectively to the instinct of the *true* angler than all local and parliamentary enactments put together. But there are anglers and anglers. In Lake Coron, Bodorgan, which is not under the management of a Board of Conservators, trout fishing in October is an annual indulgence by some bottom fishermen, who shall be nameless in this letter. It is then the savage slaughter of the innocents comes in, and they know it. This year has been no exception, for in the early days of this month one caught thirty-eight in a short time. How many thousands of future fish were sacrificed to the greed of that one angler alone! I have seen as many as six boats engaged for days bottom-fishing in October, and the sight of the fish caught was simply repelling.

I well remember, about twelve years ago, a party of these depredators had been out for the last two days of October and the morning of the first of November, and the then landlord of the neighbouring hotel taking me with pride to his cellar to see the famous catch. I don't swear, but the Recording Angel must have shrugged his shoulders at the approaching profanity that escaped my lips.

Reader, art thou a *fair* fisherman, and especially a fly-fisher? Lovest thou fishing for the sport, and not for the spoil? Regardest thou the massacre of fish with burning abhorrence? Thou doest. Then canst thou sympathise with the shock to my sensibilities in seeing over two hundred trout in an advanced spawning state, most of them over a pound, lying on the floor, ready to be packed by train to distant friends? I believe I possess the average good-will to my fellow-creatures; but I sincerely wished those fish thoroughly disagreed with the recipients, and even if a long doctor's bill followed their consumption, it would have been but feeble unction to my feeling.

Is it a wonder the lake is deteriorating year after year? About thirty years ago it was reckoned one of the best in the kingdom for fly-fishing; now, except in the spring, it is useless fly-fishing till the rise comes on in the evening.

And what suicidal policy hotel landlords adopt in giving quarters to such anglers. The visitors are decreasing year after year as a natural consequence; and, if this poaching is carried on, it will be useless for strangers in the near future to visit the lake. Steps ought to be taken at once to put it under the Board of Conservators at Carnarvon, like the Cefn river, but two miles off. Then bottom-fishing and unseasonable fishing could be done away with, and subscription opened to put in ten thousand Loch Leven trout.

I appeal to some of the most influential anglers in the island—viz., Mr. Edwards, Mr. Langtry, Drs. Hughes and Williams (from Holyhead), Mr. Humphreys, &c., to take the initiative in the matter. There is every reason to believe that the agent of the estate (Mr. Prichard) will fall in with the wishes of the large majority of the anglers interested in the lake.—Yours truly, W. H.

LOCH STACK AND ITS SEA TROUT.

Sir,—I should like to know by what process "Duine Môr" obtained the information which enables him to say, without the least hesitation, "that there are many lochs quite as good in Scotland, and some—one at least—even better for sea trout than Loch Stack." I may remind this correspondent that several questions put by me to him some months ago in the *F. G.*, relative to sea trout and their migration in the Uist and Islay, have not as yet been replied to.

This "big man" is a ready critic; but when he challenges a statement, he should, as a good reason for his action, adduce facts to conclusively disprove it.—Yours, &c., H. Munro-Mac.

LARGE CHUB.

Sir,—In "Giant's letter on "Large Chub," in your last issue, he refers to Mr. Jardine enumerating some of the finest specimen chub shown in the International Fisheries Exhibition of 1883, which varied from 5lb. 4oz., to 6lb. 2oz., and refers to a heavier specimen which was also exhibited—the name of the captor he had forgotten. I beg to say that we—the Royal George Angling Society—exhibited one of 7lb. 4oz., caught in the Thames at Kingston by one of our members, and which I think was the heaviest shown there; but as our fish was not set up by Cooper, we failed to get the £2 10s., which went to the Friendly Angling Society for their 5lb. 12oz. fish.

The fish can be seen at the Queen's Arms Hotel, Bateman-street, Soho-square.—Yours obediently,

F. C. Longland,
Secretary Royal George Angling Society.

BARBEL FISHING AT RICHMOND.

Sir,—It may interest your readers to know that fishing at Richmond with C. Brown on the dates mentioned I caught as follows: on Sept. 20, twenty-five barbel; Sept. 27, twenty-three barbel; Oct. 4, twenty barbel.—Yours faithfully,

Hy. Myers.

A STRANGE FISH.

Sir,—From the description contained in a recent issue of the *F. G.* of the strange fish caught off Ardglass and purchased by Mr. Pinkerton, I think it must have been a very fair-sized specimen of the "Rainbow Wrasse," very well described and illustrated in Mr. Aflalo's work on sea fishing, where there he calls it the ancient wrasse. The formation of head and colouring are identical with what here is locally known as the "venus bollen," a quite different variety from the ordinary wrasse, and much rarer.—Yours truly, Stormy Petrel.

LARGE BREAM.

SIR,—In *Fishing Gazette* of the 3rd instant, "Blatherwycke" asks for particulars of large bream. I have much pleasure in placing the following extracts from my memoranda on the subject at his disposal.

The late Mr. Greville Fennell, in an article on the "Natural History of Norfolk," wrote: "On June 11, 1860, two bream were taken in an eel trap, at Hellesden Mills, on the Wensum, about two miles above Norwich, one of which, now in the possession of Mr. C. J. Green, the secretary of the Yare Preservation Society, weighed 9¼lb., and measured 25½in. in length; the other weighed 8¾lb." The former fish was shown by Mr. Green at the Norwich Fisheries Exhibition of 1881.

On the 1st of July, 1879, Mr. T. H. Creemer, of Norwich, from a pond at Beeston Regis, caught a bream of 11½lb., measuring 26in. from the tip of the snout to the fork of the tail, and girthing 23in. This grand specimen, or another of the same weight, was exhibited at the International Fisheries Exhibition of 1883, by Mr. T. E. Gunn, of Norwich, and was described in the catalogue as the largest individual in England.

In the *Field* of 11th of November, 1876, the capture of a bream weighing 8lb. 14oz., from the Ouse, by Mr. Peter Addinton, of Tempsford, is recorded, and in the same journal of the following week Mr. T. Taylor refers to a bream weighing 10lb., which (with several more of 7lb. or 8lb.) was taken in a drag-net from the river Ivel, the nets being used in the Ivel and Ouse every seven years to maintain the right of fishing.

In the *Fishing Gazette* of 24th August, 1889, your correspondent may read of the capture, from the Lea, of three bream weighing together 21lb., and another of 8lb., which was exceeded by a nine-pounder, all presumably from Carthagena Weir.—Yours, &c., GIANT.

P.S.—May I ask whether there are more than one species of otter in the British Isles? This inquiry is prompted by a reference in this week's Notes, to the recent capture at Burnhervie, Aberdeenshire, of a fine specimen of the *black otter!*

[We only know of one otter.—ED.]

A FLY-DRESSING QUERY.

DEAR SIR,—Can you inform me whether any fishing-tackle makers dress their flies on the reverse side of the hook? The advantages of this method are obvious—I mean for dry-fly fishing. Firstly, the hook is practically invisible, as can be proved by floating such a fly in a vessel of water, and looking at it from beneath. Secondly, there is no necessity to multiply the leg hackles to hide the bend of the hook, but they can be put on as sparingly as accords with the fact of insects having only six legs, and then the body of the fly is much more conspicuous. Moreover, the body can be dressed slightly round the bend of the hook, and therefore is somewhat raised towards the apex—a most natural appearance—duns and spinners, in common with many other insects, having a habit of thus raising it. The hooks used should have barb and shank in the same place, to prevent the fly heeling over; and the wings should be put on carefully and evenly for the same reason. If fished wet, such a fly will still keep its right side up, in spite of the bend being upwards.—Yours truly, R. C. L. PERKINS.

[Some years ago we suggested this style of dressing in the *Fishing Gazette*, and illustrated it, and the cuts were used in Mr. Pennell's "Improvements in Fishing Tackle." We found in practice that flies so dressed killed quite as well as the ordinary style; flat-winged flies like the alder and sedges perhaps better, but on the whole cannot say there is much in it.—ED.]

LARGE BREAM ON THE WENSUM.

DEAR SIR,—Your correspondent on the above subject in your last issue will be pleased to learn that I have received confirmation of the report of the weights which I forwarded. The fish were weighed in the presence of several personal friends of mine, and they were also offered for sale at the Champion Inn for ten shillings. With regard to the day they were caught it is immaterial. I have no doubt the other report referred to the same two fish. Mr. T. E. Gunn, of this city, showed one at "The Fisheries," London, weighing over 11lb.—Yours truly,

Norwich. ROBERT MOLL.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Assocation.—The members of the General Committee met at Foresters' Hall at 8.30 p.m. on Monday last, the 5th inst., Mr. R. Murphey in the chair. The secretary read an important communication from the Great Western Railway, granting the concession we had applied for, for anglers' privilege tickets to be made available at Staines and Colnbrook. The fares from Paddington or Westbourne Park to Staines has been fixed at two shillings, and to Colnbrook from Paddington 1s. 9d., and from Westbourne Park 1s. 7d. Finance was then dealt with. Mr. R. Ghurney reported that the last number of railway privilege ticket issued was 3,594, which was considered very satisfactory. The Serapis Angling Society, meeting at the Neville Arms, Neville-road, Stoke Newington, brought up a copy of its rules, which, being approved, the society was duly enrolled; the secretary is Mr. J. Peck. Mr. Laws, our representative at the Thames Angling Preservation Society, gave a very satisfactory account of this society, from which it appears that they are doing considerable service, a large quantity of fish having been netted from a private lake and turned into the Thames. Several summons cases for the retention of undersized fish are coming on shortly. Fortunately and satisfactorily to relate, no club angler is implicated. A vote of thanks to the chairman brought the meeting to a close at 9.50 p.m.

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly meeting of the Renting and Preservation Committee will take place on Monday evening next, October 12, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, secretary.

Anglers' Association.—EASTERN DISTRICT NO. 2.—The return visit paid to the Islington Brothers Angling Society at their new home, on Monday last, was a success. Nineteen societies were well represented, and amongst them were three societies from Woolwich—namely, the Woolwich Brothers, Woolwich Invicta, and the Howick Brothers. Mr. Stretch made a most obliging chairman; the talent was good and plenty of it. The next visit on this list will take place at the Lord Palmerston Angling Society, held at the Earl Russell, Iseldon-road, N.; the date I will give next week.—F. THORLING, visiting officer.

Anglers' Association.—SOUTHERN DISTRICT VISITING LIST.—A return visit took place on Wednesday, the 23rd ult., at the St. Albans and Excelsior, Royal George, New-street, Kennington Park-road, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. On the roll being called, the following nine clubs answered: Anglers' Pride, Amicable Excelsior, Battersea Friendly, Bermondsey Brothers, Blackfriars, Clapham Junction, Rodney, St. Albans and Excelsior, Waggoners. The next visit will take place at the Battersea Friendly A. S., Queen's Head, Queen's-road, Battersea; the date I will give next week.—G. W. ARMSTRONG, district officer.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—Many of our brethren were at various waters on the 4th inst., but the only one who weighed in was Mr. E. Gibbs, who saved us from a blank with a jack, from the association water, 4lb. 14oz., in splendid condition. I hope members will notify that there are two prizes for the 11th inst. to be fished for; all fish to weigh bar eels. Members must not forget the Rye House Competition, for which I shall be happy to supply the usual ticket; the cost is one shilling.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Several of our members were out on the 4th inst., and the following weighed in: Mr. Jones had a very nice show of roach, dace, and bream, and a nice little jack of 3lb.; Mr. Bond, roach, dace, and barbel; Mr. B. Acland, roach and dace; Mr. J. Bell, roach and dace; Mr. King, roach and dace, and several others.—J. RICH, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 4th inst. the majority of our members took part in the competition at Amberley, with the result that Mr. W. Hake was the only successful member in winning a prize, with roach and dace. Mr. Lattimore weighed in roach; Mr. W. Embleton, jun., roach; Mr. J. Hake, dace; Mr. Munday, Mr. Whitebread, and Mr. Lambarth, jun., roach; Mr. Reeks, dace; and Mr. Merry, some nice roach and dace, the largest dace weighing 8½oz. The return visit on the Clerkenwell and District United, took place at the above house on Monday last, and was a good success, the following clubs being represented: The Great Northern Bros., Convivial, St. Andrews, Crown and Buckland, City of London, Seymour Bros., Eustonians, Funny Folks, Islington Bros., Bermondsey Bros., the Alma, Burton Piscatorials, the Camden, Anchor and Hope, Hoxton Bros., Bloomsbury Bros., Good Intent, Dalston Bros., Original Piscatorials, Hearts of Oak, Patriotic, Sundial, Sociable Bros., Walton and Cotton, and the Eastern Piscatorials. We return our best thanks for the manner in which they supported us on this occasion.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—A special meeting was held on Tuesday last, when the balance-sheet, which showed the club to be in a sound financial position, was passed. The Punt Competition, at Staines, will take place on the 11th inst. Members must go by the train leaving Clapham Junction at 8.30. Seven prizes, value £31 5s. On the 4th, Mr. Hopkins weighed in a nice show of roach, and Mr. Degonge, roach from Amberley, winning the untaken prize in last competition. Members are requested to attend on Tuesday next, to arrange next outing. The next visit of the Anglers' Association will be at this club, on Tuesday, Oct. 20, when we shall be pleased to meet all brother anglers.—GEO. MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road.—Several of our members took part in Mr. A. Eldridge's Competition at Amberley, one of them (Mr. James Smith) being successful, taking the eighth prize. Messrs. Patman, Allum, and Dodson also weighed in. The next visit on the South London United Visiting List will be paid to this society on Tuesday, the 20th, when the company of brother anglers will be esteemed a favour.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—We had a nice show of fish on the 4th inst., the following members weighing in: Mr. Hacker, four bream, two weighing 3lb. 2½oz. each, and some very nice roach; Mr. Wheelhouse, roach and dace; Mr. J. Barker, ditto; and Mr. Rouzilier some fine perch. On Wednesday night it was proposed that our next prize outing take place on the 18th inst., at Egham; train leaves Waterloo for Staines at 8.20 a.m.; leave off fishing at six o'clock; all recognised fish to weigh; no live bait to be taken down. The half-yearly meeting takes place next Wednesday; any member who does not attend, unless sending a written apology by nine o'clock, will be fined.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bostonian Angling Society.—We shall have a day's outing on the 11th instant, at Pangbourne; train will leave Paddington at 9 a.m. There will be seven good prizes for competition, weighing in to take place at the Cross Keys Inn, the same evening at 7.30. The following members have had fish during the past week: Mr. Chapman a nice take of jack, the heaviest 7lb.; Mr. Jennings, roach; Mr. Rundle, roach. Our worthy and esteemed member, Mr. Revett, was presented with a dinner service, on the occasion of his marriage, by his brother members. Members will oblige by attending next meeting night.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On the 4th inst. several of our members were out, but met with little success. On Wednesday evening Mr. Brown brought up a splendid lot of perch, weighing nearly 20lb. Those members who intend entering for the competition on the 11th inst., can catch a train from South Kensington at 7.35 to Mansion House; leaving Liverpool-street at 8.25. I have much pleasure in informing the members that our brewers have presented us with a handsome prize to be fished for.—H. ROACH, sec.

Brothers Well Met Angling Society, Berkeley Castle, Rahere-street, Clerkenwell.—On Sept. 20, at Pangbourne, we fished for our annual subscription medal and five other prizes, the medal being won by Mr. Maynard; second prize, Mr. Harris; third, Mr. Gunston; fourth, Mr. Tame; fifth, Mr. Field; sixth, Mr. Elderton. On the 27th ult. we had our annual dinner at the Swan Hotel (Mrs. Hawkins's, Fiddleworth), where we had a splendid spread. A very jolly day was spent at Amberley on the 4th inst. Mr. Harris won our daily prize with 6lb. 8oz. of bream and roach; Messrs. Gunston and Elderton also weighed in roach. The latter won a prize in the competition.—HENRY TAME, sec.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—Notwithstanding the inclement weather of Tuesday last, our smoking concert and distribution of prizes was quite a success. Among the prize-winners should be mentioned—Messrs. C. Wilson, copper kettle and silver guard; G. Mearring, winches and tackle, and brooch and earrings; Howell, jack rod and tackle-book and fittings; J. Watkins, roach rod for greatest number of roach during the season over ½lb. each, also table lamp; J. Mearring, winch and jack tackle; J. Watkins being the holder for the year of the club challenge cup. Our worthy host and treasurer most ably presided and presented the prizes with his usual genial humour. I take this opportunity of thanking those members of other clubs and friends who favoured us with a visit, and at the same time fully excuse those who did not turn up owing to the bad weather. We had during the evening the promise from several gentlemen present to become members.—T. HAWKES, sec.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—A few of our members went out on the 4th inst., to fish for prizes; the takes were very small. Four of the prizes were won by the following members: Messrs. D. Flint, Burton, Eaton, and Green. There are still a few more prizes to be fished for.—J. PETHER, sec.

Burton Piscatorials, Globe, Derby-street, King's-cross.—Our sweepstake at Bourne End, on the 4th instant, resulted in a very pleasant outing. All the prizes were won, and considering the bright state of the water some very nice roach were taken. The following are the winners in the order named: W. Hill, first; C. Roberts, second; C. Sturman, third; C. Jones, fourth. Messrs. Ashton, Brierly, and Biggs, jun., also weighed in. I am very pleased to state that six of our members are enrolled with the Anglers' Benevolent Society, and I hope to see this good example followed by the entire club.—C. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Buxton Brothers' Angling Society, Walthamstow.—On the 4th inst. a good muster of our members went out, but were not very successful on account of the rough weather, and with the exception of Mr. C. James and Mr. W. Davis, who both had some very nice roach, we should have had to put up with a blank day, which is not very gratifying. I hope all members will try and be present at the next meeting, on Wednesday, Oct. 14.—A. SHUKER, secretary.

Cambridge Friendly Angling Society, Masons' Arms, Titchborne-street, Edgware-road, W.—Only four prizes were taken at Goring on the 4th inst., by the following: Fitzgibbon, Carter, J. Lawler, and Hutchins. A pegged-down match will be decided on the 18th inst., at Pangbourne; usual conditions.—W. SUTTON, sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—The meeting on Monday last was a representative one, and Mr. Harry Dunn was unanimously elected chairman for October. Mr. G. E. Simms, of the Gresham Angling Society, will read a paper on "Coarse Fish Hatching," on Monday, October 25. Other transactions are promised for the same date by Mr. J. Husk and C. Spanswick, &c. To avoid disappointment members are advised to consult their time tables, as there are several alterations in the trains this month.—JOHN SMITH, hon. secretary.

Caxtonian Angling Society.—In our last issue, in the account of the roach competition of this society, an error was inserted—Mr. A. J. Parker's best fish was "13¾oz.," not "13lb. ¾oz."; and the report should have read, "punts" were examined, not "tickets."

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—On Sept. 27, Mr. Macdonnell weighed in 3lb. 6oz. of roach from Amberley; Messrs. Chambers, Castell and Macdonnell fished in the Amberley Competition on the 4th, each getting a few fish. Mr. H. Gates had a jack, 3lb., from Wimbledon Lake.—CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—On the 4th inst. our members had very poor sport, only three weighing in—viz., Messrs. Chapman, dace; Scott, perch; and S. Jameson, jack.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—Several members of this society took advantage of the late fine weather to indulge in the gentle art at the society's water at Rammey Marsh, when several young jack were taken and returned to the water, same being under size. One or two members bagged some good roach and perch.—A. W. OLIVER, assistant sec.

Clerkenwell and District United.—A successful visit on the above was paid to the Amicable Waltonians on

Monday evening, Mr. Embleton in the chair, faced by Mr. Hake, the following twenty-six societies being represented—viz.: Great Northern Brothers, Convivial, St. Andrew's, Crown and Buckland, City of London, Seymour Brothers, Eustonian, Amicable Waltonians, Funny Folks, Islington Brothers, Bloomsbury Brothers, Alma, Burton Piscatorials, Camden, Anchor and Hope, Sundial, Hoxton Brothers, Good Intent, Izaak Walton, Patriotic, Original Alexandra, Bermondsey Brothers, Hearts of Oak, Dalston, Sociable Brothers, and Eastern Piscatorials. The next visit will be to the Funny Folks, held at the Rose and Crown, Goswell-street.—F. Castell, hon. sec.

Clerkenwell Piscatorial Society.—The members of this club were out in full force on the 4th inst., and brought in a fair show of fish, Mr. Jelliman having 6lb. of jack and 1¼lb. of perch; Mr. T. Dennis, a nice specimen perch, 1¾lb.; Mr. Langhorn, roach, 1lb.; dace, 5lb.; Mr. Irwin had a fair lot of fish, mostly roach and bream.—J. W. Power, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—Several members were out on the 4th inst., but only three weighed in—namely, Messrs. E. George, dace and gudgeon; E. Baxter, roach and gudgeon; T. Twyman, roach. On Tuesday, the 6th inst., B. Coleman, roach.—A. Smith, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 4th inst., a few of our members were out, but sport was very indifferent, Messrs. Parram, Flowers, Wild, and Thornton, having a few nice roach and perch. Members please attend on Tuesday next, as there is some very important business to be brought forward.—S. Malby, sec.

Earlsfield Angling Society, Half-way House, Earlsfield, S.W.—There will be an outing of this society in the Basingstoke Canal, from the last lock to the river Wey; two rods; all fish to weigh. All to go down by the 8.40 train from Clapham Junction, returning from Byfleet at 5.40. The election of officers took place on Wednesday. Mr. Burkett was re-elected chairman; Mr. Waterman, vice-chairman; Mr. Bird, secretary. The committee are—Messrs. Nazer, Rowsell, Gane, Biederman, and Bruce; auditors—Messrs. Clarke and Padbury. There will be a special general meeting next Wednesday to discuss important business.—R. W. Bird.

Eustonian Angling Society, King's Head. Swinton-street, King's Cross.—On the 4th inst. we had a very good show of fish, and I am very pleased to report that Messrs. Laban and Abbott took a prize each in the Amberley Competition.—R. Neale.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On the 4th inst., several of our members took part in the Competition at Amberley, Mr. G. Watling winning first prize; Messrs. Vanhegan and Biggs also had roach. Mr. G. Watling's benefit will take place at the above on Monday, October 12, when I hope all brother anglers will support him —J. W. Biggs, sec.

General Post Office Angling Society, the Falcon, Falcon-square, E.C.—Thirteen members of this society competed for prizes at the Rye House, on Thursday, Oct. 1, the result being very unsatisfactory, only one member taking fish up to the standard size. Several small jack were brought to the bank, and immediately returned to the water. Could any brother of the rod suggest where the jack of any size go to in the Rye House waters, was as they seem to be all undersized? Our next competition at Cookham, on the 8th October, and a general meeting at the club house, on the same date, at 8p.m.—L. W. Donne, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had a fair show of fish on the 4th inst., nearly 15lb. of roach, dace, and bream, taken by Messrs. Evans, Slade, Ellis, and Hall. In my report last week, *re* the large roach, there was a slight error, it should read—the four smallest averaged 1lb. 4oz. each—as the largest one of the four was 1lb. 7oz., and the smallest just under 1lb.—A. Payne, sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road.—The result of our sweepstake at Goring, on the 27th September, was as follows: First, Mr. A. Porter; second, Mr. Winter; third, Mr. Monk; fourth, Mr. J. Jones; fifth, Mr. Fowler; sixth, Mr. Chapman; seventh, Mr. Bryant; eighth, Mr. De Perrion; ninth, Mr. Barnett; tenth, Mr. Guynan; eleventh, Mr. Clark; twelfth, Mr. Pask. Mr. Winter had the largest roach, 1lb. 10½oz. On October 4 we were saved a blank by Mr. Bailey, with roach, and Mr. Green with roach and dace. The next sweepstake will take place at Langley, on October 18.—J. Roach, sec.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Robin Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville, N.—On 27th Sept. the following members weighed in bream and roach, from Pulborough: W. Parkin, 2lb. 7oz.; C. Watling, 7lb. 3oz.; C. Large, 7lb. 10oz.; J. Hewitt, roach. On the 28th the following sums were voted from our funds: S. Cave's benefit, 5s.; Mr. Watling's benefit, 5s.; Pulborough Flower Show prizes, 10s. 6d.; the grants to Messrs. Cave and Watling will be considerably increased by members' contributions. On the 4th inst. a number of our members entered for Mr. Eldridge's Competition at Amberley, with very satisfactory results, your humble servant taking second honours, and the following seven members taking prizes: Messrs. C. Large, J. Watling, H. Watling, C. Watling, W. Parkin, H. Proehl, and G. Snell. The following members weighed in on the above date from Amberley: J. A. Fitch, 5lb. 1oz.; W. Parkins, 2lb. 2oz.; J. Snell, 15oz.; H. Proehl, 2lb. 6oz.; F. Watling, 2lb. 15oz.; C. Watling, 1lb. 13lb.; C. Large, 1lb. 5oz.; and H. Watling, 1lb. 7lb.—T. A. Fitch, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—At the weekly meeting last Tuesday, Mr. F. Fletcher was in the chair. A committee meeting was first held, and a letter from Mr. J. B. Close, one of the members, was read, asking the committee to take some action on a paper, "The Humane Angler," lately read before the society by Mr. J. Tayler, the secretary, on the subject of live and dead gorge-bait fishing. It is already prohibited in the society's own waters, and Mr. Close asked that it should also be prohibited to members of the society wherever fishing. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that the committee should recommend members not to use the live-gorge, and that no fish so caught should be eligible in any competition of the society. One new member was elected, and another proposed. Some arrangements were made for the exhibition of mounted fish, aquatic birds, tackle, &c., on the Oct. 20, and any members and friends willing to exhibit, will oblige by informing the secretary, and by sending their exhibits to the society's rooms, between three and five on the afternoon of the exhibition. The next sea-fishing competition for prizes will take place on Saturday, the 24th inst., and will be a contest of rods *versus* hand-lines. A question was recently asked Mr. Bramley, when reading his paper, "Babble About London," if the Fleet Ditch was ever fishable. Mr. Bramley now stated that he had looked the matter up, and found that in the thirteenth century the Fleet was a salmon river.—James Tayler, sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 4th inst. very few members weighed in, these being A. Fish, roach and bream; Rider, perch; and Callcutt, perch. On Monday next a smoking concert will take place at the above in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Fund, when we hope to see a good muster of anglers and friends to support so noble a cause.—W. Fenner, sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—Mr. G. H. Wood saved us from a blank on the 4th instant, with jack and perch. On the 18th instant, the members will fish for special prizes in the river Lea, from Ratty's Lock to Cathagena Lock.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—Several of our members were out on the 4th inst., and the following weighed in: Mr. Croker, roach; Mr. Willsher, roach and gudgeon. Several went to Pulborough, but returned with a blank; others were out, but got up too late to weigh in. Our return visit on the Anglers No. 2 District, took place on Monday last, which was a great success. On the roll being called, nineteen clubs responded. The next visit will be to the Lord Palmerston A.S.—J. H. Herbert, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members competed for four special prizes on the 4th instant. Only three were taken: Mr. W. H. Mecham was first; Mr. G. Rogers, second; Mr. T. W. Garrard, third. Three special prizes were competed for on Wednesday, the 7th instant, but only one was taken, Mr. H. Butt being the winner.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—We had a very fair show of fish on the 4th inst., consisting of jack, roach, and perch, contributed by Messrs. Stringer, Wheeler brothers, and the brothers Challen. Tuesday last being quarter night, the officers were elected for the ensuing quarter, and Mr. Child enrolled as a member of our society. A match was arranged for the 18th inst. for four money prizes, particulars of which will be announced next week.—A. Ide, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—The half-yearly meeting was held on Friday evening, Oct. 2. The vice-president in the chair, supported by the treasurer. There were about forty members present. The auditor's report was adopted, showing the balance of £32 4s. 2d. (*i.e.*, £25 in Post-Office Savings Bank, and in treasurer's hands £7 4s. 2d.), or an increase of £23 16s. 1d. over the corresponding period of last year. The number of members have increased from seventy-six to one hundred and fourteen. The prize list amounts to some £50, as against £32 10s. last season, which it is satisfactory to know the members are doing full justice to. The amount of fish weighed in has this season increased, considerably beating last year's record by some 150lb., and remembering our standard has been considerably raised—*i.e.*, barbel, 16in.; bream, 12in.; carp, 10in.; chub, 12in.; dace, 7in.; gudgeon, 5in.; perch, 9in.; pike, 24in.; roach, 8in.; rudd, 8in.; tench, 10in.; trout, 16in.—shows that the members have put their shoulder to the wheel. The auditors, Messrs. Coates and Turner, were re-elected, and a vote of thanks was passed to the president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, and auditors, which were duly replied to. For October the committee have arranged five special prizes to be fished for: For the heaviest barbel, roach, dace, chub, and jack weighed in from the Thames only, prizes of 10s. 6d. for each. Messrs. T. Salter and J. Hollyman were the successful winners of the September Punt Competition with 15lb. 8oz., and 12lb. 7oz. respectively. Mr. F. Coates was the successful winner of the Bank Fishing Competition, with 3lb. 8oz. During the past week the following members have weighed in: Mr. J. Hollyman, 16lb. 7oz., roach and dace; Master, 12lb. 9oz., roach and dace; Carter, 5lb. 6oz., roach and dace; and several others of minor importance.—T. Salter, hon. sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—A quarterly meeting was held last week, and the following resolutions were passed: "That we have our Knowsley water thoroughly examined and reported upon, with a view to increasing the sport therein, and Mr. Ford written to, and awaiting reply, no more fish be placed in this water"; "That one hundred two-year-old Loch Leven trout be ordered for the Ruabon-reservoir;" and "That there be an outing on the 15th." The date of the excursion to the Vyrnwy was not settled upon, but deferred until next week's meeting. Several accounts having been ordered for payment, and sundry prizes presented, the proceedings, which lasted until 10.30, were duly brought to a close.—R. Woolfall.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 4th inst., our members were at various waters, C. Nye weighing in roach, the heaviest roach, 1lb. 5¼oz.; Messrs. Milburn, A. Clark, W. Pearce, and Penfold, weighing in roach, dace, and perch.—W. F. Pearce.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road.—At our usual weekly meeting, on Tuesday, it was decided by the members present to fish off the prizes, left from the Welsh Harp Competition, on the 11th inst.; members to fish where they choose, and all fish to weigh; all members competing to be at the club-house by ten p.m.—J. Comber, sec.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—The principal outing of this club took place at Richmond and Twickenham on Thursday last, when, thanks to the excellent arrangements made by Messrs. Grimmett and Baldwin, everything passed off satisfactorily. The party, who numbered about thirty, travelled by the 7.35 a.m. from Waterloo. Fishing commenced at nine o'clock, and ceased at five o'clock. Owing to the heavy rain, the river was several feet above its normal level, and was in a highly-coloured condition. As may be imagined, the day's "takes" were not large, therefore; but some fine dace were caught, and also a few good gudgeon, two of which weighed over 2oz., apiece. Subsequently, on returning to town, supper was served at the club-house, under the chairmanship of Mr. Grimmett, the weighing in following. Subjoined are the prize-winners: First, Mr. Fowler, £5 5s.; second, Mr. Mudd, £3 3s.; third, Mr. Marcus, £2 2s.; fourth, Mr. Elliott, £1 1s.; and fifth, Mr. Baldwin, 10s. 6d. Amongst the hon. members, Mr. Gilbert was first, taking £1 1s., and Mr. Marsland second. The visitors' prize was secured by Mr. Judge. The puntsmen's sweepstake resulted as follows: First, Job Brain, jun.; second, "Kit" Brown; and third, Mansell. Mr. Newbury sent up a nice show of barbel, roach, and dace from the Upper Thames; total weight, 17lb. 13oz.—Arthur R. Matthews.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland-park, N.W.—On the 1st inst., Mr. Schultz, senr., weighed in jack, and on the same evening we had the pleasure of seeing a number of the Camden Angling Club members, who came to witness the presentation of the prize (a rod), won by Mr. Marsh, in the Boxmoor Competition. The prize was presented by Mr. Weaver. We thank the C. A. C. gentlemen for their company that evening. On the 4th inst. fish (jack) was weighed in by Messrs. Plumpton and Lambert.—G. S.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—On the 4th inst., the following members weighed in: James Bygrave, roach and dace; Harrison, roach and perch; and Myers, gudgeon. Others who were out were unsuccessful.—J. Cuthbert, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Arthur, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Our outing for the next series of prizes will take place on the 11th inst.; members may leave town on the previous evening. Our anniversary supper will take place on Nov. 9, when we hope to see a good muster.—E. A. Fautley, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—Several of our members were out on the 4th instant, but did not get anything worth mentioning. I beg to remind members that our next meeting, on October 14, will be a special meeting to clear the books for the outing on October 18. Members not attending will be fined according to the rules. The election of officers will also take place.—J. W. Harris, sec.

Richmond Piscatorial Society.—A competition in connection with this society was held on the Thames, on Friday last, for the greatest weight of specimen fish. Overnight there had been a continual downpour, which somewhat coloured the water, thereby upsetting the intentions of those who had arranged to depend on the fly for sport. Mr. J. Poupart won the first prize with a nice barbel of 5lb., and some roach and dace. Fishing at Penton Hook, with light roach tackle, Mr. Poupart had eight other barbel, that only just failed to reach the 20in., the limit fixed for barbel in this competition. Mr. Wright secured second prize with roach and dace from the tideway; and Mr. Hallam the third prize, with roach and dace from Richmond. In the absence of Mr. Montague Davenport, Mr. H. Davis made a most efficient chairman. The visitors and members present expressed themselves highly gratified at the excellent show of fish placed on the table.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—Monday next being quarterly night, I hope to see all members present. We have several prizes to be fished for next month.—F. Bradley, hon. sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The following members weighed in on the 4th instant: Messrs. F. T. Lamberton, roach, dace, and gudgeon; F. Lamberton, roach and gudgeon; H. Mitchell, barbel, roach, and dace; P. Martin, roach and dace. Several other members were out, but met with bad sport. Mr. Tidmarsh was elected chairman for the month.—F. T. Lamberton, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, Queen's Arms, Bateman-street, Soho-square, W.—On the 4th inst. we had a poor show of fish on our trays; only Messrs. Webber, Harris, and Cavers weighed in. Our outing takes place on the 11th inst. at Cookham, from Cookham Bridge to Bourne End Bridge; one rod only; jack barred. We should like to see some of the old and honorary members at our new house; and we have a vacancy for a few more gentlemen to join a good and old-established society.—T. C. Longland.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—Several of our members were out on the 4th inst., but the only gentlemen who had sport were Messrs. F. Barclay, with some nice roach and dace, heaviest roach, 1lb. 5¼oz.; G. Yeo, jack; J. Yeo, dace; A. Barclay, dace; J. Holden, perch. On Tuesday, 6th inst., we had a special general meeting, when it was resolved to change our club-house to more convenient premises, a committee being formed for the purpose of finding a suitable house. Mr. F. Barclay had a fair show of roach and dace on the 6th inst.—A. Barclay, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 4th inst., eight members of this society took part in the Amberley Competition, but only one member succeeded in taking a prize, Mr. G. Sanders. The following members weighed in perch and roach, saving us from a blank: G. Giles and E. Wright. Tuesday's meeting was very poorly attended, but I hope members will endeavour to attend on Tuesday next without fail. Mr. J. White is requested to attend at the club-house as soon as possible. We are still open to enrol new members, on Tuesdays, between nine and eleven.—S. E. Cane, sec.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—Our sea angler has returned from Deal and gives a glowing report of the sport he had. One day's catch was over ½cwt. The president (Mr. L. S. Fountaine) has been having "tight lines" with the chub, the result being that during the week 43lb. of them (one a specimen) put in an appearance at the club-house and made a very handsome show. Several members have been out jacking, but did not catch any up to our standard of 24in. A meeting of the Norfolk Broads Protection Society will be held here on the 21st inst., at eight o'clock p.m., under the presidency of Major-General Goldsworthy, M.P. We hope to see a strong muster on that occasion.—C. B.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.—On the 4th inst., Mr. Smales brought up a nice show of roach, about 3½lb. from the bank of the Upper Thames. On Tuesday last, two new members were proposed. A good muster is requested next Tuesday, to welcome Mr. Collins back amongst us.—Pelican.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on the above list will be to the Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, held at the Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey, on Tuesday, the 20th, when I hope to see as good a muster of anglers present as on the last occasion of the visit to this society, there being thirty-two clubs then represented.—A. Conn, hon. sec.

St. Andrew's Piscatorial Society, Turk's Head, East-street, W.C.—One of our members, Mr. A. Long, won the third prize in the Amberley Competition on the 4th inst. with 1lb. 5½oz. of roach; Mr. Harris showed 2½lb. of roach from the Upper Thames.—B. Chevalier, sec.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Rhodeswell-road, Stepney.—On Sept. 30, Mr. Chamberlain showed a jack of 8lb.; and on the 4th instant Mr. Jolly again distinguished himself by weighing in a jack, 10lb. 12oz. Both these came from the same water.—E. N. P., hon. sec.

St. John's Angling Society.—On the 11th inst. we fish for three prizes at Woking, first, second and third gross weight of all fish; club standard only. Hon. members are eligible to fish for these prizes; and on the 25th we fish for four prizes, under the same conditions, at Great Marlow. Members are reminded that all fish caught before the arrival of the first train down on the morning of the match will not weigh for these prizes.—F. Thorling, sec.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—Messrs. G. Reeves, J. Andrews, and T. Dumbledon, of the above club, went to Chelmsford on the 4th instant, but had poor sport, only weighing in perch. Mr. J. White visited Harlow, but had no luck. Mr. J. Booth fished in the competition at Amberley, and had roach, but not sufficient to get a prize. There was no place fixed to fish at on the 11th instant, so members can please themselves.—G. Morton, sec.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—We were saved from a blank on the 4th inst. by Mr. Hill, with a show of jack. The half-yearly supper will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 21. Members intending to participate must give their names in not later than Tuesday, the 13th. All supper moneys must be paid on or before Tuesday, the 20th.—H. R.

United Brothers, Deptford.—On Thursday week, Mr. Champion weighed in a fine take of dace. On the 4th inst., several members of the above fished a pegged-down match at Ware; Mr. R. Lawes and G. Marshall were the only two who took fish, but not of weight enough to take a prize. Members of the above will kindly oblige by being present at the club this (Saturday) evening, to arrange some other water to fish for the prizes that were left over on the 4th.—H. Tyler, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—Several of our members were out on the 4th instant, and the following weighed in: Mr. Clegg, roach and bream; Mr. Bird, sen., roach; Mr. Bird, jun., roach. Others had fish, but did not arrive in time to weigh in. Three of our members fished in the Amberley match on the 4th instant, and two of them got prizes—Mr. Bird, jun., took fourth prize, and Mr. Bird, sen., took seventh prize. If the gentleman who found the overcoat outside the Houghton Inn at Amberley, after the fish were weighed, would forward the same to the George and Dragon, I should be extremely obliged. We will pay expenses.—H. C., hon. sec.

Waltonian Angling Society, the Cape of Good Hope, Albany-street, Regent's-park.—On the 4th inst., most of our members who were out fished for three prizes from the Thames, given by Mr. A. Every. The first, one guinea, was won by Mr. Roland, with 5lb. 1oz. of roach; second, 10s. 6d., Mr. R. Dodge, 4lb. 7oz. of roach; third, 5s. 3d. (supernumerary), Mr. W. Dodge, 4lb. 5oz., roach; Messrs. Good, roach, 3lb. 11oz.; H. Putnam, roach, 2lb. 15oz.; G. Dodge, roach, 1lb. 10oz. Also from other waters, Messrs. Miller, roach 14lb. 5oz., and chub 1lb. 10oz.; Sexton, roach, &c., 10lb. 10½oz.; Brooks, dace 9¾oz., one fish. Our musical evening on Wednesday, September 30, was a great success, but I was sorry to see so few of our members present.—F. Packman.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—On Wednesday, the 7th, it was carried that we fish our match on the Thames, bank only, from Caversham Bridge to Tilehurst, on the 11th inst., all to go by the first train to Reading by South-Western Railway, Waterloo Station, at 8.30; six prizes: 1st, £1 11s. 6d., given by Mr. Piolaine; 2nd, £1 1s., given by Mr. Griggs; 3rd, £1 1s., given by W. J. Crisp; 4th, 10s. 6d., given by Mr. Buck; 5th, 10s. 6d., given by Mr. Risdon; 6th, copper kettle, given by Mr. Fairclough. Mr. Brunker was duly elected a fishing member.—C. Hibble, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 4th inst., the October Competition was fished at Amberley with very poor result, Mr. A. Corras winning first prize with one roach, 1lb. 8¼oz., and one perch, 10½oz.—2lb. 2¾oz.; and R. J. Dartnall, three roach, 1lb. 11oz., taking the second prize; Mr. Corras, and Mr. Dartnall also taking prizes in the Open Competition promoted by Mr. A. Eldridge. The remaining prizes will be fished for on the 11th inst.; open members must leave London same morning; all fish to weigh.—R. J. Dartnall, secretary.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—We had a few fish on the 4th inst., by the following members: Messrs. Fullbrock, Parslow, Casey, and Dessert, other members too late to weigh in. I hope all members will attend on next meeting night, as there is a considerable number of daily outings to arrange. On the 11th inst. we fish at Witham for four prizes; first train.—W. M., sec.

Western Piscatorials, Bear and Rummer Tavern, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square.—On Wednesday last arrangements were made for a general outing on the 11th inst. to Marlow, and we expect a good muster on that occasion. An hon. member (Mr. Cappellen) brought in a fine take of jack, weighing 14lb. 12oz., and it was considered that such a splendid show duly qualified him to become a full fishing member, and he was thereupon unanimously elected. Mr. Parry also weighed in over 4lb. of roach.—D. W. Evans, sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 4th inst., but only one weighed in, Mr. R. Lowther, 7lb. of roach; Mr. Goodrich had roach, but was too late to weigh in. I wish to remind members that it is the monthly meeting on Wednesday next, October 14, when the half-year's balance-sheet will be ready.—R. Lowther, sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—The third club match of the season is arranged to take place on Thursday, October 29, and Nov. 1, on the same conditions as the last match. Mr. Elsmore's presentation prize of one guinea not being taken is still eligible for this match. We have a new member to elect at our next meeting.—J. J. Hunter, hon. sec.

AFTER A DAY'S FISHING,
Call on TIBBATTS,
AT "THE CITIZEN," 70, HOUNDSDITCH
(OPPOSITE BISHOPSGATE CHURCH),
Two minutes walk from Liverpool-street and Broad-street Stations.

Bolton Anglers' Challenge Cup.—The first competition for the above-named cup took place on Saturday last in the Bridgewater Canal at Bedford Leigh. The arrangements worked without a hitch, and the weather was all that could be desired. Punctually at two o'clock the special train steamed out of Great Moor-street Station, conveying ninety-six competitors, representing fourteen clubs, along with about one hundred and fifty other brethren of the angle interested in the contest, and rushing along at express speed the train was quickly at its destination. An immediate move was then made for Butt's Bridge, where each competitor received a sealed envelope containing the number of his peg. To save time the draw had been conducted beforehand by the committee in such a way that though perfect secrecy was maintained, the competitors from the respective clubs were equally divided along the full length of about 800yds. Time was called at half-past three o'clock, and for two hours every man sat, or kneeled, almost without winking, intent on detecting the most minute oscillation of his tiny float, for the fish were small, shy, and scarce, and success could only be attained by absolute simultaneity of hand and eye. At half-past five the weighing commenced, and was concluded just before dark, and the committee retired to tabulate the weights and ascertain the winning club. The result was declared at ten o'clock, and the award fell to the Walpole Club, with an average weight per man fishing of 8½oz. 2 1-7dwts., the total catch of its seven representatives amounting to 3lb. 12½oz. The King's Club came second with an average of 3¾oz. 3½dwts., and from this the weights tapered down to the lowest with an average of ½oz. per man. The only species of fish taken were roach and gudgeon.

⁂ **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

Holloway's Pills.—In general debility, nervous tremour, and mental depression, these unrivalled Pills have a marvellous effect. They have won the confidence of millions in all parts of the civilised world. Constitutions shaken by sensual excesses, or by long residence in unwholesome climates, or by sedentary habits, are wonderfully renovated by a course of this extraordinary medicine, which, powerful as is its action on the whole system, is perfectly harmless to the tenderest frame. The Pills are composed of rare balsams, without the admixture of a grain of any mineral whatever, or of any other deleterious substance. They operate directly, powerfully and beneficially upon the whole mass of blood, nor can we question the fact when we see indigestion cured, liver complaints arrested, the oppressed lungs brought into healthful play, and every physical function renewed and strengthened by their agency.

LONDON ANGLERS' COMPETITION ON THE ARUN.

List of the Prize-Winners.

Amberley on the Arun was all excitement on the 4th inst., when several hundred London anglers paid a visit to this picturesque little Sussex village, with its fine old bridge spanning the river. The occasion was the second of the series of angling competitions, got up by Mr. A. A. Eldridge, of the Rose and Crown, Goswell-road, London, and two special trains ran the excursionists down from London Bridge. The conditions for the match were that only one rod was to be carried, and that no gudgeon, jack, pope, bleak, eel, or dab, would count at the weighing in. Shortly after nine o'clock the signal to start was given from the Houghton Bridge Inn, and an amusing spectacle was afforded, as the three hundred competitors, each with a rod and box on his shoulder, started off running in order to secure the best "shops" and "swims," unfortunately, however, the river was found to be too bright, and to make matters worse, a high tide prevailed during the afternoon, and prevented many of the anglers from fishing at all. The weather and the scenery, on the other hand, were charming, and as one of the disciples of Old Izaak was heard to remark, "it was worth the money to have such a h'outing, if no fishes was caught."

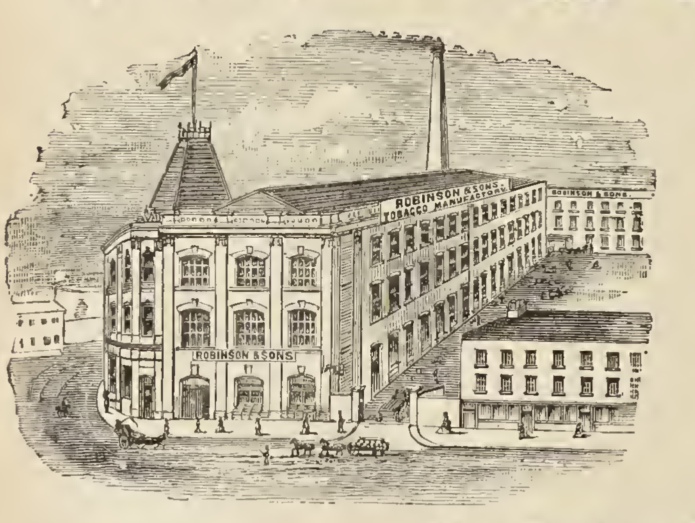
Fishing ceased about four o'clock, and the weighing-in commenced, amid much excitement, half-an-hour later, at the Houghton Bridge Inn, where a large company of anglers were assembled. The special prize for the largest roach was taken by Mr. G. Watling. The prizes were thirty-four in number, ranging from £2 2s. to 2s. 6d.

The following is a list of the prize-winners: First, Mr. G. Watling, Funny Folks Club, 7lb. 9oz.; second, Mr. J. A. Fitch, Great Northern Brothers, 5lb. 2oz.: third, Mr. A. Long, Great Northern Brothers, 4lb. 5½oz.; fourth, Mr. W. Bird, jun. (unattached) 4lb. 2oz.; fifth, Mr. G. Rogers, Izaak Walton, 3lb. 10¼oz.; sixth, Mr. F. Watling, Great Northern Brothers, 3lb. 0½oz.; seventh, Mr. W. Bird, sen., Bermondsey Brothers, 2lb. 15¼oz.; eighth, Mr. J. Smith, Bermondsey Brothers, 2lb. 13oz.; ninth, Mr. W. Hake (unattached), 2lb. 12½oz.; tenth, Mr. J. Howard, Blackfriars, 2lb. 9¾oz.; eleventh, Mr. T. Gerard, 2lb. 9¼oz.; twelfth, Mr. G. Franklin, Crown and Buckland, 2lb. 8¼oz.; thirteenth, Mr. H. Proehl, Great Northern, 2lb. 7oz.; fourteenth, Mr. W. Parkin, Great Northern, 2lb. 3¼oz.; fifteenth, Mr. A. Corras, Wellington, 2lb. 2¾oz.; sixteenth, C. Watling, Great Northern, 1lb. 14¾oz.; seventh, Mr. Dartnall, Wellington, 1lb. 11oz.; eighteenth, Mr. G. Labun, Eustonians, 1lb. 9¾oz.; nineteenth, Mr. W. Elkerton, Brothers Well Met, 1lb. 9oz.; twentieth, Mr. H. Watling, Great Northern Brothers, 1lb. 7¾oz.; twenty-first, Mr. C. Large, Great Northern Brothers, 1lb. 6oz.; twenty-second, Mr. C. Abbot (unattached), 1lb. 5½oz.; twenty-third, Mr. G. Morris, Crown and Buckland, 1lb. 3¾oz.; twenty-fourth, Mr. W. Watling, Lincoln, 1lb. 2¼oz.; twenty-fifth, Mr. C. Watters, Crown and Buckland, 1lb. 1¾oz.; twenty-sixth, Mr. J. Atchinson, Reform, 1lb. 1¼oz.; twenty-seventh, Mr. T. Wright (unattached), 1lb. ½oz.; twenty-eighth, Mr. G. Sanders, Seymour, 1lb. 0¼oz.: twenty-ninth, Mr. G. Snell (unattached), 1lb. 0¼oz.; thirtieth, Mr. G. Johnson, Lincoln, 15¾oz.; thirty-first, R. Carr, Phœnix, 15¾oz.; thirty-second, Mr. C. Abbott (2s. 6d.), Eustonians, 15¼oz.; thirty-three, H. Greenaway (2s. 6d.), (unattached), 15¼oz.

Solway Fishery Question.—A Government inquiry will be commenced in the County Buildings, Dumfries, on Oct. 12, anent the white fishing in the Solway, with the view of promoting a better regulation of the fishery. The Commissioners are Sir Herbert Maxwell, M.P., chairman: Mr. J. H. C. Hozier, M.P. for South Lanarkshire; Mr. Donald Crawford, M.P. for North-East Lanarkshire; Major Colvin Stewart, of Cairnsmore; Mr. John Rankin, advocate; Mr. Johnstone-Douglas, Cumlongon Castle, secretary. Those desirous of giving evidence must lodge a memorandum with the secretary of the points he wishes to be examined upon. The Commission is granted in the interests of the "paidle net" fishermen, and is the outcome of a request made to the Secretary of Scotland (Lord Lothian) at Edinburgh on January 9.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only —East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E

SMOKE "ORIEL" NAVY CUT.
THE HIGH CLASS TOBACCO,
MADE FROM PICKED LEAVES OF THE FINEST QUALITY



Extract from the "FISHING GAZETTE" of February 21st, 1891:—

A GOOD SMOKE.

Dear Sir,—Knowing how much you enjoy your pipe when out a-fishing, may I ask if you, or any of your friends, have ever tried "The Oriel" navy cut, manufactured by Robinson's, of Stockport? If you have not, do so at once, and I venture to say that you will be well pleased with it, being very cool and lasting, with an exquisite flavour. I have no interest in the matter whatever, but simply recommend it as my *beau ideal* of what a fisherman's tobacco should be.—Yours truly, Smoker.

Sold at 5d. per ounce, in 1 and 2 oz. Packets, and 4oz. Tins. Any Smoker having difficulty in obtaining it from his usual Tobacconist can obtain it direct from the Manufactory
POST FREE. 2oz., 10d.; ¼lb., 1s. 8d.; ½lb, 3s. 4d.; 1lb., 6s. 8d. POST FREE.

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MAZAWATTEE TEA

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1891.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—I would again refer to an important question, which has for some time voluntarily cropped up amongst some of the Thames anglers, and that is, after a day's fishing, to feel satisfied with the sport and amusement of angling they have had and return back to the river all surplus fish, and in some instances, the whole catch. There was a notable instance the other week of an angler putting back again some fine perch, one weighing 1lb. 10oz., and my attention was directed to it by the fisherman who accompanied him. I could not help remarking, if I had taken a perch of that size, I should certainly have retained it, although I approve of the principle of returning fish back to the river. He replied, the gentleman who caught the fish, said he had plenty of fine perch elsewhere, and he did not care to take it away. In the recent examination of takes the number of anglers there were out between Kingston and Isleworth, affords strong evidence how largely the river is used by anglers, and the outcome of such information proves the necessity of devising some means to keep up a good head of fish. The consideration of this question, is, to a great extent, in the hands of the anglers in this particular at least, and in not taking away fish they do not absolutely need, let them see them returned to the river before they leave the punt. My attention has, of late, been so frequently called to this matter, I have ventured to refer to it again, although I have been described as exultant in the movement, whilst the writer who made the remark fully agreed with me in putting a stop to any reckless waste of fish, by the laudable system of returning a take, or a portion of a take to the river. It may be I am rejoicing over a few instances, but every movement must have a commencement, and there is nothing like an example and urging it forward as an emulation to others to do likewise. The simple idea is to retain only good specimen fish and to return the smaller ones to grow larger for future enjoyment. No one surely, in these days, wants to deplete a river by the greedy sacrifice of large parcels of fish life, or filling the tables of a club room for the selfish purpose of making a great show of fish, which, when made, become a worthless waste. The increase made last week to the stock of fish in the river at Chertsey, is a most valuable addition.—B.

RICHMOND.—Henry Howard, in three days, fifteen dozen of roach and dace; H. Mansell, in six days, 80lb. of fine roach and dace, and five bream; Job Brain, in the week, 50lb. of fine barbel and three bream; H. Wheeler, in two days, 16lb. of fine barbel and a chub of 2lb.; C. Brown in one and a-half days, 16lb.

TWICKENHAM.—C. Brown, in the week, fifteen dozen of roach and dace and two barbel; S. Cole, in two and a-half days, ten dozen, two barbel, and four bream; George Coxen, in one and a-half days, six dozen and five dozen of gudgeon; John Coxen, 22lb. and five barbel; R. Coxen, in three days with Mr. Tarrant, 40lb.; John Coxen, jun., in two days, eighteen dozen of fine gudgeon, and another day, four dozen of fine roach; John Frost, in one and a-half days, 20lb.; Port Hammerton, in three days, 40lb.; John Spong, in four days, 50lb. and five barbel; F. Wiggins, in three days, 40lb., two barbel, and two bream.

TEDDINGTON.—Joseph Baldwin, in two days, twelve dozen of roach and dace, and another day, five bream and seven barbel; B. Stevens, in one day, five dozen and four jack, the largest, 6lb.; and W. McBride, in three days, sixteen dozen, and a jack of 4½lb.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, in the week, fourteen dozen of roach and dace, a jack of 3lb., and ten barbel, the largest 10lb.; N. Bolton, in four days, thirteen dozen of fine jack, four barbel and two perch; Mr. Matthews, in two days, two barbel, three jack, and two perch; J. Wilkes, in three days, fifteen dozen of gudgeon, four jack, and three perch.

SUNBURY.—Messrs. T. and A. Stroud, have been getting an average of five dozen of roach and dace, each day, and a few jack; Edward Clarke has been doing well with roach and dace.

CHERTSEY.—John Poulter, one day, with Mr. Watts, five dozen of roach, and another day with Mr. Wastell, two brace of jack, which were put back again.

STAINES.—John Keene, jun., one day, with Messrs. Hayes and Mills, of Kilburn, thirty-six barbel and five dozen of roach and dace, weighing altogether, over 70lb., another day with Mr. and Mrs. Bank, seventeen barbel and four dozen of roach and dace; another day, with Mr. Proud, thirteen barbel and six dozen of roach and dace; weighing altogether 40lb.; another day, with Mr. Waters, twenty-seven barbel and six dozen of roach and dace; and another day, with Messrs. Poupart and Jones, ten barbel and six dozen of roach and dace, the largest barbel, 7lb. About half the fish were put back again.

Upper Thames.—In consequence of the exceptionally heavy rains of Tuesday and Wednesday, all up the Thames Valley the river is rising rapidly. This, however, will not interfere with successful angling, but, on the contrary, rather improve jack, perch, and roach work, as for weeks the water has been too bright for any class of Thames fishing. At Marlow, on Tuesday, a gentleman caught in Weir Pool a beautifully-conditioned fish - a jack of 11lb. In the Medmenham and Hurley Waters, jack galore are daily being had, and "the cry is still they come," 11lb., 9lb., and 7½lb. being the best scales. Weather to-day (Thursday) delightfully fine and drying. This will steady the push of water and improve all-round angling.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Chertsey).—On Thursday, the 28th ult., Mr. A. Hebburn caught a chub of 2lb. 11oz., and Mr. F. Nichols fished with E. A. Little, caught in three days eighteen dozen of roach and dace and a perch of 0¾lb.

Thames (Datchet).—At the time of writing the river is bank high. Was out yesterday; caught a few good roach. A few fine days; I anticipate some fair sport.—G. LUMSDEN.

Thames (Goring).—Not much has been done the last week. The recent rain has put the river in splendid roach condition.—G. BARTHOLOMEW.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—Sunshine and showers remind us more of April than October weather; yet those who have ventured out have met with a fair amount of success. Bream up to 2lb., and roach to ¾lb., with a few small pike, have been taken from Chichester Canal; but the water is low and weedy, with the exception of the reach near Hemston, where spinning for perch may be indulged in. Good baskets of roach have been taken from the Ouse, several fish weighing over 1lb. Dace and roach have given sport on the Adur near Steyning, and gentles have proved the best lure. Pier and sea fishing have been remunerative on the coast.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—The rivers during the past week have been in heavy flood, and many fish have gone up. Mr. Johnson took a nice one of 6¼lb. out of the Sulby river. Sea fishing has been very good, but a great storm on Monday and Tuesday has put an end to it for a time.—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—Weather has been nearly all wet this week, and the river has been too thick for anything to be done since Tuesday. Mr. W. Bullock took from the Birdsgrove Water six brace and two other dishes of three and four brace of trout and grayling the last days of the trout season with the fly; one trout, scaling over 1½lb., being taken from the same spot; Mr. B. took the four and a-half-pounder a month or so back. Trout continue to rise well, and are in good condition, though now by statute ruled out of season. Water will be in good order by Friday or Saturday should no more rain fall. The Needle and Little Sky Blue have been most killing.—D. AND W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourne.

Eden (Carlisle).—The river was in fine order on Monday, but rose again on Tuesday, and to-day (Wednesday), is again in high flood. This is most aggravating, as this looked like being a "red letter" week. On Monday Archdeacon Prescott landed a fish of 36lb., and his son one of 20lb. in the Wetheral Water. Mr. J. Fox, Mr. R. McAlister, Mr. T. Bone, and Mr. G. H. Dixon, each had one about 20lb. Mr. Thos. Robinson killed four in the Cargo Water, 13lb., 14lb., 19lb., and 30lb.; and Mr. John Robinson, one 24lb. Mr. Barlow had two 18lb. and 26lb., near Carlisle; and Mr. Walter Hough two at Crosby. The water will scarcely be in order before Friday.—SILVER GREY.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—The river is full of salmon and salmon trout. At no time was it more plentifully stocked with fish, at no time was there better chances of good sport than there is now. The recent individual catches have been almost phenomenal. So have they been, that a number of anglers rather selfishly decline to give up their records, in the hope, presumably, that by such publicity, fellows of the craft elsewhere may not be induced to visit the waters of the Esk. The very persons, or some of them, who are desirous of concealing how good the fishing is now, were those who were most to the front in their desire to have their exploits recorded. Several anglers, by the way, have honestly sent in their records, but as the list is incomplete generally, I, for the time being, hold them over, merely because a complete list and authoritative account cannot be given, as has heretofore been given. Facts and the truth are always the best to the front, and it is a silly notion on the part of a few anglers to presume to attempt to hide the results of their exploits, in the hope that the river will be less known as one of the best in the North of England for sport, and that it is the least expensive. If this stupid arrangement, arrived at by a few local anglers continues, it shall be my endeavour to indicate some means whereby an arrangement may be achieved, to the greater enjoyment of a much larger number of those who love sport on the streams, than exist at present. I shall be glad to answer any queries.—J. J. JACKSON.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—The showery weather keeps up the flow of water in the drains and does a great deal of good in the way of removing decaying vegetables growth and the objectionable flannel weed, and prospects for the bottom fisher are fairly good. Colder nights are wanted, however, for those who go in for pike trolling. Only the smaller specimens are coming to hand, and though fish up to 7lb. and a trifle over are somewhat common the best so far from the Wellend, Fortyfort, Vernutts, and other leading drains, among the captures made known was one of 9lb. A sharp night or two would bring on fish of 12lb. or 14lb. each. Besides the drains named the Parsons Drove contains some excellent pike. Some good perch have lately been landed in this district, several of 2lb. each, and one the other day was mentioned, weighing it was said, nearly 3lb.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—For some time now the water has been in fairly good condition for angling, the leaves and other rubbish being largely cleared away by the rains. The fish are also feeding better generally, and anglers are concluding that this is the result of the fish being so late over spawning. Odd trout are being caught in the river, and one of 2lb., a beautiful fish, was caught as low down as Bollam, two other anglers mentioned taking a brace each. Anglers in the upper waters are turning their attention to grayling, some nice baskets of which have been got from Gamston, and the reaches above that place. Chub are also being got from the waters above Retford, along with other fish; and very good flounders are being banked about Mattersey. Pike are occasionally pursued and landed from the lower lengths and dykes. A match was fished on the canal on Monday, competitors some 360 strong, but the takes were not very large. They varied from 2lb. 1½oz. to nothing.—L.

Ilfracombe.—SEA FISHING.—Boat angling parties fishing off the Bull and Bird in Hole have had some fine catches of whiting-pout, while those fishing a short distance from the harbour have hooked some prime codling. Anglers fishing from the pier and jetty have secured good baskets of codling, pout, and pollack. One gentleman hooked a ling weighing 16lb.; Mr. Kelly, eight large pollack; Mr. Penhill, good catches of pout and pollack. Anyone fond of rod or hand-line fishing can obtain good sport from the pier and jetty. Weather at present squally.—E. COMER.

Lake District.—For the last six weeks of the season—which closed for trout fishing on the 2nd instant, angling for salmon continuing throughout the present month—the rivers and becks of the Lake District have been in flood, and consequently have afforded little sport to the fly-fisher. Some good fish have, however, been taken with the worm. Mr. C. Postlethwaite, fishing in the Lune on Tuesday week, caught two splendidly-fed trout, 4lb. and 1½lb. respectively. This angler has been remarkably successful throughout the season. Good fish have been taken at nights in Mealbank Dam on the Mint, with winged flies, running up to 2lb. In the Kent good takes have been the rule, especially in the neighbourhood of Bowston and Cowanhead, the evening takes averaging 10lb. The Troutbeck still keeps up its reputation for large fish, one angler having a trout of 5lb. on one day, and another of 4lb. the next. A few years ago a char was reported as having been taken from the Mint, and last week a local man while fishing with the fly hooked and landed a fish which was afterwards identified as a char by Mr. R. B. Lee, of the *Field*, who chanced to be in the neighbourhood, and who contributed to the last number of that journal an article on the subject, in which he described the char as a handsome specimen, &c. The present writer happened to be a hundred miles away from the district at the time; but others who have seen the fish declare it to be no char at all, but a specimen of the *Salmo fontinalis* recently introduced by the Kent Angling Association. This latter fact seems to have been forgotten by Mr. Lee, an undoubted authority on matters piscatorial, or he would not have fallen into so fishy a blunder. Char fishing in Lake Windermere is now closed for the season, and the professional fishermen assert that the season has been only moderately good. Fishing in the Sprint on Monday, September 28, Mr. John Wilson had fifteen nice trout, the last basket from that stream of which I have heard.—WESTMERIA.

Lea and Stort.—Some few nice jack and perch have been taken from the Broxbourne and Rye House waters lately. At Waltham Abbey I heard of a few jack and roach having been captured, also a few eels; one of the latter I cast an envious eye on, but in hastening for a train forgot to bring it away with me, for I must confess to a great fondness for these so-called water serpents when properly cooked. Little has been done at Cook's Ferry, although fishermen have been plentiful enough. At Games's Fishery, Higham Hill, some very good jack were taken here on the 3rd inst. Some good specimen roach have been captured, when bottom fishing, at the Ferrie Boat, Tottenham, and Mr. Alf. Williams, a thoroughly competent authority, tells me to-day (Thursday) that roach that have been lately surface-feeding, have settled down, and are now well worthy the roach fisherman's attention; a few jack up to 4lb. have been taken, and Mr. Bennett, with the dry fly has accounted for numbers of good dace. Mr. Bradley, of the Antwerp Angling Society, Tottenham, has had fair sport lately amongst the chub and jack, one of the former scaling 3lb. 5oz.. By the way, I consider scaling, as applied to the weight of fish, somewhat happy, as most of the fish rejoice in the possession of this outward covering. In last week's *Fishing Gazette* there was a notice of a conviction against poachers at Ware. I certainly was pleased to see it, but cannot refrain from expressing my opinion that the Anglers' Association should not have neglected their duty by utterly ignoring the capture of a drag-net by Mr. Games; an instrument of warfare, compared with which any cast-net sinks into utter insignificance. It seems strange that arter the heavy rains of the last two days and nights, there is hardly an appreciable rise in the water; it is coloured, and fishing will improve.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—Angling has been far from brisk this week. The extremely heavy rains several days put a stop to the sport and coloured the waters to a great degree. At the Leicester preserves, during the intervals of pleasant weather, a few anglers were out, but the takes extended only to roach, perch, and one or two pike of small size. A few anglers have been down the Wreake way, but met with poor success, a brace or two of pike being the extent of the catches. The other resorts in this district have been but scantily patronised.

Loddon (Earley).—Some very fair fishing has been done since I last wrote. Mr. Higgins with his fisherman Gard, three brace of jack; and Mr. Reed a good basket of roach, with a very good chub or two. The heavy rain of Wednesday will no doubt clear the river, and I should think after a day or two there will be some very good sport.—J. R. GOULD, sec.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Heavy rain has been had in the district, and has caused both these streams to change colour and to rise, and has stopped fishing for a time until the water goes down again.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Heavy rain fell throughout Monday night and greater part of Tuesday, causing these rivers to rise half bank full of very muddy water. To-day (Thursday) the waters are sinking slowly, yet clearing fast. With favourable weather, fly fishing will not be practicable before Tuesday, at present the outlook is not encouraging—wind S.E., threatening rain. The closing days of last week good sport was attained, nice baskets of fine grayling (some fish 1½lb. each) being made, principally with Late Brown, Whirling, Mid Blue, Red Tag, and Green Insect.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—River in good condition; if anything too bright; but the weeds are very foul, and fast rotting. Some anglers have been again successful at Farleigh. Some very good bream and roach have been taken with the worm. I do not hear of any good perch being taken; carp, I think, are seldom fished for. There are plenty of good ones. I know some few small pike have been caught: one angler lost two good ones, after some play. They ought now to feed well. I cannot hear of any chub coming to bank. It has not been a good season for chub fishing.—W. SHRUBSOLE.

Medway (Tonbridge).—The river is in the pink of perfection for autumn angling. During the week at times roach have been well on the feed, and good bags were being made, many of the fish scaling over a pound. This has been notably the case above the town in the more strictly preserved waters. Pike, too, have been on the feed, but more have been lost than have been captured. Given a well-baited swim for bottom angling, and a lively Thames dace for pike, sure execution should be done.—YE MEDWAY WATER-RAT.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—We have had much rain this week, and the condition of the river will probably be improved thereby. The elements generally have a much sharper aspect than usual at this time of year. The river contains some fine pike, and anglers are giving much attention to them at present; but although several decent specimens have resulted, especially in the Oundle and Wellingboro' districts, the fish taken generally have not over weighty. Some fine rudd are to be seen in the river at Orton, and I should think they will claim attention shortly. Chub can be met with here and there; and on Saturday several fine ones were taken at Waternewton by Mr. Tom Burdett, of Peterborough. He also obtained a few roach, his total catch for a few hours being nearly thirty. Roach have shown themselves to be rather fickle this week. Maggots are the best baits, but creed wheat and paste will occasionally tempt their appetites. With the former bait Mr. C. Irvine basketed a dace, which closely approached ¾lb., from the neighbourhood of the "Bank," on Saturday. A few bream approaching 3lb. have been secured at Peterborough, and towards the end of last week a city angler obtained half-a-dozen takeable perch. At the present moment the rain is descending in showers, and I expect it will be a stormy week-end.—NENEBANK.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—Weed cutting has been carried on in many of our rivers and streams during the last week, the result will be I hope good takes of fish. I had a try on the 6th inst., at Mildenhall, no luck, the gentleman fishing with me took a few amongst them two dace 1¾lb. the two, these I am preserving, anglers visiting this stream will find very good and reasonable diggings at the Mlidenhall Inns. I think the best fishing will be found from the Lock to West Bow, in the Ouse at Littleport and Hilgay, roach are nicely on, pike also are beginning to feed, the weed cutting have no doubt disturbed them, some very fine perch were taken on Saturday. A lot of eighteen I saw were beauties several of them weighed 2lb., the best part of the Ouse to try is the filly beds, right up to the branch, on to the Cross Keys, and the Queen Adelaide, good swims all the way and plenty of fish. There is a good train service and if the angler feels inclined to stay there are plenty of comfortable inns at Littleport, while paste and wheat are now the best baits. Mr. Jay, of Peterburgh, took a very fine roach 1lb. 0½oz. one day last week. Brandon fishing is now good and if the rain continue the water will be a good colour, the swims are cut out, and anglers will now have a chance to capture some of the big bouncers. The Yare is better now at most all the fishing stations good fish are being taken. I hope to have a try myself on Saturday at Cantley. The weeds are going down well and with a continuance of fine weather, anglers should get amongst the shoals of big roach, perch, and pike. The glass has gone down very much and it looks now at the time of writing very much like a long rain.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

North Lincolnshire.—The water is in capital condition for pike-fishing, but all through the week the sport has been very indifferent. The recent rains should make a little difference during the current week. There is a falling off in the number of visitors now, and angling is mainly confined to local anglers.—THOMAS FORD.

North Tyne (Bellingham).—Salmon are most plentiful here now, last week whilst fishing near the hut at Reedsmouth, Lord Warkworth, his Grace the Duke of Northumberland's grandson, had grand sport, killing nine fine fish; and Mr. Black, of the Birks, killed eight in the same day. There have been very heavy floods, and it is many years since flood followed flood so continuously.—J. H. R.

Ouse (Brandon, Norfolk).—Since my last report several anglers; both visitors and the natives have done well amongst the roach. The river as a rule is rather weedy in places, but there are several cut and prepared baited swims full of good roach. If anglers wish to save trouble and time information can be obtained at the head quarters of the Angling Ram Hotel, to the best places for each class of fish, viz.—chub, perch, roach, dace, or pike. After the rain this week, I am certain to have to report good catches. Time waiting, bright and warm; railway service excellent. —JOHN D. GEORGE.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—The water has been too bright for much sport, but the recent rains have greatly improved the condition and jack have been feeding very fair. Several small runs have been taken with live bait and spinning, and as the water is improving, sport will be good, for time is on for good fish to feed. Prospects very fair.—H. ROUT.

Ouse (Offord)—Water is in good condition for bottom fishing. Mr. McKenzie has had a good take to-day (Thursday) in the favourite swim in Mr. Priestley's meadow—one bream, weighing 4lb., and eleven varying from 1½lb. to 2½lb., and two chub. Fish were well on the feed when I left him to be in time for post.—H. COLLINS.

Ouse, &c. (York).—The river Ouse has afforded some fair sport during the past week or ten days, especially to the bottom fishermen, who have resorted to the drain swims in and near the city, where some splendid catches of roach and dace have been made. Several fine bream, one or two turning the scale at 4lb., have been caught at that part of the river Ouse known locally as the "Bream Field," below Bishopthorpe Palace. Some good catches are reported from the Foss, notably some good jack pike. The recent improvements at Castle Mill Lock are said to have greatly benefited this river in the matter of allowing fish a much easier passage; so we must look forward to the old angling days on the Foss being revived. Several grayling anglers have resorted to the Derwent lately, and some splendid fish have been taken in the neighbourhood of Old Malton and Kirkham Abbey, chiefly with maggot, the water being too thick for use of fly. So far as the North and East Ridings streams are concerned, the trout season just closed is said to compare favourably with many of the so-called good ones. But the grumbler is to be found even amongst anglers as well as farmers. There are complaints of the smallness of the fish in the Upper Rye district. Well, compared with the East Riding streams, and even with the Pickering Beck, they are so. But the reason is not far to seek, and as the seasons come and go something in the way of remedy will force itself upon those who have most to do with these trout streams, either by turning in new fry at intervals, and abolishing the use of the minnow, or limiting the number of tickets for a season or two. My humble opinion is that the Upper Rye and tributaries—the Riccoll, the Hodge, and the Dove—are much over-fished, especially in the earlier months of the season, and one or two seasons' rest would do most good, were such a course possible.—RONALD.

Penzance (Cornwall).—SEA FISHING.—We are being visited by shoals of sea bream ("chad," as they are here called), and boat anglers are having good sport. We still have a few mackerel about, and whiting-pollack and dory, but with the exception of "chad," the fishing in the bay has fallen off, and the weather, too, is unsettled.—H.

Plymouth.—SEA FISHING.—Fine summer weather has favoured us this week, and it has been made good use of. Scores of boats being out on the various spats every day. The mackerel are still with us, and are taken by towing a line furnished with a silver spinner or immitation brit at the end. A line of about fifteen fathoms, and a six ounce sinker is suitable for this work; but if you go in a sailing boat, you require a stouter and longer line and a lead about a pound or more. Thirty or forty dozen mackerel can be taken in a few hours in this way. The fish this year have been very fine, and we have not had many of those with joseys that we used to catch last year. Pollack are caught in large numbers in the tideway, at Devil's Point and the Winter Shoal.—WILLIAM HEARDER.

Rother (Fittleworth, Sussex).—A splendid jack was taken on the 4th near the bridge at Fittleworth, its length was 40in., weight, 18lb. It was caught by Mr. J. Adams, Good Intent Angling Society, Shoreditch. Several other jack were also taken.—H. J. HARLAND.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—The river has been in good condition for pike-fishing, and one or two good fish have been taken. Bottom-fishing has been fairly successful.—PISCATOR.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—Fishing has been rather upset here this week by the unsettled weather, the river rising and falling in a way that has puzzled anglers, whatever it may have done the salmon. On Monday it was just getting into perfect condition for fly fishing, and to-night (Tuesday) it is a perfect torrent. Mr. Geo. Bainbridge had one fish, 9½lb.; Mr. Thos. Parkinson, one, 11½lb.; Mr. R. Wandless, one, 5½lb.; and Mr. Cooper, two.—J. H. R.

Teme (Tenbury).—The water in this part was in splendid order for grayling up to Monday evening, and the fish were moving well at the fly. A good few anglers were out, and some fine fish were taken. Heavy rain fell on Tuesday, and in a short time the water rose and coloured, and quite put a stop to angling for a few days.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).—Fourteen hours successive rain on Tuesday brought about an altered condition of the Trent, and by Wednesday evening a 4ft. flush was coursing merrily along, which should have a beneficial effect on future angling. Up to Monday the water remained in grand order, on which day Mr. A. T. Alcock succeeded in bagging fourteen nice barbel from the fish house swim of the Muskham Water, and also a pike and a perch. And fishing the same swim on the Saturday this gentleman landed a magnificent chub, weighing 4¼lb., showing that his ground-baiting of worms had been judiciously applied. Roach and dace have not taken the lure freely, but with gentles, Mr. W. Morley basketed nineteen of the former from the Pencroft field at Farndon, four of over 1lb. each; and from the lower portion, near the bottom locks, small takes of dace are mentioned. At time of writing (Thursday evening) the Trent is only available in the slacks and levies, but the water is just on the turn for receding, and I anticipate good sport with either gentles or worms during the coming week. —TRENTSIDER.

Wimbledon Park Fishery—The following takes have been recorded: Mr. Brooker, Notting Hill, five jack, largest 4½lb.; Mr. Chandler, King's Cross, one jack, 4¼lb.; Mr. Harsent, Lavender Hill, four jack, average 5lb. to 3lb.; Mr. C. Smith, barbel 4lb., and some fine bream; Mr. Bird, Wimbledon, some roach, one 1lb. The fishing is in good order, plenty of fresh water, good colour especially for jack.

Witham, &c. (Mid Lincoln).—Sport continues to be good in the neighbourhood of Boston, and at several places not much affected by the trippers and pot-hunters, and I learn that some decent pike are beginning to be moved. No notable take is yet recorded, but four or five small fish are not uncommon. One gentleman the other day got 14lb. in about two hours' trolling. Roach are feeding very well, but it is said bream are a bit off. There are beginning to be complaints about the supply of fish in the Fossdyke and in the Witham. The allegation is that Sheffield anglers come here in their hundreds, and often thousands, and they are running away with the fish so fast, and doing nothing to re-stock the water, until the district is not worth visiting. Things are scarcely as bad as that, but it is to be said a lot of clever Gainsborough anglers, some fifty strong, recently fished for a challenge cup the other day, and 6oz. only was recorded in a tie for it. The day, however, was a shockingly bad one at Torksey, where the match took place.—LUCI.

Teifi (Lampeter, Cardiganshire).—Some of our local anglers have had excellent sport with salmon during the past week, accounting for several good fish, ranging from about 10lb. to close upon 20lb. in weight each. There are plenty of salmon up now, and the river is in excellent condition for a continuance of sport.—H.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—Some splendid sport has been had with the salmon during the past week, both here and on our chief tributary, the Cothy. Mr. Tressler landed a nice fish of 12lb.; Mr. Lewis, one of 10lb.; Mr. J. L. Thomas, one; and Mr. Tressler, one of 8lb. on the Dynever Water, losing another over 20lb. Mr. J. Savil has taken several sewin, on the minnow, but they are now in very poor condition. Sir James Drummond and Mr. Dudley Drummond, have taken some fine fish on the Cothy, and Sir John Llewellyn likewise. The last-named gentleman landed six in the course of one day's fishing.—H. S. HARLAND.

Usk (Abergavenny).—Oct. 7. The river is coloured and bank high, but beginning to fall. Although we have had a little more rain to-day. The barometer rising, and should the weather clear up some good sport may be expected in a day or two, the river being well stocked with salmon. Several nice dace by Messrs. R. W. Biggs, H. Parker Jervill, and J. Lamont.—JOSEPH CLARE.

Usk (at Usk).—The heavy downpour of rain on Monday night caused a rise in the river of six feet, and since then angling operations have been suspended. Some capital sport has been enjoyed, in fact several anglers have taken over a hundred salmon this season, while on private waters near Crickhowell, Mr. Crawshay is reported to have caught two hundred and twenty salmon. Should the weather be fine, angling will commence again on Monday, and no doubt there will be plenty of water until the close of the season on November 1st next.—T.

Scotch Reports.

Border Esk.—Although the Esk is well stocked with fish, and the number of salmon especially almost unprecedently large, the takes are scarcely up to the average, probably owing to the river being somewhat over fished, and the numerous floods that have taken place lately. In the upper waters Mr. John Reid, Langholm, landed a 10lb. salmon in the Martingale Pool; Mr. William Keir, Commercial Hotel Langholm, had ten herling, a dozen and a-half yellow trout, also a fine grilse; Mr. James Morrison, Mr. Matthew Laidlow, and Mr. Thomas McLellan, have had fairly good baskets of sea trout and herling, but sea trout fishing is now past its best. Bait fishing, too, closed last week. Angling, however, with fly continues for another month, and good sport is anticipated all down the water. In the middle reaches Dr. Roper, London, continues to do well, and landed a salmon of 20lb., in addition to several smaller fry in the Cauldron and Willow Pools. Beyond Liddlefoot, Mr. J. M. Little, Carlesgill, had a salmon of 18lb.; Mr. Munro, Edinburgh, caught a salmon of 13lb. in the Cauldron Pool; Mr. R. Snodgrass had one of 15lb. in the Prioy Pool; Mr. F. Little, Byreburnfoot, caught two grilse, 6lb. and 7lb. respectively; Dr. Burrel, London, had a nice salmon of 17lb. in the Red Lynn Pool; Major Irwin Woodhouse, a salmon 15lb., in the Bridgo Pool: Mr. May, Liverpool, a salmon 18½lb. in the Willow Pool; Mr. R. Calvert, Rowarburn, a native angler and an expert, had three salmon in the Double Water; Mr. Walter Scott, Holmfoot, had a basket of sea trout in the Double Water; and Mr. D. Edgar, Rowanburn, had two salmon in the Cauldron Pool. In the lower waters between Longtown and the Metal Bridge several good hauls have been made. In one day Mr. John Scott, Longtown, had four salmon; and Mr. J. Bell had one of the nicest salmon of the season, weight 27lb., and another one of 9lb.; Mr. Borwick, one of 16lb.; Mr. Buller, one, 16½lb.; Mr. Johnson, keeper, four, 18lb., 19lb., 15lb., and 18lb.; Dr, McLaren and Dr. Graham, a salmon each; and Mr. J. B. Slater was successful in capturing three salmon, 16lb. 10lb., and 17lb. I hope to review the river next week, as the close-time is fast approaching.—GILNOCKIE.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—The past week has been most prolific of sport, but on Tuesday angling was entirely suspended, owing to the river being again in great flood. This will have good results, however, afterwards. Such a show of autumn fish has not been known within the memory of the most experienced fisherman, and as regards quality and weight, there is nothing to be desired. On the higher reaches the autumn migration has not yet been felt. On the Aboyne section, Mr. Rice landed a fine fish, 19½lb., on the Huntly Arms Water; Mr. Milne, on the Upper Dess Water, had two of 8½lb. and 10½lb.; while Mr. Albert Farquhar had three heavy weights on the Huntly Lodge Water; and Mrs. Pickering a beauty of 21½lb. on the same water on Saturday. On the Lower Dess, Mr. Walter Davidson landed three, 7lb., 19lb. and 17lb., on Tuesday, and another of 17lb. on Thursday. On the Kincardine Lodge Water, Mr. Wm. Lamond had one of 9lb., two of 18lb. and 19lb., and one of 14lb.; while Nicol, keeper, had one of 9lb. On the Carlogie section, Captain G. Campbell had one of 18½lb., two of 18lb. and 16lb., two of 12lb. and 14lb., one of 18lb., one of 16lb, and one of 16lb.; while Capt. Chas. Campbell grassed two of 19½lb. and 8½lb.; and Mr. Archd. Campbell, one of 11lb., two of 10lb. and 11lb., one of 9lb., and one of 25lb.; while Mr. J. Campbell had one of 9lb. On the Borrowstone Water, Admiral Fane landed a beauty of 22lb., another of 16lb., one of 17½lb., two of 18lb. and 17lb., and one of 17½lb.; while Mr. Henry Champion had two of 17lb. each, and two of 17½lb. and 12lb. on the same water. On the Ballogie section, Mr. W. E. Nicol and party landed eleven fish, scaling from 9lb. to 23lb. On the Sluie Water, Mr. G. F. Chalmers landed two of 9lb. and 22lb., one of 14lb., and one of 26lb.; while Duncan, keeper, had several on the Commonty Water. On the Woodend, Mr. Farnall Watson made the following record: Sept. 28, four fish, 23lb., 18lb., 16lb. and 14lb.; 29th, four, 17lb., 16lb., 10lb. and 8lb.; 30th, nine, 24lb., 15lb., 10lb., 7lb., 8lb., 8lb., 26lb., 23lb. and 18lb.; Oct. 1, four, 12lb., 13lb., 16lb. and 20lb.; 2nd, three, 18lb., 16lb. and 8lb.; and on the 3rd, five, 14lb., 14lb., 16lb., 18lb. and 22lb. Mrs. Watson had also two fish for the week, scaling 14lb. and 17lb., being her third success for the autumn; Mr. Watson had twenty-eight fish for the week; while Mr. Turner Farley had a similar score on the Cairnton Water. On the Blackhall Castle Water, Mr. G. T. Hay and party landed thirty-one for the week, eight on Monday, six on Tuesday, five on Wednesday, five on Thursday, four on Friday, and three on Saturday, ranging from 8lb. to 30lb., and averaging about 16½lb. On the Crathes Water, Mr. J. C. Wordie and party grassed several beauties of the average weights. On the Durris Water, Mr. Baird and party have had about one hundred fish for the autumn season up to date. On the Drum Water, Mr. Francis Irvine, Mr. Buckley, and Mr. Fletcher, from Friday, the 28th Sept. to Friday the 2nd inst., both days inclusive, landed fifty-five salmon of an average of 16½lb. a-piece; while Mr. Scarlett Campbell, Sir Charles Turner, and Mr. Davidson, of Wellwood, have landed over eighty fish from the park water since the 1st ult. The fly, Phantom, live minnow and kindred lures are all being employed with very much the same success.—DEESIDER.

Deveron (Banffshire).—This river continues in fair fishing order, notwithstanding the absence of rain for about a week. Fish were never so numerous as they have been on all the sections of the river. On the Carnonsie Water, in the end of last week, Mr. W. E. Hall, had two fish, of 9lb. and 20lb.; Mr. Rowland J. Beech, had six fish, of 7lb., 7½lb., 8lb., 12lb., 12lb., and 24lb. On the Mayne section, Mr. Thurburn, had two, of 9lb. and 26lb.; Mr. Stock, one, of 10½lb., and the keeper three, of 8½lb., 9lb, and 17½lb. On the Netherdale section, Mr. K. Maitland, had three, of 9lb., 15½lb., and 18lb.; Mr. Fraser, the keeper, had two, of 7½lb and 8½lb.; Mr. Hunt, two, of 17lb and 18½lb.; Mr. Colwell, two, of 7½lb. and 9lb. The heaviest fish caught by the rod this season, was got on the Mountblainy Water, on Friday of last week, weighing 32lb. Colonel J. Forbes, of Dunlugas, had a nice fish, of 20lb.; Mr. Stuart, of Laithers, killed one of 9lb. On the Foglen Water, Captain Abercromby and party, have captured a large number, the heaviest being 18lb.; Mr. Stuart, of Laithers, had several, 7lb. to 18lb. Several fine fish, both salmon and grilse, were landed from the Duff House section of the river, by the keeper, Mr. Mowat, and others. On the free water at Huntly, and the Huntly Lodge Water, capital sport was got. As also on the Eden Water, when for the week, one of the ladies at Eden House, had no less than nine fish to her rod. The weather changed on Tuesday, when during the day rain began to fall, which will add to the volume of water, which was beginning to get low.—H. W.

Don (Aberdeenshire).—On the lower reaches of the Don sport has been most prolific, especially on the Grandholm cruives and Nether reaches, where fish are being got freely of splendid quality and size. On the Grandholm Water, Mr. William Kinderness, of Wimbledon, has had good sport during the past week, having landed sixteen fish of an average of 17½lb., and giving a total yield of 281½lb. On the tidal waters, Messrs. Gibb, Walker, Murray, and others have had splendid baskets of sea trout.—DON.

Inchnadamph Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—The weather has been so adverse for some time back that very little angling was attempted; and as most of the sportsmen have now left for the south, the season may be said to be practically at an end. One day last week Mr. D. Mackenzie fished the Loanan, and landed a grilse weighing 5½lb. Another fish weighing 5½lb. was caught on the same water by Mr. Edwards, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Dr. Martin, London, tried Loch Assynt, and got a grilse weighing 6lb.—McB.

Inveran Hotel Waters (Invershin, N.B.)—Rod fishing closed here on Wednesday last, after a very successful season; so far as salmon and grilse angling is concerned it has been its best for many years. Since last reported its sport has been as follows:—On Wednesday, the 23rd, Mr. Blanco White fished the lower reaches, and got a salmon weighing 8½lb. on Cromarty Pool. On Saturday week, Mr. Dickinson grassed a fine salmon weighing 22lb., on Meadow Pool. On Monday week, Mr. Blanco White landed two salmon, a 14-pounder, on Meadow Pool, and one of 15lb. on Rocky Pool; and on Wednesday, the last day of the season the same angler landed a salmon, weighing 14½lb., on Round Pool, and a 15-pounder on Meadow Pool.—McB.

Liddle.—The Liddle is almost in better order than the Esk, and some good fishing has taken place during the past week. Mr. W. Crozier, Newcastleton, had three salmon, 13lb., 6lb., and 7lb., in the Whithaugh Pool; Mr. George Elliot had a grilse, 7lb.; Mr. Arthur Little had a splendid salmon, 18lb.; Mr. Graham had a salmon in the Double Pot, and several takes in the Inch Pool; Mr. Johnson landed a good salmon in Cow Ugly Pool, after a good run; and Mr. Goodfellow had a nice salmon in the Moat Linn Pool.—G.

Loch Migdale (Bonarbridge, N.B.).—The splendid sport obtained on this loch about two weeks ago has now fallen off, owing to the unfavourable state of the weather.

On Friday last, Mr. Harris, Rosary Gardens, South Kensington, fishing from Bridge Hotel, Bonarbridge, landed six nice trout, which averaged ½lb. each; and on Saturday nine, 5lb. in all. On Monday, this week, Rev. R. Hutchinson, Tain, made a basket of one dozen trout.—McB.

Spey (Aberlour).—Another successful week, and with a renewal of the floods the back end promises a rich return. On the Elchies Water Sir A. L. Smith, landed a fine fish of 22lb., another of 18lb.; and Mr. Gurney, one of 19b., while Miss Eleanor Smith had a salmon sealing 16½lb. on Friday last; and Mr. Gunry another of 15lb. on Saturday (Rothes). On Saturday Mrs. William Stewart-Menzies, of Culdargs, had a heavy basket of five fish on the Aikenway Water, yielding a total of 102lb., while Mr. Stewart-Menzies on the same water had a fish of 8lb.; and Lord Saltoun, two of 20lb. and 6lb. respectively. On the Surden Water Colonel Edisgillie landed a fish of 15½lb. On the Ballindalloch Water Mr. John Allan, Rothes, had a beauty of a fish scailing 24lb., and another of 6lb. On the Craigellachie Water Mr. McDonald, Inverness, landed one 8lb., while Dallis, gillie, had one 18½lb. on the Sourden Water.—G. M.

South of Scotland.—The whole of the South of Scotland rivers have been in flood since Monday forenoon, and no angling has been had since that day. It is many years ago since a back-end salmon fishing was so much interrupted by floods. In every river in the district there are abundance of salmon in the pools.

ANNAN.—In the higher waters a good number of fine salmon were killed. On Friday, Mr. Hullett, St. Ninian's, Moffat, angling in the stretch between Moffat and Wamphray, caught a fine basket, including three salmon, weighing 17lb., 12lb., and 9lb. respectively. On the same day Mr. George Kerss, keeper, at Craigielands, killed two salmon of good weights on the same water. Among the more successful anglers on the same reaches, and also in the Four Towns Water, have been Mr. W. Banning, Lockerbie, who killed a capital salmon of 25lb.; Mr. T. S. Bell, Lockerbie, landed three salmon averaging 20lb. each; Mr. William Murchie a large one; Mr. Halliday, Capewood, two salmon of 17lb. and 19lb. each; Major Hall, of Denbie, killed a small one; Mr. William Varrie, Lockerbie, caught one of 9lb.; Mr. Thomas Jardine one of 20lb.; and Mr. Dixon, Liverpool, a nice fish of 12lb. In the Kirkwood portion, a guest of Mr. Murray's had a nice fish; and several other gentlemen had fairly good sport on this water, and also on the Murraythwaite portion. Castle Milk and Hoddom Castle Waters have given capital sport during the past week, especially the last named, where some heavy salmon have been landed. On Saturday, in the Hoddom Castle Water, Mr. James Bell killed a salmon of 16lb.; Mr. Mosscrop, gamekeeper, killed one of 22lb.; Mr. T. Reid (Mr. Brook's second keeper) a fish of 19lb.; Mr. Charles Inglis, Commercial Hotel, Ecclefechan, successfully landed a grand salmon of 28lb. with Grey Turkey Fly. On Monday morning, before the water flooded, Mr. George Wardrope, Ecclefechan, grassed one of 26lb.; Mr. R. Bell, Ecclefechan, had one of 17lb.; Mr. Mosscrop a bright fish of 21lb.; Mr. T. Reid a small one of 10lb.; and Mr. Johnstone a pretty salmon of 17½lb. A large number of big salmon were hooked and broke away in the Hoddom Water, on Monday. In Castle Milk portion, belonging to Sir Robert Jardine, Bart., M.P., Mr. David Tweedie, Ecclefechan, landed a very fine salmon of 16lb. with Grey Turkey and blue body. In the Mount Annan Water, Mr. John Bell-Irving landed a small fish of 7½lb., on Saturday; and his keeper (James Riley), killed one of 17½lb. on the previous day. On the same water, on Monday, Mr. Andrew Bell (fisherman for Mr. Dirom), landed a salmon of 13½lb., out of the Tower Pool, with Grey Turkey Fly; and on Tuesday, Mr. Bell-Irving's keeper, caught one of 17½lb., out of the Back of the Wood Pool. The lower waters have not been giving such good sport, but in the Blackpool, at Blacketlees, Dr. McNaughton, Blackpool, Lancashire, killed a very pretty little salmon on Saturday, weighing 10lb. The Rev. Mr. Philpott, Manchester, fishing for trout, caught six herling. In the tidal reaches a fish of 13lb. was caught on the same day, in the Fish House Pool. Mr. John Rae the Firs, had a salmon of 22½lb. in the Castle Water.

Spey (Elgin).—Anglers have been fairly successful on the Spey during last week, considering the unsettled state of the river. On the Delfur Water, on Tuesday, belonging to General Sir Reginald Gipps, Mr. Fred Boosey, Bickley, Kent, had a salmon of 8lb. On the Craigallachie Water, on Wednesday, Major Grant, of Glengrant, had a fish of 9lb., and a ten-pounder on Friday. On the Arndilly Water, Sir Ford North, on Thursday, had a fish of 12lb. On the Arkinway Water, on Thursday, Mr. Stewart Menzies had two fish, weighing 14lb. and 10lb. respectively. On the Sourden Water, on Friday, Mr. Dallas, fisherman to Col. Edis, of Fitzroy-square, London, had one of 15½lb. and 16½lb. on Saturday. On Friday, on the Elchies Water, Miss Eleanor Smith had a nice fish, weighing 16½lb.; and on Saturday Mr. Gunry landed a fish of 15lb. On the Arkenway Water, belonging to Mr. Stewart Menzies, of Culdares, on Thursday, Mrs. Stewart Menzies had a salmon of 7lb.; Mr. Stewart Menzies one of 15lb.; and Mrs. Paget one of 7lb. On the same water Lord Saltoun, on Friday, had two fish of 19lb. and 8lb. respectively; and Mr. Stewart Menzies one of 16lb.—H. LOGIE.

Tweed, &c.—More fish have been killed in this district (Kelso) and in many of the others since my last report than were got during the entire back-end season of last year. This speaks volumes for the amount of fish in the rivers, and makes things look rosy for the salmon angler for the period he has to ply his vocation till the close time sets in at the end of November. The weather to-day (Thursday) is splendid, and the rivers rapidly fining down.—MAXWHEEL.

Ugie (Aberdeenshire.)—Good sport is now being got daily on this water. Mr. Finch, English Mills, Inverugie, landed a splendid fish of 27½lb.; Mr. Lumsden, of Ceylon, had one of 22lb., and two grilse of 8lb. a-piece; Mr. James Forbes, dentist, Peterhead, secured a couple of grilse sealing 7½lb. and 5lb.; while Mr. Benn, Mintlaw, and Mr. Spence, watchmaker, Longside, had a salmon each of about 15lb. weight on the same day. The river is in good trim, with a capital appearance of fish. Various lures have been called into requisition, but the fly has been the favourite of various patterns, and dressed to irons, varying from one and a-half to two and a-half inches.—M. M.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—Trouting is dull on the upper reaches of this stream, and until a heavy flood comes to raise and colour the water, it will remain dull. The middle reaches have not been fished much. On Monday evening your correspondent fished the Coagh sections, and got a basket of five ¾lb. trout and one pike, the latter taken on a Devon bait. The lower Barmouth reaches are well stocked with salmon, but they are not rising freely.

Lough Conn.—Mr. J. S. Pybus Sellon, out with me on the 2nd inst.—his first day pike fishing—killed a 26lb. pike, and on the 3rd inst. he killed an 18lb. pike, beside several small fish from 12lb. downwards.—FRANK HEARNS.

Lough Neagh.—There is a slight improvement on all the fisheries of this lake. Salmon and trout netting is fair around the Tyrone shores. Since the recent cold spell trout have ceased to rise. In any case they seem not to rise freely, except in warm but rough weather. Trammel netting for pollen ceased on the 29th ult., but the takes by the other nets supply the demand. Bream, perch, and pike netting is prime. Some of the pike run as high as 20lb. Rod fishing is poor, except at the mouths of rivers or feeders.—J. A. B.

Waterville (County Kerry).—Sport on the whole has been dull. On the Inny, however, salmon anglers have done fairly well. Messrs. James Leary, M. Brennan, and J. Sullivan, got three salmon each, on Tuesday. The netting is closed, and salmon have now a free pass on the river. Sport on the mountain lakes continues good.—THOMAS J. DENNEHY.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

THE second annual contest in aid of the funds of the Birmingham Anglers' Benevolent Society, took place at Fernhill Heath. On the 4th inst., that important factor, the weather, which helps to tend to the success or failure of all outdoor sports, was upon this auspicious occasion upon its best behaviour, which not only put the contestants on good terms with themselves; but made the contest one of the most agreeable of the year. The train left New-street Midland Station at 8.20, and conveyed about three hundred members and friends to Fernhill Heath, which was reached at 9.10, when after refreshing the inner man, at the Bull's Head Inn, a move was made towards the water, which lies about a mile and a-half from the village. The ground was staked out by Messrs. Coles and White, the referees, during which time the contestants had an opportunity of enjoying the splendid scenery of this neighbourhood, which is of a lovely and picturesque description. The draw for places was left on the hands of Mr. Miller, the hon. sec., and Mr. T. Wright, of Kidderminster. The two hundred and twenty-five competitors, after drawing their numbers, lost no time in getting to their places, and at 12.20 the whistle gave the signal for the start. The contest was of the usual duration, and at 2.20 the signal was given to cease fishing, when the referees assisted by the secretary collected the bags which they conveyed in a small hand-cart back to the Bull, where the weighing took place, the result being as follows: 1, W. Kimberley, Brothers Well Met; 2, W. Gorman, Bellbarn; 3, W. Kingerlee, jun., Highgate; 4, Mr. Sydenham, Rose and Crown; 5, Mr. Osborne, Highgate Park; 6-7, Mr. Foley, Old Green Man, and Mr. Jukes, Denrind (tie); 8, Mr. Loveridge, St. Paul's; 9, Mr. T. Kimberley, Brothers Well Met; 10, Mr. Rason, Highgate; 11, Mr. Bowler, Bellbarn; 12, Mr. Cattell, Brothers Well Met; 13, Mr. Monk, Highgate Park; 14, Mr. Denton, Bellbarn; 15, Mr. Craven, Highgate; 16, Mr. Bowyer, Rose and Crown; 17-18, Mr. Leaton, Ladywood, and Mr. W. Turner, Fruitful Vine (tie); 19, Mr. J. Beeston, West End; 20, Mr. W. Wilcox, Brookfield; 21, Mr. F. Eaton, Highgate Park; 22-23, Mr. Jarret, Prospect, and Mr. J. Beer, Brothers Well Met (tie); 24, Mr. Blackshaw, Queen's Arms; 25, Mr. Davies, Old Green Man; 26-27-28, Mr. Wheeler, Hearts of Oak; Mr. Bellington, Highgate Park; and Mr. Perry, Brookfields (tie).

THERE are twenty-eight prizes which consist of clocks, writing desks, tea service, ladies' work table, oil painting, chromo picture, cruet frame, lamps, pencil case, opera glasses, gold centred medal, Birmingham Association £1 1s., &c. The prizes will be distributed on Friday evening next, Oct. 16, at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield, upon which occasion a smoking concert will be held, which will be free to the members and friends of the society.

A MEETING of the committee of the Birmingham Angling Association was held on Thursday evening, the 1st inst., at the headquarters, the chief item on the agenda being to take into consideration the removal of the Old Green Man Society from the Old Green Man Inn, Lancaster-street, to the White Horse Cellars, Constitution-hill. The removal was opposed personally by the representatives of the Brothers Well Met, Anglers' Pride, and St. Paul's Societies, who in making their opposition stated that the club would be within the half-mile radius of the clubs mentioned, and that if the committee allowed the removal, it would interfere with the already existing clubs in the neighbourhood. This brought about a discussion, which lasted nearly the whole of the evening; but, upon the vote being taken upon the question, it was decided by a small majority to allow the club to remain at their present quarters. Mr. Dance asked the committee to make a grant to the prize fund of the Anglers' Benevolent Society, when it was unanimously decided to grant one guinea to the prize-purchasing fund. Mr. R. Wingfield, of Worcester, was present at the meeting, and presented a valuable picture to the prizes of the Benevolent Society. Notices of motion from Messrs. Griffith and Hughes brought the business to a close.

THE committee of the Birmingham Angling Association fished their contest on Saturday afternoon last in the Trent at Alrewas, through the kind permission of the Midland Piscatorials, who rent this portion of the Trent. The whole of the committee took part, with the exception of Messrs. White and Keeling, who were detained through business. The contest was of two hours' duration, at the end of which time the following gentlemen were returned the winners in the order named: Messrs. J. Jones, J. Dance, Simkiss, Hughes, Coles, Hiley, Hall, Cottrell, H. Atwood, C. Allender, Griffith, Goode, Currie, and Gumbley. The party returned to Birmingham in the evening and met at the headquarters, where the distribution of prizes took place.

THE Severn Fishery Board held their quarterly meeting on Thursday, the 1st inst., at Birmingham, when the chief business transacted was respecting the salmon fishing and the weirs, &c. I am pleased to see that our representatives from the Provincial Association are at all times on the watch to try and benefit their brother anglers, and on Thursday last Mr. T. Coles brought forward the following motion, which was backed by Mr. R. Wingfield, of Worcester: "That the Severn Fishery Board memoralise the Board of Trade with the view of taking under its control the navigable portion of the river Avon between Stratford and Tewkesbury." This question is of the most importance to the Midland anglers, and the outcome will be watched with interest, and, if adopted, this much-neglected river will in a short time prove a happy hunting-ground to the Midland followers of angling.

IN my Notes last week I made mention of a special general meeting of the Birmingham Angling Association for the purpose of acquiring water for stocking purposes and also the renting of water for the members to fish in. The date of the meeting mentioned by me last week was the 8th of October, but since the printing of my Notes the date has been altered to the 15th of October, in order to give the clubs more time to consider this important matter.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

THE close of the trout fishing season was notable for more successful results than was at one time expected. The latter end of August and the month of September fully atoned for many disappointing days experienced in the earlier part of the season. In looking over the records of several well-known and expert anglers, in more than one instance the last six weeks show the number of fish killed as far in excess of all the rest of the season put together. Bottom fishers have had a great advantage during the season, and, since wasp bait came in, their baskets have been very good.

THE Northern Anglers' Association are very busy in Lancashire just at present. On Tuesday last a private meeting of one of the sub-committees was held in Manchester, but of their doings we cannot speak just now, but from information in our possession our interests are carefully looked after, and most desirable reforms and other items are receiving vigorous attention.

THE new rules of the Manchester District, which came into operation a few months since, have so far worked well. Several clubs have been enabled to deal firmly with cases which under the old rules would have caused considerable trouble. Progress in reforms is reported in many of the clubs affected.

IN reviewing the doings on the various rivers and streams visited by Lancashire rods, the sport reported is rather above the average. The Ribble, Dee, Dane, Weaver, and Bollin, have all had considerable attention, and with the exception of the last have repaid those who have visited them. Pike fishing is affording considerable sport, and although the fish captured are not large, the quantity taken in some way atones for the weight. One of the Cheshire meres is said to contain some very fine specimens, but if things do not alter the fish are likely to remain, for no permits are granted. The fortunate owner may perhaps change his mind if the wild fowl continue to disappear in the manner of the last two months.

IT is a matter for congratulation that Lancashire anglers have not responded to the invitation for entrance to the Great Sweepstake. Club and other contests have been a marked failure of late, and perhaps this may account to some extent for the collapse of the movement.

THE Merry Anglers have brought their season to a close with a extra match at Marston, particulars are not to hand but a most enjoyable day was spent. The Wellington Club are plodding away in their endeavour to find winners for the prizes offered, and as a sign of their efforts being rewarded it may be mentioned that only two remain now on hand. The Bridgewater are still worse off, having five prizes still unawarded, and destination of these is yet undecided. The club having their headquarters at Openshaw are concluding their season with a list of consolation prizes for a valuable kind, but why this contest should be dubbed a "Scramble" is a little hard to understand.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

ON Monday another fine bream was taken by a local angler. This fish, which weighed 6½lb., was caught on the Wensum above Hellesden Mills, near where the 8lb. bream was taken on September 13. I have this on the authority of Mr. T. E. Gunn, to whom it was taken for preservation.

ON the lower reaches of the Yare, little has been done during the past week. At Langley one boat took a few roach on the 4th inst. Several pike have been taken with spoon and natural bait, one gentleman taking four fish on Monday, in Langley Reach, and another rod had three in the same reach on Tuesday.

HIGHER up the river the roach have been well on the feed since the steamboats left off running (on October 1), and several good catches have been made, one boat taking about sixty fish in Coldham Hall Reach, on the 4th inst., and several other lots, of which I have not been able to ascertain numbers or weights, have been secured just above and below the Yare Hotel, at Brundall, the fish being much larger than at any other time this year. Several pike have been taken here; on Saturday, one gentleman had five good fish, from 5lb. to 9lb.

ON the Bure a few boats have been out, one party taking about two stone of bream, at Ranworth, on Friday. On the 4th inst. a catch of two stone of fair perch was made at Salhouse, near the little broad; and on Tuesday, about two stone of bream were taken at Horning.

WATER is still in good condition, and if the weather clears shortly, the fishing will still continue fair.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

ON Wednesday morning, the Trent began to rise rapidly through heavy rain on the previous day, and when my report was written in the evening the river was nearly bank full. But the rise will assuredly be welcomed by the great and ever-increasing army of anglers. One was much needed, if only to scour the bottom and wash away the vast accumulations of weed. Saturday last witnessed the close of the Nottingham Goose Fair holidays, and it need hardly be said that the popular carnival attracted hosts of fishermen to the banks of the river. Several well-known barbel swims were substantially baited, but I have not ascertained of many fish having been killed off them. The season for barbelling is now practically over, and I cannot say that it has been a particularly successful one. Without baiting the fish have been most difficult to catch, especially in the Shardlow length, which is generally looked upon as the best on the whole length of the Trent. Some few days ago Mr. R. Fish, of Nottingham, returned with a substantial basket of chub and barbel from Catton, a village a short distance above Burton-on-Trent. The barbel numbered eleven, and amongst the chub I hear there were several weighing 5lb. a piece. At Clifton, Mr. F. Gibson, of Hyson Green, has taken with the maggot, above a hundred reach, weighing in the aggregate 42lb., and on the following day he supplemented the take with a catch of 18lb. The heaviest fish turned the beam at 1lb. 2oz. Mr. Geo. Bee, of the Nottingham Bowling Green Inn Society, has had a mixed bag of chub, roach, and dace from Fiskerton—the lot weighing 25lb.—and a barbel of 5½lb. has been landed in Newark Dyke, with horsehair tackle. Mr. W. Parr, of the Colwick Fishery, has been busy amongst the chub with the wasp grub, and on Monday, Mr. S. Pogson bagged three respectable pike with the trolling bait in the Weston subscription water. I have no doubt that the present rise will stir up the big bream, and in my next Notes I hope to be able to announce the capture of some fine specimens.

Mr. T. Wood, the well-known lessee of the King's Mills, Weston, and Shardlow Fisheries, had quite a battle royal with a splendid salmon in the first-named length, on Monday afternoon. Dropping down leisurely in his boat from the weirs to the head of Wenham Hole, Mr. Wood tackled up, with a view to kill a few small fish. He was unattended, and had neither gaff nor landing-net in the punt. His small rod only measured 9ft. in length, and the tackle he brought into requisition was entirely composed of fine-drawn stained gut, to the end of which was attached a No. 8 hook. Having got the depth, the float glided gently down-stream, and the very first turn witnessed it suddenly "bob! bob!" The bobbing was repeated, and although the angler believed it was due to the bait dragging the bottom slightly, he struck, and found himself fast in what at first he anticipated was a bream or a barbel. Suddenly, however, the fish dashed away, and the battle began in right down earnest. Coming up and springing forwards about five yards, his true nature was revealed. What to do under the circumstances was a puzzler. The boat was securely anchored, and no one was at hand to render assistance. Playing the fish skilfully before him, Mr. Wood contrived to regain possession of one of the punt oars, and as (fortunately) a long rope was attached to the anchor-chain, he managed, as best he could, to pay the rope out by degrees. Presently the fish darted up-stream, and again showed itself in most frantic fashion. The struggle went on nearly half-an-hour, before the angler—first working the oar for the bank, and next resting for a "breather,"—could reach the side. But in this respect he never actually succeeded, so far as the boat itself is concerned; there was not sufficient rope, and at some personal risk the gallant fisherman sprang from his craft on to an embankment of ugly stonework a distance of a couple of yards, and close underneath which there is a barbel run of fully 10ft. of water. Once on *terra firma*, Mr. Wood was able to bring more power to bear on his quarry. Gradually the fish gave way, and at length was drawn between a kind of streamlet on the stonework. Here it plunged again, but Mr. Wood stuck at it, and finally succeeded in planting the thumb and finger of his left hand between the gills. Lift it, however, he could not for some time. Like the fish, the angler was thoroughly exhausted, and it was only by an extra or supernatural effort that he managed, in a scrambling sort of way, to deposit it on the bank above his head. On examining the mouth it was found the hook was firmly embedded in the gullet of the fish, but the wonder is that with such fine tackle the gut—in the long struggle which ensued—had not been frayed in two. It measured 22in. in length, 18½in. round the girth, and weighed—when placed on the club scales of the Nottingham Wellington Angling Society, of which Mr. Wood is a prominent member and an active supporter—15lb. The tackle was not disturbed; and several gentlemen who with myself saw both it and the fish were loud in their praises of its condition, considering we are now drawing to the eve of the close season.

A communication has been received by Mr. Chas. Heald, the secretary of the Nottingham Shoulder of Mutton Angling Association (Mr. R. Higginson's, Smithy-row), from the Derby Protection Angling Society, on the subject of the proposed imposition of a rod tax on all rods, by the Trent Fishery Board, within their jurisdiction. The anglers of the Derby Society are anxious to know what the friends at Nottingham intend to do in the matter, and it is their intention shortly to send over a deputation to confer with them on the subject. Personally, I am of opinion that the Trent Fishery Board will experience considerable difficulty over their proposed "new fad." They do nothing whatever for Nottingham coarse fish anglers, and whereas the board can afford to station a paid water-bailiff at Derby, and a second at Newark, they seem to regard our local wielders of the rod as so many nonenities. The fact is Nottingham possesses considerably more anglers than Derby and Newark combined, and yet their claims to protection are entirely overlooked. The Trent flows to the immediate south of the town, and there are times when a paid officer could render most valuable service in the suppression, or at all events, mitigation, of illegal practices. To impose a tax on rods in the district will require a big army of tax collectors. I annually take out a salmon licence, and I suppose the holders of these and trout licences will be exempt from the proposed new order of things. If the Board would do something for coarse fish anglers, I don't suppose many would grumble at paying a small tax. But they must do something before they begin to extort something.

With the close of Nottingham Goose Fair holidays, last Saturday, the summer angling season is always regarded as at an end. The various clubs enter upon the winter term, in which the classification of fish for weighing-in purposes differs from that of the summer. The leading local society (the Wellington) still continues to make satisfactory headway under the able guidance of its officers. For the ensuing campaign no fewer than a hundred and twenty railway travelling tickets have been applied for, and already the "mystery-box" in the society's room could, if opened, unfold a thrilling tale of the "whoppers" already weighed in by a large number of the members. Strangers devoted to angling should give the Wellingtonians a look in on their weekly meeting night—Thursday—I am sure they would be heartily welcomed. Rumour hath it that amongst the chub weighed in is a leviathan of 6lb. A prize valued at five guineas is given for the best specimen chub killed with the bottom-bait, and a similar prize for the best specimen taken with the fly. Special prizes are also given for such special fish as salmon, trout, and grayling.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

A knot in the roll of red tape which entangles the question of improving the salmon fishing of the Severn has brought the progress of the Severn Board of Conservators to an unlooked-for block. At their meeting on Thursday in last week, a bye-law was to be proposed for adoption consequent upon the resolution passed at a previous meeting, "That the termination of the annual close season, as to the whole of the Severn Fishery district shall be altered, and that such close season shall commence on the first day of September and terminate on the first day of March following both dates inclusive for all modes of salmon fishing." The bye-law, it appeared, had been framed upon an erroneous minute as to the motion at the previous meeting, and the chairman explained that, having taken the opinion of qualified people, he felt it his duty to say at once to the Board that the proposed bye-law could not in its present form be put, for the reason that it was illegal, as it provided that all salmon fishing, both by rod and net should terminate at the same time, whereas the Act of Parliament laid down that the rod and line fishermen should have more time to follow the sport than the nets. It is probable that another few months will have to pass, bringing with them more discontent and bickering before the much-needed extension of the close time is brought about; and moreover it is likely that the technical difficulty which has thus arisen will be seized upon as an opportunity of fighting the whole question again—a prospect which the upper water representatives at least will hardly regard with pleasure, for it will necessitate their full attendance at future meetings. However, they are thoroughly determined to leave no stone unturned to improve the salmon fishing in their localities, and will doubtless in the end secure the victory. A lengthy discussion took place at the meeting as to the better course to be pursued, and it resulted in the chairman offering to consult the authorities in London, to learn whether if a special meeting to consider a substitutory bye-law were held it would be possible for that to become law before the 2nd February next. A resolution to this effect was moved, and also an amendment that the matter be left over to the next ordinary meeting in January, those who took the latter view arguing that the close time had better be left unchanged for next season. The amendment was lost by twenty-four votes to fifteen, and as a result, a special meeting will be held, if the Board of Trade think the necessary inspection and subsequent legislation can be carried out in time.

It was reported at the Board meeting that the salmon fishing licences for the past year realised £220, but of this sum a very small amount only is contributed from the upper waters, for the reason that it is not worth anyone's while to take out a licence either for rod or net above Shrewsbury, except, perhaps where the owner could command one or two good reaches. Around Shrewsbury I believe there is now not a single licence held—truly a state of things that is very forcible evidence of the need of radical reformation in regard to the facilities allowed for salmon to ascend the river and spawn.

The Chairman of the Board made some very pertinent remarks relative to the undesirability of Government giving powers to local bodies to take water from the Severn Watershed until all the schemes relating thereto were before them. Various schemes, he said, were now being mooted—one from the Borough of Birmingham, by which it was proposed to take water from the Wye, and possibly from the Severn; and another, promoted by the London County Council, which might also affect their watershed. Many schemes, in fact, continued the chairman, existed for the object of taking pure water from the Severn district, and the Board should endeavour to prevent any being taken that could not be spared, believing that if the various schemes were allowed to pass through Parliament piece-meal, their interests would be seriously affected. He did not, he said, desire to say anything of what had been done in this respect in the past, but he thought that what had been done had reached its utmost limits, and the committee thought it well to be wise in time, and that the time had come when they ought to press upon the Government the importance of seeing all the schemes at the same time, both with regard to considering questions of compensation and other matters. He moved, in conclusion, that this recommendation of the committee be adopted. Mr. Airey, of Worcester, questioned the wisdom of the resolution, remarking that he did not hold the doctrine that a river was the sole property of persons who happened to live in the valley through which it passed. Neither did he think it a very patriotic course for the Board to take to say that because they happened to live in the particular district that they would have a plentiful supply of good water, and that the districts, five or ten times the population, who could not get good water without going to such a district as theirs, should be opposed in getting water at every turn. The chairman explained that they did not want to prevent those bodies from improving their water-supply by taking the surplus water from their watershed, but to prevent their taking water which was necessary for the wants of the district. This statement was received with applause—applause which people who reside in and above Shrewsbury at any rate will heartily re-echo, for as it is we have now by no means sufficient water in the summer months in the Severn, to ensure the well-being of the fish it contains; nor, what is perhaps even more important to ensure the health of the inhabitants by carrying off pollution, and keeping the bed of the river in a clear state. In the heat of summer the river becomes so low that it may be easily waded across, and then the vile sewage-pipes are laid almost bare. The bed of the river adjacent, which has become covered with poisonous matter, is laid bare, and the result can hardly be conducive to the health of the town. If more water is to be taken away, one knows not what the end may be, and it behoves all local authorities in the Upper Severn, as well as its representatives on the Board, to keep a watchful eye upon the doings of Parliament in this respect.

The all-important report of Mr. Berrington, Chief Inspector of Fisheries, was presented to the Board, respecting the condition of the fish passes in the weirs of the Severn. The Chairman, remarking that the first question to be dealt with was the state of the navigation weirs, moved that a copy of so much of the Chief Inspector's report as referred to these weirs and desirable alterations therein, should be sent to the Severn Commissioners, and he would endeavour to arrange with the Commissioners that such alterations as would expedite the passage of the salmon to the upper waters be carried out. Two years ago, said the chairman, they had made an agreement with the Severn Commissioners with regard to the fish passes, and that agreement had been sanctioned by Government, and therefore he did not see how they could go to the Commissioners and ask as of right for anything to be done, but they could point out recommendations in the report and ask for them to be carried out. Mr. J. Williams very properly suggested that the report of the inspector should be placed in the hands of the members, so that they might give it their mature consideration. In the upper waters, he remarked, they had a very strong opinion that the deficiency of salmon arose from the action of the navigation weirs, and if that was the case they ought not to act in a hasty manner. He advised that they should deal with the matter at the next meeting. It was decided that Milford Weir should be improved, at an estimated cost of £25; that plans, specifications, and estimates, be obtained for improvements to the weirs at Llansaintffraid and Aberrhaiadr, and that various other improvements should be undertaken or estimated for. Thus the visit of inspection seems to have borne good fruit, and as a result the weirs will be considerably improved.

NOTES FROM IRELAND.

[From Our Dublin Correspondent.]

The closing days of the rod-fishing season in the Dublin district have not been marked with any special degree of success, nor indeed has the weather been over-inviting to anglers, yet several rods plied the northern trout streams. The Tolka and Nanny waters, where fair baskets were effected. Sea angling around the bay is, however, giving sport, especially at Greystones, where several club members have had nice catches of conger, cod, &c. Kingston Harbour continues a favourite resort of sea anglers, and it is indeed a sight (on Sunday afternoons especially) to watch the number of lines cast on all sides, and their various takes. I saw one line take two fine whiting in about ten minutes the other evening, right at the end of Carlisle Pier, where the Royal Mail boats start.

Sir Thomas Brady is, it is announced, about to retire from his official position of premier Inspector of Irish Fisheries, a position which for many years he has held with dignity and marked ability. The announcement is read with regret by all classes in Ireland, but amongst none will he be more missed than amongst the poor fishermen of our entire coast, in whose welfare he took a special interest. Year after year he has pleaded their cause, particularly in cases of distress, and never has he pleaded in vain. He has lived to see most of his best efforts on behalf of the Irish fisheries crowned with success, but still hopes to see a National Fishing Department established, which will be representative of the people and devoted to the further development of our fisheries generally.

I have had many good communications sent me from various districts concerning fishing, but this one "takes the cake." Of course I do not vouch for its correctness: "Lough and river are swarming with fish, enormous catches of which are being made by the workmen of the Foyle and Bann Fishery Company. One of 7lb. jumped into a ferry-boat on Saturday, much to the astonishment of a passenger, whom the fish hit on the head. Six salmon leapt into pleasure-boats on the day of regatta. Of course, the owners of the boats claimed the fish." There now, you needn't trouble, with rod and line on the Foyle or Bann. The fish, instead of waiting to be caught, are so delighted you've come, that they actually jump out at your feet. Wonderful!

"Just throw me those half-dozen big trout," said an angler to a city fishmonger. "Throw them?" queried the dealer. "Yes; I want to tell my wife I caught them."

NOTES FROM TYRONE.

Reports from all parts of Tyrone show that on the principal streams sport is dull, generally from the low clear state of the water. A few slight freshes have been experienced, but not heavy enough to raise or colour the water. The season closes to-day on the northern rivers—Strule, Mourne, Castlederg, &c.—and altogether it has been but a middling one. Already salmon are running up to the spawning beds, and for a few weeks the keepers will have a busy time watching the poachers. However, these rivers are well preserved. We wish we could record the same state of affairs on the remaining streams.

The Ballinderry, Blackwater, Newmills, Kildress, and other rivers in the eastern section are all low, and not much has been done on them except coarse fishing, and that has been fairly good. The lower reaches of the Ballinderry are well stocked with salmon, but they are not rising well. Poaching is scarcely as prevalent as it was. The Blackwater has not done well this season.

A curious case came before County Court Judge Kisbey, Q.C., at the East Ballybat Quarter Sessions, which interested particularly those who are engaged in supplying the English markets with eels from fresh-water lakes all over the North of Ireland—but especially Lough Neagh. At the June court day of the Crossmaglen Bench of Magistrates, Mr. James O'Neil, Inspector of Fisheries, Dundalk, charged David Wallace "for that the defendant in Loughross Freshwater Lake on the 6th May last, during the annual close time for eels did make use of a *fixed engine* for taking eels, and did take and had in his possession a large quantity of eels contrary to the statute in such cases." A further charge of also having eel fry in his possession, same date, was preferred. The magistrates dismissed both cases, and Mr. O'Neil appealed to the higher court to quash this decision. Mr. O'Neil deposed that on the day in question he saw Wallace taking eels by a stationary line fixed in Loughross Lake. The engine consisted of a main line to which at intervals were attached smaller baited lines. The line was set at dusk in the evening and lifted the following day at noon. After hearing the evidence, His Honour said that in the general question of whether this was a river, he was against the respondent. He was of the opinion that although it was called a fresh-water lake, no offence had been committed against the Act of Parliament, and he was prepared to decide that the instrument employed in taking the eels was a fixed engine within the meaning of the Act; however, as the point was a new and important one, he would "state a case" for the superior courts. In the other appeal case the dismissal by the court below was confirmed by His Honour.

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— NOTICE. —

THE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

Communications relating to the Literary Department, Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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Telegraphic Address—"RIVSAM, London."
TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The — Fishing Gazette

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH, 1891.

IN THE WAKE OF ST. PETER; OR, FLY-FISHING IN PALESTINE.

By SARACEN.

IN the fall of the year 1887, myself with two other Englishmen, and four representatives of the land of Uncle Sam and wooden nutmegs, made up a party for the combined purpose of exploration and pleasure in Egypt and Syria. Embarking at Marseilles by a Messageries Maritimes steamer, we arrived, after a delightful voyage of about six days on the blue Mediterranean, at Alexandria.

I will pass over our sojourn in the land of the Caliphs with the remark that, like unto the Israelites of old, none of us were sorry to quit a country teeming with wonders, but positively unique for fever, dirt, and disease, the latter both moral and physical. It is said that Moses on leaving Egypt recommended his followers to spoil the Egyptians—in other words, lay in a good large stock of dry goods on tick without the slightest intention of repayment, though by what means he contrived to weather the Custom House authorities is not stated. Unlike Moses, however, we took away only that which honestly belonged to us—recollections.

After a good shaking on the Ismalia Zagazig Railway, we arrived at Ismalia on Lake Timsah, passing the site of Tel-el-Kebir *en route*, and from thence steamed up the Suez Canal to Port Said, and at the latter embarked for Jaffa, which was reached on the third morning from our leaving Cairo.

What made me, previous to leaving London, think of putting up a small collection of flies, drawn gut, &c., in an air-tight tin-box, I cannot exactly say, probably being a Devonian, it was what Pat would call "the nature of the baste"; however that may be, I had no reason to repent my forethought.

At Jaffa we procured tents, horses, mules, servants, and, more important than all, an excellent dragoman, named Raphael, a man unsurpassed for courage and skill as a leader in that land of desolation, stones, and mountains.

On leaving Bethlehem the Sheik of one of the large Bedouin tribes appeared to guide us into the interior at a heavy blackmail. He and I soon got on intimate terms; perhaps my tobacco had something to do with this, at any rate he took a liberal allowance, and called me his brother. How nice it is to meet with one's relations in a far away country. We passed several days with his tribe.

From Raphael I got the information that there were few fish in Jordan, but farther up there existed many rivers, lakes, and pools, crammed full, notably Tiberias, and around the Hooleh Morass. Jordan was indeed a failure; fancy that beautiful stream we have been taught to revere from our infancy and so often mentioned in Sunday-school books, and which if the daily papers of those times are to be believed, was the fashionable watering-place of the Metropolis of Jerusalem, being the colour of the Thames at London Bridge, surrounded by palms and creepers white with dust.

I did not bathe in Jordan; the Americans of course insisted on it as being the proper thing. W. fell into a hole at once, and D. slipped in the clay. Altogether the incident was of an impressive character.

After leaving Nazareth and crossing the Horns of Hattin (famous in history as the site of a great battle between the Infidel and Christian, in which the latter seems to have had out-and-out the worst of it) a magnificent view is presented of the northern side of the Lake of Galilee, lying in repose at our feet, surrounded on all sides by mountains, while in the far distance can be seen the snow-capped summit of mighty Hermon rising like a deity over all.

Arrived on the shore of the lake, our goal is at length reached, the baggage having been sent on to our camping-ground at Ain-et-Tin, we embarked on a lateen shoulder-of-mutton sail contrivance, called a boat, to visit Capernaum. My American friends were exceedingly glad, but this state of things did not last, for, about half-way across, one of those storms for which this water is famous came upon us, the boatmen lost their heads, added to which having but little knowledge of tacking, the sail got taken aback several times. The Rais, or captain, declared it was God's will that we should not go unto Capernaum; accordingly the sail was stowed, and the vessel rowed into Magdala. Whilst walking on to our camp from that place, W. asked me what I thought of the voyage. I replied that to my mind we had acted the Apostle too much.

We arrived at Ain-et-Tin (fount of the fig-tree), so-named from the fact that a pure perennial fountain, shaded by an old fig-tree, flows from the rock into a small pond connected by a stream with the lake itself) at about 5 p.m. By this time the water was without a ripple, the winter sun setting in a bed of pale crimson, blended with azure, the surrounding mountains being shown in all their glorious colours reflected on the water as in a mirror. Now and again could be heard the splash of fish evidently engaged in taking a good square meal preparatory to retiring for the night. This set me thinking. "W.," said I to my friend, "just come to our tent and assist in the manufacture of some gut collars, for if I don't mistake, those fish will take an artificial fly like steam; this was soon accomplished, but the question then arose, what on earth are we to do for rods? As we could see no canes, W. cut two capital switches from an oleander (Rose of Sharon), which being moderately springy answered the purpose well enough. In the meanwhile I endeavoured (without success, for it was almost dark) to ascertain at what insect the fish were rising. "It's no good, old man," exclaimed I, as W. came up with the rods; "we must trust to luck entirely as regards the fly. I shall therefore point with a small Cock-y-bondu and place a Coachman for lob. You use the same, only reverse the order." Another minute and we were prepared for action, the lines, about eight yards long, made tight to the end of the rod, with an extra piece carried down to the butt in case of accidents.

At the first cast I felt a touch, but missed; in a moment more, another. This time the quick turn of the wrist proved too much for his fishship, who, after performing several amusing aquatic exercises, was prevailed upon to come to shore. Bravo, Coch-y-bondu!

In the delight and pride occasioned by capture number one, it was distressing to hear sounds from the other side of the pool indicative of anything but flattery toward the piscine race. Poor W. it seemed had hooked a beauty, which, favoured by the darkness, contrived out of pure cussedness to break him over some stones. On the strength of this sad occurrence we agreed to give it up for the night, and drown our sorrows in the fumes of cavendish and rum punch.

Eight o'clock next morning found us hard at work, the sun in our faces and a slight wind at our backs, and better still a lovely ripple. The fish rose snappishly, in a manner suggestive of business. Quantities of small gnats being about, we put on two of the smallest-sized Yellow Duns (winged), which had often rendered me good service on the Derbyshire Wye and Devonshire streams. In about an hour we had twenty nice fish, though many of the larger ones were lost, owing to the tight-line. At eleven a.m. the sun's heat proved too much for the fish in the pool; accordingly they ceased to rise.

W. then hinted at trying the lake itself. For about five yards from the shore the weeds were very thick, so we were compelled to wade. Once through them, and commanding open water, the sport came fast and furious, much to the surprise of several Arabs (busily engaged doing nothing, as usual), who failed to understand how the "Ingleez" contrived to catch fish with a feather. An explanation ensued; whereupon they declared that never, to their knowledge, had the fish been so captured before; adding, "The Ingleez can do everything." I felt satisfied.

After an excellent morning's work we returned to lunch, and received many congratulations from our dragoman and the rest of our friends. The fish proved to be what I think are termed "binni" (or Bænni), and belong to the carp tribe—a trifle longer, perhaps, which gives them a very grayling-like look. On being struck they at once make for the bottom, and possessed as they are of a tender mouth require careful handling. A slight strain, well kept up, will invariably bring them to creel. The usual size varies from 10oz. to 1½lb., but I have seen them quite 3lb. This species exist more or less throughout Syria, in both lakes and rivers, which they hold jointly with the mud-loving coracinus, or cat-fish—sometimes called "sly silurus"—easily known by the six tentacular appendages to its lips. The local fishermen call it "harboot." The creature affords no sport with the fly, and is usually netted or hooked; and being nothing to speak of in the way of eating, may be dismissed with the remark that it was held sacred by the Egyptians, probably because it was fit for nothing else.

Since recording my experiences, it has been reported that the streams which flow into Galilee, and also the lake, swarm with trout. All I can say is (without giving an emphatic denial to this statement) that though my friend and myself spent some days, not only at Tiberias, but also on many other rivers, pools and streams throughout Palestine, rod in hand, trying many sorts of flies, we neither saw nor could hear anything about trout. Moreover, I am of opinion that the waters generally are unsuited to that kingly fish, though in all fairness I am bound to say the lively binui proved a very fair substitute so far as sport is concerned.

Some good catches may be made at Melahah, also Ain Belata—both camping-places near the Hooleh Morass. There is likewise another very pretty pool close to the hill of Dan. Any small gnat-like artificial fly, hackle or wing, will capture binui. Personally I found the small Yellow Dun aforesaid and Black Gnat ribbed with silver the most destructive. When darkness comes on, a medium-sized Coachman or Coch-y-bondu answers capitally; the fly should then be allowed to sink a few inches, as the fish take under water after sunset.

In conclusion it is perhaps unnecessary for me to add—use fine tackle. Of course with a tight line there will be some breakages now and then; but, after all, an expletive in D major, and the soothing influence of a genuine Turkish cigarette, or a few pulls from a narghilleh, soon puts the annoyance out of one's head, whereas coarse tackle soon causes a general stampede among the fish. To all lovers of adventure, mountain climbing, riding, and fine scenery, interspersed with a little fishing, I say, Do not hesitate to follow in the wake of St. Peter.

A GEM IN THE COTSWOLDS.

By Enthusiast.

Anglers, I believe, are generally unselfish; but it is a matter for observation that in the graphic and charming accounts of fishing expeditions that from time to time appear in the sporting papers, the writers are prone to say too much of their experiences, and disclose too little of the localities where they have been obtained. My object in writing the present article is, not so much to detail events that must occur to every angler, as to give those that are in search of it the opportunity of procuring an unusually good piece of trout fishing within moderate reach of London, and in a county where, I believe, the trout fishing is almost exclusively in private hands.

It is desirable that I should preface what I have to say with the clear announcement that I am but a duffer, and such experience as I possess has been acquired only by my own observation and tutoring. With what I can learn in another ten years, I may be able to classify the various duns that frequent our waters, and to throw a true line. At the present I can do neither the one, nor the other. Your readers must, accordingly, give such weight as they may think proper to my observations, but they should also know that I have, since my boyhood, been intimately acquainted with the streams in the district of which I am writing, and I may ask for confidence on that account, as well as on the ground that, although a duffer, I am what my *nom de plume* suggests, and would wilfully lead no brother of the craft astray. I may also add that I am acquainted with the public waters of the Lambourn, Kennet, Darenth, Avon and Itchen, and am consequently in a position to form a judgment which can claim to be founded on experience, if not to be reliable.

With these preliminaries, will your readers follow me to the little village of Bibury, in the heart of the Cotswolds. There will be found one of the neatest and best-ordered communities it has been my lot to come across. We all know that order arises from good government, and Bibury is no exception to this rule; and if the powers that be are somewhat autocratic, should the result be good, let us not complain. The village is situated on the river Coln, which rises some ten miles above. It is augmented at Bibury by a large volume of water from a spring in the garden of the Swan Inn, to which the fishing of which I am writing belongs. The spring water flows from the Swan garden, by the side of the village street, for about a quarter of a mile, forming a stream of the clearest water, about twelve yards in width, and some two feet or so in depth, and is then joined by the Coln. Thence it continues with a somewhat deeper and swifter water, past some cottage gardens and two meadows. The fishing for the whole of this distance belongs exclusively to the Swan, and is carefully looked after. Its entire extent is about half-a-mile. The pathway along the village street is asphalted, and protected from the stream by a wall. To anglers of indolent habits, if any such there be, this part affords an opportunity for fishing in luxury and at ease. In the wettest weather a man could comfortably angle there in his slippers. The constant passage of folk prevents the fish from being shy. You can consequently show yourself without fear, but your rod must not be so disclosed, because the fish at present have not been educated to heed it as little as the passers-by. Should this precaution be neglected, the fish are deep in the weeds in a second. By standing well back in the road, the middle and far side of the stream can be well fished, while the near side must be approached from below. In the meadows of course the case is different, and waders there are better than slippers. They are, however, by no means necessary, although an assistance in reaching some spots. Practically, the whole of the water can be well fished from the bank. At the end of the cottage gardens I have referred to, I have for days watched a fine fellow rising close under the bank, and whenever I saw him, a cast was attempted, and as often as it was so often was a fly left in some of the overhanging intermediate bushes. A fine collection of flies was subsequently made from these bushes. The hand of the bungler is here shown by the attempt to make an impossible cast, when by the lopping of a few branches, the desired spot could be reached with comparative ease, or at any rate by a fluke. This brilliant idea only occurred to me towards the end of my stay, and I made the necessary preparations by trimming the bushes, for that, I thought, would be the end of all things so far as this fish was concerned. Unfortunately, in so doing I scared my friend, but I intended to wait on him another day. That, alas! never came, and he or his counterpart will no doubt be there next season, possibly to fall a victim to a reader of this article. If such an one thinks of following my footsteps, let him not forget to take his pruning-knife with him.

I can vouch for the water being well-stocked with fish. Indeed, I believe many people would say that there are too many, but there is abundance of food, and the fish are bright, well-favoured, and run to a good size. An average of about one pound may be looked for.

I confess to prefer fishing with the dry-fly, and this is possibly because I do not rightly understand how to properly work a fly under water. I believe the generally-accepted local opinion is that a hackle fly fished wet is the deadly lure. A large Red Palmer, or March Brown, was sure to fetch them, so I was informed. It fell to me, however, to go my own way, as with no hackle fly could I bring a fish to the creel. The invaluable Red Quill, and on hot days the Black Gnat fished dry, answered better than any of the local prescriptions. The fish I found were generally full of the little black fly, and also of the yellow larvæ of a fly nearly as big as a May-fly. What it was I knew not, nor could I produce from my case anything approaching similarity to it. The water being so clear, and the necessity of keeping out of sight paramount, I tried fishing straight up-stream, and although I have found this successful on the Test and other waters, it was no use here. In hardly a case, except at dusk or with a slightly coloured water, did I in the shallow parts rise a fish, otherwise than from a cross cast. A couple of feet of gut over a fish almost always scared it, however gently placed, and I accordingly abandoned, as a general practice, the up-stream cast as a bad job. Although the usual condition of the water is as I have described, a good storm, and sometimes the mill above, will colour it a little, and then with a rise is the time, for those that wish it, to fill their baskets.

The water will carry two rods comfortably, and, I believe, the landlord of the Swan can make arrangements for another stretch of water, sufficient for another rod or two, on application. If the angler should require a change, he can get a day on the Fairford Water, six miles off, for two shillings and sixpence. The Swan water is, however, free of charge. The pick of the fishing is in the May-fly time. The rods fishing the water during that period this year, obtained, I was informed, a daily average of ten brace of fish, and the season here was no better than in other places. The earlier fishing is also good, and July and August are fair months; September rather late.

Personally I am never keen on making a big basket. I would sooner kill a brace of fish artistically, under difficult conditions, than five times that number when all things happened to be against the fish and in the angler's favour. One of the charms of fishing is not so much the filling of the creel, as obtaining the mastery over one that refuses to submit, and overcoming what appear to be almost insurmountable difficulties. Here is the nature of our countrymen, and what makes so many of them love the craft, and the best fishermen in the world. For those who like to flog a water from beginning to end, the Bibury stream can have no charm—it will soon be covered; but to those who are content to watch for and endeavour to circumvent feeding fish (and in one quarter or another there are some of these always to be found), let me commend the place as likely to afford infinite pleasure and good sport. As a practice ground for dry-fly fishing I could wish for no better place.

For my part, the stream and the old garden, with its rushing spring waters, would afford me all the recreation I require. I wish for nothing better than a warm day, a rug on the lawn, a book and a cigar, and, should the temperature be too high, sufficient energy to turn my body to the brookside and dip my head in its clear and cooling stream. The white ducks (for I should add that the autocracy I have referred to will allow nothing but Aylesbury's to be seen on the water) can be viewed from the lawn, and many a half-hour's enjoyment have they given me. It is impossible to imagine how much there is in a duck's toilet until one has watched it gone through. These white ducks, too, are responsible for a mystery which threatened to trouble my mind, but which happily I solved without much difficulty. On several occasions, when fishing, I noticed a white fly on my line. I thought a magician's hand had changed my dear Red Quill to a Coachman—a flick, and it was the Red Quill again. This happened so often that an examination was necessary, and it showed a tiny bit of duck's down on the fly, the result, no doubt, of the toilets higher up the stream.

It is now frequently claimed by writers in the public press that the Cotswold country deserves to be better known, and as a Gloucestershire man I can confirm this, and confidently assert that from the anglers' or artist's point of view there is no brighter gem in it than Bibury. To those, unlike myself, who will not be content with the simple delights of the village, the surrounding country will be found to possess charms peculiar to itself, and there are many places in the neighbourhood well worthy of a visit, especially by those of an antiquarian turn of mind. In particular may be mentioned Cirencester, with its church, park, and Roman curiosities, the Fairford Church windows, and the Chedworth Roman Villa. A visitor to these places must pass along the entire valley of the Coln, which to my mind can safely claim its right to the description of beautiful. Objection may be taken to that by some, but, be that as it may, no fault can be found with the assertion that a healthier district could not be wished for.

The nearest railway station to Bibury is Fairford, about six miles off, and Cirencester comes next, at a distance of seven miles. The landlord of the Swan will always meet trains at either of these stations, and the angler will find in him a genial host, and his quarters comfortable though homely. The visitors to the place are very few, and since July there has practically been no rod on the water except my own. It is well to bear in mind that the accommodation in the house as well as on the water is limited, and that it is desirable to write and make inquiries in the first instance.

May I add one word more as to flies? It is that an intending visitor to Bibury need not be anxious to take too large a stock or variety with him. He will with a little search find both the one and the other in the trees bordering the stream. These once belonged to me; but now, I presume, I can no longer lay claim to the ownership of them, and I freely bequeath them to my brethren. May they be useful to the finder, if in no other way than by teaching him to be chary in essaying to attack an impregnable position.

A FORTNIGHT'S HOLIDAY.

By Francis M. Walbran.

Autumn has always been a favourite season of the year with me, and it is seldom that I entertain serious thoughts of a protracted absence from town life until September has arrived, and "the golden hazy sun" of the poets sheds its mellow light over well-gleaned stubble fields and the russet-tinted woodlands. Emerald spring-time has its charms, and so also has the summer, with its leafy shade, floral wealth, and soothing, slumbrous influence of bird and insect life; but give me the autumn, a congenial spirit as companion, the river in a settled condition, with trout and grayling in an accommodating humour, and I would not change places with the greatest magnate in the land.

I have just returned from such an expedition, one of the most delightful I ever spent, and as my experiences of sport have been varied, I sit down, with the various incidents fresh in my mind, to endeavour to relate them to the readers of this Journal.

The stream upon which my friend and self commenced operations on Monday, September 14, is a peculiar one—it does not partake of the rocky, streamy character of the majority of our North Country streams, but flows through flat meadowland, alternating between fine gravelly reaches, partly covered with waving masses of weed, and gently-eddying lengths of deeper water, shallowing gradually towards the edges.

Contrary to the general rule, rough wet weather is conducive to the best sport; but there are times when the use of a dry fly, cast by a master hand, is productive of grand results. On our arrival at the comfortable inn frequented by the club members, our spirits were somewhat damped by the intelligence that one of the oldest and most experienced of them had laboured for three whole days with the grand total of a brace of pound trout as a result; but the anglers hopefulness is proverbial, and we sallied forth resolving to do our level best. Strolling down the little country lane leading to the stream, we encountered the old keeper, who has been in the service of the club for forty years, and may almost be said to have an affection for the fish under his care; he was afraid that we had come at a bad time, but urged us to make haste, as there were a few fish rising, and there might be a chance to have hold of some of them. By this time we had reached a little bridge crossing the road, a wooden sluice holding the water back to form a small reed-fringed dam above; one or two tiny dimples dotted the unruffled surface of the pool, and one sockdollager was cruising round the edge of the reeds, waving his tail above the surface, with his nose rooting among the weeds below. My friend soon had his rod together, and affixing a tiny Little Marryat to the end of a tapered undrawn gut cast, he floated it carefully over the place where the dimples kept appearing. I meantime watched his proceedings with interest, smoking my pipe and chatting with the keeper.

"No use, my boy," exclaimed my friend, after about ten minutes' work, "these fellows are too near the road, and everyone will be tempted to go for them; let us proceed upwards. On we went, now kneeling low, trying to deceive a rising fish, now sitting down for a few minutes to chat and debate what fly to experiment with next, until we came upon the senior member before alluded to, and watched him fish a beautiful shallow without obtaining the faintest semblance of a rise.

"Good morning, gentlemen," he said, as he rose from his knees at the end of the cast, "not much use fishing to-day; I am afraid they are at their old tricks again." One fish graced the interior of his creel, a nicely-fed trout of a pound weight, which had fallen a victim to the allurement of a Pale Watery Dun fished dry. After ten minutes' conversation, during which he advised us to work down-stream, we parted company and walked about a mile below before commencing to fish again. The fly that we ultimately found the most attractive was the Little Marryat, which represented the Whirling Blue Dun, a few of which were on the water; but we got tired at last of flailing, and retired to the keeper's cottage to partake of a cup of tea, and pick out a few Red Quills and Silver Sedges to be ready for the evening rise. In front of the keeper's garden is a long deep cut, which contains some heavy fish, but as a rule these artful gentlemen do not rise freely until evening. In September seven o'clock is the time prescribed for reeling up, so we confined ourselves to this stretch; but the evening rise was as disappointing as the one during the day—my friend caught a good fish, and I lost a brace. Then we wended our way through the fading light and spent a pleasant evening in the cosy inn parlour. There was a party of four of us, all keen fishermen, and great was the interchange of past experiences amongst us. Our fly-books were brought out, and patterns which had accounted for heavy baskets on various streams, in almost every part of the kingdom, were shown and their merits discussed. Twelve o'clock struck before we were hardly aware of the fact, and then we departed to our respective bedrooms. The morrow broke with a cloudy sky and a nice rippling breeze on the water, so that when we were driving down to the lower end of the stream our hopes were in the ascendant. We commenced where a foot-bridge spans the water below an island, and where I generally contrive to basket a brace or two of fish with the wet fly; but to-day, with apparently everything in our favour, not an offer could be got either with wet or dry. About eleven o'clock a few Whirling Blues appeared, and I mounted a couple—one winged, and the other a favourite Yorkshire hackled pattern, consisting of a yellow body, dubbed with squirrel's fur, and the feather from under the wing of a *young* grouse. My friend mounted an Orange Partridge hackle, and very soon, during a smart shower, hooked and lost three fish—one a goodly specimen about 1½lb., which escaped when it was apparently ready for the net. The day ended with very similar results to the previous one, excepting that the senior member, having donned his waders, fished steadily up a by-stream for a mile or so, and returned with three and a-half brace of good fish, and when we gathered once more in the evening he acknowledged that he never worked harder for a day's sport; in fact, that the game was hardly worth the candle.

About twelve o'clock, as my friend and I sat at the head of a broad shallow, eating our lunch, we witnessed one of those phenomena which occur now and then in one's angling experiences; the surface of the stream had previously been undisturbed, when suddenly on every side there appeared a rising trout—not a steady rise such as is dear to the heart of a fly-fisher, but a mad carnival, the fish rushing from side to side, splashing, bulging, and chasing one another. A couple of fish, apparently a couple of pounds each, were very conspicuous, and made a wave like that of a steam propeller every time they moved. We tried every fly, small and large, that we could think of, but all to no avail, they never even glanced at them. My friend, than whom no more enthusiastic angler breathes, went cautiously into the meadow, crawling to the edge of the stream on his hands and knees, and although he was behind the cover of a stunted willow bush, the two large fish referred to immediately were quiet, but as soon as ever he rejoined me they were at it again. How they became aware of his presence was a perfect mystery to me. It was equally so to discover what the fish were feeding on, whether some kind of larvæ below the surface, or on some minute midge fly invisible to our eyes.

So ended the first two days of our campaign, disappointing as regards sport, but none the less enjoyable, for if a man cannot accept reverses occasionally he is not to be considered a sportsman in the true acceptance of the term; good company, comfortable quarters, and the freshest of country air, fully compensated for our ill luck, and the next morning saw us *en route* for the Costa, to make a change from trout to grayling.

(To be continued.)

KINKING IN SPINNING LINES.—A very simple yet efficient way of preventing kinking, is occasionally, during the day, to reel in the reverse way, say once every two hours. This will neutralise any superfluous torsion which escaped the swivels. In fact, a few casts after this manner gives a negative torsion, so to speak, which acts as a reserve against kinking. Apropos of spinning lines, the great secret of preserving them and getting the maximum of tear and wear out of them, lies in the practice of thoroughly drying them after use. Then, grease or no grease, they will serve their day. To test a spinning line, do so when it is wet; and the same with gut casts after they are well soaked. The present season is prolific of angling incidents. A week or so ago most of the angling papers gave prominence to the incident of a salmon leaping into a canoe, *but it was lost*, which was not to be wondered at, when all the circumstances are taken into account. This revives the incident which happened a few years back to John Harper, the Deeside fisherman, whose sketch appeared in the last Christmas number of the *Fishing Gazette*. He was guiding a "float" or raft, of hewn trees, through the "sautfat"—one of Dee's most dangerous rapids (for he is as famous a lumberer as fisherman although that occupation is now almost obsolete) when a salmon leaped right on to the raft, as it dipped into the rapid, and, in the twinkling of an eye, Harper had a beauty of 12lb. shivering at his feet. His presence of mind was equal to the occasion.

Notes

THE salmon fishings on the Tay and Earn, belonging to the Earl of Wemyss and March, were exposed for sale in the Royal George Hotel, Perth, last week, before a good attendance of tacksmen. There was an increase of £13 on last year's rental on the subjects let; but one lot, which fetched £130 last year, was withdrawn. The total rent realised was £1,266. The fishings on the Tay, belonging to Sir James T. Stewart Richardson, Bart., were then exposed in one lot, and fetched £575 over last year's price, being an increase of one hundred and sixty per cent. Last year the price was £1,100; this year £1,675 has been arranged for.

MR. R. B. BAMBRIDGE writes: "Sorry no report was sent from Windsor last week—was away in Scotland fishing—but will send for next. Am fortunate in being here and able to do so, as I was in that Scotch express which came to grief at Crewe (see to-day's *Telegraph*), but happily I was in the last compartment but one of the train, though Guard Owen, in next compartment (his van), got badly hurt, but pluckily came right through to London with us."

MR. E. CARNEGIE writes: "Mr. Harry How, in the *Strand Magazine*, for September, writing about Madame Albani, says, referring to her being fond of angling: 'And then with rod and line, she will sit on the banks of the Dee, and many a good trout and weighty salmon have responded to her silent invitation to take a bite.' Fancy sitting still for salmon and trout!—P.S.: Did you get the information for the 'Anglers' Diary' I sent you?"—Yes; thanks.

WE are glad to state that Mr. T. Andrews, of Guildford, one of the most successful trout breeders of the day, has undertaken to do some articles on "How to Breed and Rear Trout," for our columns. We have asked him to illustrate all that he thinks require illustration. The article will appear once a month, or oftener.

THERE will be an exhibition of mounted fish, birds, &c., in the club-room of the Gresham Angling Society, at Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street, on Tuesday, October 20.

MISS WATTS, of The Grove, Bomere Heath, near Shrewsbury, who makes excellent flies at 1s. 3d. per dozen, writes: "I have some very handsome Blue Dun Cockerils and Honey Dun Pullets to part with. Would you kindly bear me in mind if you hear of anyone wanting any? I have also some excellent Honey Dun hackles for sale."

THE Yorkshire Esk has been affording plenty of sport lately, as will be seen from our Whitby correspondent's report. We wired to him to know in what way these salmon and sea trout have been caught, and were not surprised to get this reply, "Mostly bait."

THAMES FISHERY CONVICTION.—F. Budd and C. Wright were convicted by the Chertsey Bench recently for having taken unsizeable fish in the Thames at Chertsey, and fined in the sum of five shillings each. Mr. Bunting, solicitor to the Thames Conservancy, prosecuted on behalf of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, on the evidence of Mr. A. E. Armstrong, honorary river-keeper of the last-named society.

THE early and continuous floods have been a rare "*picking*" to the upper proprietors this season, and now they are rubbing their hands with glee. It is unfortunately too often the case that they are left out in the cold as regards the autumn fishing, and very often too late in the spring before they share the early spoils of the year; and yet their waters breed the fish for the most part. This season, all through, has been an exception, and the *back-end* is emphasising it most gratefully. There never was a greater demand for water on the Dee, and the enormous rents asked for a really good bit of salmon water are sure to be still more enormously increased. The tendency is upward.

ORMESBY BROAD AND HEIGHAM SOUND.

A short time back, having about a fortnight's spare time, and being desirous of obtaining some good coarse fishing near some quiet, out-of-the-way spot, I determined to try one of the least frequented of the Norfolk Broads. Judging from accounts I had read in the *Fishing Gazette* and other angling papers, I thought I should be certain to find there the very sort of place to suit me. Having purchased a small guide-book, by Mr. Christopher Davies, entitled "The Hand-book to the Rivers and Broads of Norfolk and Suffolk," and carefully studied it, my choice was finally determined by a paragraph referring to Ormesby Broad:—

"Uncommonly good sport is to be had amongst pike, rudd, and bream, the number of a catch being counted by the hundred, and the weight by the stone." Again: "For fishing, pure and simple, Ormesby Broad is as good a place as any to visit." I at once made a few needful preparations, and set out upon the expedition, accompanied by a friend, armed with multitudinous sketching blocks, paint boxes, and other artistic impedimenta, as he was desirous of conveying to paper some of the beautiful scenery of the broads, of which he had heard so much.

And here let me add—inasmuch as this article is to deal with the above-mentioned broad, more from a piscatorial than an artistic point of view—that to an artist all the broads, of which I shall make mention later on, are distinctly disappointing. We arrived at Great Ormesby Station about six o'clock, and hearing that accommodation could most probably be obtained at the Eel's Foot or the Sportsman's Arms, we looked about for a vehicle to convey us thither.

"Brackenbury will drive you, if you go to the Hook," said the porter, as he returned to resume his duties inside the station.

"And how far are we from the Hook?" my friend asked a fisherman, who was walking lazily home, laden with fresh-caught codlings.

"Hoo far to t' Hook? Why aboot a mile, or p'raps a mile an' a arf," was the reply.

There was nothing for it but to trudge, so shouldering our luggage we set out for the Hook. There we engaged a shrewd charioteer, who persuaded us to allow him to convey us to the Sportsman's Arms, rather than to the Eel's Foot, not from any motives of self-interest, he explained, at the same time producing one from a bundle of cards, whereon was set forth an eulogy of the advantages enjoyed by those who stayed at the former hostelry. He informed us that we should be unable to obtain boats on the Sabbath Day at the Eel's Foot, an arrangement which would not suit the likes of us. I don't know that there was anything strikingly irreligious about our appearance, or whether our charioteer judged character by the physiognomy, but he had certainly hit the right nail on the head. However, we found on arrival that all the rooms at the Sportsman's Arms were already engaged, but the proprietor kindly found us satisfactory accommodation at a neighbouring cottage. We hired a good boat at the inn at the moderate figure of eighteen shillings per week, and having sculled over a portion of the broad and admired its extremely likely appearance from a fishing point of view, we resolved to test its capabilities early on the morrow. I made inquiries as to the best swims for bream, and arose in the early morn soon after the day dawn was heralded by a chorus of peculiarly discordant sounds from the various water-fowl which inhabit the rush beds which deeply fringe the broad. It was an undeniably unpleasant morning; but my hopes were high, my tackle fine, my brandlings and gentles superb. I was also provided with many huge lob worms to "keep 'em together," as the boatman said. As I fished noiselessly, hour after hour, the words of the poet came into my mind—

"No birds were flying overhead:
There were no birds to fly."

"Keep 'em together," indeed: there were no bream to keep. I returned, sad but hungry, and after breakfast I interviewed the boatman as to my ill success.

Having started him on a long cigar, and done likewise myself, "Let me," I said, "tell you beforehand that I am not a novice at angling. I am not a great authority on the subject, but I do claim the right of calling myself an angler, and of not being classed with the many who angle for bream at a depth of 5ft. in 15ft. of water, and marvel at their want of success. I have legered carefully for some two hours, and have "Nottinghamed" with a worm, that, to a respectable bream, would be a thing of beauty. I have not used No. 4 hooks and treble gut, as did an angler who was near me on the broad, and who was lamenting his failure in language more forcible than polite. I have used No. 7, and fished all I know, and never have I been so unsuccessful. What is the reason?"

"Well, sir, it has been a cruel bad season for bream, to begin with, and you are not the only one who has been disappointed. I think myself that the reason of the bream feeding so badly is the heavy rains which wash down so much silt and food for them into the broad. There's only one way to get them now: you must let me bait up a hole for you, and I'll guarantee that you get some then."

I, therefore, concluded an agreement for a hole to be baited that night; and in the hope of giving an additional incentive to the baiting being done well and thoroughly, I made an offer of a piece of gold if we caught 50lb. of fish on the morrow. I fished for the rest of the day rather more successfully, although the take of roach and bream did not amount to much over 10lb. for the whole day, which was distinctly bad.

And here let me add somewhat of creature comforts for the benefit of any who may read this, and visit Ormesby Broad.

We had some beer from the Sportsman's Arms at dinner, and excellent it was; but after dinner a change came o'er the spirit of my dream; as I was smoking, and picturing in my mind visions of Brobdingnagian bream, and endeavouring to think what it was I wanted. Suddenly a desire came upon us simultaneously—whisky. I rang the bell, and was horrified to hear that the nearest obtainable bottle of whisky was three miles away, and it was a rainy night. I telegraphed home for a supply, and in due course received it. But let this be a warning to all those who like a "drop of the crathur" after a hard day's fishing to take a bottle of their own special with them.

We were out by six the next morning, and soon endeavouring to "keep 'em together" with boiled wheat, trusting that the succulent worm would act as a choice tit-bit to some monstrous fishy Lucullus of the bream *gens*. In a short time I had the satisfaction of hooking and landing a fish of 1½lb., and then for about two hours we were busily engaged; and when we returned to breakfast we had thirteen fish, weighing 15lb., and a quantity of smaller fry. Indeed, the small fish are a perpetual nuisance to the angler; but I shall have something to say about them in dealing with the summer jack fishing. On resuming operations later on we were not nearly so successful, our catch being considerable in point of numbers, but inconsiderable in weight. The only catch of any importance was a fine perch of 2½lb., in magnificent condition, but not well marked. That evening, whilst smoking the calumet of peace, the sentence in the guide-book came to my mind: "The number of a catch is counted by the hundred and the weight by the stone." Had we been alone in our ill-success I should have at once attributed our failure to want of skill; but not a single person did I meet who had been more successful than ourselves. There was only one thing to put it down to, and that was the weather, which, to do it justice, was simply disgusting.

I had one more day's bream fishing with but moderate success, and then I determined to have a try at the jack.

"Not a bit of good here in August, sir; don't matter what you try—lively Thames dace, gold fish, even liggering ain't always successful," said a boatman, whom I knew to be a good fisherman.

However, I tried, notwithstanding the expert's opinion. Two mortal days I spent in spinning and live-baiting. I even descended to trailing and dead-gorging in the weeds "down where the water lilies grow," and my only capture was a jack of about 3lb., caught on a small spoon—which I returned to grow fat upon the numberless millions of small fry which swarm in Ormesby Broad. The boatman was right. There is too much food for the jack to give you a decent chance of successful fishing. I then felt that until we should get some real hot weather, or a week without perpetual rain, I would leave Ormesby Broad, and seek fresh broads and waters new. I may mention that there is one of the most symmetrically-shaped pike I ever saw, weight 20lb., in the parlour of the Sportman's Arms. I was informed that one of the landlord's sons was the fortunate captor, and that it was taken on live-bait snap-tackle, and landed by means of a landing-net rather more than a foot in diameter. The fish is not a plaster cast, and liggering is reputed to be unknown on Ormesby Broad. Anyway that fish is sufficient to cause the angler to go forth and attempt to do likewise.

To conclude with a summary opinion of this broad. I think that in good weather the fishing would be excellent, but I was most unfortunate in this respect during my visit, and to this I attribute my ill-success. Should any one wish to try this broad for pike, February is the best month; for bream, a hot July or August. Boats at the Sportsman's Arms are both cheap and good.

Having said farewell to Ormesby Broad, we drove over to Potter Heigham. Here we were more successful, and I can strongly recommend the Thurne between Potter Heigham bridge and the gut leading to Heigham Sounds, and the old meadow dyke between the Sound and Horsey Mere, for capital perch fishing, though the principal fishing attraction of the Sound is the rudd. Fishing in the Sound is private, but permission is granted if the angler hires his boat at G. Applegate's by the bridge. In fishing for rudd here the best plan is to commence by hunting them—that is to say, by casting in small pieces of bread, and if there be any rudd near they will assuredly rise at them. Fish about a foot below the surface with running roach tackle; and as they are game, free-feeding fish, excellent sport will, as a rule, be enjoyed. I found paste to be the most killing bait; but gentles are also good. The first day's rudd fishing I had was upon Horsey Mere, where permission must be obtained, as the fishing rights are private. I had been spinning for one of the famous Horsey Mere pike, and having lunched I chanced to drop a piece of bread overboard. Almost immediately a large rudd rose at it with a splash. I at once cut off my spinning trace, and put on a roach hook on fine gut, pressed a small piece of bread tightly on it, and cast. There was a rush and a splash, and I shortly brought a fine rudd of 1¼lb. to the landing-net. Thereupon I put up a light rod, fine eight-plait silk line, a gut bottom unshotted, and a roach-hook baited with paste, attaching a fragment of cork to the line, in lieu of float, about 9in. above the hook. Directly I cast, the cork moved swiftly away in a sidewards direction, and I struck and hooked another rudd. That day we got about fifty, and on the next one hundred and fifty, though we were not successful in catching any over 1½lb. These were by far the best days we had, although we did very well on Heigham Sounds. I very much regretted that I had no fly rod with me, as I am confident that grand sport would be obtained using gentle and a piece of wash-leather and fishing near the reeds. In rudd fishing fish as near the reeds as possible.

The last evening I had upon the Sound was warm, and the water was unruffled by wind. The thick ulster which I had worn daily for over a week was discarded, and a few last sad hopes arose in my mind that all chances of a little summery weather had not yet disappeared. The sun was sinking to rest, sadly and lingeringly it seemed, as though he felt sorrow at parting after smiling for so short a time upon the long sweep of water, dotted here and there with the boats of anglers. Our boat was anchored near a patch of reeds, and the very rudd seemed to revel in the glimpse of summer, and fed ravenously, and fought fiercely with many a leap and splash ere they were guided towards the fatal net. There was silence on the waters, broken only by the occasional discordant cry of some water-fowl, or the rush of the pike pursuing the small roach and rudd as they flashed gloriously in their mad endeavours to escape the tyrant. At length I had begun to appreciate the broads, and the knowledge came to me that in a real hot summer, with the fish on the feed, they would be the paradise of the coarse-fish angler. And then I swore a mighty oath that I would return there when next we get a sweltering summer, and inflict a slaughter "grim and great" upon the myriad monsters of Ormesby Broad and Potter Heigham.

F. G. B. Eves.

—— LONDON CLUBS. ——

By Edgar S. Shrubsole.

THE CAUSTON ANGLING SOCIETY.

At the Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City, a body of anglers meet weekly who have made a big bid for popularity. A large and varied programme for the long winter evenings has been arranged, and the reading of papers by the members, lectures, &c., should form an enlightened and instructive means of getting a good attendance of those who constitute the club, and attracting many who are undecided at present what club they will join. This alone should command success; but, in addition, the members of this society have appealed very strongly, and I hope successfully, to genuine anglers, and their appeal has taken the very best form it could, for they have decided to run the Causton upon lines that are calculated to command support and good wishes in the highest quarters; under *no* circumstances—private or otherwise—can the idea of a gross weight competition be entertained, the whole of their prizes—a numerous and handsome lot—being devoted to specimen fish only.

Although a new society, it is virtually the outcome of the Brunswick Piscatorial Society, which ran so merrily for many years at the Brunswick Arms, Brunswick-street, Stamford-street, S.E., under the *regime* of Mr. Tom Keeble (now host of the Coffee Pot and treasurer of the Causton). Founded in 1890 by Messrs. Harry Dunn and John Smith, with Mr. R. K. Causton, M.P., as president, the meetings were held for a short time in the vicinity of Blackfriars-road, but it was not until June this year that the Causton was boomed to the angling world. Having settled down in their present quarters, the founders once more became associated with their old colleague, Mr. Tom Keeble, and the services of Mr. J. Deplidge being also available, the membership of the society rapidly increased from nineteen to forty, and from what I hear is likely to be considerably extended beyond that respectable number before the end of the year. I have asked the secretary to give a detailed list of the prizes in our "Club Reports" column, and when it appears it will be conclusive proof—if any such were needed—that a club *can* go on and prosper without fishing for gross weight prizes, although it may be advisable not to do away with them entirely in certain quarters. Up to now Mr. Tom Keeble has the largest bream, chub, and barbel; Mr. J. Deplidge the largest roach and rudd, and Mr. Harry Dunn the largest dace. Very fair sport has been the rule, and the absence of catches measured by the Thames standard has in no way prevented the general body of members from "showing up" in hopes of seeing a specimen fish or two. So far perfect harmony has prevailed in the ranks of the Causton members, and may the day be far distant when "that little rift within the lute" appears, "that by and bye will make the music mute."

The papers that have been read at this society so far are "On the River Wey," by Mr. J. Deplidge; "Roach Fishing," by Professor Chris Green; and "Barbel Fishing," by Mr. Harry Dunn. I had the pleasure of listening to Mr. Dunn, and must say his was more than an amateur's effort. Mr. T. Crumplin and Mr. G. E. Simms have promised to read papers here at an early date.

During my rambles among the London clubs this winter I shall certainly drop in occasionally at the Coffee Pot, and I hope—and quite expect—each time to see the club has made giant strides.

> "Tis not in mortals to command success;
> But we'll do more, Sempronius—we'll deserve it!"

THE GLOBE ANGLING SOCIETY.

Last winter, in these columns, I very strongly supported the extension of fish-preserving funds among our London clubs. In addition to the attractive appearance a goodly show of stuffed fish has, nothing serves better to bind a body of members together than a big collection of trophies of the war-path, hung upon the walls of the meeting-room. Surrounded by fish that have at some time gladdened the heart and quickened the pulse of some member present, there is a never-failing source of genial conversation at hand, and a powerful incentive for younger anglers, and less successful ones to go and do likewise; the inevitable result being that a healthy and sportsman-like competition results from the friendly rivalry of the members, and in their honest endeavours to get a bigger and better fish than their brother anglers of the same club, they go in for what so many of us wish every London angler would—specimen fish. When I go into a club and only see a few very old cases of stuffed fish, and these the evidence of the skill and sportmanship of members long since departed from this world, I generally know what to think, and, as a rule, I am about right. On the other hand; when I see a goodly show of latter-day specimens, and learn that so-and-so's fish of last week has gone to the taxidermist's, I feel satisfied with the club I am in, and settle down for the evening to enjoy myself among *bonâ fide* anglers, and most probably to learn something more in the long lesson of the art of angling. Most decidedly the presence of a deeply-rooted pride in the fish one has taken so many pains to catch, the half-stolen looks so often cast in its direction, and the enthusiastic manner in which the tale of its capture is told by the happy captor, are outward and visible signs that cannot possibly be mistaken. How much longer some clubs are going to devote every available penny to the prize-list, and cut the secretary so short that there is hardly a penny left sometimes to pay for the postage of a letter, and never dream of devoting a proportion of their funds to developing the club, writing its history and proclaiming the skill of its members in an unmistakable manner upon the walls of the meeting room, I leave it to the inner conscience of those implicated to decide. I have a more pleasant task before me, for I have to draw the attention of my readers to the collection of stuffed fish hung upon the walls of the meeting-room of the Globe Angling Society, at the George Hotel, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, a collection that I assert without hesitation is a credit to the club, as the members are strictly speaking working-men, and the fish have been got and stuffed only by sheer perseverance, the expense of mounting being paid for out of a fund formed by the members subscribing a few pence a week.

I hope at an early date to give some account of the formation and development of this society, with extracts from their rules, &c. I have not sufficient space this week.

The fish taken by Mr. Coleman, and drawn attention to in our "Correspondence" columns last week, have gone to be put up, and, when hung with those already in the room, will make a very pretty lot, well worth the journey to Finsbury-park to see. It will be noticed that the collection does not include either a barbel or a pike; the restriction is 10lb. for the pike and 5lb. for the barbel. That *Esox lucius* and *Cyprinus barbus* will not be long absent from the walls, and that when there they will be well beyond the minimum weight, is my sincere wish.

Roach are *par excellence* the Globe Anglers' quarry, and so we will particularise them first. Mr. S. Howell has one, 2lb. 1½oz.; Mr. H. Evans, one, 1lb. 12oz, and there are two fish of 1lb. 10½oz., one taken by Mr. H. Lake and one by Mr. S. Howell. There are two of 1lb. 9½oz., Messrs. H. Lake and G. Caborn being the captors. Mr. J. Holmes has one of 1lb. 8oz.; Mr. C. Ellis, one of 1lb. 7oz.; Mr. S. Howell, one of 1lb. 5oz., and there are three of 1lb. 4½oz., the captors being Messrs. G. Brown (one) and Mr. H. Lake (two). Four of 1lb. 4oz. each; Mr. S. Howell (two), Mr. S. Snow (one), and Mr. J. Holmes (one). Mr. D. Thomas has one of 1lb. 3oz., and Mr. Coleman's fish weighed 2lb. 4oz., 2lb. 3½oz., 1lb. 15½oz., 1lb. 13½oz., 1lb. 11oz., and four 1lb. 4oz. each.

The perch are a fine lot: one of 3lb., Mr. C. Ellis, and another the same (reputed) weight, badly mounted. One each, 1lb. 15½oz., 1lb. 14oz., and 1lb. 8oz., all taken by Mr. C. Ellis; and another of about 1½lb., captor's name not shown.

The bream are three in number, and good ones; one, 4lb. 8oz., and another about same weight, Mr. J. W. Russell; and one, 3lb. 10oz., Mr. H. Jeffries.

A tench of 3lb. 3oz. (Mr. W. Lawrence), a gudgeon of 2¾oz. (Mr. G. Brown), a chub of 4lb. (Mr. D. Thomas), a carp of 4lb. (Mr. D. Thomas), and a dace of 11½oz. (Mr. C. Ellis), complete a collection of coarse fish that is well crowned by a handsome trout of 4½lb., *taken with a single horse-hair line while roach fishing*, by Mr. G. Caborn.

HOW TO FISH AND TIE A HACKLE FLY.

Although this form of fly is the easiest of any for the amateur to make, I consider it, if fished properly, as deadly, and on some streams more so, than the most elaborately dressed artificials. There is no doubt that the fish take it to be either a partially drowned insect, or, what is more probable, the larvæ of certain aquatic insects in a state of transition. The best method of fishing them in low, clear water is wading up-stream, and using a short line; fish the edges of the strong streams, the glides at the head of them, and any odd corner or eddy behind stones, &c., where you think a fish may be located. I am frequently asked why I advocate up-stream fishing. I have very many reasons, but I think that the three following are sufficiently conclusive to prove that it is the only way of successfully fishing for trout and grayling:—

(1) As all fish lie with their heads up-stream, if you wade cautiously behind them you can get almost close to them, and consequently can fish with a much shorter line than down-stream, and have far more command of the same, both in striking and playing your fish.

(2) Immediately you hook your fish, you pull him down-stream, and play him out in the water you have already waded through. I have frequently, in the lowest and clearest water, killed half-a-dozen good fish in one stream by adopting the above plan, whereas had I fished down-stream the hooked fish would have frightened the whole shoal by rushing down among them.

(3) You strike the hook directly into the fish's mouth, instead of pulling it away from him.

So much for fishing the hackle fly; now how to dress it. Take a snipe or water-hen's wing: inside the first-named you will find about eight bright grey feathers, tipped with white; inside the latter similar feathers of a darker hue; both these feathers should be selected about an inch and a quarter long; take one of these feathers, strip off part of the fibre towards the root, turn part of the remaining fibre the contrary way, rejecting the white in the case of the snipe, and draw it through your lips to make it lie close. Wax a quarter of a yard of yellow silk with colourless wax, this will both wrap your hook to the gut, and make the body of the fly. Take a hook, say No. 2 Kendal scale—this size being easier for an amateur to manipulate—hold it by the bend between the thumb and forefinger of your left hand, with the point towards your finger's end; place the gut along the top of the shank, having first flattened the former with your teeth to prevent drawing, and with the silk wrap them neatly together, beginning at the shank end, and wrapping to the bend; rib it carefully up to within a few wraps of the end, when fasten in the feather with the point towards your left hand; take three firm turns of the silk over it, and clip off the superfluous point with a sharp-pointed pair of scissors; take hold of the root of the feather with a pair of fly-tweezers, and wrap it neatly round until the fibre is all taken up; bring the silk twice round the root of the feather, and fasten off with two draw-knots; cut away all superfluous feather, &c, and pick out the fibres evenly at each side with a dubbing needle. This in the case of the snipe's feather forms the snipe bloa, which is a favourite fly on the northern rivers; in fact, I know several experienced anglers who use one on their cast during the whole of the season. In the case of the water hen bloa, before wrapping up the shank of the hook the second time, wax afresh, and spin on to the silk a little fur from a water-rat. The old-fashioned system was to finish off at the bend of the hook; but practice has shown that flies so tied come undone very quickly, whereas finishing at the head makes both a neater and more lasting fly.—"*Halcyon*," *in* "*Leeds Mercury.*"

"ON SURREY HILLS."*

By a Son of the Marshes.

It is long since we have met a volume containing such charmingly-drawn descriptions of animal, bird, and fish life in rural England as those depicted by "A Son of the Marshes" in "On Surrey Hills."

A close and intelligent study of these most interesting creatures, extending over a long lifetime, must necessarily entail exceptional knowledge, but it is given to few to communicate that knowledge to others so pleasingly and in such graceful language as does the author of "On Surrey Hills."

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* William Blackwood and Sons, Edinburgh and London.

In reading these descriptions, the reader insensibly identifies himself with the author: with him he watches the mysteries of the careful and elaborate toilet of "poor Puss"; by day he studies with him the habits and customs of the innumerable birds, beasts, fish, and insects which go to make up the harmonious and beautiful whole of English rural Nature, and in hushed silence he listens at night in the woodlands or by the bank of reedy pond and stream to the mysterious noises in air and water.

Here is a realistic description of a night scene: "As the mist rose and fell again according to the temperature, strange forms floated over the surface of the water and round about the trees. The cries of birds and animals are different by night from what they are by day, and they come on the ear with startling distinctness. The moorhen as it flies overhead gives out a call like the clicketing 'kevit-kevit' of the barn-owl, which also comes flitting, now here, now there, on noiseless wings, uttering his harsh, hissing scream. As you stand close to the river-tangle, you hear the sough of wings overhead, and then a dusky form, looking like some shadow, drops close to you. It is the heron; he is near you, but his form is not visible. Night-jars hum in the trees, and the whirring noise made as they pursue their prey sounds in strange vibrations over woods and meadows. The cows can be heard as they nip the grass in feeding a long distance off. In the reeds and tangle the sedge-warblers keep up a continual chatter all through the night.

"Large fish feed by night more than by day: you may hear a splash and rush on the shallows, and see the glint of scales as the fish dart in all directions from one of their enemies—pike, perch, or eel. Perhaps you may see something which in passing leaves a wake behind it; you look for the lightest part of the narrow run that leads to the nearest pool, and see a dark, knob-like object moving swiftly out of sight. It is the head of an otter passing up-stream. Only the head is visible; but there is no mistaking him, for the next moment his strange, whistling cry is heard. In the air overhead is the sound of quickly-moving wings passing and re-passing, and strange notes fall on the ear—the cries of birds that are coming to those that have gone over before them. . . . I have spent many an hour about that lonely spot, listening to the voices of the night, and learning some of its secrets, but I confess to feeling some relief when I was on my way home. It is very, very quiet at midnight in such places, even though there be moonlight. The shadows move, so do many other things, although Nature is supposed to be sleeping. The water agitates the flags and the river-tangle; from time to time something moves the tree-tops on the stillest night, ever so gently, like a faint sigh. Then again all is silent. Even the run of the water changes in its sound as it flows over the shallower places; sometimes you hear the ripple-ripple plainly; at others, you hardly catch a sound at all. Soon again it comes—ripple-ripple."

Mingled, too, with these pleasant descriptions are tales and anecdotes of the human inhabitants of the country districts that the author loved so well, many of them full of character and humour; and the book is well worth purchasing if only for the sake of the description of the "Forest Fire." For the Londoner, too, the volume has additional interest by the fact (as the title implies) that it is all about the country within easy reach of town; and after reading it with infinite pleasure from beginning to end, we fully agree with the author when he writes: "Strange that in two hours one can pass from London, with all its vast population and busy hum of life, its aggregation of wealth and of human passions, noble and vicious, into a land of silence, and, in some parts, of desolation."

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

LINES FROM A SUBSCRIBER TO THE *F. G.*

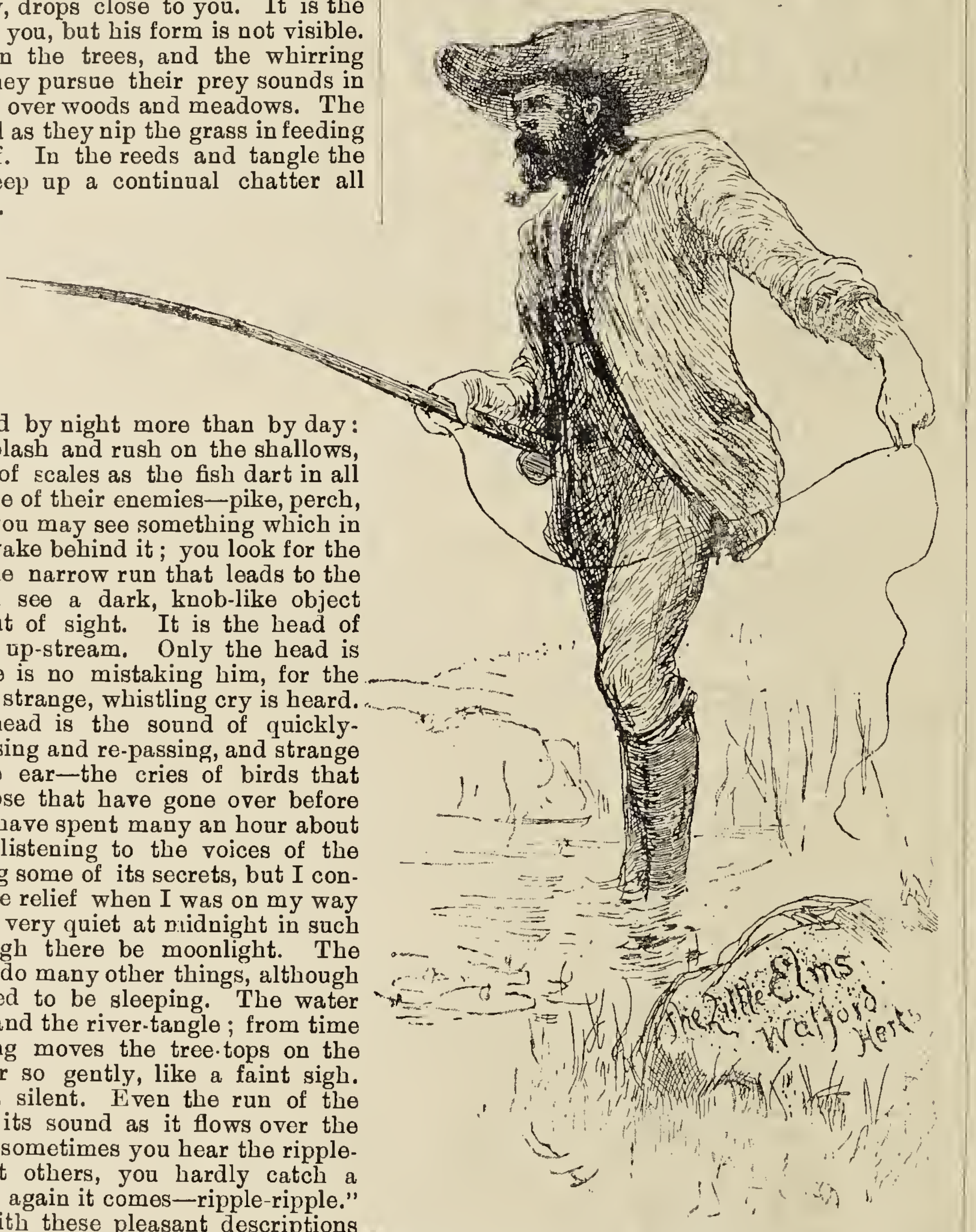
Our Publisher sent out some notices recently to subscribers whose subscriptions had expired, and we were much amused to receive in reply the following lines, in addition to the Postal Order:—

"Dear Sir,—
With this I gladly sent
The year's subscription due,
And also the acknowledgment
Of what I owe to you.

"You would not guess, so I must tell
How onerous the debt:
One of the things worth living for
I reckon the *Gazette*.

"Why should the Land Laws or Home Rule,
My whole attention fix?
Why should an angler vex his soul
By serious politics?

"I may not fathom State designs,
But I *can* cast a fly;
Therefore, with hearty thanks, I am,
Yours truly, C. E. Fry.
"Watford."



These kind words, from one of the best anglers living, remind us to ask our readers who care to do so to be good enough to send us the names and addresses of any anglers they know who do not take the *Gazette*. The accompanying sketch is a portrait of Mr. Fry, which we have had by us for some years.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Shortness of Breath, Coughs, and Colds.—Thousands of testimonials can be produced to prove the power possessed by these corrective remedies in cases of asthma, incipient consumption, and all disorders of the chest and lungs. The Ointment, well rubbed upon the chest and back, penetrating the skin, is absorbed and carried directly to the lungs, where, in immediate contact with the whole mass of circulating blood, it neutralises or expels those impurities, which are the foundation of consumption, asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, and similar complaints. On the appearance of the first consumptive symptoms the back and chest of the patient should be fomented with warm brine, dried with a coarse cloth, and Holloway's Ointment then well rubbed in. Its absorption will subdue advancing symptoms, and baffle this formidable foe.

Waltoniana

A kind friend sent me a salmon the other day from the far North of Scotland. I am wondering if the apples on my favourite tree will be pink-fleshed next year.

An early autumnal flood in the Thames or any other river is a good thing. For some time the weeds have been decaying slowly, and the present increase in the volume of water is exactly what was wanted to clear away the *débris* of this year's fluvial vegetation. A fine sounding word is "fluvial," derived from the Latin, but all the same "Greek" to many of the humbler readers of the *Gazette*. Nowadays it is by using such words as these that a reputation for learning is acquired, therefore I pray you let it pass, and remind me not that I have now and again gibed at the smart young gentlemen who call a fish a "marine," or "fluvial denizen," as the case may be, and term a sheet of water an "aquatic habitat," or "piscatorial location," as the fancy takes them. But I wander from my subject.

The Thames—call it "aquatic habitat" or "piscatorial location" if you will—has been, as I have said, in flood, and Thames anglers will do well to remember that for the remainder of the season, unless the water falls to summer level, the fish will be in new quarters. Why fish should seek the shallows in thick water is never likely to be known with scientific exactness, until someone obtains the ear of roach or perch; but the probability is that, as the mud has a tendency to settle, there is always less mud near the surface of water than at the bottom. In deep water, therefore, the fluid is considerably denser near the bottom than at the top. It cannot be very pleasant for the fish to send liquid mud through their gills, and so they seek the shallows.

Another reason which may bring fish in shore when a river is in flood is, that as the water rises a number of ærial (as opposed to fluvial) insects are drowned, and are no doubt tasty morsels. Of course fish also seek refuge in eddies and lay-bys to get out of the raging torrent which rushes down the centre of the river, but I am more concerned in explaining why fish are found in shallow water when a river is muddy, than in explaining why they are in eddies when it is high. There is shelter in eddies, and a good deal of food must be swept into them. When the water is high, the angler should make it a rule to try the deep eddies if the water is clear, but the shallow ones if it is thick. In fact, if the water is muddy, any gentle stream of about 3ft. in depth will yield roach. It need not be an eddy. I would also remind roach fishers that in winter and in high water roach may frequently be taken on a muddy bottom, but at that time of year I consider a sandy bottom best of all.

The present is a great opportunity for those who are ambitious to catch tench in the Thames. In winter it is not often that these dainty fish can be persuaded to feed, and there is nothing better than a summer flood to bring them on. A host of pleasant memories came to me the other day as I was bringing a boat up the river. There was the old stump, and below it the water lily, by the side of which I had rare good luck with the tench some twelve years ago. It was a wet summer with a vengeance, and the river was bank high all through July. I kept that one place baited with lobworms, and it produced some handsome tench and invariably a dozen or more fine roach. One tench, I remember, broke my rod; but we had him for dinner that evening. I made a careful study of tench fishing at the time, and remember coming to the conclusion that one of the secrets of success was to put the worm on in a particular manner, which shall be explained "in our next," as the magazines have it.

I began by threading the worm, but found that whether I gave the fish time, or struck them at once, I missed them; in fact, if I waited for the float to slide quietly under, I waited in vain, for the fish left the bait. I, therefore, came to the conclusion that the tench, which is a rare fish to mouth a bait, felt the hook, so did my best to put the iron in the middle of a ball of worm. This plan answered splendidly, and I do not think I missed another tench, and succeeded in killing seven good fish. It may be asked, How is the hook to be put in the middle of a ball of worm? I cannot explain that in writing. The worm is, of course, wound round the hook as much as possible, and caught on the point every now and again.

When worm-fishing for roach, dace, or perch, I think there is no form of hook better than Stewart tackle. Bottom-fishers rarely use it; but those who once give it a fair trial do not go back to the single hook. The hooks of the tackle have, of course, to be rather large to take a lob-worm. The whipping of the hooks should be painted worm colour, not the bright red which is affected by tackle-makers, and is only suitable for the small tackles on which red-worms are used. With this tackle the angler cannot strike too quickly, and if he is careful in this particular, will miss few fish. I have seen more than a dozen roach caught without one bite being missed. If the dace are feeding, the head of a lob-worm will often catch them better than the tail. A poacher told me that eels also preferred the head of a worm to the tail; but as to that I am not so certain.

Templar.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

John Hale: The Coquet is a "salmon river," under the Act of Parliament, but we believe all the salmon caught in it are bull trout. The great success which has attended the stocking of the Yorkshire Esk with salmon (this river formerly producing little but bull trout), shows what *might* be done in the case of the Coquet.

Correspondence

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

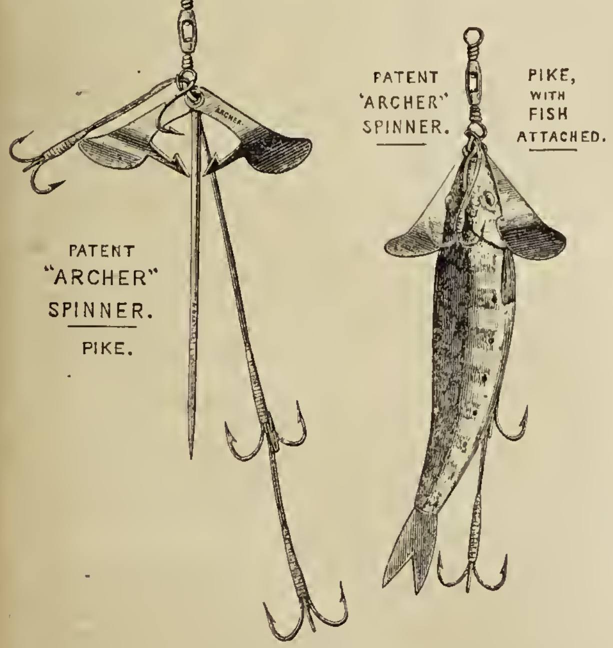
"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. Pritt.

THE ARCHER SPINNER.

Dear Sir,—We are this season introducing an attachment to the pike sizes of the Archer Spinner, which we consider a very great improvement, as it effectually takes off all the strain from the expanding fins, and prevents any tendency to their opening when using a heavy bait or fishing fast-running streams.

The attachment consists of a hook fastened on the ring in the eyelet-hole, and is made in such a shape that when it is driven well into the bait's head it is impossible to become loose.

We enclose drawings which will illustrate this improvement, showing the Archer Spinner unbaited with the new hook attachment; and also baited:—


PATENT "ARCHER" SPINNER.
PIKE.
PATENT 'ARCHER' SPINNER.
PIKE, WITH FISH ATTACHED.
ARCHER

We now supply (through the trade only) the Archer Spinner in large and small pike, salmon, small salmon, and trout sizes.

We have just received the following letter from Mr. Smith, of Pershore, in which we think your readers will be interested.—Yours truly,

Wm. Bartleet and Sons.

[copy.]

Dear Sirs,—You will doubtless be pleased to hear how delighted my brother and I are with your celebrated Archer Spinner. During the past week we have taken with it eleven pike (total weight, 56lb.), the largest fish being 12½lb., the others being about 5lb. each, except two, which were small ones, a little over 2lb. As we only use one rod (that is to say, we did not both fish at the same time), and did not lose a fish taken on your Spinner—but lost one about 5lb. taken on some other tackle—testifies how excellent and deadly the Archer Spinner is.—Yours faithfully,

Ernest Smith.

Messrs. Wm. Bartleet and Sons.

[The addition of the hook to secure head of the bait still more firmly takes away the only inconvenience we found when using this excellent Spinner for natural bait—viz., that a heavy bait worked loose occasionally.—Ed.]

LARGE MACKEREL.

Dear Sir,—In the *F. G.* of October 3 the capture of a mackerel 2ft. long is recorded. I should like to know the weight, as I have one, which I have made a cast of, that measured 2ft. 1in., and weighed 4lb. 1oz. This is the largest that I can find recorded. How about those pollack 30lb. and 40lb. weight that I asked for particulars of some time since? Has the fisherman vanished with the fish?—Yours, &c.,

Plymouth. William Hearder.

ANGLING IN RICHMOND PARK.

Sir,—At the weekly meeting of the Richmond Piscatorial Society, held on Friday, the 9th inst., it was resolved to approach the proper authorities with the view of inducing them to adopt a more stringent set of rules for the protection of the fishing in Penn Ponds. These splendid sheets of water are becoming depleted, in the opinion of the Richmond Piscatorial Society, by the indiscriminate slaughter of small fish, and for want of stricter supervision. The society's hon. sec. has been instructed to endeavour to obtain the co-operation of their president, the Duke of Teck, in the work. The following are the rules which it is suggested should be enforced:—

"1.—Fishing is not allowed between March 15 and June 15, both days inclusive.

"2.—No fish measuring less than the following sizes may be retained: Pike or jack, 20in.; perch, 9in.; roach, 8in.; carp, 13in.; tench, 10in.; bream, 13in.; and rudd, 8in.; all measurements to be extreme length. Fish under the above sizes must be returned to the water immediately after capture. N.B.—A few small fish may be retained for live bait, but may not be taken away from the water.

"3.—No person is allowed to fish with more than two rods at one time, and fixed lines, or means other than rod and line angling for the capture of fish are strictly prohibited.

"4.—Live or dead gorge fishing for pike is not permitted."

It is hoped that if these rules are adopted the fishing will much improve, especially for pike.—Yours, &c.,

Nottingham Reel.

SEA TROUT LOCHS.

Dear Sir,—Your correspondent H. Munro-Mac seems, in his letter of this date (Oct. 10), to have overlooked the exceedingly appropriate dictum of Mr. Pritt which heads your "Correspondence," and to have ignored the lesson which that dictum has to teach.

I feel assured that I wrote with all courtesy when I disputed the claim of Loch Stack to the proud position of being *absolutely* the most productive sea trout loch in Scotland; but, at the same time, in the interests of truth, I am compelled to reiterate my statement that there are many quite as good lochs in Scotland, and some, not merely one, even better. Loch Baa, in Mull, is as good as Loch Stack; Lochs Voshmid and Scurst, in Harris, and Lochs Roag and Fada, in South Uist, are better sea trout lochs on a majority of days. Mr. Young has declared the Howmore, in South Uist, with its connecting lochs (Loch Roag, Fada, &c.), to be by far the most wonderful *place* in Scotland, both as to number and size, for sea trout, while in the opinion of the same high authority the Grimersta river, &c., in the Lewes, occupies the same position with regard to salmon. It was in this river that, in 1889, one rod captured the extraordinary number of fifty-six salmon in one day, while eighty-five fell to a party of four rods a few days after. When it is understood that Mr. Young considers these two *places* (I use the word advisedly) as occupying a unique position with regard to productiveness—the Howmore, &c., for sea trout, the Grimersta, &c., for salmon—I think, apart from my own record of all kinds of days in Loch Roag, that my questioning of the proud position accorded to Loch Stack is, in a measure at least, justified. I refer your correspondent to Mr. Young. I have never fished Loch Stack, but I have not only read a great deal about it, but have also conversed with those who have fished it, and have formed a pretty accurate opinion of its average merits apart from very exceptional days. Sheriff Ivory, who in (I think) 1888 came from Loch Stack to Loch Roag, considered the latter by far the most wonderful loch, though he was, like every rational mortal, high in his praises of Loch Stack.

Anyone who has ever seen the Howmore river, especially when the tide is flowing into Loch Roag, is at once struck by the absolute perfection of the whole place as a—I might say *the*—chosen home of the sea trout. Ingenuity can certainly suggest no improvement upon nature. What I wish to submit is, that in awarding places of merit at all, the claims of Loch Roag, Loch Voshmid, and Loch Scurst to first place should not be overlooked. I gave my own results, and facts are "stubborn chiels." I repeat that I would like to see a better Loch Stack record of all days, good and bad, over the same seasons by one rod; and if H. Munro-Mac can produce it, I shall envy its lucky possessor, and, like a sensible man, big or little, admit that I spoke—or rather wrote—unadvisedly. I am sure that H. Munro-Mac will pardon me for not answering his queries with regard to spring sea trout in the Uists and Islay when I tell him that I was very seriously ill at the time, and was not, therefore, in a position to do so. I am quite ready now to give him any information he may desire, or to answer any questions which he may have to put; under this proviso, however, that I am not to be held responsible for the error on the part of nature—from the point of view of H. Munro-Mac, at least—in departing from her usual rule in so far as she has permitted a strong run of fresh and good sea trout to ascend into the Uist lochs (North and South) in spring, and, to some extent, up the rivers of Islay and Mull.—Yours truly,

London, Oct. 10. H. Hay Stuart.

THAMES FISHING REPORTS.

Dear Sir,—I think some of your reporters are good at a "long shot" as to takes of fish. In your Supplement I find: "B. Stevens, in one day, five dozen and four jack, largest 6lb." What must the smallest have been? No wonder a good jack cannot be got in the Teddington water. Again, in the Kingston report: "N. Bolton, in four days, thirteen dozen of fine jack." If those reports are true, I for one shall put my jack rods on the shelf and fish no more.—Yours, &c.,

Liberia.

[It was probably our reporter's indistinct writing, and should have read "five dozen roach and dace, and four jack, largest 6lb., and thirteen dozen roach and dace, and five jack." These river reports have to be rushed into type at the last moment, and if the writing is not clear, mistakes will arise.—Ed.]

LARGE CHUB.

Dear Sir,—With your permission I should like to correct the statement made by Mr. T. C. Longland, secretary of the Royal George Angling Society, in your last issue, as he evidently thinks the prize for chub at the International Fisheries Exhibition of 1883 was given for the largest fish, instead of which it was for the best collection; that is why the prize was rightly awarded to the Friendly Anglers' Society.—Yours faithfully,

C. H. Woodall,
Hon. Sec. Committee Friendly Anglers' Society,
International Fisheries Exhibition, 1883.

MR. JARDINE ON CHUB FISHING.

Sir,—I was much interested in reading Mr. Jardine's article on chub fishing in last Saturday's *Gazette*. It is truly delightful to see some of our Trent fishermen use their fine silk lines and tackle during the winter months, when the river is low and bright. The difficulty which occurs to me is this, after making several very long swims, the line, in travelling, naturally gets very wet, and it is to turn off the wet, and I would be glad if Mr. Jardine would give me the benefit of a good waterproof dressing.—Yours, &c., A Learner.

NEW WEIRS ON THE THAMES: HAVE THEY IMPROVED OR HELPED TO SPOIL FISHING?

Sir,—An old angler recently remarked, "What with the stink and filth from house-boats, the washing away portions of the banks (Upper Thames) by steam launches, the army of pleasure boats all using tow-lines, fishing is indeed but sorry work now." I may add—rushing off flood water by the new weirs, and reducing the Upper Thames to a *pond-like state* in a few hours—it is either a swift stream, impossible to fish, or no stream to speak of. All this is against successful angling.—I am, yours truly, Mark.

REPORTS OF LARGE BREAM.

Dear Sir,—I was very much surprised at the tone of your Norfolk Correspondent's reply. I did *not* impugn his veracity, but the accuracy of his information. I am anxious to know the real facts about those two bream, and his letter and that of Mr. Moll, leave the matter as doubtful as it was before, for each maintains that *his* report was correct, although admitting that they referred to the same fish: that is to say, that the same two fish weighed once 8lb. and 7lb. 2oz., and another time 8lb. 10oz. and 6lb. 8oz. This is ridiculous, and as I said before, it is obvious that one, or both, of your correspondents is wrong. No one is infallible, although your Norfolk Correspondent seems to think he is, and I see no tittle or jot of evidence to lead me to accept his report as correct, and Mr. Moll's as incorrect, or *vice versa*. What I should like is corroborative evidence, and not merely the reiterated statement of the original reporter, even though he be one whose contributions will bear "sifting into" (sic).—Yours, &c.,

Blatherwycke.

P.S.—Many thanks to "Giant" for his statistics of heavy bream.

FANCY FLIES.

Dear Sir,—I have read the recent article on this subject with great interest. I sometimes wonder whether we all understand the same thing by the term "Fancy Flies." I think we are often apt to class as fancy flies a number of flies which are really more or less approximate representations of some real insect or class of insects.

Take, for instance, the Pink Wickham: wings, landrail; body, flat gold tinsel; hackle, red cock from head to tail. Most people call it a fancy fly. I doubt it. It seems to me to resemble a number of different sedges, more or less pinky in the wing, and yellow or greenish about the body. Looked at through water, from underneath, gold tinsel often gives an effect either of golden or greenish translucency, the hackle buzz all down the body gives the effect of flutter on the water, and there you have your sedge—something brighter and more alluring than life.

In the same way may not the ordinary starling-winged Wickham be taken for something special in the olive line?

Hofland's Fancy. What is this but own cousin to the Red Quill or Red Spinner? Greenwell's Glory with the blackbird wing. What is this but an Iron Blue Dun with the woodcock wing? It is a little freckled green rail or sedge. And so one might go on. Messrs. Hardy, in their new catalogue, p. 38, give the dressings of some seven flies which they call "odd trout flies." They are singular enough, but when examined they are old friends with new faces. Big Red Spinner, Olive Dun, Dark Spinner, Greenwell's Glory, Hare's Ear, legged Red Spinner, Whitchurch Dun, and Dark Olive.

They are none of them more singularly unlike the natural fly than, say, the Partridge and Yellow, or Woodcock and Orange, which are quite orthodox.

There are a few flies, however, that I fail to account for: the Francis is one of them, the Coachman another. The Governor may be a bee, but I doubt it. Mr. Pennell's series are fanciful enough in all conscience; so are the Derbyshire bumbles; also Cutcliffe's Devonshire series, with a few exceptions. The Harlequin seems to be a fancy fly; the Alexandra, on the other hand, is a minnow or small fish.

I think you must agree that the list of fancy flies is really much more limited than legion, and if we only knew it we should find them even more limited in number than we think.—Yours, &c.,

Val Conson.

THE "EXTRAORDINARY SPECTACLE."

Sir,—Any person who is suffering from a "congested liver" is entitled to our sympathy. Possibly it is owing to his affliction, that "Truth and Justice" failed to note that the account about the "elderly gentleman" having been seen "seated in a *punt*," and catching fish in the Serpentine, first appeared in *Truth* newspaper, and that the words in question were *quoted* from the account. The *Daily Telegraph* thought the incident of sufficient importance to devote a Leading Article to it, in which the words at the heading of my letter appeared. Quote No. 2. Several other London newspapers stated at the time that there was no reason why the public should not be allowed to angle in the Royal Park Waters under proper restrictions.

I first knew the Serpentine in 1845, when the wooded portion of Kensington Gardens was as private as when Benjamin Disraeli said it was the place in which to concert measures for winning a heiress or breaking up a Ministry. There were very few, if any, pleasure boats for hire on the banks of the Serpentine in those days. *I* did not say the gentleman was angling from a "punt"; I simply quoted the statement from the paper's account named; and the slight mistake possibly occurred from the incident really forming an "Extraordinary Spectacle." I first went angling when William the Fourth was King, and the good Adelaide was his Queen. And a couple of years or so after, when the fast stage-coach brought the news that "the King is dead!" I took my rod, and caught more roach and dace on that June afternoon, than many London anglers nowadays travel a long journey by rail in the hope of catching. I fished for years, as opportunity served, stretches of the Kennet; also of the Thames from Purley to Sonning; in the Evenlode; in the Isis, from Osney down to Sandford (omitting of course the Classic reach from Christ Church Meadow down to Iffley); angled in the Lea; and whipped for dace at Hornsey, in the New River; and fished the Thames above London. I was, indeed, never happier than when noting in turn bird and animal life in water-meadows and angling in the streams.

But this has nothing to do with the advocacy of opening the Royal Parks' Waters to the hard-working and sport-loving anglers of London. These parks are kept up by a vote from the Imperial taxation, towards which all contribute directly or indirectly; the People's Parks are kept in order by money from the Rates, towards which anglers also contribute directly or indirectly. "Truth and Justice" appears to dread the appearance of punts on the Serpentine. But if he had acted up to his high-flown *nom de plume*, he should certainly have seen that the (to him) objectionable words were merely quoted, but, save the original contributor's error about the "punt," were none the less applicable.—Your old scribe,

October 5. Rus.

NEW PATENTS.

The following is a list of Piscatorial Patents, which is supplied to us by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Registered Patent Agents and Attorneys for Colonial and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks, 76, Chancery-lane, Holborn, W.C. Correspondence and interviews free of charge to our readers:—

16,764.—William Garden, of London, for "Improvements in the Preservation of Fish and the Like."

⁎ Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* Fishing Gazette, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* Club Report *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly delegate meeting will take place on Monday evening next, October 19, at 8.30.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Anglers' Association.—Eastern District No. 1.—The next return visit will be to the Original Alexandra, Green Man, Cambridge-road, Mile End, on Tuesday next, October 20, when I hope we shall have a good representation from all clubs on the above-named district.—G. Manning.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The next meeting of the committee will take place on Friday evening, Oct. 23, at 8.30.—R. Ghurney, sec.

The London United Anglers' Societies' Fourth Annual Angling Competition, in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—On Friday, the 9th, we had our usual weekly meeting, when Mr. Smyth, of the Tottenham and Edmonton, was added to the committee, who guaranteed on behalf of his society a prize of the value of 10s. 6d; the Bermondsey Brothers, a prize value 10s. 6d; Mr. J. Smith, of the same, a pair of fret-cut mahogany brackets; Campbell United, a prize value 7s. 6d.; Mr. Titford, Dalston-lane, a prize. Since our meeting I have received from the South London 10s. 6d., for a prize; also promises, from the Izaak Walton a prize, value 10s. 6d.; the Dalston, two prizes, value 10s. 6d. each. On Friday, the 23rd, I shall require the whole of the committee to be present to arrange for duties on Nov. 15. Will gentlemen and societies who promised prizes send the same to the Foresters' Hall, E.C., care of the hall-keeper, as soon as possible, as the committee have to arrange the same.—S. Malby, sec.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting-hill Gate, W.—A special meeting will take place on Wednesday next, at 9.30 sharp, to transact urgent business, and arrange an outing for several prizes, which I am glad to state we are in possession of. Hoping members will show up in good force. Several members are going to try their fortune on the 18th instant; but I hope the flood in Father Thames will not disappoint our worthy brothers of Old Izaak.—B. Abrahams, secretary.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—On the 4th inst., Messrs. Abel, Moir and Fisher, weighed in roach, bream, and jack; and on the 11th, Messrs. Abel and Elderton weighed in jack and Moir, roach and bream. The next return visit on the Central Association will take place at the above house on Monday next, October 19th, when I hope to see a good muster of anglers and friends. Mr. T. Crumplen has kindly consented to read a paper, entitled "An Angler's Visit in Olden Times." Secretaries of clubs not receiving a notice will kindly accept this invitation.—W. H. Potter, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our sixth match this season will take place at Cookham on the 18th inst., when three prizes will be fished for. Tow-path only; jack barred. Several of our members were out on the 11th inst., but did not meet with much success, and the following weighed in: Mr. B. Acland, roach and dace; Mr. Bond, roach, dace, and gudgeon; Mr. Jones, roach and bream.—J. Rich, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 11th inst. several of our members were out, but on account of boisterous weather very few fish were weighed in, with exception of Mr. W. Hake, who had a very fine show of bream and roach, the largest bream turning the scale of 3lb.; and also Mr. Wright had some very nice bream and roach. On the 18th inst., our members fish for a series of money prizes, at Chelmsford; all members to go by the first train on that morning. I have much pleasure to say that we enrolled four new members last week: two honorary and two working members, and are still open for a few more.—E. R. Embleton, sec.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, Great Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—Several of our members were out on the 11th inst., but met with poor sport, except Messrs. Savage, Evans, sen., and Gibbs. I beg to inform members, we fish for our monthly prizes at Ware, on the 25th inst.; all to go by first train. I hope members will attend in force at the Bermondsey Brothers visit on Tuesday, the 20th inst.—J. Tucker, hon. sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The members of this club fished a match at Staines on Oct. 11, but owing to the state of the river only one prize was taken, that by W. Chettle. We have postponed our visit from the Anglers' Association to Tuesday, Oct. 27, when we hope to have a good muster of anglers and friends.—G. Mumford, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—The members of the above society fished a competition for their October series of prizes on the 11th inst., conditions roving anywhere in the Thames bank only, with the following result: First, Mr. James Smith, 5lb. 14oz., roach; second, Mr. Warman; third, Mr. Moorby; Messrs. H. Patman, Taylor, Allum, Davis, and Conn also weighed in. The next visit on the South London United Anglers visiting list will be paid to this society on Tuesday, the 20th, when the favour of the company of brother anglers from any society that can make it convenient to attend will be esteemed.—A. Conn, secretary.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the 11th inst., the only one to weigh in was Mr. C. Davis, roach and dace. Those members who were not present on Wednesday last, the 14th inst., must not forget it was quarter night and that the 21st is the limit night. On the 14th inst. Mr. J. Clark was elected a member of the above society.—D. Warren.

Bostonian Angling Society.—The second outing of the season was held at Pangbourne on the 11th inst., the members journeying thence by special saloon carriage reserved for their accommodation by the kindness of G. W. R. Company, and returned in a like manner. There were seven prizes for competition, five only being taken, doubtless owing to the inclement state of the weather, also the river being high and very much coloured. In the evening the members did justice to a substantial meat tea provided by Host Coombes, of the Cross Keys Inn. The winners of prizes were Messrs. Rundle, Lawson, Jennings, Hoare, and West. Important business next meeting night.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On Wednesday evening one of our members, Mr. F. Briggs, weighed in a dace, weighing 13¾oz. A number of our members were out on the 11th inst., but they all drew a blank. A competition has been arranged to take place at Bourne End on the 25th inst. for the five prizes which were not won at the last competition. —H. Roach, sec.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—Several of our members have weighed in—viz., Messrs. Wilson, Mearring, Bones, Watkins, jack, roach and bream. The club jack prize remains open until the end of November, the heaviest fish during that time to win. One rod only. One day's fishing each week (Sunday or week-day) allowed for this prize. All members clear on the books eligible to fish. We had a slack meeting last night, and should be glad to see a good muster of members next week.—T. Hawkes, sec.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—A few of our members were out on the 11th inst., and they brought up a nice show of roach, considering the rough day it was. Mr. D. Flint had 6lb. 6½oz. of roach, dace and perch; Mr. Green had 5lb. 12oz. of fine roach; Mr. J. Pether. 2lb. 14oz. of roach. I hope members will come up next Wednesday, as there is another batch of prizes to fish for, so I shall look for a good meeting to arrange where to go and when, and fish them off. There are five prizes to fish for.—J. Pether, sec.

Burton Piscatorials, Globe, Derby-street, King's-cross.—Several of our members were out on the 11th inst., and, although the takes were small, some good-class fish were displayed upon the trays, Messrs. Richards and Sturman showing roach, and Roberts, barbel. Anglers' Benevolent List still open.—C. Roberts, hon. sec.

Buxton Brothers' Angling Society, 4 and 6, Buxton-road, Walthamstow.—On the 9th inst., W. Davies caught some nice roach and dace. On the 11th some of our members were out, but were not very fortunate, owing to the rough weather. The following members weighed in: C. Goulbe, perch; J. King, dace. On the 13th, W. Davies caught some good specimens of roach and dace. On the 14th, J. Berry weighed in some roach, and W. Davies, roach and dace. In the evening our meeting was fairly attended, and some very profitable talk was indulged in, and private parties were formed for different places for matches.—A. Shuker, sec.

Caledonian Angling Society.—Last week Messrs. A. George and A. Knock had some very respectable shows of specimen fish, the former member having upon one occasion out of a catch of 11lb. 13oz., of roach, dace, and chub, five dace weighing 2lb. 14½oz.; one roach, 1lb. 4oz.; and one chub, 2lb. 4oz. The latter gentleman, out of a good take of fish, principally dace, had eight of the species, weighing 5lb. 4½oz., an average of 10½oz. each. We have a number of prizes in hand to be fished for, but I am very sorry to say the members of the society do not support the secretary in his endeavours as they should do, thus making it very disheartening.—A. George, sec.

Cambridge Friendly Angling Society, Masons' Arms, Titchborne-street, Edgware-road, W.—The outing to Pangbourne on the 18th inst., has been postponed until the 25th, in consequence of the unsettled state of the weather, &c. Mr. Allen was the only member who weighed in on the 11th inst., he having roach from the Thames.—W. Sutton, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On October 4 we had a fine show of jack on our trays. Mr. Chapman had nine fish; Mr. Boxall, two; Mr. King, roach. On the 11th, Mr. King, roach; Mr. Langton, roach, jack, and a barbel of 5lb. On Wednesday evening we received a visit from the North-Western Angling Society, and after the conclusion of the business, the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony.—E. T. White, sec.

Campbell United Angling Society, Sir Colin Campbell, High-road, Kilburn.—Several members travelled to Staines on the 11th inst., to compete for this quarter's prizes, only two were successful—viz.: Mr. E. T. Lake, first; Mr. Hiscock, second; Mr. J. Tanner weighed dace. The four remaining prizes will be fished out at Langley (G. W. R.), same conditions.—E. W. Wood, hon. sec.

Canning Town Angling Society, Marquis of Salisbury Hermit-road, Canning Town, E.—Our members were out on the 11th inst., competing for three very valuable prizes. Our takes were not very large, but we succeeded in taking the prizes, which resulted as follows:—Mr. E. Dove, first prize, with a very nice show of bream; Mr. J. Hester, second prize; and Mr. E. Robertson, third prize. Members will please show up next meeting night, to arrange for four prize, to be fished for on the 25th inst.—O. Jones, sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—The meeting on Monday last was fairly good. Mr. C. E. Williams presided. Mr. J. Guest liberally contributed to the already lengthy prize-list. Mr. Tom Keeble in opening up a discussion on "The Pike's Chirurgeons," quoted from an old work: "For if the pike be once hurt of another fish, hee is healed with great difficulty. And when hee is hurt, hee goeth up to the pearch, the which seeing him hurt, toucheth and sucketh his wound, so the pyke is healed again." It is to the tench, however, says Mr. Keeble, that the pike chiefly resorts in his tribulation, for the tench is reckoned *medicum omnium piscium*. Mr. J. Deplidge told a story how a dealer cut open a pike for the purpose of showing its condition to his customers, and how a tench repaired the damage, which was received with loud laughter. The secretary announced that the members had had good sport during the past week, especially Messrs. Richmond, Thorn, and Keeble, with a splendid show of Thames roach.—John Smith, hon. sec.

Central Association.—The monthly delegate meeting was held as usual at the headquarters of the association, the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden, Mr. C. A. Medcalf, president in the chair. The customray routine business having been transacted, members who had acted in the capacity of bailiffs at Pulborough, gave in their reports, and others volunteered for service during the month. Mr. Eldridge's last competition takes place at Pulborough, on the 25th inst., in which it was anticipated a large number of anglers would take part, but the Central Association Fishery is of course only open to members holding the association privilege cards. The Earlsfield delegates drew attention to the condition of the river Wandle, where a large quantity of fish have been apparently poisoned, possibly owing to contamination from mills and other sources; and Mr. G. E. Simms suggested that the Thames Conservancy might be able to take the matter in hand. Attention was also called to rumours that carp had been netted from Wimbledon Lake, and that trimmers had been in use there—rumours it was hoped which might prove to be erroneous, especially as this fine sheet of water, from its proximity to town, was patronised by so many anglers. Mr. Wade reminded the delegates of the complimentary benefit on behalf of Mr. George Watling, which he hoped, in the hands of the many friends who had joined the committee, would prove a very great success. The president announced that the next association visit would be to the Amicable Brothers at the Baldfaced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury, E.C., on Monday next, 19th inst., at 8.30 p.m., when Mr. T. Crumplen ("Old Izaak") had promised to read them a paper entitled "An Angler's Visit in the Olden Time," which he was sure would bring a great many friends together. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Medcalf, the president, Mr. John Kelly, V.P., and also to Mr. Wade, brought the meeting to a close.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—Our fishery at Rammey Marsh has been visited by several members. The waters have been out of condition, and only perch and jack have been taken. On Thursday week I had several of the former, and one of the latter, 4½lb.—Henry Howse, hon. sec.

Cliftonville Angling Society, Cliftonville Hotel, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey.—We have arranged to fish a match for prizes on the 18th inst. The conditions are—members to go where they please, providing two or more members go together. Private waters are barred, also jack and eels. Members not having paid subscriptions will not be eligible to fish in this match, but can weigh in for gross weight, which your humble servant would like to see abolished. I would take it as a personal favour if the members would show up more regularly on Wednesday meetings, as all the work of the society falls upon the same few members every week. We consider the cancelling of our visit on the S.L.U.V. List most unfair, as no notice was received from either Mr. A. Conn or Mr. Rich.—P. Gardner, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—I deeply regret having to report the sudden death of our respected member, Mr. H. Sharland, who has been a prominent member for many years. He leaves a wife and children quite destitute. Mr. B. Coleman saved us from a blank on the 11th inst., with a nice show of roach. At our last meeting it was proposed we fish a match for private prizes; conditions to be made on Tuesday next, Oct. 20.—A. Smith, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow street, Dalston.—On the 11th inst. in spite of the weather, several members ventured out, but the only gentlemen who had any sport were Messrs. Wild, Thornton, Newsome, Cogswell, and Killick, who had some nice carp, roach, and dace. On Tuesday, the 13th, Messrs. Flowers, Spong, F. Woods, Freeman, and Kitson were elected as committee men, and Mr. F. Legge chairman for the ensuing six months. The balance-sheet for the past quarter was read and accepted.—S. Malley, sec.

Eagle Angling Society, Chesnut-road, Tottenham.—Since my last report two prizes have been fished for by our members—viz., Dr. Hall's prize, of one guinea, and our host's (Mr. Barlow's) prize of a two-guinea oil-painting, by Rowland Knight. The first was fished for at St. Margarets on the 27th ult., and not taken; therefore it will be fished for again at some future date. The second was won by our indomitable fisherman, Mr. Dwyer, with 1¾lb. of chub and roach. Mr. Ashmore, another of our enthusiastic fishermen, coming in second with ¾lb. roach. This is a very poor result for so valuable a prize, as some of our members journeyed long distances. Mr. Graham Bennett, one of our vice-presidents, fishes Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, at Broxbourne, in a few days, for roach. I think the match is for a given number at supper. Mr. Graham Bennett also fishes Mr. J. Dwyer for a supper for six, on Friday, the 23rd inst., at Staines, for gross weight of any kind of fish. These two matches have caused some little excitement, and will doubtless be followed by others.—T. F. B., hon. sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On the 11th inst., the following members weighed in: Messrs. Biggs, roach; Shevill, roach and dace; and F. Vanhegan, bream, roach and dace. On Monday last, a smoking concert was held at the above on behalf of George Watling, and was a decided success; the result of the draw will be given next week. All gentlemen on the committee will greatly oblige by attending on Monday next, to settle up the benefit as soon as possible. The next return visit on the Clerkenwell and District, will take place at the above, on Monday, October 26th. I hope members and friends will not forget Mr. A. A. Eldridge's competition at Pulborough, on the 25th.—J. W. Biggs, sec.

General Post Office Angling Society, the Falcon, Falcon-square, E.C.—Mr. Groves brought home a nice jack from Cookham on Thursday, the 8th inst., which he took there while taking part in the competition; he also got broken up once, as did some of the other members. The next meeting will be at the club house on Thursday, October 22.—L. W. Donne.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had a couple of jack weighed in on the 11th inst., by Mr. Baildham, one 6lb. 12oz., and one 3lb. 3oz. Mr. Stebbings and Mr. Riggs weighed bream and dace. Other members were out, but not successful.—A. Payne, sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road.—On the 11th inst., the following weighed in fish: Mr. Bailey, roach; Mr. Chapman, roach; Mr. Clark, roach; Mr. Monk, roach; Mr. Grun, roach and dace; Mr. Dodd, roach and dace. Our sweepstake takes place at Langley on the 18th; all to go by the 8.25 from Paddington.—T. Roach, sec.

Good Intent Angling Society, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch.—The members of this club fished at Pangbourne on the 11th inst. for ten prizes, but the elements were against us, wind and rain, from the time we started until we finished, but we stuck to it like Britons, and took nine of them in the following order: Messrs. G. Hunt, F. Grey, Snook, J. Smith, Whitmore, Pulham, Shervill, Maddams, and R. Murphy. On Tuesday there was a fair attendance of members when it was resolved to fish for prizes at Cheshunt, on the 25th inst.; all start by the 9.8 train, Liverpool-street Station. It was also resolved to fish for our Christmas prizes on November 1, as we have so many prizes. Leaving it so late in the year, as a rule, we cannot get them all off, then we have to draw for them; that we want to prevent in future.—R. Murphy.

Grange Angling Society.—During the last week the Messrs. J. H. Rich, T. Sandilands, G. Wood, E. Rifder and C. Green, have weighed in several pounds of bream and roach.—W. K.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—The members of the above were out on the 11th inst., when Mr. W. Creeke weighed roach, and W. Carr one jack of 3lb.; Mr. H. Cuddon, also weighed roach and perch. The match that was to be fished on the 18th has been postponed till the 27th.—G. F. Weaver, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, with Mr. F. R. Ohlson in the chair. It was arranged to have a competition at Windsor on Tuesday, Nov. 3, for prizes: 1st, some article worth a guinea; 2nd, some article worth half-a-guinea; to commence at 9.30; to fish from punts. Mr. T. Gilbert, of 38, Carter-street, Walworth, S.E., will receive entries and make the arrangements. The next sea fishing competition will take place at Southend, on Saturday, October 24, and will be a trial of hand-lines *v.* rods, an equal number of members to fish on each side. The best five fish on the winning side to take the first prize of an article worth a guinea, the next best five on the winning side half-a-guinea, or a cigar-holder; and the next best five the remaining prize. The train will leave Fenchurch-street at 9.5, and members to cease fishing at five o'clock. Not more than three hooks to be used. Some further progress was made in the arrangements for the exhibition of mounted fish and aquatic birds, and fishing tackle, which will be held at the society's rooms next Tuesday at eight. In addition to the large collection, the property of the society, some good cases have been promised by friends, and it is proposed that a description of the various exhibits be given by the hon. curator. It is also intended to add a little music afterwards, and in order to make the affair a success, members are invited to send exhibits and bring friends. The hon. librarian presented three new books to the library, and offered to fill up the book cases with a number of piscatorial works from his own private library, an offer which was gladly accepted, and a hearty vote of thanks given him.—James Tayler, sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—The only members who weighed in on the 11th inst. were Mr. A. Fish, bream; Russell, roach; and Braham, jun., perch. On Monday the smoking concert, on behalf of the A.B.A. took place, and we were very pleased to see so many of the Eastern District turn up, but I should certainly have liked to have seen the A.B.A. represented by one of the officials. We hope to shortly have the pleasure of handing over a nice little sum to so noble an object.—W. H. Fenner, sec.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—We had a good show of barble, chub, and roach, on the 11th inst., from the Thames, by Mr. Monte.—J. T. Griffiths, secretary.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—The members will fish for special prizes on the 18th inst. in the Lea; roving match, from Carthagena Lock to Ratty's Lock; to leave London by train that starts from Liverpool-street Station at 9.8 a.m.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members will compete for three special prizes on Oct. 25. Competitors may choose their own fishing waters. Messrs. T. W. Garrard and G. Rogers weighed in bream on the 11th inst.; Mr. G. Washington had a tray of handsome perch and a jack on the same day.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—The only members weighing in fish on the 11th were Messrs. Onree and Ide, who had roach and dace from the Thames. On the 18th inst. we fish a match from Cookham Bridge to Bourne End Railway Bridge (roving) for four prizes: 15s., 12s., 8s., and 5s.; one rod only, jack barred. First train from Westbourne Park, or any subsequent train; leave fishing at 4.30 p.m., and return together, or be disqualified. No member to take a prize unless he weighs in half-pound of fish.—A. Ide, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush.—The committee have arranged prizes to the value of £6 6s., to be competed for between November 1 and January 31, 1892. Particulars will be given in due course. During the past week many of the members have been out, the most successful being Messrs. Master, Carter, and Mason.—T. Salter, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville, N.—On Wednesday, the 7th inst., Messrs. More, Clark, and Findley, weighed in some good roach from the Thames. On the 11th inst., several members were out but very few fish were taken, owing to the thick state of the water. I must once more request members in arrears to clear the books.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association.—There was rather a poor muster at the outing on the 8th instant, to Ruabon Water, the saloon carriage being only partly filled. But the day was fine and the party thoroughly enjoyed the excursion to this prettily situated reservoir. Mr. Tittarton won the two-guinea mackintosh, presented for this occasion by our vice-president, Mr. Whittington. One new member was elected at last week's meeting. Our first winter Social Evening will be Thursday, Nov. 5.—R. Woolfall.

Liverpool East End Friendly Angling Association, 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool.—At the competition for prizes at the river Dee, Chester, very little sport was obtained, owing to the river being quite out of condition. Quite a hurricane was blowing, with heavy rain, which continued the greater part of the day. Mr. Isaac Smith saved us from a blank by weighing in a bream, 1lb. 6¼oz. which took first prize, a handsome bird and cage. We also have a match to take place on the 25th of October, at Rufford Canal, for several prizes; one rod only; no fish to be weighed in under 2oz.; all competitors to go by the 7.40 train from the Exchange Station on morning of match; weighing in at five o'clock opposite Station Hotel. Any member not abiding with these rules will be disqualified. —T. C. Segar, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 11th inst., our members were at various waters, but the only members that weighed-in were Messrs. Penfold, Pearce, and A. Clark, with roach and dace. I wish to remind members there is a special meeting for Wednesday next, Oct. 21, to consider an outing.—W. Pearce.

Northern Anglers' Association.—The first annual general meeting of the Warrington centre was held on the 13th inst., at the Golden Ball, Winwick-street, Warrington, when representatives attended from Chester, Northwich, and Warrington clubs. A balance-sheet was presented showing a surplus on the year's working, and from the report given to the meeting by Mr. Mawson (chairman and delegate), general satisfaction was expressed, especially in reference to the efforts of the central council to promote cheap travelling for anglers. A strong staff of officers were appointed for the ensuing year, by whom the various interests of the district will be advanced.—Peter Knight.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland-park, N.W.—On the 10th inst., Mr. Schultz, senior, weighed in jack, and Mr. Harris weighed in jack and a fine tench. I should like to see a bigger muster of members on meeting nights.—G. L.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevonden-street, Hoxton.—On the 11th inst., we were treated to a nice tray of fish at our headquarters. Mr.

Bygrave, senr., three nice jack; Mr. Bygrave, junr., dace; Mr. Harrison, perch, and Mr. Neville, roach. On Wednesday, the 7th inst., our return visit on the No. 1 Eastern List took place, when we had a fairly full room, and during the evening we were treated to some capital songs by some of the old members. When Mr. Manning called the roll, twelve clubs responded.—J. CUTHBERT, sec.

Original Alexandra Angling Society, Green Man. Cambridge-road, E.—The next return visit of No. 1, Eastern District, will take place as above, on Tuesday, the 20th instant.—E. BROCKETT.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Arthur, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Most of our members were out on the 11th instant, competing for a series of prizes. The successful competitors were as follows: 1, Mr. Fairclough, barbel; 2, Mr. Gardham, dace; 3, Mr. Brancher, roach and gudgeon; 4, Mr. Holt, bream; 5, Mr. Parsons, perch. The following had fish, but were too late to weigh in: Messrs. Daniels, Fautley, and Bonsall.—E. A. FAUTLEY, secretary.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—Our matchtakes place at Langley on the 18th instant, to meet at Westbourne Park Station at 8.15. No live bait allowed to be taken down. All fish to weigh according to club rules. Members must catch their own baits if they wish to fish for jack or perch. To commence fishing at 9.45; cease fishing at six o'clock in the evening. Members coming down by a later train must report themselves to the secretary or chairman before fishing.—J. W. HARRIS, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—Our second club outing took place on the 11th inst. from Bourne End Bridge to Marlow Point, for seven prizes, and forty members journeyed to try their skill. I am pleased to say that all the prizes were won by the following, in the order named: Robbins, W. Bartholomew, French, Scott, Ivermee, Clist, and Wheeler. The books of the society have been audited by Messrs. Neal and Twomey, who congratulated the society on their exceptionally strong financial position.—W. BOWYER.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—On the 11th inst. Mr. Comley had a nice show of roach, 3lb. 8oz. It was decided at our quarterly meeting to have a pegged-down match on the 1st November, time and place to be settled on the 19th inst., when I hope to see all members present.—F. BRADLEY, hon. sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—Our monthly outing takes place at Pangbourne on the 25th inst.; all members to go by first train, and all return by 5.15 p.m. The prize left over from the August outing to be fished for on the 25th inst. for the largest roach taken on that day; to go where they like; punt or bank. Only two members weighed in on the 11th inst., Messrs. F. T. Lamberton, roach and gudgeon; F. Lamberton, roach and gudgeon.—F. T. LAMBERTON, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, Queen's Arms, Bateman-street, Soho-square, W.—On the 11th inst. we fished our outing for some prizes, but owing to the state of the weather and water, only Messrs. Chart, Hughes, Harris, Holder, and Gibbons, weighed in. On Wednesday last, at our usual meeting, it was proposed and seconded that five fishing members and one honorary member joins our society, who will be duly balloted for next week. I hope members will show up and give support. Our next outing will take place on the 25th inst., when some valuable prizes will be fished for.—T. C. LONGLAND, sec.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Royal Oak, Roman-road, North Bow, E.—But few of our members were out on the 11th inst., and our takes were exceptionally small, the only gentlemen weighing fish were Messrs. F. Barclay, F. Barrow, and J. Yeo, with roach, dace, and perch. On the 13th, F. Barclay weighed chub, roach, and dace; G. Barclay, jack and perch. It was decided to remove our quarters to the Coborn Arms, Coborn-road, Bow.—A. BARCLAY, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth. — On the 11th inst. several members were out, but Mr. J. Wright was the only member who weighed in; he had bream, roach, and dace, 5lb. 7oz. A special meeting night is called for Wednesday next, when business of importance will be brought forward for the benefit of the club, when I should like all members to be present. Mr. Whitson and Mr. Ovens have promised a prize each to be fished for at our next outing.—J. WRIGHT, sec.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—Members are reminded that the public meeting of the Norfolk Broads Protection Society will be held here on Wednesday next, the 21st inst., at eight p.m., Major-Gen. Goldsworthy, M.P., presiding. The President has added another 9lb. of chub to his account. Messrs. Warsop and Benwell, senr., were out on Saturday at Richmond, but did very little, the water being thick and the weather rough. They weighed in a barbel, caught by Mr. Warsop, and some dace. Mr. Edwards reports having had good sport during his holidays.—C. B.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.—On the 11th inst., Mr. Smales had another show of roach from the bank of the Upper Thames—about 4lb.; Mr. O'Callaghan had about the same weight of bream and roach; and Mr. Williams had roach and dace. On Tuesday last we had a very good muster to welcome back amongst us one of our most energetic members—viz., Mr. Collins, and Mr. Mason was elected a fishing member unanimously. Our next outing will take place at Moulsford on Nov. 1. Further particulars next week.—PELICAN.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on the above list will be paid to the Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, held at the Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey, on Tuesday next, 20th instant, and as this society has been represented at every visit in the South of London for the past five years and also several visits in other parts of London, I trust the other societies will return the compliment and give them as good a visit as on the last occasion, when thirty-two clubs were represented.—A. CONN, hon. sec.

Stoke Newington Angling Society, the Dun Horse, Kingsland-road, E.—A competition for three prizes presented by Messrs. E. Machin, H. Towndrow, and W. Webb, will take place on October 25, in the river Medway, under the usual conditions. Members to alight at, or return from, either Yalding or Wateringbury Stations. On the 11th inst., Mr. S. Orrow weighed in 4lb. 10½oz., bream and roach.—T. GRETTON.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street West, Hammersmith.—On the 11th inst. a number of the members of the above were out, the following of whom weighed in: Mr. Carpenter, specimen jack and other fish; Mr. Comley, jack and roach; Mr. C. Boreham, roach and dace; Mr. J. Harwood, roach; Mr. Taylor, jack. We had an excellent meeting on Tuesday night last. The balance-sheet was read and passed. It was pleasing to the members to hear that, despite several heavy outlays, there is still a balance to the good in the hands of the treasurer. Three new members were made; so that altogether we are progressing very satisfactorily. The half-yearly supper takes place on October 21.—H. REAVES, sec.

United Brothers, Deptford.—The members of the above will fish a pegged-down match, on the 18th inst., in the Medway for their given prizes. I hope this match will be more successful than the last.—H. TYLER, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—I wish to remind those members who are in arrears to clear the books as soon as possible, so as to be eligible for our next outing. I have the tickets on hand for the Rye House Competition, should any member require them. Members, don't forget there is a good prize on for this month.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—The result of the competition on the 11th inst. was: Mr. Temple, first; Mr. Smith, second; Mr. H. Lees, third. For the competition on Wednesday, 21st, it was carried that we fish open bank only; five prizes.—C. HIBBLE, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 11th inst, the outstanding prizes were by Mr. T. Jenkins, with roach and dace; Mr. W. Gordon, roach and dace; Mr. F. Barnes, dace; G. Boyd, dace; Mr. F. Field, roach; Mr. W. Turnbull, roach and dace; E. Enever, bream; and Mr. A. Corras, roach; Mr. E. A. Holbrow was duly elected a member on Wednesday last.—R. J. DARTNALL, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—Our outing on the 11th inst. was a grand success, considering the weather, the following nine members weighing in over 20lb. of fish: Mr. Kertland, first, 4lb. 2¼oz., roach and dace; Mr. Dessert, second, 3lb. 9½oz., roach; Mr. Harden, third, 3lb. 1¼oz., jack; Mr. Blyth, fourth, 3lb. ¼oz., roach and dace; Mr. Parslew, fifth, 1lb. 15½oz.; Mr. Harden, jun., sixth, 1lb. 14¼oz.; Mr. Casey, seventh, 1lb. 8¼oz.; Mr. Maples, eighth, 1lb. 7½oz.; Mr. Sullivan, ninth, 15½oz., perch. From other waters, Mr. Frances, 7lb. 11¼oz., bream and roach.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 11th inst., but the weather was so bad that the only member who weighed in was Mr. Goodrich, saving us from a blank. It was decided at our meeting to fish for Mr. Beresford's prize, on Oct. 25; to go where you please, and no roach to weigh under ½lb. for the prize.—R. LOWTHER, sec.

QUEEN'S HOTEL,
QUEEN'S ROAD, BATTERSEA PARK TOWN.
PROPRIETOR—C. SIMMONDS.
Under the auspices of The Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers among Angling Clubs,
MR. E. S. SHRUBSOLE
will read a Paper upon "FISHING BASKETS, BAGS, AND CREELS," at the above Hotel, on
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10.
There will be an exhibition of upwards of one hundred fishing baskets, bags, &c., to illustrate the lecture.
A GRAND SMOKING CONCERT, organised by Mr. Godfrey C. Cooper, will be held the same evening.
All anglers cordially invited.

AFTER A DAY'S FISHING,
Call on TIBBATTS,
AT "THE CITIZEN," 70, HOUNDSDITCH
(OPPOSITE BISHOPSGATE CHURCH),
Two minutes walk from Liverpool-street and Broad-street Stations.

A GAMEKEEPER'S RASHNESS.—Last week, in the Aberdeen Sheriff Court, a good case against poachers was lost through the aggressive having been initiated by the keeper. Two labourers were charged with assaulting Burnett, a gamekeeper, near Peterhead. It came out in evidence that Burnett had come upon the two men sitting by the roadside, and, guessing their business, he made at them, hitting one of them on the back of the car with his stick, as was borne out by independent testimony. A *mêlée* ensued, the keeper getting the worst of it, and having to be rescued by two farm servants, who were working near by. When all was over the poachers made off with a good bag of game which had been lying inside the dyke. The Sheriff found the case not proved, remarking that although he had a very distinct impression in his own mind as to the whole case, yet there was not satisfactory and clear evidence as to who commenced the assault.

THE *F. G.* COLLIGO PORTFOLIO. — Club secretaries would confer a great advantage upon their members if they obtained a Colligo Portfolio, holding fifty-two numbers of the *Fishing Gazette.* These portfolios have the title of the paper neatly printed in gold on the outside and on the back, and as they open flatter than a bound book, the numbers are kept in good condition and clean throughout the year, when the volume can be bound and added to the club library, and the portfolio is used again for the next year's numbers.

NOTES FROM TYRONE.

THE late rains have raised the Tyrone waters nicely, and all are in nice trim. On some rivers brown trout are still caught, but the season is now too far gone for any true angler to take those fish. Consequently there is a great falling-off in the numbers of anglers who have been out.

THE open season terminated on the Mourne, Strule, and other waters in North Tyrone last Saturday. Salmon are continuing to ascend to the spawning grounds in the mountain streams about Omagh.

THE Ballinderry is in nice ply. An odd salmon is yet caught, but they don't seem to rise well while on the run. Brown trout are not rising at all, the nightly frosts probably being the reason. Pike spinning is prime. On other streams, such as the Kildress, Littlebridge, Rock, Newmills, Blackwater, Broughderg, &c., very little, except coarse fishing, has been done. The Blackwater is high in flood, and a great number of salmon have been observed in the lower reaches.

THE eastern portion of Tyrone, although it has numerous small rivers—two of them, the Blackwater and the Ballinderry, are probably the best trout streams in Ulster—is more noted for the many lakes it contains. There are Roan, Camtell, Eskeragh, and Farlough (large lakes), and such small ones as Stewartstoun, Blacklough, Moy, Nerner, Ardpatrick, Cullion, some of them little better than ponds; yet these are all well stocked with perch and pike, and excellent sport has been enjoyed on them; but not much winter fishing is carried on.

OTTER FISHING ON THE WESTMEATH LAKES.

TWO cases of considerable importance in the interest of the Westmeath Lakes and Rivers Fish Preservation Society were decided on appeal at the County Court, Mullingar, before His Honour, T. Pakenham Law, Esq., Q.C., on Monday last, the 12th inst. Mr. W. J. Thomas, the appellant in both instances, was represented by Mr. John R. Patchell, B.L., instructed by Mr. Arthur Fetherstonhaugh, solicitor, and one of the respondents, James Farrell (who acted as winter water-bailiff to the society), was defended by Mr. G. Fetherstonhaugh, B.L., instructed by Mr. P. J. Nooney, solicitor. The other party, Richard McLoughlin, was not represented except in the Petty Sessions Court. The features of the case are shortly these: In July last the appellant received information that on a certain evening—29th of July—parties would be engaged otter fishing upon Lough Owel, and he accordingly took steps to capture the fish poachers. Having secured the services of a man named Jones, Mr. Thomas proceeded to the lake after six o'clock in the afternoon, and concealing himself from view in the bottom of his boat, Jones (whom the otter fishers had no suspicion of joining the enemy) rowed the boat up to where McLoughlin, a noted poacher, was plying the otter. Mr. Thomas then rose and promptly demanded the apparatus, which McLoughlin stoutly refused to surrender, the latter immediately rowing his smart boat away with great speed pursued closely by the other boat. McLoughlin next cut or broke the otter adrift so that could not be seen among the waves, the lake at the time being pretty rough. Mr. Thomas then went in search of the other boat, owned by Farrell, and after a short time succeeded in capturing the otter, in this case with line, tackle and flies complete. Both parties were summoned before Mr. J. F. McCormick, J.P., at Mullingar Petty Sessions, who dismissed the charge against McLoughlin, on the ground that the prosecutor might have been mistaken and have thought the rudder of McLoughlin's boat was an otter board; and against Farrell, because Mr. Thomas did not actually see him kill trout with the otter, which was produced in Court. The County Court Judge, on the hearing of the appeals reversed the decisions of the Court below, and in McLoughlin's case inflicted a penalty of £7 including costs, with the alternative of two months' imprisonment in Kilkenny Gaol, and fined Farrell £5 or one month s imprisonment.

THE Anglers' Club of Ireland have announced their autumn meeting to take place at the Central Hotel, Dublin, on Saturday, 24th inst., when the general report of the past season's angling in Ireland will be placed on the table. In this report it is stated the season has been the worst the club has recorded for years. The question of the suggested Bill to assimilate the law of this country with that of England as regards the poisoning of salmon rivers will also be discussed. In addition to the nice reach of trout fishing at the Anglers' preserves at Blessington, for a limited number of old members, it is hoped that new members desirous to enjoy the privileges the club was originally intended for may be allowed to join without the heavy entrance fee being imposed. Perch netting at the club's pond has given fair sport, and members' experiences of sea fishing has been encouraging. The club extends numerous inducements to many to join from a social point of view, and encourages the formation of large influential angling clubs throughout this country the same as in England.

LET OF FLOORS CASTLE SALMON FISHINGS.—We believe that the salmon fishings on the lower casts of these celebrated waters have been let for the month of November to Mr. Haddon, who has recently been fishing the famed Hendersyde casts.

AT the Middlesborough County Court, on Monday, an application by the Eston Local Board was down for hearing, in which it was sought to restrain, by an injunction, the Normanby Local Board from continuing to allow pollutions to enter the stream known as Cross Beck. As, however, the Normanby people are taking measures, by the erection of filtering tanks, to obviate the nuisance, the application has been adjourned for three months.

MAZAWATTEE TEA

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1891.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add 30 min. for Chelsea.
Add 40 ,, ,, Putney.
Add 45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.
Add 50 ,, ,, Barnes.
Add 55 min. for Kew.
Add 75 ,, ,, Richmond.
Add 80 ,, ,, Twickenham.
Add 85 ,, ,, Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Oct.	17	1.14	1.35
Sunday,	,,	18	1.56	2.17
Monday,	,,	19	2.37	2.59
Tuesday,	,,	20	3.19	3.39
Wednesday	,,	21	4.1	4.21
Thursday,	,,	22	4.41	5. 3
Friday,	,,	23	5.24	5.47

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—As the trout fishing season of 1891 is now past and gone, it will be interesting to place upon record the doings of some of the principal fishermen who have been taking part in the catching of those fish between the first day of April and the tenth day of September, and some of the items of individual enterprise, if I may use the term. As is generally the case, George Rosewell, of Shepperton, comes out as the champion fisherman, although his total is not so great as in the previous year. This season it has been twenty-one fish, weighing 115lb. 1oz., compared with thirty fish in 1890, weighing 137lb. 3½oz. His principal client, Mr. G. Palmer, who last year got sixteen fish, weighing 65lb. 13½oz., has only this year caught seven fish, weighing 31lb. 9oz., and still maintains his position as the champion trout killer of 1891. His other patrons have done as follows: Mr. G. W. Ellis, three fish, weighing 19lb. 8oz.: Mr. R. H. Smith, three fish, weighing 17lb. 4oz.; Mr. R. Coles, two fish, weighing 12lb.; Mr. A. Williamson, one, weighing 7lb. 4oz.; Mr. James Clapp, one, weighing 7lb.; Mr. S. Sparkes, one, weighing 6½lb.; Mr. Young, one weighing 5lb. 4oz.; Mr. H. Jameson, one, weighing 4lb. 8oz.; Mr. R. Hains, one, weighing 4lb. 4oz. The largest fish was 9lb. 4oz., taken by Mr. Smith. I have the respective dates when each fish was taken, and by whom it was caught. At Staines, John Keene, jun., has taken nine trout, weighing 43lb. 10oz., the largest fish. 6½lb. At Sunbury, Messrs. T. and A. Stroud have caught thirteen trout. At Hampton Court, William Milbourne has his name associated with the capture of three trout, as follows: Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, one of 10½lb.; Mr. James Clapp, one of 6½lb.; and Mr. C. Maude, one of 5½lb. Amongst the individual captures Mr. Alfred Nuthall, J.P., at Penton Hook, a nice trout of 6lb.; at Chertsey Weir, Mr. T. R. Dyer and his brother caught five trout, the largest 9½lb.; five other trout were taken at the weir by other anglers, weighing respectively 9lb., 8lb., 5lb., 4lb., and 2lb. At Hampton Court Mr. George Woods, of East Moulsey, landed two trout, one of 4lb. and another of 3lb. Another gentleman in one day caught two trout, one of 5lb. and the other 3lb.; and another gentleman, with John Smith, one of 8lb. The season on the whole has not been a favourable one, owing to the condition of the water and the absence of anglers, several of whom whose names have been conspicuous in previous seasons are not even mentioned in the season of 1891.—B.

RICHMOND.—Christopher Brown, in two days, seven dozen of roach and dace, and four barbel; Henry Mansell, in four days, 49lb. weight of roach and dace; Henry Howard, in three days, 41lb.; and Job Brain, in two days, 20lb.

TWICKENHAM.—C. Brown, in one day, eight dozen of roach and dace, and another day three dozen, and a couple of bream; Samuel Cole, in three days, 28lb.; George Coxen, in one day, seven dozen; John Coxen, in two days, 20lb.; John Frost, in three and a-half days, 36lb., and one bream: A. Hammerton, in two days, ten dozen, and one bream; Richard Moffatt, in four and a-half days, thirty-eight dozen, and three bream; Pert Hammerton, in six days, 48lb., and ten bream; John Spong, in six days, 80lb., four bream, and a couple of barbel; and F. Wiggins, in four days, 40lb., and three bream.

TEDDINGTON.—B. Stevens, in one day, a fine pike of 15lb., and two bream, weighing 7lb.; Joseph Baldwin, in two days, twelve dozen of roach and dace, and one bream.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, in three days, seven dozen of roach and dace, a jack of 4lb., and ten barbel; N. Bolton, at the same time, fourteen dozen of roach and dace, and four jack, the largest 6lb.; J. Knight, in four days, eighteen dozen, and four barbel.

THAMES DITTON.—A gentleman in a private boat, in one day, six barbel, the largest 5lb.

HAMPTON COURT.—William Milbourue writes: "The water is very high and thick, and fishing has been very bad for the last fortnight, but will be in good condition in a week."

SUNBURY.—Messrs. T. and A. Stroud have been getting some average takes of eight dozen of roach and dace; and Mr. Edward Clarke, during the week, twenty dozen of roach and dace, and fourteen brace of perch.

CHERTSEY.—Owing to the state of the weather and the condition of the water, only a few roach have been taken.

STAINES.—John Keene, jun., in four days, with Mr. Newbury, 60lb. weight of roach and chub and barbel; and one day, with Mr. Wilson, 18lb. of good roach.

Upper Thames.—The upper reaches of the Thames are flooded, and if rain continues to fall as it has and still does, my reiterated prognostications of "never of any more floods" will make me a false prophet. At present in many places the stream is bank high, and angling with any degree of comfort or success is difficult to attain. Quiet little nooks and eddies behind boughs should be sought after to contain roach, chub, and even jack, for fish cannot live in a stream which is tearing down at eight miles or more in the hour. The reports to hand of success are meagre in the extreme, and even the reports of non-success are in the same category, as evidently few anglers seem to have been on the war-path. The most fortunate anglers during the past week have been the eel-bucks, for I hear of hundredweights being had in a night only at Harleford, Temple, and Marlow, which weights would have been converted into half tons if it had not been for the moonlight nights, which it seems—on the authority of the buckmasters—are detrimental to the "running" of the succulent eel. Thursday evening.—River still mending, but out of all comfortable angling trim. The ground gates are up at all the weirs, and it takes a clever punter to stem the stream. Wind west, and every thermometrical indication of more juice—the juee take it!—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Windsor).—The extremely rough weather and heavy rains have caused a considerable rising here, but though very muddy looking some good baskets of roach and barbel have been had. One bank angler, Mr. G. Dewley, of Windsor, fishing in the Surley Hall district, had on one occasion 16lb. of very handsome roach, eight of which weighed over 1lb. each: at the same spot the next day he took another fine lot, weighing 12lb. Mr. W. Atkins of Gatliff-road, Pimlico, also bank fishing has had some good sport; his best catch comprising twenty-nine fish. Barbel should be caught in such a water as at present; the best take has been eleven fish going 30lb. by that well-known enthusiast, Mr. T. Skelton, of Datchet; he also had at various times fish from 3lb. to 5lb. each; but above was the best catch for one day, though the actual time was but two and a-half hours. Many other baskets have been had, 6lb, being the largest in barbel, but one jack 3lb, which was caught by James Gray. The present "spate" as a high water is termed in the North, will move the rotted weed and debris and bring river into excellent trim for jack and chub.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—The early part of the week was fairly pleasant, and a few small pike were taken here and there. At present it is blowing a whole gale, and the water side is deserted.—THOMAS FORD.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—There is but little to chronicle this week but a succession of storms and gales of unprecedented fury in the record of this season. At the latter end of last week fish were feeding well in all waters. Several good bream and roach were taken from the Arun; and from the Rother, bream, roach and pike, especially in the neighbourhood of Fittleworth. Anglers on the Adur had good baskets of roach, dace, and flat fish; and from the Ouse in the upper waters several good roach were taken. At Chichester Canal good sport was had among bream, roach, perch, and small pike. The canal is still low and weedy. It is not until the springs break that we get an influx of water here. The Amberley district is like a lake—acres of land under water. Storms are so sudden that anglers are chary of venturing far from home, and it will be some days with fine weather before many of our rivers are available.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Derwent (Cumberland).—Although heavy rains and high floods have prevailed of late, there has been fairly good salmon fishing in the Derwent. There are plenty of salmon in the Keswick portion of the river, and some good hauls have been made by Messrs. Miles, John and Mark Stanley, of Threlkeld, Mr. W. Cowperthwaite, Mr. D. Melvin, and Mr. T. Musgrove. On Tuesday the water was considerably down, and several good fish were killed. One of the finest landed by Mr. John Kerr, Seaton weighed 23½lb.: Mr. J. Benson, Cockermouth, had a salmon 20lb.; Mr. W. Bell, Cockermouth, one, 19lb.; Mr. J. Wilkinson, Cockermouth, one, 18lb.; Mr. Joseph Pearson, Cockermouth, two salmon, 18lb. and 12lb.; Mr. G. Graham, Cockermouth, one, 7½lb.; Mr. J. Bell, Cockermouth, one, 12½lb.; and Mr. J. Graham, Pap Castle, one, 6½lb. In the Broughton district, Mr. H. Haig, Moresby Parks, landed three salmon, 19lb., 15lb., and 5½lb.; Mr. Joseph Lister, one, 16lb.; Mr. James Newman, two, 18lb. and 16lb.; Mr. Joseph Relph, two, 20lb. and 19½lb.; Mr. George Graham, Clifton, had four nice salmon; Mr. Atkinson, three, 22lb., 10lb., and 7lb.; Mr. J. Clark, two, 6lb. each.; Mr. J. W. Herbert, two, 20lb. and 9lb.; Mr. Lloyd Wilson, Pap Castle, one, 6lb.; Mr. T. Graham, one, 6lb.; and Mr. James O'Neil, one, 14lb. At the Workington end of the river, Captain Waite, Workington, killed two salmon, 25lb. and 13½lb.: Mr. Robinson, two, 16lb. and 18lb.; and Mr. J. E. Birkett, Workington, one, 12lb.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—Angling has been almost at a standstill during this wet and stormy weather. Still, on the occasional fine days during the week the locals have tried to make the most of the closing season. The veteran angler Mr. K. Whiteside did best. Amongst his captures was a nice run fish of 10lb., killed fairly on fly. This is the best I have heard of as yet. SEA FISHING.—The mackerel have entirely left us after affording a most abundant harvest. Haddock up to 12lb. are still plentiful in Laxey Bay, but the weather is so wild that it is hardly safe to cross the harbour. I expect when this blow is over pollack fishing will be very good, and those game but insipid coalfish ought to afford plenty of sport.—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—Weather still wet, and water too high for grayling. Latter will be right in a couple of days' time if no more rain.—D. AND W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourne.

Eden (Carlisle).—So unsettled is the weather that it has become a case of catching the day between the floods, and in one or two instances lately it has been only a few hours. On the 8th inst., Mr. John Robinson had two, 16lb. and 8lb.; and R. Ellnord, one, 15lb., in the Cargs Water; Mr. Sweetapple, one; and Mr. Mackenzie, one, in the Warwick Hall Waters; Mr. John Hills, one, at Corby; and Mr. W. Hough, one, at Crosby. Then came a blank till Monday, the 12th, when the water was only fishable in a few places. Mr. E. L. Hough landed three beauties, weighing 66lb., in the Crosby Water; and Mr. Waters, one, 23lb., in the Association Water. On the 13th, Mr. Hough again got three good fish; Mr. Waters, one, 20lb.; Mr. Graham, one; and Mr. John MacInnes, one, at Rickerby. Nearly all the salmon landed lately are bright, fresh-run fish. The river is again in high flood, but will do on Friday if we have no more rain.—SILVER GREY.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—The river is in splendid fishing trim, and there are plenty of salmon and salmon trout. The individual takes this week have been phenominally good, the heaviest fish weighing 33lb. It was caught by Mr. Briggs, near Glaisdale.—J. J. JACKSON.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—The stormy weather is having an effect on the drains of the fen district, but it is scarcely so serious as might have been expected. The rush of water is clearing away the weeds rapidly, making trolling for pike not only possible, but pleasurable. Some very nice pike were caught last and early this week in different places. Mr. Dawson, a local angler, had some good luck with natural bait in the neighbourhood of Swineshead Bridge, his best capture being one of 7lb. Higher up the stream a Mr. Rice also did well in a similar way, getting fish up to 5lb. Another angler, on the Forty-foot, got a brace one afternoon, 3½lb, and 3lb. respectively; and another secured one of 4½lb. The heavier pike which this water contains will begin to move as soon as the nights grow sharp. A good season is expected on the Parson's Drove, I hear, and the Vernatts probably will yield well. Bottom fishing is not satisfactory, roaching this season all through not being up to the mark. Mr. Ball, of Billingborough, the other day landed a 2½lb. tench.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—Baskets have not been very satisfactory on this river of late, though the state of the water is all that anglers could desire, save the last day or two since the storms. Monday was a beautiful day and some of the best swims were fairly well patronised. Below Botham they were capturing flounders freely, and as far as the position of the river is concerned, they are best worth looking after. The canal is not much worth a visit, but anglers occasionally come away with odd specimens of roach scaling about 1lb. Fish of that weight, however, are not plentiful. Pike fishing is taking attention both in the upper and lower reaches of the river, and in the dykes of the low district. Several specimens have been got from the upper waters, but they all appeared badly fed, of this we may soon expect an improvement. One angler from Retford had a take of seven fish of 6lb. Grayling fishers have been doing moderately in the same locality, and they report the fish in good trim.—L.

Lea and Stort.—Such thoroughly unpleasant and dreadful weather puts all angling chances at a terrible discount, consequently there is nothing, or but little, to report. To-day (Thursday) I have made attempts to call at my usual fishing stations, but have been frustrated by the horrible weather. I only found my way as far as Waltham Abbey. News here were not grand—a jack of 4½lb. had been taken, and some roach and perch. Mr. Avis, of the King's Arms Fishery, tells me that jack and perch are showing well up. Mr. Creffield captured a very nice jack on Wednesday in the Ferry Boat Waters, at Tottenham; the fish went well over 4lb. Some few takes of roach have been made here lately. A match (roach fishing) between two well-known anglers has been made, one gentleman backing himself to beat his opponent to the extent of a supper, so far as I understand. I must say the result will be looked forward to with interest. The conditions are that one uses boiled shrimps, and the other bread-paste. Water somewhat thick, but clearing, and will soon be in good fishing condition.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—Leicestershire has been far from leniently treated by the terrible storm which has just passed over this country, the wind and rain being at times sufficient to put a total stop to angling operations. Not only had anglers the immense floods to contend with, but the wind was so boisterous as to make it impossible to keep a float in the water. When practicable, anglers were to be found in quiet places. Wherever shelter was afforded along the canal, these indefatigable piscators were coming in for a brace or two of pike. Along part of the Leicester preserved waters above the Twelve Bridges, the waters overflowed, and presented a vast flood. Fortunately the improved flood schemes was near completion at Leicester affords facilities for the waters to get away quickly. Fishing in the district has been quiet. One noteworthy catch was, however, effected by Mr. West, of this town, who from some private waters, landed a handsome pike of 17lb., which, after being placed on public view, was sent to a local taxidermist. Thursday evening the weather turned extremely cold.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams have a large quantity of water rushing down them, owing to the heavy rain. Fishing is stopped for the present.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Fishing in this neighbourhood is at a stand-still. For a week past rivers have been too high and discoloured. And to-day (Wednesday), as the result of deluging storms of rain, accompanied by gales of wind, and heavy tempest, rivers are quite bank full of very muddy water. At time of writing still rising. There can be no chance of angling for at least a week hence.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—The heavy rains have made the rivers unfishable. No signs of alteration at present. It will be some time, under the most favourable circumstances, before it is again in condition for the angler.—WILLIAM SHRUBSOLE.

Medway (Tonbridge).—The weather during the past week has been most unpropitious owing to the heavy rains. To-night (Thursday), the river is in full flood and all over the meadows. All angling will be out of the question for some days.—YE MEDWAY WATER RAT.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—We have had torrents of rain this week, and the river has swollen very much; in fact it has overflowed its banks in several places, and many pastures are under water to the depth of several feet. Pike fishing has been fairly productive, Mr. George and Mrs. Saunders have had a very good pike between Elton and Nassington, heaviest 6lb; Mr. Welford has also had a few good ones from the Alwalton district. Spinning is the most profitable plan. Messrs. George and Saunders have also obtained a couple of perch, both good-sized fish. Roach are not quite so profitable, although some fair baskets have been had. At Wisbeck, some large bream have this week been grassed, but pike are rather scarce.—NENEBANK.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—As I stated in my report of last week, now the weeds are cut anglers will have a chance to get at the big shoals of roach, &c. I saw several good lots of roach and bream taken on Saturday from the Ouse; white creed wheat and white paste the baits. This fine river, from Littleport to Ely, is full of good fish; but it is strictly a winter river—deep, sluggish, and quiet. I had a try in the Yare, at Norwich, on Saturday. I did very well the short time I was at it. This is a good winter river—very deep and well coloured. The Lark, at Mildenhall, is, too, full of floating weeds at present. I cannot recommend this river for winter fishing, though it will be better now it is deepened to 6ft. or more. I am sorry to report that several fine trout have been speared during the last week—a cruel and most unsportsmanlike thing to do.—WILLIAM J. COWLETT.

Ouse (Great Paxton).—Some good sport has been had here during the past week. The water is all that can be desired.—W. DUCKER.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—The recent rains have filled the river bank full, and is very thick, which has put a stop to all kinds of fishing, but it was what was wanted to move the jack about, which will bring them on the feed, and when the water gets in fishing order, it is expected that sport will be very good, especially with the jack, and no doubt bream and roach will feed well—H. Rout.

Plymouth.—Sea Fishing.—We are still having plenty of sport of all kinds. The mackerel are going to ground now, although some few are taken whiffing. Smelt and small pollack are taken off the pier and rocks, and flat fish in good numbers in Sutton Pool.—William Hearder.

Scarborough.—(Sea Fishing).—Both pier and boat anglers have been having excellent sport, but the south-easterly gale has put a temporary check to it. Billet have been very numerous in the harbour; one angler caught about three stone in weight the other day, in the course of three hours' fishing. Some good cod and silver whiting have been caught in the bay, and any amount of small flat-fish have been caught off the piers.—H.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—Anglers have had a very poor time with the pike and rough fish since the close of the trouting season. Mr. Goodman, a local excise officer, took a couple of good pike in Hennymere, Baxchurch, last week; Mr. H. Shaw had a very successful angling excursion a fortnight ago to the Irwell, in Hertfordshire, and brought back three very fine trout, weighing 7½lb., 5½lb., and 4½lb.—Piscator.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—Since writing last fair sport has been obtained here. Mr. Hutton, of Roheby, killed one salmon, weighing 18lb.; Mr. Tant, one, weighing 16lb.; Mr. Thomas Parkinson, six fish in one day, four of which weighed 20lb., and the remaining two 8lb.; Mr. Hood, of Bowes, one of 9¾lb.; and Mr. Putnams, of Gainford, four fish, weighing 15lb., 16lb., 12lb., and 10lb. respectively. Heavy storm on Tuesday, with much rain. Will spoil the rivers for the remainder of the week.—J. H. R.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this part is now running high and muddy, and quite out of order for angling. The Ony, Corve, Clun and Ledwyche are all high and muddy. The Corve has overflowed its banks and the fields are covered with water.—S. Ludlow.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this part the weather has been very stormy, and heavy rain has been had, and the water is now running high and muddy. Fishing is quite stopped for some days until the water goes down. The Rea, Kyre, and Ledwyche are all high and muddy; no fishing in them. —Worcester.

Wharfe, Yore, Swale, Nidd, &c.—All these rivers are again in heavy flood and there can be no prospects of grayling fishing for some days.—Francis M. Walbran.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—Angling was a good deal quieter this week, on both the Witham and Forsdyke, owing no doubt to the unfavourable weather of Saturday and Sunday. Monday, however, was a grand fishing day, and gave promise of a settlement. The return of the storm was disappointing, and should it continue much longer it put the water out of condition. Most of the visitors again went towards the lower waters, and they report better luck with pike, still they say the nights are not yet cold enough for the heavier fish. The best pike fishing is now about Kishstead, Dogdyke, and the lower water.—Luci.

Yarc (Norwich).—Reports are again bad from all stations with respect to both roach and bream, and the weather during the past few days has been bad enough to keep anglers at home. Sport has been very good indeed with the pike. One member of the Norwich Angling Club told me last evening that he had caught close upon one hundred pike lately, say, within the past three weeks. This success shows the advantage of being able to go out whenever the conditions are favourable, which is the case with the friend alluded to. The stormy, squally weather of this week will not conduce to bring luck, I am afraid. I hear of another large bream of 7lb. being caught on the Wensum by tho same individual as captured the two reported a fortnight since. I understand he was fishing from daybreak till four p.m. for this reward.—Robert Moll.

Teifi, Lampeter (Cardiganshire).—During the past week, in consequence of the heavy rains, the river has been overflowing its banks, but on Saturday last the water had so far gone down that two salmon were caught (9lb. and 12lb.); and on Monday, some very good fish were taken, averaging about 10lb. each. The river at time of writing is in splendid order, and good sport anticipated during this week, unless we have more flood water. The rod season closes on the Teifi, on Monday next.—H. S. Harland.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—Salmon fishers have had to content themselves by looking on troubled waters and heavy floods for a week or more, relieved only by the sight of innumerable salmon and sewin making for the upper waters and tributary streams. Our rod season does not close here until the end of this month, so we may yet have some sport. It is to be hoped that the Towy Board of Conservators will keep a much stricter watch on the poachers next season than they have done during the present.—H.

Scotch Reports.

Border Esk.—The river ran very high both last week and this, but quickly subsided; indeed, as was truthfully remarked by "R. P." in his interesting article on the Tweed, in last week's issue, "that owing to the net-work of drains which now intersect the land, the Border rivers rise suddenly and fall suddenly instead of being in a flood more or less for a week," which was of frequent occurrence forty years ago. Although angling has occasionally been suspended during the last ten days, sport has been much above the average, and the hauls of salmon in the vicinity of Metal Bridge, and in the Netherby Waters, are astonishingly large. Last Friday I walked from Longtown to the Metal Bridge, in company with one of the most experienced anglers on the Border, and he told me, "it capt a' that ever was seen in the memory o' man, the way anglers were cleekin the muckle, twenty an' thirty punners oot." There was no fishing, however, at that particular time, as the Esk, as well as the Eden, was running a red heavy flood; at night, though, when most of tho surplus water had tumbled itself into the Solway the fun commenced, and several well-known anglers were seen sweeping the Roost, Wilkins Pool, Lynefoot Flat, and other famous points of the river. As the fly-fishing season closes on the 31st of this month, it may be mentioned that a day ticket costs five shillings, and if taken for the remainder of the season, two guineas covers the time. For the lower waters, tickets are issued by Miss Cartner, Metal Bridge Hotel, who has excellent accommodation for anglers and a fund of information anent the river to impart to those who stand in need of it. Miss Cartner's terms are very reasonable, and sbe keeps the best of everything. Taking the season all round, the upper and middle reaches have been most prolific in sea trout and whiting; but with the exception of the Willow and Cauldron Pools in the Canonbie Water, the Metal Bridge division of the river has supplied the best salmon angling, and I may safely inform readers now that the five hundred salmon I spoke of a fortnight or so ago were seen in the Thistle Pool, a portion of this Netherby Water, and within 300yds. of the famous Cauldron Pool. Of course, as the Thistle is reserved water, there is no existing reason for keeping the information back. The number of salmon seen in the pools still continues large. Mr. W. Johnstone caught a fine salmon in the water above Langholm; Mr. G. Maxwell had one of 12lb.; Mr. J. Reid, one, 10lb.; and Mr. C. Elliot caught two sea trout of 3lb. each in the same water. The Earl of Dalkeith, Lord George Scott, and other members of the Duke of Buccleuch's party staying at Langholm Lodge have had good fishing in the reserved water. Good sport has also been enjoyed in the Canonbie Water. Mr. J. Rae, Tarrasfoot, had a salmon, 20lb.; Mr. W. Riddle, Rowanburn, had one, 22½lb.; Mr. Frank Little had one, 18lb.; Mr. J. Graham, Hollowshellgate, landed two fine salmon, one, 19lb., and a second one, 22lb., during the same day; these were all caught in the Byreburn Water. Mr. Scott, Holmfoot, had a new-run fish of 19lb. from the Cauldron Pool, and Mr. James Park, March Bank, one of 9lb. from the same water. Mr. W. Davidson, Byreburnfoot, had two salmon at a fishing. Mr. D. Edgar was equally successful. Mr. James Davidson, Forgebrae Head, had three salmon at a fishing, one of the fish weighing 29lb. Mr. W. Irving, Prior Hill, had one of 12lb. in the Hush, and one, 6lb., in the Mill Pool; and Mr. Thomas Jamieson, Westerhall, caught a fine salmon, 23½lb., in the Double Water. Other anglers have also been successful in the Middle Reaches. It is difficult, however, to obtain a complete list, as several of those who had good sport seem anxious to conceal the result of their efforts for reasons which will be sufficiently obvious to those who are acquainted with the river. In the Canonbie Water, Mr. James Elliot, Byreburnfoot, landed two salmon, 17lb. and 18lb. Dr. Burrell, London, had two salmon at a fishing in the Double Water, and Mr. John Dalgliesh had a salmon weighing 18lb. In the Metal Bridge Water, Mr. Yates, of Liverpool, had four salmon last week, 24lb., 19lb., 28lb., and 9lb. During his stay of three weeks at the Metal Bridge Hotel, this gentleman has landed seventeen salmon, and says, although he has fished in numerous English and Scotch rivers, he considers the "Metal Brig" the cheapest and best angling resort he has visited. Mr. Butler had no less than seven salmon last week, 19½lb., 19lb., 10lb., 7lb., 6lb., 15lb., and 22lb.; Mr. Mason, Rockliffe, one, 5lb., and another, 24lb.; Mr. Graham, Longtown, two salmon, 22½lb. and 13lb.; Mr. Walton, sen., two salmon, 19lb. and 17lb.; Mr. Seth Walton, one, 6½lb.; "Professor" Scott, Longtown, the famous huik (fly) dresser, a splendid salmon, 28lb.; Rev. Mr. Phelps, Houghton, Carlisle, a salmon, 15lb; Mr. Johnstone, keeper, two salmon. In the Netherby Water, Sir Richard Graham, of Netherby Hall, tops the lot with five salmon, 23lb., 22lb., 19lb., 13lb., and 17lb., while Sir Richard's factor, Mr. Brown, Scaurbank, comes close up with four, 40lb., 19lb., 17lb., and 16lb. Mr. Ivy Graham, Arthuret Rectory, had four salmon, all over 20lb. Mr. R. B. Carruthers, of Dumfries, had one salmon. Mr. J. Johnstone, Longtown, caught two; and Miss Graham, of Arthuret Rectory, landed a fine salmon of 22lb. after a good run.—Gilnockie.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—Seldom is it the case, and the more's the pity, that the upper proprietors participate to any extent, if even at all, in the run of the autumn migration. The present season is a rare exception to the regrettable general rule, for already fresh fish are being grassed on McGregor's Invercauld Arms Water, and even in the reaches above him. Mr. McGregor is to be congratulated on his rare run of luck this season all through. He had fish on the opening day, the cream of the season, and now he is again blessed with a splendid back-end. On the Birkhall reach of the Queen's Water, Captain Brook landed three fish, 9lb., 9lb., and 10lb., while he also had one of 9lb. on McGregor's Invercauld Water. On this same water, Mr. Maud landed two fish of 7lb. and 8lb. on Saturday, one of 16lb. on Monday—a fresh autumn beauty—and three of 8lb., 10lb., and 23lb., on Wednesday; while Donald Morgan landed a fresh-run fish of 20lb.; Dr. Mitchell, a grilse of 5lb., and two salmon of 9lb. and 8lb., on the same water. On the Monaltrie Water, Mr. Heaven had a fine fish of 13lb. On the Glentana Waters, Sir William C. Brooks, Bart., M.P., and friends, are enjoying good sport. On the Loch of Aboyne, Capt. R. E. Heaven, Mr. W. R. Heaven, and Lieut. McFarlane, caught fourteen pike with the spoon bait. On the Huntly Arms Hotel, Aboyne, Mr. Rice has had capital sport, having landed two of 6lb. and 13lb., four, 6lb., 9lb., 16lb., and 23lb., and one, 15½lb., on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday last week. On the Upper Dess Water, Mr. J. A. Milne, who is staying at the Huntly Arms, landed one of 8lb., and one of 25lb.; while Mr. Getting bad two of 24lb. and 19lb., and one of 7½lb.; and Mr. D. R. Milne, one of 8lb., on varions days last week. On the Kincardine O'Neil Section, Mr. Munroe landed two on the Lower Dess of 15lb. and 13lb. On the Kincardine Lodge Water, Mr. Lamond had one of 14lh., one of 12lb., and a magnificent fish of 29lb.; while Major-General Macintyre, V.C., had one of 20lb., and another of 14lb. On the Carlogie Water, Captain George Campbell landed two of 22½lb. and 16½lb., one of 16lb., and two of 7½lb. and 26lb.; while Mr. Archd. Campbell had one of 8lb. On the Borrowstone Water, Captain Farquhar, R.N., landed two of 14½lb. and 27½lb.; while Admiral Fane, the lessee, had one of 7½lb., two, and three of average weights on different days. On the Ballogie Water, Mr. W. E. Nicol, one of 8lb., three of 14lb., 18lb. and 22lb., on Friday and Saturday last; while Duncan, keeper, had two of 14lb. and 16lb., and three of 15lb., 18lb. and 10lb. on the Commonty Water on two days last week. On the Woodend Water, which was considerably out of trim during the whole week, and especially so on two occasions, Mr. Farnell Watson landed three fish of 19lb., 17lb. and 15lb., two of 11lb. and 17½lb., one of 17lb., and two of 18lb. and 11lb.; while Mrs. Farnell Watson had a beauty of 15lb. to her own rod on Monday last. On the Blackhall Castle Water, Mr. G. T. Hay and party grassed two on Monday of 21lb. and 23lb.; nine on Wednesday, scaling from 9lb. to 24lb.; four on Thursday, from 16lb. to 23lb.; one on Friday of 21lb.; and seven on Saturday, scaling from 15lb. to 23lb., in all twenty-three fish for the week. On the Inchmarlo water, Mr. Duncan Davidson had one of 8lb.; and Mr. Vernon Maginac a fine fish of 25lb. On the Cairnton Water, Mr. T. Farley landed eleven heavy fish one day lately; while General Keene had a similar number on the Lower Crathes Water, scaling from 8lb. to 24lb. On the Knappach Water, Mr. F. Pickop's gillie landed three, scaling 10lb., 12lb. and 16lb. On the Drum Water, Mr. F. H. Irvine landed one of 18lb., two of 19½lb. and 20lb., two of 19lb. each; while Mr. K. R. Fletcher had one of 16½lb., and two of 11½lb. and 17lb.; while the Rev. E. R. Nicolls had two of 7lb. and 24lb., and three, 16lb., 19lb. and 23lb., on various days during tho week. On the Durris and Park Waters equally good sport has been got on every available occasion, while the Nether, Banchory, and tidal reaches are affording splendid baskets of finnock and sea trout, with an occasional salmon.—Deesider.

Deveron (Banffshire).—The water in the river Deveron continues in fair fishing order, and good sport is enjoyed by anglers. On the Duff House Water, Mr. George Duncan, Banff, had ten salmon, weighing from 8lb. to 27½lb.; Mr. Mowat, tbe keeper, had one of 19lb.; and Mr. Stevesnon, Blairshinnoch, for three days' fishing, had twenty, ranging in weight from 10lh. to 30lb. On the Dunlugas Water, Col. Forbes and Major Gordon, Balquholley, had half-a-dozen fish of 9lb. to 24lb. On the Eden Water, three fish of 9lb. to 15lb. were killed. On the Netherdale Water, Keith Maitbland, Esq., had six salmon, 6½lb. to 19lb.; Mr. Caldwell, two salmon, two grilse, and eleven sea trout of 3½lb. to 17½lb.; the Hon. C. H. Erskine had six salmon, 9½lb. to 19lb. each, and a grilse of 3½lb.; Mr. Findlay had two salman of 10lb. and 10½lb.; Capt. R. W. Cahoon, a salmon of 10lb.; and Mr. Hunt, a salmon of 27½lb. On the Mayne Water, Mr. Sandison, the keeper, had a salmon of 17lb. On the Forglen Water, Sir R. Abercromby had five fish. On the Mountblairy Water the number caught to date is over sixty; and on tbe Laithers Water (Mr. Stuart), fifty. On the Corniehaugh Water, Huntly, Mr. Porter and Mr. Sellar had two salmon each, the heaviest weighing 25lb. A few fish were also killed on the free water, at Huntly, on the upper reaches of Beldorney and the Cabrach.—H. W.

Don (Aberdeenshire).—During the past week the water has been in capital condition, and grand sport has been the order of the day, especially all over tho lower beats. On the Grandholm Water, Mr. R. H. Ellis, London, had sixteen salmon for the week, landing nine of these on Monday, including some grand fish, several of which weighed over 30lb. each. Mr. Rooper, London, had twelve fish for the week, and Mr. Jopp, Aberdeen, five—one day out. The total catch for the week was sixty salmon to seven rods. At present the pools are teeming with fresh-run fish, and the prospects of a splendid back-end are now well assured up to the close. On the cruives and Nether Don Sections equally good sport is being got, while splendid baskets of sea trout are being got on the tidal waters by Mr. Gibb and others, weighing from 20lb. to 30lb. occasionally.—Don.

Dunbeath.—What has proved to be a pretty successfu season closed on Thursday, the 15th instant. Usually the best times for this stream are March and April, the end of September and the first week of October. In March of this year it was covered with ice, and there was no angling. The first fish of the season was got by Mr. Ross, Berriedale, in the Strath Bridge Pool, early in April, and weighed 10lb. In May, Mr. Bruce, of Dunbeath Castle, had some extraordinary large takes of sea trout. For the week ending May 16 he had altogether no fewer than seven hundred and thirty-seven, his best day being the 11th, when he had two hundred and eleven, got in the tidal waters. They weighed about seven to the pound. During the month of June the stream was low, and there was no fishing. During the second half of July Mr. Bruce had excellent sport. On 23rd July he had five grilse, weighing from 3lb. to 5lb., in the Bridge Pool; and on 25th he killed an 11lb. salmon and a 6lb. grilse in the Mill Pool. The heaviest fish yet got in this river was caught by Mr. John H. Sinclair in the Strath Pool, and weighed 19½lb. Sir William Montague Call, Bart., Baleraggie Lodge, had collapsible boats put on Lochs Dhu and Breac, near the head waters of this stream, and for the first time in their history these rather remote lochs have this season been regularly fished, and both of them have yielded excellent baskets of brown trout. On the lower beats Sir William had several nice fish, his heaviest being 10lb. J. B. Whitelaw, Esq., fishing from Dunbeath Hotel, landed a few good fish. The stake net fishing at the river mouth has been more successful than usual this season. The heaviest fish of the season weighed 52lb., and was got just a day or two before the legal close of the net fishing. The herring fishing at this port has also been more successful than at any otber part of the east coast of Caithness. The flies which have been found most successful for sea trout have been blue body striped with silver, brown hackle and teal wing, or crimson body striped with gold, claret hackle and mallard wing. For salmon: black body striped with gold, mallard wing, blue jay hackle, and jungle cock wing.—A. P.

Liddle.—This river, which is well stocked with salmon, continues in fairly good fishing order, and anglers have had comparatively good sport during the past week. Mr. Wm. Murray, Newcastleton, landed a fine salmon, 18lb., in the upper reaches; Mr. Whitfield, Carlisle, had one, 6lb.; Mr. Dickie, Upper Burnmouth, one of 5lb.; Mr. J. Little, Newcastleton, caught two, 18lb. and 6lb. respectively; and Mr. Crozier, Newcastleton, caught a nice fish, 18lb.; Mr. Graham and others have made good hauls in the lower waters between Penton Linus and Liddle-foot; but there is the same difficulty in getting returns which exists in some divisions of the Esk. Now, ye verra clever local anglers, I ken maist o' ye. Just you wait a wee. I'll be on your track next spring.—Gilnockie.

Loch Ness, River Oich, and Loch Tarff (Fort Augustus N.B.).—Now that the close season is on, a word or two regarding last season's sport may not be amiss. The salmon angling on river Oich and Loch Ness was an improvement on last season, and the record might have been better but for a lot of bad luck, a large number of the fish getting away after being hooked. For a good part of the season the river was too high, and at other times too low, for successful angling. The loch gave some good sport, as many as six being got on it in one day. The trout angling was variable, but on the whole fairly good. Loch Tarff was not up to its usual, some very poor baskets being got off it at times; still, on favourable days, as much as 15lb. was got. The weather had a great deal to do with the bad luck this season. Mr. F. Mellor, staying at the Post Office Buildings, was the last gentleman to try these waters, and he was rather successful, his catch consisting of salmon, grilse, and some heavy black trout.—Hison.

Loch Tarff (Fort Angustus, N.B.)—On Saturday last, 10th inst., Messrs. MacCullie, T. and J. M. Aitchison had an excellent day's char fishing on this loch, landing fourteen dozen, and two fish weighing 25lb. This beat the record of any day's catch within the last number of years. Five dozen and a half were grassed off tho roadside beds in the space of an hour, and the remainder were taken off the Knockie March bed. The big island bed which used to add considerably to the angler's baskets proved useless this season. On Monday, Mr. Henry Douglas fished the same ground, but with worse luck landing only four fish; and on Tuesday, he and Mr. H. Munro visited the loch but had no better sport. The char seemed to have left the grounds to be seen no more for a twelvemonth. For some unaccountable reason the char were of a smaller size this year. The fishing of this loch goes along with the Glendoe shooting, and Mr. E. Ross, the tenant, deserves the best thanks of the piscator community of Fort Augustus; for not only in the char season, but all through the trout season, he grants permission to any who may apply to him.—HISON.

Ness (Inverness).—Angling has been almost at a standstill during the past fortnight, owing to the flooded state of the water. During the past week Mr. F. Walker, on the Ness Castle Water, landed ten grilse and four salmon. On the free day, 12th, the local anglers landed three grilse and three salmon, averaging 17lb. The fishing closed on this water on Thursday last.—D. WATSON.

North Esk.—Splendid sport is being had, both on the North and South Esk (Forfar). On the Ponnagh Water, Colonel Murray had four fish, scaling, 30lb., 22lb., 27lb., and 12lb.; and Miss Scot, one of 17lb. On Friday last, while Mr. Scott, on Bridge Pool, had two, of 16lb. and 17lb.; Mr. Porteous, two of 16lb. and 17lb.; and Dr. Johnstone, two on the same water in addition to five on the Nab Stream. On Saturday, Dr. Johnstone landed two, and Mr. James Johnstone six, scaling from 12lb. to 37lb. on the Nab Stream; Mr. Porteous, on Bridge Pool Water, had three, 16½lb., 15lb., and 14lb.; Mrs. St. Quentin had two fine fish on the Morphie and Ponnah Waters, of 15lb. and 18lb. respectively, and Mr. St. Quentin, one of 18lb. Excellent sport is being had on the Panmure Hotel Waters by Mr. W. Murdoch and others, heavy baskets of salmon being made daily, of splendid fresh-run fish, scaling from 7½lb. to 18lb. apiece.—G. M.

North Esk (Edzell).—Fishing from Panmure Arms Hotel, Edzell, Mr. Murdoch, in four days, had seven salmon, 8lb. to 28lb.; Dr. Hudson, two, 8lb. and 10lb.; Mr. Bacon Frank, five, from 12lb. to 20lb.; Mr. Bertram and Mr. McIntosh had two each; and several others had good fun. The North Esk has not fished nearly so well for many years. Of late the river has been several times higher than anglers could have wished.—BRECHIN.

South of Scotland.—Such a succession of floods has not occurred in the South of Scotland rivers for thirty years. For about three weeks past only two or three fly-fishing days have been had in the rivers of the district. Salmon in hundreds appear to be ascending the rivers daily, and passing on to the upper waters in the floods. On occasional days the sight of the salmon ascending the weirs and salmon passes has formed an interesting sight to others besides anglers. Many of the salmon seen in the rivers this week were computed to weigh over 40lb.

ANNAN.—In the Annan, on Saturday, at Mount Annan, Mr. Crawford's fisherman killed, with a Grey Turkey fly, a beautiful new-run salmon of 25lb., out of the Burnfoot Pool. On the same day, Mr. Thomas Hoare, Kinmount House, landed a small salmon of 10lb. out of the Kirkyard Pool of Hoddom Castle Water. In the lower waters, at Northfield, Mr. Peter Loudon, Bruce-street, Annan, landed a fine fish of 20lb. Dr. McNaughton, ex-mayor of Blackpool, hooked a large salmon above Millbie Caul, but it unfortunately escaped by the hook breaking. Dr. McNaughton has killed several nice new-run herling this week. Mr. John Iveson, Wigton, killed, the other day, twenty-five herling, and on the next day he had twenty-two, and yesterday he had nine, all fresh-run autumn fish. Mr. Ormerod, Oldham, caught six; Mr. William Wallas, Wigton, killed eight yesterday, and to-day he ran a large salmon for some time and then it broke away; the Rev. George Kennedy, Newington Lodge, killed to-day, in the Warmanbie portion of the Annan, two large sea trout and eight herling; Mr. Peter Loudon killed twelve herling in the lower waters, on Tuesday, with worm bait.

NITH AND FLEET.—Little has been done in the Nith, owing to the excessive floods, but in the Sanquhar district several good salmon have fallen to the rods. The Fleet has been running bank full all week, and no fly-fishing has been had.—HEATHERBELL.

Spey (Elgin).—The river was of considerable size this week, but not too large for fishing, and both salmon and trout fishers met with good sport. On the Sourden Water, on Monday, Mr. W. Edis, London, had a fine fish of 20lb.; on the same day, on the Aikenway Water, Mr. Stewart Menzies, of Culdares, killed a splendid salmon of 20½lb. On the Easter Elchies, Lord Elgin's keeper had a nice fish of 17½lb. On Saturday, Major Grant, of Glengrant's Water, at Craigellachie, Mr. McKessack, of Ardgay, had a fish of 16lb. On the Elchies Water, on Thursday, Mr. Stewart Dyce landed three fish, weighing 8lb., 9lb. and 17lb.; and on Friday, on Major Grant's water, the same gentleman had one of 9lb.; and on Saturday the same gentleman had one of 17½lb. from the Aikenway Water. On the same date, Mr. Stewart-Menzies had one of 23lb.; Col. Edis, on the Sourden Water, had two salmon of 14lb. and 19lb. respectively.

FIDDICH.—Excellent sport still continues to be got on this river. On Friday last, Mr. Thomson, Dufftown, had two grilse, 7lb. and 5lb.; Mr. John Grant, distiller, on the same date, had a grilse of 7lb., and a sea trout of 3½lb.; Mr. Jas. Beaton, two sea trout of 1½lb. each; and Mr. Watson had two sea trout of 2lb. each; while Captain Milne had a grilse of 4½lb. On Saturday, Mr. M'Pherson, teacher, had two grilse of 5½lb. and 4½lb. On Monday, Mr. Cruickshank, agent, had a grilse of 6lb. On Saturday, Mr. John Stuart had a grilse of 4lb.; and Mr. Jas. Watson a trout of 2lb.—

Tay (Birnam Hotel Water.)—Boisterous winds and heavy rains during the past week seriously interfered with angling pursuits; but notwithstanding the unfavourable weather, some splendid fish fell to the rod of Mr. G. Clark, Bedford. On Monday, Mr. Clark had a clean-run salmon of 20lb., and lost another of about the same weight. On Tuesday, Mr. Kenneth Milliken, of London, had one of 21lb. On Thursday, Mr. Clark had four salmon, and on Tuesday four. On Saturday, Mr. Clark fished for half-an-hour, in which time he got two, but did not manage to land them. Mr. Clark fished the Stanley Water three days, and had sixteen fish, averaging 16lb. each. The river is full of fish, and promises capital sport; and the weather is much more settled.—M. G.

Tweed, &c.—The month of October, which opened so auspiciously for the salmon angler, has already belied the high hopes that were entertained regarding it—in so far as the weather is concerned, as since my last notes, very few fishing days have been granted the disciple of Old Izaak, the rivers in the Kelso district rising and falling nearly every other day. That there is no paucity of salmon in both Tweed and Teviot, however, is evident from the numbers that have been killed by those anglers who have, nevertheless, made the most of their time and opportunities whenever a chance has occurred for them to have a cast. In truth, some of the more ardent votaries of the art have gone out when there seemed not the faintest hope of a rise, far less of a kill; but, strange as it may appear, luck has been with them, and these persevering and patient anglers have been rejoiced, on more than one occasion, to record kills in water seemingly so completely out of order, that none but the most enthusiastic sportsman would have ventured to try. Gales of wind and rain have been the order of the day for nearly a week, and on Wednesday and Friday last week, floods of from 2½ft. to 4ft. were the results of the unsettled elements, while the present week has shown no improvement, the rivers—Tweed and Teviot—having both been in flood since Tuesday, the Tweed ometer at Kelso Bridge, on Wednesday, marking a rise of about 4ft. With the present unsettled state of the elements, the rivers cannot be in anything like good angling order, until Friday at the soonest, if then. The wind and rains are from the south-west, and as the lands adjacent to the river are all now well saturated with the heavy pluvial descent we have recently had, it does not now take much of a further fall to bring away the streams in flood. Subjoined are the takes that have been got during the past week, together with a few of the previous weeks, which were not to hand when my last notes were sent off. At Lennel, on Oct. 3, Mr. Etty had one grilse, and Mr. Chorley, one salmon; on the 5th, Mr. Etty had one salmon and one grilse; on the 6th, Mr. G. H. Pierson, one grilse. On the Rutherford Water, on Sept. 28, Dr. Gibson Dyson had one grilse of 5½lb.; on the 30th he had one of 7lb., and Dr. S. Buckley, one of a similar weight; on Oct. 2, Miss Vickers killed a 1½lb. salmon, and Mr. W. H. Hamilton, one of 20lb.; on the 3rd, Mr. Hamilton had five salmon, 14lb., 14lb., 16lb., 16lb., and 23lb., and one grilse of 5lb., while Miss Vickers had one of 16lb.; on the 5th, the same lady had an 18½lb. salmon; Dr. Gibson Dyson, two salmon, of 16½lb. and 18lb., and Mr. W. H. Hamilton, one, 15lb.; 6th, Miss Vickers killed two salmon of 20lb. each; Dr. T. Dyson, one, a similar weight; and Mr. W. H. Hamilton, two, 15lb. and 19lb.; Miss Vickers and Dr. Gibson Dyson, fished one rod. The river was usually too full for good sport. On October 2, at Yair, Mr. Alex. F. Roberts had a couple of grilse, 4½lb. and 5lb., and one 18lb. salmon; while Mr. John Roberts had one 16lb. salmon; on Saturday, Mr. J. S. Stedman had three fish, 10lb., 12lb., and 16lb.; and Mr. J. Litsterow, two, of 19lb., and two grilse, of 5lb. and 4½lb.; on Monday, Mr. Alex. F. Roberts had three salmon, 10lb., 14lb., and 17lb., and one grilse of 6lb.; Mr. Thomas J. S. Roberts, one salmon of 9½lb.; and Mr. James Hogg, one salmon, 14lb. On the Teviot, on Monday, Mr. W. R. Plummer had two grilse of about 7lb. each. On the Hendersyde Water, on Tuesday, Major Boswell, Preston, killed three salmon, 16lb., 16½lb., and 19lb.; and Capt. Haddon, Hawick, one of 17½lb. on the Sprouston Water; Colonel Trotter had eight fish on the Ednam House Water; Capt. Middleton had one of 9lb. on the Mallerstoun Water. On October 5, Major Bourke had eleven salmon, and on Friday, the 6th, he had a similar number of fish; while on Saturday last he had one salmon, although the water was in very bad order. The best fishing during the present week, however, was got on the Duke of Roxburghe's upper water on Tuesday, when Colonel Murray was successful in killing eight salmon, the heaviest weighing 24lb. On the lower water we understand that five fish were also got since last week. A good many baskets of common trout have been taken on both Tweed and Teviot, but these fish are now well out of condition, and legitimate anglers have given up this sport some time ago, and none but the pot hunter and the "river hawk" (who as a general rule turns his take into cash), now follow out this sport, and it is a thousand pities that there is no legal enactment to prohibit this kind of angling after October sets in. We hear a good deal about the scarcity of large trout, but this is not to be wondered at when slaying goes on all the winter through.—MAXWELL.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—This river is in nice flood, but, as a rule, only pike fishing has been indulged in, for although the season extends to the 31st inst., no true angler has been fishing for brown trout, as they are too far advanced in the spawning stage. Some are already in the redds. On the Coagh Water, Mr. Anderson had a 9lb. salmon last week, and Mr. A. Dunne, on Monday, had a small salmon. Mr. Stevenson same day hooked a thumper, but lost it eventually. Pike fishing is simply grand, the best lures being the Devon and spoon baits.—J. A. B.

Lough Neagh.—Fishing all round is dull. Trout are almost out of condition. Pollen netting has fallen off, and only fourteen days of the open season remain. Pike fishing is fair, but perch and bream fishing has temporarily fallen off. Eel fishing remains steady and remunerative, as the eels are running the lough from the inland rivers, lakes, and swamps. The season all round has been very good, much better than was expected.—J. A. B.

Shannon and Lough Derg (Killaloe).—The autumn salmon fishing has, so far, been a most dismal failure. Of course the wild and constantly wet weather which has prevailed since the beginning of August has alone caused all the mischief. During the past fortnight the following anglers have killed a few fish at this station: Mr. W. Young, D.L., one salmon, 10lb.; Mr. J. W. Young, one grilse; Mr. Sidney Mitchell, one salmon, 9lb., and one grilse, 6lb.; Mr. G. H. Gillott, one salmon, 11lb., and two grilse, 6½lb. and 5lb.; Mr. F. C. Henry, one salmon, 10lb., and one grilse, 6lb.; Messrs. P. Ryan and W. Fogarty, three grilse, 9lb., 8lb., and 7lb.; Mr. F. Johnson, two grilse, 7lb. and 6½lb.; Mr. John Barry, on Mr. Young's preserves, one grilse, 6lb. We are in hopes that the remainder of the month will fish well, as the big salmon *must* come up the river in the present flood. Mr. H. W. Taylor (The Lawn, Melbourn, Cambridgeshire) has arrived here for the pike fishing on Lough Derg. Mr. J. W. Wright and Mr. Bond, Birmingham, have also arrived for the fishing and shooting. On Thursday last, Mr. William O'Toole, gamekeeper, killed on the lake two fine pike, 28lb. and 16lb. On Monday, Mr. H. W. Taylor, attended by Mr. O'Toole, killed eleven pike, largest 7½lb. Only for the wildness of the weather there would be great slaughter of pike this week.—S. J. HURLEY.

Waterville (County Kerry).—Only a few anglers have been out on Waterville lake. They have had baskets of white trout, varying from four to eight, with a few good brown ones. On the Inny, John Sullivan caught three salmon since last report, averaging 7lb. each. All waters are highly flooded in this district at present, and the fish are moving up to the spawning grounds. The season closes on the 15th inst.—THOS. J. DENNEHY.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

THE half-day excursions to the chief fishing resorts in the Midlands, ceased running on Saturday last. These excursions commence to run about the beginning of June, and are patronised chiefly by anglers, who only indulge in fishing during the summer months, and as soon as these excursions terminate the tackle is put away until the time comes round for the excursions to run again. We have a good number of this kind of angler in Birmingham, I am sorry to say, who seem to look upon their more legitimate brothers, who go out at all seasons, with a certain amount of suspicion as to their sanity. The butterfly fishermen, if I may be permitted to call them by this name, do not miss many Saturday or Monday afternoons from visiting their favourite spots, that is if the weather is nice, and they are very particular upon this point indeed, as the sun has to shine on both sides of the hedge to get them to leave home. One of the most popular resorts is Kingswood, this is within easy distance of Birmingham, and on the Great Western Railway Company. The next place which is patronised to perhaps a greater extent than the place just mentioned, is Salford Priors. The river Avon runs here, and a charge of sixpence per day is charged by the owner of the fishery for the privilege to fish, and a fine Saturday afternoon means about five hundred anglers paying for the right to fish; but should the weather be unsettled, or wet, not more than one hundred would be found on the river banks. There are also numerous places on the Midland, as well as the Great Western Railway, that are, during the summer months, well patronised, and in some instances, there has been, without a doubt, more anglers on the banks of some rivers and canals that I could mention than there has been fish in the water; this being caused by the constant fishing and no restrictions passed as to the size of fish to be retained. Owing to this cause it is not to be wondered at that complaints are loud from this class of anglers, who, in a majority of cases, are not connected with any club whatever, and it is through these causes that many of them give up the pastime, which, if followed up, would lead to better success. And I would advise anglers of the class I have mentioned, to join a club that rents some decent water that is fairly well stocked with fish, and have a turn at a bit of pike fishing during the winter months, and not wait for summer weather to return. They would then, perhaps, be rewarded by the capture of some leviathian specimen, which would make amends for past disappointments, which perseverance, which should be the motto of every follower of the gentle craft, could only overcome.

OWING to the heavy rains of the last week very little river fishing has been indulged in, on account of the high and coloured state of the water. On the Trent, fishing is out of the question, and will be for some days to come, especially in the Alrewas district, and the parts where the Birmingham clubs rent water—as it is reported that the water in these parts is all over the meadows—and the present outlook seems to indicate that there is a lot of rain still to fall, as the barometer is down below "much rain." On the Avon previous to the heavy rains, and also when the river began to rise, some decent roach were taken with the stewed malt, but at the present time of writing the river is bank high, and of a nasty thick, clayey colour, and is running at express speed. The flush will do a great amount of good, as it will clear the river of a lot of rubbish and half-rotten weeds, together with some of the feed the fish have been living on. There only requires a bit of fine, dry weather, when some good catches will be recorded from this river. On the Severn, sport up to Sunday was nothing to complain of, as some of the Birmingham anglers had some decent sport in the back-waters round and about Stourport and Lincombe Weir. And had the rain have kept off, one or two of the members would have had some decent catches, but as it was they had nothing to complain of with regard to the sport. At the present time, if any of my readers want a bit of Severn fishing, let me advise them to try Lincombe Weir, as there are more fish here now than there has been for a long time.

BY the time that these Notes will appear in print one of the most important questions in the annals of the Birmingham Angling Association will have been decided upon. I am referring to the all-important question of the association acquiring water for the use of the members, and also for re-stocking certain waters which at the present time contain little or no fish. This important matter will be decided too late for me to forward the result; but next week I shall be in a position to furnish a full account of the meeting.

A COMMITTEE meeting of the St. George's Society was held on Wednesday evening last for the purpose of making arrangements for the bye contest, when it was decided that the contest take place in the river Anker, at Tamworth, between Shuttington Bridge and the mill, on the 25th of October next. Mr. Miller was appointed referee, and it was also decided to distribute the prizes on the following club-night, which is October 26.

A MEETING of the committee of the Provincial Angling Association will be held this (Saturday) evening, Oct. 17, at the Globe Hotel, Castle-street, Cardiff; chair to be taken at seven o'clock, when important business will be transacted, a report of which will appear in these Notes next week.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

A MEETING of the Manchester Centre Council of the Northern Anglers' Association was held at the Crown Hotel, Booth-street, Manchester, on the 9th inst. Mr. R. Burn, the chairman of this Centre, presided, and amongst those present was the Rev. C. P. Roberts, vice-president of the N.A.A. A long and interesting discussion took place relating to the various items receiving the attention of the council. Judging from the work to be done in the next six months, the council are likely to have a busy time of it. Lectures are to be given at intervals, and the agitation for increased travelling facilities is to be continued, and if we add the acquisition of suitable local waters for fishing, a programme sufficiently comprehensive exists. The first lecture of the series is to be given by the Rev. C. P. Roberts, at the City Rooms, 16, Cannon-street, Manchester, the subject being, "Experiences in Pike, Perch, Trout, and Salmon Fishing in Loch Awe." Several fine specimens will be on view. Readers of the *F. G.* will do well to refer to the issue of March 7, 1891, for an engraving of the loch in question.

If the permits now so readily granted to fish the Dane are withdrawn, those who now persistently violate one of the specified conditions relating to Sunday fishing may have reason to regret their stupidity in risking the liberties and privileges of others in a gratification of their own perverse inclinations. More may shortly be heard of this, probably to the disadvantage of the offenders.

The rivers and streams have been, as a rule, in a state of flood, and really good fishing a thing of rare occurrence; still, however, some good catches are reported. Mr. Sam Brooks, fishing the Dane, took a nice chub of 3½lb. together with other fish. Local fishermen appear to have been going to more distant places than usual during the past week. The German Pool is at last reported as affording good sport with roach, perch, and tench. Coarse fish are feeding more freely at North Rode. The Witham is receiving more than its customary attention from Lancashire, and although rather late in the season the sport obtained is repaying those who visit this popular water. Poynton Pool is also contributing largely to the death-roll of pike. The canals at Chorley, Lancaster, Worsley, and Poynton, are yielding a fair amount of sport. Cheshire Meres also are well-patronised, but many are falling short of any previous year; the severe winter of 1890 and 1891 is much to blame for this—perhaps no waters suffered as these did.

A suggestion comes from a well-known Manchester angler that a fixed limit be adopted by all clubs as to the size of fish weighed in for any prize. This idea recommends itself, as it would foster a more sportsmanlike feeling generally, and add to the pleasure of winning a prize if the same had been won by a really good basket. Perhaps special prizes for specimen fish only may stimulate those who now take very small fish to aim higher.

Since writing the note relating to Mr. Brooks's catch of a 3½lb. chub in the Dane, a return is to hand in which Mr. Gibson, of Ardwick, whilst fishing the same river was fortunate enough in landing a similar fish, only 1oz. lighter. It is not often that two such fish are taken in this river in one season much less in one week. Mr. Gibson, in company with Mr. Kershaw, of Longsight, paid another visit to the Dane last Thursday; good sport again favoured them, some 16lb. of mixed fish falling to their share.

The Duke of Cambridge Club found winners of prizes in their contest as follows: First, H. Howard; second, J. Dixon; third, A. Latchford; fourth, A. Bowers. Moss Reach was the spot selected and good weather fortunately favoured the match. The Mersey Anglers were at Marston on the 8th. Two prizes were unawarded, but the following members were successful in winning prizes: J. Meecham, G. Yates, H. Kirk, G. Thompson, S. Eyres, H. Hamnett, and W. Downs.

The Manchester Bait Can was out again on the 12th, but judging from the sport obtained it will take more than two anglers to fill it to overflowing.

Judging from various statements made public lately, it may lead many to think that there is a great amount of heart-burning going on in the Manchester district, but such is not the case, in fact, good feeling is predominant; and the present executive are to be congratulated on having put into thorough working order the whole machinery. Since they assumed office the members have been increased by about three hundred, and it is a matter of regret that irresponsible persons authorise the circulation of statements likely to cause mischief.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

The rough weather of the past week has put quite a damper on bottom fishing. Every day since last Friday we have had more or less rain and wind, the latter sometimes blowing a gale, in which the most ardent angler would not care to venture out.

I should have mentioned last week that on Wednesday, September 30, a sea trout of 7½lb. was taken on the Bure, near Acle Bridge, with a spoon-bait, by Mr. Rose, of the Angel Hotel, Acle. These fish occasionally come up both Bure and Yare. I have heard of several having been seen on the Yare this season.

Two more big bream were taken on Monday, on the Wensum above Hellesdon Bridge, and are now being preserved by Mr. Cole, of this city, from whom I obtained the following weights: One bream, 8lb. 4oz.; one bream, 7lb. 4oz. These weights, it will be noticed, are in excess of those of two bream I recorded a fortnight ago, from the fact that they came into Mr. Cole's hands sooner after being caught. The following measurements I took: One, 25½in. long, 9½in. deep; one, 23½in. long, 9in. deep. As they were in process of stuffing when I saw them, I could not take girth measurements. Both the fish were in splendid condition, being very thick and the scales having a fine golden lustre. On the same stream, on Thursday last, a friend had a nice basket of dace, which he took with fly, seven of them measuring from 11¼in. to 11¾in.—nose to fork of tail.

On the Yare, on Friday last, spinning from Buckenham to Langley, one boat took seven pike; another boat four pike; and another five. On the 11th inst., in the same water, one boat had four pike; and near Rockland Dyke, one boat had a nice catch of about sixty roach; while another boat fishing near took fifty. On Monday, between Buckenham and Langley, one boat caught eight pike, another four, and another two. Most of these fish were taken spinning with spoon and natural baits. On Tuesday, on Rockland Broad, one rod had four pike, and another rod took one of 14lb. The weights of the other fish I have not been able to ascertain, but presume they were the usual run of fish on these waters—viz., 3lb. to 6lb. each.

On the Bure not much has been done. On Friday a good catch of rudd and perch was made at Ranworth, just above St. Benet's Abbey, weight about 28lb.

Referring to the catch of big bream under discussion last week, I can substantiate what your correspondent "Giant" stated with regard to the 9¼lb. bream which he mentioned as belonging to Mr. C. J. Green. This fish is now in my possession.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

Anglers in our district have experienced the full force of the storms, which appear to have been general throughout the country. On Monday, the Trent was running into good condition for coarse fish angling, and as the previous heavy volume of water had thoroughly scoured the bed of the river, anglers were beginning to realise brighter expectations. But on Tuesday the rain came down again in torrents, and at the time of writing (on Wednesday night), the water was running at a great height, and with every prospect of developing into a flood. The wind howled fearfully, and generally the elements seemed thoroughly unsettled. On Monday, several gentlemen were out in the Weston Fishery, and some remarkably fine perch and bream were caught with the Cockspur worm. A subscriber from Derby also enjoyed capital sport amongst the roach with the maggot, and the same description of bait accounted for a quantity of big roach in the Barton length. These fell to the rod of Mr. H. Stafford, of Nottingham, who, on the previous Friday, fared fairly well in the same reach of the river. A few lots of roach and bream have been brought in from Clifton Grove, and the rise has set eels freely on the move, if one may judge from the returns of the eel baskets. A large number of Nottingham artizans subscribe to both the Clifton and Wilford sections, which are within easy reach of the town, and it is to be regretted that the proprietor does not look, through the watchfulness of his keepers, better after their interests. If he cares to accept subscriptions at all, surely the subscribers ought to be considered. Poaching, at times, is rampant, and the cry of the keepers is, "Oh, we have enough to do to look after the game. We are not paid to watch the river; and the squire must have plenty of shooting, or ——."

In the early part of the present season the lock-head on the west side of King's Mills Weirs gave way, through, I suppose, extra pressure of water, and the disaster materially altered the current below the weirs to the top of the channel swim. But when the river ran down to low summer level, the subscribers frequenting the fields below the ferry chain rather rejoiced at the mishap, for it assisted in providing them with better sport than, under ordinary circumstances, they could have hoped for. During the last few weeks the work of repair has been in progress; in fact, the work has been completed, and I hear it is likely to greatly benefit and improve the fishing on the western side of the river. Years ago a portion of the weirs themselves gave way, and the cost of repair was extremely heavy to Lord Donington, the present proprietor of the fishery. The rent washed up tons of gravel at the foot of the centre weir, and where at one period there was a capital roach and chub swim, out of which I killed many splendid fish, the subscribers have now the presence of a somewhat formidable island.

Salmon anglers are entitled to use the rod on the Trent until the end of the present month, and of late they have grown sanguine of still getting a fish or two ere the Act becomes operative. The recent high waters may have tended to bring up some autumn fish, which generally work up to the Dove, in which tributary they are known to spawn. High waters are all very well in their place, but unless they give place to low, the sport of the salmon fisherman is out of the question. On Tuesday morning the river was fast fining down, and there seemed every possibility of bringing the favourite Devon Spinner into play; but towards night heavy rain again set in, and, on the morrow, when my Notes were posted, the water was, as already stated, again increasing and thickening in volume. In the latter days of October and the commencement of November it is, to the true angler, a delightful sight to witness the lordly fish making the ascent of the weirs at King's Mills for their spawning grounds in the river so beloved by Izaak Walton. Singularly enough, last season, Mr. T. Wood, the lessee of the fishery, hooked and killed a very fine fish on the last day of the term, and he was, in like manner, fortunate three years previously. All the salmon taken with the rod in the Trent this year have attained considerable size, but I very much doubt whether we shall ever again have so brilliant a season and record as the one of 1885.

The Nottingham Corporation have in hand a most extensive, and at the same time costly scheme for remedying the pollution of the river Leen and the Nottingham canal, which find their outflow in the Trent immediately below the New Trent Bridge. Years ago the Leen was a flourishing little stream, running on the outskirts of Bulwell, Basford, Radford, and Lenton, and so on into the Trent. But with the erection of large manufacturing works, such as dye and bleach, the water soon became contaminated, and at the present time the river is a veritable sewer, or a counterpart of the Derwent below Derby. A few years ago the Leen was diverted by an open culvert into the Nottingham canal, mid-way between New and Old Lenton, and so serious have the evils of pollution become, that at length the Nottingham Corporation have been compelled to recognise them. If they devise an effectual remedy, the great army of anglers will indeed rejoice. A report of the borough engineer has just been printed and circulated amongst the learned Town Councillors. He has prepared three alternative schemes, but recommends for adoption one by which the waste water from the bleach and dye works would be converted with the Leen Valley sewer and its branches, for treatment in combination with the ordinary sewage by irrigation at the Stoke Sewage Farm. The scheme is a vast one, and the cost to carry it out is estimated at the choice little plum of £37,250. Nottingham is already heavily burdened with debt, and it remains to be seen whether the proposed new undertaking will be opened out. Writing on behalf of the angling community, I know they would heartily welcome any change by which their sport might be improved, and whether the scheme is delayed or not, I am certain the time cannot be far distant when the powers invested in the hands of the County Councils will have to be rigidly enforced. Health must be studied as well as fish and fishermen

Anglers in our district have heard nothing during the past year or so of the evil doings of the dynamite gang, but I am assured on very good authority that the work of destruction amongst coarse fish is continued occasionally in the Trent between the New Bridge and Colwick Weir. The name of one of the principal offenders has been supplied to me, and if we had a responsible officer of the Trent Fishery Board stationed amongst us, I should only be too glad to co-operate with him in the detection of the crime. As it is, I don't intend to interfere. Fish poachers are dangerous characters, and if ever a man is "spotted," he runs the risk of being dynamited himself. Perhaps when the Trent Fishery Board have imposed a tax upon rods, and thus have more funds at command, Nottingham will possess the services of a professional water-bailiff. Meanwhile, however, the mischief is being done.

During the week dinners in connection with the Nottingham Bowling Green Inn Angling Society and the Fisherman's Rest Inn Angling Society have been held under singularly pleasant surroundings. The prizes won during the summer season were presented to the successful competitors, and in my next batch of Notes I will give a list of the winners in both clubs.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

We have been having some miserably wet weather here of late, and all sport is at an end for a time as far as the river is concerned, for the heavy rains have brought a good deal of flood water down from the hills. Anglers, one and all, complain of the unsuccessful season that we have experienced, and on every hand come woeful tales of blank days and unenjoyable excursions.

Shropshire anglers have been wondering at the mysterious disappearance of the Shropshire Severn Angling and Protection Society, an institution which was founded sometime ago with fair prospects of success for the purpose of protecting and propagating trout and grayling in the river. I presume the gentlemen who interested themselves in the matter found the task they had taken in hand too great, and have abandoned it. There were a great many difficulties in the way of forming such an association as that proposed, one of the main difficulties being to get the riparian owners to co-operate with the promoters; but to enthusiastic anglers these difficulties should not have proved insurmountable, more especially as some of the most prominent landowners in the county had interested themselves in the scheme. I fear, however, that as there has been nothing heard of the new institution for some months, it has silently died and been forgotten.

There was a curious application before the Shrewsbury Council on Monday. Mr. Simpson, a local gentleman, applied for permission to place a water-wheel at some part of the river near the town, for the purpose of illustrating the practical utility of the stream as a motive agent. The council had not very full information before them as to the scheme of Mr. Simpson, but referred the matter to a committee. If it is the desire of this worthy gentleman to place a small working model in the river at a place where it cannot obstruct the navigation or fish there will be little harm done; but if he has any intention of placing anything in the shape of a weir across the river for the purpose of impounding the water, he will doubtless encounter opposition from those interested in the passage of salmon as well as from oarsmen.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

Neither water nor weather have been congruous with good grayling fishing, or indeed any angling whatever, during the past few days. Last week's heavy rains have been followed by even heavier showers this week, and all the Yorkshire rivers have of course been bank full; while a boisterous wind has prevailed on one or two days, notably Tuesday and Wednesday. This of course is entirely inconsistent with successful grayling angling, which requires sharp and more settled weather, before we can expect anything in the direction of good sport. One or two good baskets of roach were, however, got the other day in the lower waters of the Yore and Swale with the maggot, while the best flies for grayling are reported to be Red Tag, Bradshaw's Fancy, &c. In the Ribble at the close of last week, I heard of one or two fair catches of salmon, by local gentlemen. This river, which enters the sea in the Solway Firth at Preston, in Lancashire, is a fine trout stream in its course through Yorkshire, and both salmon and salmon trout are occasionally taken with the fly. Some local celebrity is indeed said to be attached to the waters. Its most highly-esteemed spots for comfortable trout angling are from Clitheroe to the town of Settle. It was, however, on the upper reaches by Guisburn that the catches mentioned by me were taken.

The members of the Fulford Friendly Angling Society held a fishing match in the Ouse on Wednesday afternoon. The competition was a short time ago suggested by a local gentleman (Mr. Long), who generously offered a prize, and being readily taken up and supported, the matter soon took definite shape, satisfactory arrangements being carried out by Mr. H. Watson (secretary). The place where the match took place is known in angling circles as Bream Fields, and is a little lower down the river than Bishopsthorpe Palace, and on the Fulford side of the Ouse. The weather was, however, very unpropitious. During the morning a torrential rain was accompanied by a high wind, and there was a considerable amount of fish in the river. Notwithstanding such a sombre outlook, the members decided that the match should come off, and fortunately the rain ceased, but the wind blew a boisterous gale, lashing the Ouse into a miniature sea. There were thirteen competitors for about as many prizes, of which the donors were: Messrs. Long, Thorpe, Bouttell, Maskew, Staines, Woolford, Bowman, Crow, Davison, Arminson, J. McGee, and E. Walker. Contrary to expectations, fair sport was obtained, every competitor having a kill, and the total weight amounted to 24lb. 14½oz. The first prize was secured by Mr. Simpson, with 4lb. 4¾oz. of roach; Mr. Davison getting second, with 4lb. 0½oz., which included a bream, weighing 3lb. 7½oz. The other prize-winners were Messrs. Staines, E. Walker, Arminson, Bouttell, Watson, Bowman, Clark, Taylor, White; Maskew and Oliver (tie).

Dee (Kirkcudbrightshire).—The Kirkcudbright Dee is still running in flood, and has been quite unfishable for some time past. A great many salmon are in the river, and whenever the pools come into ply for fly-fishing some capital sport is anticipated. Fishing on Friday with worm bait, Mr. W. Gillone captured a very fine new-run salmon of nearly 20lb., and the same angler lost a very big fish immediately after landing his salmon. Angling at Tarff, on Saturday, with fly, Sergeant Clark, Kirkcudbright, killed a very pretty little fish of 9lb.

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— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 1891.

A TRIP TO NORWAY; OR, MY FIRST NORWAY SALMON.

By R. P.

It is some years since I made my first trip to Norway. But I had been driven from my favourite haunts in Sutherland and Ross, by the influx of Sassenachs; and, in self-defence, was obliged to seek other fields and pastures new—where I might be enabled to wield my rod in peace. So, one night in early June, my pal and I went down to Hull, having taken passage by the Wilson boat, sailing next day to Troudhjem. The ten a.m. express from King's Cross via Doncaster brought down most of the passengers, and a sporting lot they mostly were. The large central Hall at the Station Hotel was soon dotted over with piles of rod boxes, gun cases, huge salmon creels as big as clothes-baskets, and travel-worn bags of every shape and size; while various lots of excited dogs, mostly setters, contributed to the harmony of the scene.

In the matter of quantity of luggage there seemed to be considerable diversity of opinion. One member of a party of three sportsmen, who were going to a far northern stream, confided to me that they had between them ninety-five packages—mostly large. While on the other hand, the wardrobe and its contents of two young men of the undergraduate type—who marched on board the steamer attired in knickerbockers, and with guns over their shoulders, as if for all the world they were entering on a crusade against the gulls—seemed to consist of a box of cartridges and a packet or two of compressed tea. Our ship did not get out of the dock until nearly ten o'clock; then she lay in the river until close on midnight, when a couple of late gentlemen from London were chucked on board, amidst much strong language, from a wherry, and we started.

The *Tasso* was what you might describe as a corky craft. She certainly rode the waters like a thing of life, for although there was hardly any wind, next morning she was bounding about in the most surprising fashion, infinitely to the disgust of a good many of my fellow passengers, who after an extremely feeble attempt at breakfast retired from public gaze. Next day, however, we ran into a perfectly dead calm, and everyone appeared gay and peckish. Sparkling wines circulated freely at dinner and lunch, and soon everybody knew everybody else's destination. There was a well-known M.P. who had been to Norway for fifteen or twenty years in yachts or otherwise, bound for his river, accompanied by his wife, one or two friends, his English servant, an English maid, and a doctor in attendance. All this luxury on such an expedition opened my eyes considerably, and modified my notions as to the hardships attendant on a trip to Norway very decidedly. The medico was a most quaint individual, possessing the most curious selection of fishing gear I ever recollect seeing, and was the subject of continuous and unmerciful chaff to certain wags during his stay on board. I do not think he had ever handled a salmon-rod in his life; but he had rummaged out of some ancient depository some angling gear, with which it appeared his grandfather had disported himself in his giddy youth. The flies were numerous, and quite beyond description, but by the end of our little voyage of three or four days none of them had any wings left at all. Being completely permeated with moth, they fell to pieces immediately when touched. The rod of this sportsman was more like the mast of a man-of-war than anything else; but his reel was the thing. Sometimes it would wind up all right; but when it was so minded nothing would induce it to revolve the other way, and as a result of this curious conduct, the line of which it was full at the beginning of the voyage, was reduced to extremely small dimensions indeed by the end thereof, owing to the many irate efforts of its owner and other experimentalists to "take-out line," which efforts invariably ended in a yard or two being smashed off.

The reel, however, like all other important things in this world, had its exceptional moments—moments of relaxation, so to speak—which was emphatically proved on a certain occasion. It appeared that our friend the doctor had been privately employed one day in earnestly applying coercive measures to his refractory winch. By dint of much "warsling," and persuasion, and language, he had succeeded in getting off some 18in. of line, and this bit he fastened to the back of one of the fixed cabin-seats in such a way that it could not come undone. Determined to get off more line or "bust," he then proceeded to haul with all his might and main; whether "the reel" was annoyed at being so roughly used, I do not know. Anyway, all of a sudden it ceased to resist the efforts of its owner, with the result that that unhappy being was discharged with the momentum of a catapult into the lap (shall we call it?) of the steward, who unfortunately happened to be passing at that moment, bearing a tray, the contents of which were mostly aerated waters and sundry modicums of spirits intended for the sportsmen who were playing quoits on deck. Great was the commotion, and dire the destruction of glass; and for the rest of the passage the doctor smelt more like a public-house than anything else, the odours of Scotch whisky, English gin, and French brandy all contributing to form one harmonious though somewhat unsavoury whole.

The Church was not unrepresented in our little company, either, for one of the passengers was a highly-educated and most *debonnair* Roman Catholic priest; and another was a Methodist parson, who never by any chance parted from a gigantic umbrella with which he was armed. These two were always arguing together, and the rises that the priest got out of the parson were innumerable.

On the Sunday morning we awoke to find the vessel steaming along some ten miles or so from the Coast of Norway, at a point, the skipper informed us, a few miles to the south of the Molde Fjord. Rocky islets surrounded us on all sides, and the vessel's course seemed most intricate; but there was no fog on the crisp, sparkling waters, although the mist drifted in heavy masses across the bare and precipitous cliffs that out-lined the mainland. Now and then glimpses of glacier, mountain torrents, intensely white snow-drifts and patches of tender green might be discerned, and the general effect was grand and wild in the extreme.

When the vessel had succeeded in threading her way through the network of channels and islands to the pretty little village of Molde, the view was more especially grand, the mountains of the Romsdal heavily capped with snow, rising peak upon peak, and tier upon tier in the distance, the blue waters of the fjord rippling in the summer sun. Here we parted with a certain number of our fellow-passengers, some of whom were bound for the Rauma, others to fish the Eridsfjord rivers. Amongst the departures, alas! was our good friend the doctor, whom we had all hoped was destined to afford us amusement to the end of our little voyage. But such was not to be. The last we saw of him was on a large boat, seated on the uppermost pinnacle of a huge pile of luggage; in one hand he grasped the famous "Fiske-Stang," one end of the celebrated fly-book peeped out of one side-pocket, while the other bulged out with what appeared to be the equally celebrated reel. We gave him a parting cheer as the screw began again to revolve, but owing probably to the precariousness of his exalted position, this was but feebly responded to on his part.

After the departure of the doctor there was nothing left to do but to endeavour to comfort the two university youths, who it appeared were bound on a walking tour in Lapland. Tales of the size and number of the mosquitoes they would have to encounter were numerous, and all sorts of remedies (one and all utterly impossible of attainment except perhaps at Savory and Moore's) were suggested, while one gentleman described in pathetic language the untimely fate of some friends of his own, who had also ventured to these wilds attired in knickerbockers.

Everything has an end, however, and on the Monday morning we arrived off Troudhjem, the northern capital, and were shortly transferred to the various hostelries of that town.

While doing some little necessary shopping, it cropped up somehow that, by going through the formality of asking leave of the proprietor, whose comfortable farmhouse stood on the banks of the river, permission could be had to fish for salmon in a fine pool at the foot of the Leer Foss, some four miles out of the town. Within two hours of receiving this information, I was standing by the banks of the pool in question putting up a salmon rod, while a native was endeavouring to bail some of the water out of an extremely old and ricketty boat hauled up on the shore. For the first time I looked upon a Norwegian salmon pool, and a beauty it seemed, although far above fishing order. A fine fall, over which the whole body of the river rolled in single volume, was at its head, and the pool itself formed many tempting-looking runs and currents before its waters flowed away down a heavy rapid immediately below. Little use in trying the fly in this tremendous volume of anything but clear water, thought I. So, putting up the biggest Phantom I possessed, we got afloat. The current was very strong at times, and I thought we stood a very fair chance of being swept down the rapids; but my Norskman knew his way about among the conflicting eddies, and we didn't. First of all, I hooked a good fish, which gave me some five minutes' uncommonly lively sport; but he broke away, carrying two of the triangles with him. Then, putting up another big Phantom, we made another essay, this time nearer the tail of the pool, where the current was not quite so heavy, and shortly I hooked another fish. By dint of holding on all I knew, I managed to prevent his going down the rapid, as he had evidently made up his mind to do, and, after a stiff twenty minutes, my native attendant gaffed in fine style my first Norwegian salmon, a beautiful clean-run fish of 24lb. Great was his and my delight, and we drank "luck" in a joram of Scotch whisky, a fluid apparently new to my Norsk friend, but which evidently pleased him greatly, to judge from the sigh of satisfaction he gave after swallowing about half a tumbler thereof *neat.*

Once more we got afloat, but only, as it turned out, to court disaster. As the boat was on the swing from the far side of the river, and the Phantom only a yard or two above where the rapid broke, a fine fish came rising at the minnow as to a fly. I saw his great tail as he descended after making his effort. At first he came quietly up in deepish water towards the boat, and I had hopes he was going to be amenable to reason, and remain like a sensible *Salmo salar* in the pool where he was hooked. But there was to be no such luck. Suddenly he stopped in his upward progress, as if realising for the first time that there was something queer about things in general. Then he came to the surface and gave a savage shake of the head, and like an arrow made straight for the rapid. From the moment he reached that all was up. I had no option but to hold on, and the only result of the tremendous strain of the treble gut was to make him give a great leap in the air. It was the last straw, and the broken trace which I had thought was strong enough to take out a horse with, came back across my face like the thong of a whip, not at all tending to soothe my already ruffled temper. However, I had killed my first Norway salmon, and returned to Trondhjem fairly satisfied with my first essay on Scandinavian waters.

A certain number of our late fellow-passengers were bound to different rivers on the Trondhjem Fjord, the Stordal, Orkla and Gunl. These had already departed, but most of the others, including myself, sailed that night soon after midnight for the north, on board the steamer *Kong Karl*, bound to Hammerfest and Vadso.

A FOUR-STONE DAY AT BUCKENHAM ON THE YARE.

By HENRY BURTON.

"WHEN they're shooting patridges on one side of the river, and callin' 'Hold ye!' on the other, then's the time to go a fishing." Such used to be the frequently-expressed opinion of a keen old local fisherman, a sort of plebeian Izaak Walton, who will long be remembered by Norfolk rodsters as a "character" in every sense of the word.

A barber by trade, he was a fisherman by choice; and while operating externally upon the heads of his customers, he would bewilder those heads internally by the narration of the most "hair-raising" and side-splitting fishing stories, in the telling of which the wily old barber preserved so sweet and serious a countenance, and was so surprisingly pat with his facts and figures, that he seldom failed to produce an excellent impression of his powers as a *raconteur* upon the minds of his hearers.

He was withal a canny old fisherman, and I have no doubt that his opinion as to September being the best month of the year for coarse-fishing is one that is shared by most anglers.

Certainly our four-stone day (friend F.'s and mine), "came off" in the month of harvesting and partridge-shooting; and now, with apologies for a somewhat irrelevant preface, I will proceed with my story, which, unlike those of the worthy barber, is a plain unvarnished one.

During the summer months F. and myself had not piscatorially distinguished ourselves, neither, with a few exceptions, had other members of the craft; but when, after a blustering, rainy August, September came in fine and settled, a change came o'er the scene, and the anglers of the "ancient city" were blessed with many a grand day amongst the fish. My friend and I could not, of course, listen to oft-repeated tales of doughty deeds with rod and line by brother piscatorials without longing to be "up and at 'em" ourselves, and so towards the end of the month we arranged to have a day amongst the roach at Buckenham. There could scarcely have dawned a more likely-looking day for piscatorial slaughter than the one on which we started off to our fishing station. In the words of some angling poet—

> "The wind was south-west, and a lowering sky
> Proclaimed it a right anglers' morn."

In twenty minutes' time, or thereabouts, the G.E.R. took us up to Buckenham Station, where an equipage, in the shape of a large and substantially-constructed milk-cart, awaited us, wherein we deposited our rods and baskets, and then walked on to the Ferry House, preferring for ourselves a pleasant ten minutes' walk across the marshes to a jolting and somewhat precarious seat on the milk-cart.

A very charming type of the Norfolk river-side hostelry is the Ferry House, at Buckenham. Arboured round by lofty trees, and picturesquely situated on the margin of the broad reed-fringed river, its white walls, and old gabled and brown-tiled roof look out upon a very lovely prospect of winding river and emerald-hued marshes. It is a large old building, too, and, at first sight, the stranger might mistake it for some cosy old-fashioned farm-house, for at the back are out-buildings of a farm-like character, a barn, and a straw-yard tenanted by live-stock various; and it might only be on confronting the inscription over the front door, announcing that Robert Garrett was licensed to sell alcoholic beverages to be consumed on the premises, that the aforesaid stranger would discover the "public" nature of the Ferry House. But to return to our day. Having arrived at Host Garrett's, we found the tap-room in possession of a metropolitan visitor and a local waterman who had "got into an argument," and a lively one too, respecting the size of fish of Norfolk waters. As my friend and I, and several other fishermen from Norwich entered the room, the local man was stoutly declaring that roach of 3lb., and bream of 8lb., had been caught in the Yare with rod and line, and, in support of that statement, he informed the visitor from town and the company in general that two roach of the weight named were to be seen, stuffed, of course, at a certain house in a certain street in Westminster, and that three bream, weighing 8lb. a-piece, were in the possession of a certain gentleman residing in Great Yarmouth, who would be only too pleased to show them to any incredulous angler. Most of the local anglers present, accustomed to catching and seeing coarse fish in somewhat abnormal weights, looked upon the waterman's statement as a "true bill," but the metropolitan, smiling incredulously, observed that he had heard of such fish being caught—he had heard not infrequently of such captures—but he had never seen them; and until his eyes had been blessed with a sight of such remarkable fish, he should certainly decline to believe in their existence.

The discussion soon became general, some of our angling friends siding with the visitor, and some with the local man; but as things did not get much "foradder," and as time was slipping away, F. and myself quietly adjourned to the quay-side, and having chosen a comfortable boat, and deposited therein our angling implements and sundry refreshments, we paddled off up the river. There is, and I suppose always will be, a great diversity of opinion amongst anglers as to the best sort of swim for roach fishing: some preferring a sharp stream and a moderate depth of water; others, a deepish hole in some broad bend, where the stream runs at a slower pace. Certain it is, that sometimes the canny roach affects one class of swim, and sometimes the other, his choice being probably determined by the ever-varying conditions of tide and weather.

We decided upon a deep spot (about 10ft.) in a particularly broad bend of the river, and moored our boat close in-shore, and under the lee of a great clump of tall reeds. While fixing up our rods and lines we could not but notice the capital colour of the water, the delightful little ripple playing over its surface, the deep shadows thrown over river and marsh by the heavy clouds, and, most interesting of all, the frequent splashings of rising and feeding fish.

"I must tell you," said F., as he threw in some ground-bait (which, by the way, was a judicious mixture of bread, bran, and boiled wheat), "that I had a strange dream last night, in which I beheld two anglers by a river-side, who were staggering along under the weight of two heavily-laden frail baskets, and I firmly believe that those staggerers will be represented by ourselves this evening."

"That's rather a 'staggerer,'" thought I; but, not wishing to offend the dreamer, I only mildly cautioned him against putting his trust in visions, upon the "coming off" of which, I reminded him, it was impossible to place any reliance.

"Well, we shall see," replied F., whose faith in dreams (his own, of course) was not to be shaken, either by their non-realisation, or by the scepticism of his friends.

F. was the first to commence operations, and while engaged in putting some shot on the line I intended using, my eyes involuntarily followed his red-tipped float as it travelled down the stream, until with a sudden dip it disappeared, and simultaneously with its disappearance the point of F.'s rod went up, the gut-line tightened, and, after a few seconds' manœuvring, out came a half-pound roach, and a lovely specimen, too, with dark olive-green back, silvery sides just touched with gold, and fins of the brightest orange.

He must certainly be an unimaginative, not to say uninteresting, angler, who does not experience a joyful sensation on landing a fish the first swim. Upon the right sort of angler it has an exciting and inspiriting effect at the time, and in nine cases out of ten it is prophetical to him of good things to follow. But upon F. it had an altogether different effect. With rather a mournful look, and in a strangely-depressed tone of voice, he asked me if I possessed such a thing as a corkscrew; but after that article had been handed over, the delivery of which, I must mention, was almost immediately followed by a strange gurgling sound, friend F. quickly recovered tone, and recommenced fishing most energetically. He soon had another splendid roach in tow, and then, having got my line into working order, and ascertained the depth, I threw in for my first swim, which, as with F., resulted in the capture of a handsome and heavy fish. Then it was my turn for the corkscrew, which F. disgorged with evident reluctance, and with a request for its return at my earliest convenience.

Many and wonderful are the different kinds of baits used by the great and noble army of roach fishermen, and specious the arguments advanced by the members of that army in support of their particular fancies; but, for my own part, I have never troubled to experiment with the thousand and one baits I have been "advised to try," for the simple reason that I have always been perfectly satisfied with the results obtained from the use of two, those two being boiled wheat and white paste. "In the multitude of counsellors there is safety," remarked Solomon. That may be; but in a multitude of baits there is, to my mind, little but foolishness.

Well, to proceed.

F. (who, by the way, baited with boiled wheat) continued to bag magnificent roach almost every swim, and I did almost as well with white paste, though my fish were not quite so weighty as his.

"This *is* glorious, certainly!" exclaimed F., as he assisted yet another twelve-ouncer in the boat. "But will it last?"

"Not possessing the gift of prophecy, my dear boy," I replied, "it is impossible for me to say what *will* happen; but judging from what has happened, and from the very exceptional way in which these fish are rising all round us, and last, but not least, taking your dream into consideration, I shouldn't be surprised if it does last."

And it did. The great golden-hued roach kept rolling in with delightful regularity; and what with the really hard work, the warmth of the day, and the maturity of F.'s "liquid sunshine," as he called it, we were glad to lighten ourselves of our coats—a proceeding which certainly added to our comfort, if not to our appearance.

Shortly afterwards I noticed F.'s rod bending in a manner that betokened something good.

"It can't be a roach," said I.

"Not unless it's a clinker," replied F.

Slowly the mysterious one perambulated the swim, keeping F.'s slender roach-top bent at an alarming angle, and doggedly (or fishily) refusing to reveal his personality. But F. is an old hand; and after an anxious minute or so science prevailed, and out of the depths a large and silvery body slowly rose to the surface.

"Why, it's a bream!" I exclaimed; and F., too busy to talk, nodded; and soon that bream was towed into the landing-net, and lifted into the boat amidst jubilation. It was a pretty fish of about 2½lb., and, in the hope of securing some of its relations, F. abandoned roach fishing *pro tem*, and baited with the seductive brandling. But apparently the captured "flat" was the sole representative of its species in our neighbourhood—or, at any rate, the only hungry one—for the brandling was left severely alone, and F. soon gave it up, and returned to the roach fishing. That went swimmingly and (like the stream) without use. About every swim there would be a bite, ost of which resulted in captures, for they were ood, honest hungry bites, and our bags filled ith charming rapidity.

I have alluded to the day as being a breezy and oudy one, and, as a natural consequence, yachts nd sailing boats were very much in evidence, nd I remember that the company on one of the rmer were a decided improvement upon the ommon or garden yachtsmen. We had laid aside he rods, and had just commenced an onslaught pon a toothsome little lunch, when faintly down he breeze came the sound of music, and not bad usic either. The musicians we could not see, r an envious bend in the river concealed them om our view; but, as we still gazed, a white-ulled, white-sailed yacht slowly rounded the oint, and the mystery was solved.

On came the handsome craft, churning the ater into foam with her sharp white prow, and evealing the bright copper sheathing of her keel s she canted over to the breeze. She was soon p to us, and then we beheld on board a youngish entleman in white flannels, who, music in hand, as singing a nautical song to the accompaniment f flute, cornet, and violin, which were being igorously and not unskilfully played by three ther young gentlemen, also apparelled in white lannels. Having a waterman on board to do the avigating, the youthful minstrels were able to ndulge themselves in songs and symphonies to heir heart's content. The name of that yacht as *The Lily;* and looking at her white hull, white ails, and white young gentlemen, it certainly eemed an appropriate one.

After the passing of *The Lily* we went in for the oach again, and the afternoon's sport was every whit as fast and furious as it had been all through he morning. Rarely, indeed, is the angler blessed with a day on which fish do not stop feeding for a ime, even when they come on again; but on our eventful day there were no intervals of dulness—t was one ceaseless hauling out of splendid roach. And doubtless these roach would have gone on biting far into the evening; but we had decided upon returning in good time, and so, when the shadows began to lengthen, and the mist to whiten the meadows, we took in the good old ines, and in a few minutes' time the oars were at work, and our swim was left behind in peaceful possession of the fish.

We had but a short distance to row, and soon before us we saw the cheerful lights in the Ferry House windows, which sparkled and twinkled as if inviting all good anglers to rest and refreshment after their day's exertions. The welcome haven reached, we disembarked ourselves and spoil; and after duly parading the latter before the envious eyes of some brother anglers we weighed in, and found that we had caught just over four stone of grand roach, of which by far the greater number exceeded ½lb. in weight.

"Well," said F., as a few minutes later we trudged slowly along to the station, "what about my dream now?" I answered not; and for the future I, for one, shall not venture to make fun of my friend's dreams.

Notes

Mr. William Black recently found in some Scotch paper and sent us this extract: "Mr. Andrew Lang, the busy journalist, was staying in the Dunalastair Hotel this season, and entered his name in the visitors' book. At the end of the page, beside his name, he penned the following lines:—

"'Let Awe to Tummel yield the prize,
Or both divide the bun:
In Awe the trout are small of size,
Loch Tummel boasts of none.'"

We asked Mr. Lang if he was responsible for this libel, because, if he was, we would risk publishing it. He replied: "Dear Marston,—If you reprint the lines, please add this letter. Hotel keepers are respectfully informed that divine poetry has a right to the hyperbole. There *are* actually extant trout, huge ones too, in Loch Tummel, but they are hard indeed to catch, and in four days last April I never got a single rise. There are plenty of more free-rising trout in the river Tummel."

At a recent meeting of the Eden Conservancy Board, it was stated that twelve bailiffs were now employed in watching the rivers, and that the number of Scotch bailiffs had been increased in order to check the illegal killing of salmon in the close time. A large number of spawning salmon were now in the Eden, and some of its tributaries, and a further temporary increase of the staff would become necessary for their protection. The subject of the pollution of the Eden was then dealt with. It appears that the sewage of the City is allowed to pour into the river at the Bone Mill, to the injury of the fisheries. Mr. Slater believed the City authorities intended doing something, but he did not say what; and Mr. Dixon rather sarcastically observed that he was surprised the City authorities had taken any notice of the subject.

There has been some sensational angling feats this season (says the *Daily Graphic*); among the most recent is the capture of five salmon in one day by a lady. Mrs. Stuart Menzies is this champion among lady anglers, and the fish, which weighed collectively 102lb., were taken from the Spey in the Aikenway water, which belongs to Mr. W. Stuart Menzies.

The offices of the Thames Angling Preservation Society are removed to No. 12, Regent-street, Pall Mall, S.W., where all future communications are to be addressed.

The rod fishing on the Spey closed on Thursday after a very successful season. Notwithstanding frequent gales and repeated floodings, a large number of fish have been landed in capital condition. Nearly a dozen salmon, of from 30lb. to 35lb., have been killed by the Earl of March, Colonel Home, Colonel Vivian, Colonel Coke, Mr. A. Coventry, Mr. R. V. Grant, and Mr. G. Craven. As in former years, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon has been one of the most successful anglers. Among the ladies, Lady Evelyn Gordon Lennox takes the first place this year. In the Aberlour and Craigellachie Sections, the season has been the best for the past ten years. The spring fishings were good, but in summer and autumn the takes were much above the average. Owing to continued rains, the river never fell to its ordinary summer size, and this is thought to have allowed the fish better advantage for passing the nets, thus producing better sport all over the river. The fish have been of good quality and of large size, many scaling 20lb. to 34lb.

Mr. John Richardson, of 67, High-street, Kingston-on-Thames, writes: "I enclose copy of a letter that I received yesterday (Monday) from a customer of mine, who was fortunate enough to catch a fine carp, fishing from the towpath."

[COPY.]

"Silver Dale, Surbiton, October 20, 1891.—Dear Sir,—I am pleased to tell you that on the 18th inst. I landed a carp, in fine condition, of 11lb. weight, in the Thames, at Kingston, on one of your finest drawn gut No. 11 roach hooks. I was also using a fine silk line, purchased from you at the beginning of the season. The swollen state of the river, which was running about six or seven miles an hour, and the fact that the fish was on for thirty-five minutes, conclusively proves the excellence of your tackle. —Yours truly, H. Pincott Hill."

The *Boy's Own Paper* of this date (October 24), contains an exciting story, entitled "Brother Will to the Rescue." It is a true tale by our esteemed contributor, Mr. E. M. Tod, of the hairbreadth escapes of white settlers in the Australian bush, first from peril from a river in flood, then from a most determined attack made by blacks. We were under the impression that the Australian blacks were a pusillanimous lot who would never attack a station defended by whites; but Mr. Tod's graphic story shows we were mistaken.

The salmon fishings belonging to the Perth City were, let in Perth Town House, on Friday. The Lord Provost, who presided, said that the magistrates anticipated a rise of at least ten per cent. on account of the past favourable season. There was a large attendance of tacksmen, but they seemed to be holding their hand, for only three lots out of eight were disposed of, the rest being withdrawn—not coming up to the reserved price. The rents, however, for the lots disposed of were higher than last year. Millburst fetched £74, as against £70; Incherret, £207, being £47 over last year, and £32 over the rent of 1889; Balhepburn Inch went to the only offer for £42, being £12 more than last year's rent. The remaining fishings will in all likelihood be let during the week to private offerers at fully ten per cent. of an advance. Straws show how the wind blows. There is an upward tendency all over the North-East, both as regards net and rod fishings.

An Angling Society for Epsom.—A meeting, convened by circular, was held at the Wellington Hotel, Epsom, on Monday, the 19th inst., for the purpose of forming an angling society for Epsom. Several well-known anglers of the neighbourhood attended. T. T. Bucknill, Esq., Q.C., was unanimously elected president, the election of vice-president being left over until the next meeting. A committee of seven was appointed, also a treasurer and secretary. A capital code of rules was submitted, which, after a lengthy discussion, and a few slight alterations, was accepted and passed as the rules of the society. The society starts with about twenty members; several more have promised to join as soon as the society was formed. Meetings will be held on the first Monday in every month at the Wellington Hotel, when the members will welcome anyone interested in angling.

Twelve Flies for Grayling in October.—"A correspondent writes to ask what are the twelve best flies that I would select for grayling fishing, from the beginning of October to the end of the season. The question is one which involves a good deal of consideration, but I think that the following list would suffice upon any water, varying them in size according to circumstances: Bradshaw's Fancy, Walbran's Red Tag, Green Insect (without red tag), Blue Hawk, Dark Spanish Needle, Fog Black, Silver Dun, Walbran's Pale Autumn Dun, Sea Swallow and yellow quilt body, Water Hen and yellow quilt body, Dark Snipe and purple, and Dark October Dun. There are, of course, hundreds of other patterns, for almost every flyfisher has some pet fancy of his own that he swears by; but I should be quite content to stick to the above-named dozen wherever I was going to fish. The Silver Dun is an excellent fly even on a sharp winter's day, providing there is a glint of sunshine, however feeble. I remember very well, some twelve years ago, that I was fishing on such a day on the Clifton Castle Water above Masham. It was bitterly cold, and there was both snow and ice on the ground. About twelve o'clock in the forenoon the sun came out, and as the grayling did not appear particularly anxious about the worm, I put on a cast of flies, with a Silver Dun as point fly. I killed ten good fish before two o'clock, and every one on this fly. Since that day, I have proved its efficacy on several similar occasions. Bradshaw's Fancy is also an excellent fly to try when you are at all in doubt; and during September trout take it almost as well as grayling, although it certainly represents nothing that I ever saw in insect life. The Green Insect is an especial favourite of mine. I fancy that the grayling take it for the green aphis that is bred among decaying leaves. On well-wooded streams during the autumn months I never omit this useful fly from my cast, generally fishing it as first dropper. The Blue Hawk was first brought under my notice by that veteran angler, the Rev. J. Challoner, of Newton Kyme. It is that gentleman's favourite grayling fly, and I must admit that it is a first-rate killer. About the Pale Autumn Dun I have written before, but only last week I had another striking illustration of its efficacy when the natural fly is on the water. A gentleman wrote to me enclosing a little pill-box full of flies which he said the grayling were rising at madly, but that he could not induce them to look at anything that he had in his book. I at once recognised my old friend, and wrote telling the gentleman what it was. On the following day I received a letter saying that, with the imitation I had recommended, he killed three brace of those obdurate grayling in half-an-hour."—"*Halcyon*" *in* "*Leeds Mercury.*"

SOME NOTES ON THE BEDFORDSHIRE OUSE.

By an Old Hand.

Netting.—Since the St. Ives Angling Society has taken the preservation of the river in hand, there can be no question that the fishing has greatly improved, and if its members could see their way clear to get the riparian owners to put a stop to hoop-netting, &c., in the drains, it would be the means of saving much fish life. In course of time, I have no doubt that this society will do for the Ouse what a section of the good citizens of Canterbury (more especially with respect to trout) have done for the Stour in the neighbourhood of the city, for it is not so many years since the Stour was as badly poached as the former river; but I think netting at Earith and neighbourhood is a thing of the past, for the party who was last fined is now lessee of about three miles of water, and it is to his interest to watch over it very carefully and prevent netting as well as other illegal methods of taking fish; at any rate, a friend of mine says: "I have walked the banks well three times this summer, but could not find any trace indicating the presence of the netting fraternity." With respect to netting going on in a well-known river, I have heard a certain gentleman say: "Pray, whatever you do, do not say anything about the netting; it will get the river a bad name and do harm." So, according to the argument used by this individual (interested, of course), he would allow illegal netting to go on without let or hindrance; in short, allow a river to be depleted, anglers to be abominably deceived, and money to be spent in all directions in the hope of obtaining legitimate sport when there is no sport to be had. This would not last long, of course, but all the time it is going on the miserable humbug is busy reaping a golden harvest from the poor deluded anglers. If netting, &c., is going on, without any manner of doubt, let it be known far and wide, and so, by disseminating such knowledge, give every angler a chance of stamping it out. Understand, I am not alluding to netting, where a man (say, a native) in spite of anglers, innkeepers, railway companies, and even landowners, *can use a boat* in a tidal river, and net the fish at his own sweet will; and, as far as I can learn, nobody can stop him. Such an individual once said to me, "I arn't had un' out this yere, zur, cos it arn't wuth the trubble." Just so. If such a person is interested, and reaping a good benefit from anglers, "un" will probably not be brought out; but if anglers are few and far between, and beer and the weed run short, then woe betide that river. Allowing netting fresh-water fish in a tidal river miles from the sea, where—with the exception of a few flounders and eels—salt-water fish, for various reasons, seldom or never come, is a practice that ought to be stopped at once and for ever; for one persistent unscrupulous person has the power to spoil both the sport and pleasure of hundreds of harmless and unoffending anglers. This illegal netting cannot be done in the *preserved* portions of such rivers as the Thames, Trent, Avon, Severn, Ouse, and Kent Stour, &c., without great risk, the vagabonds who carry on this nefarious business knowing perfectly well what to expect if caught; but with respect to netting fresh-water fish in the tidal portion of certain rivers there is no such risk, and any loafing, lazy, unprincipled scamp may, by the aid of a boat, deplete a river at his pleasure, and simply laugh at those who would like to stop him. I cannot help thinking that the above remarks are well worth the serious consideration of the various bodies mentioned above; and not only those, but to all persons where the presence of anglers means so much more grist to the mill—grist always willingly brought if fairly good sport can be obtained in return; and yet many persons cannot or will not see it. They will see it some day, when it is too late.

Boating.—If any of your readers contemplate rowing, &c.—say from Bedford to Earith—a most interesting stretch of the river, including the towns of Huntingdon and St. Ives, I should advise them to think twice before engaging in such an undertaking, for a party of three anglers staying at Overcote Ferry, told me that out of nearly twenty lochs between Bedford and the ferry, there were only four or five that they could get through with their boat (rather a heavy one), owing to their dilapidated condition.

Notices.—The following rules amongst others are posted at Over Staunch: "Salmon and Fresh-water Fisheries' Acts, 1861—1886. In accordance with the bye-laws of the Ouse and Nene Fisheries' Board, fair rod and line fishing *only* is allowed, in the waters of the society, between Houghton (up-stream), and Brown's Hill or Over Staunch, about ten miles; and no fishing whatever is permitted between 15th March and 15th June inclusive. Any person caught infringing these rules will be prosecuted." The St. Ives Angling Society have also a notice posted at Over Ferry, about a mile from the Staunch, short but to the purpose.

Over Ferry, Over Staunch, P.F.C., and Master Bishop.—It is a capital piko water from the Ferry to the Staunch (down-stream), and a gentleman with a friend of mine in the first field, hooked a real good fish, that escaped with a considerable portion of line, and my friend had a good run, but struck too soon. He was using snap tacklo. This made the third fish missed. It is very strange, for, three or four summers ago, I was using the Jardine snap in a similar place, and took seven consecutive fish, and could not miss one. I repeat, P.F.C., you struck too soon, and told you so. "No?" What about the fish you missed in Hemingford Mill Pool, was it not a repetition of the Over Ferry incident? And may I ask what is the use of attempting to snap, strike, or tighten on a hard ridge, or rather outer edge, when, as far as sending the hooks into anything to make them hold is concerned chance there is none?—at least, so I take it? Do give Master Johnny time to turn and take his fish in. There is a good perch swim about one hundred yards from the ferry boat (up-stream), which must be fished from a boat, and situated near the opposite bank from the Inn, being a pretty run of deepish water; and a little higher up on the gravel good gudgeon and roach may be caught; whilst in the first field below the Pike and Eel Inn is a splendid place for pike; and round the bend of the river, nearly down to Over Staunch, chub are taken more or less on the shallows with the Red and Black Palmer, Zulu, or Sweep, according to the state of the water and weather; but great care is necessary, as the rushes and weeds are strong and rather thick about here in the summer. There are several excellent swims between the rushes for bream, and where the water is sufficiently clear from this drawback, light legering with a float is a good method to adopt. There is a splendid deep hole immediately below Over Staunch (formerly a small hill where parties used to picnic—hence Brown's Hill Staunch), with an average depth of about ten feet, where good chub and pike are sometimes taken, and where a high tide makes a difference of three feet, thirty-six miles from the sea, and at flood time the tide reaches as high or higher than Over Ferry. The Boat Inn, kept by Mr. Bishop, can accommodate four anglers, but previous notice of a visit should be given, as the house is in great request. Master Bishop is always on the prowl after eels with his numerous baskets, and he can skin them quicker than anyone I ever saw; and if anglers cannot catch anything, they can always make sure of a good stew, eel or lampern pie in season (the latter at a very cheap rate) for a mere trifle. From now to the middle of February is the best time for pike, but anglers should write in time and make sure that the water is all right before starting on the war-path, or they may find themselves flooded out. They probably would now.

P.S.—Friend "P. F. C." (I read in a contemporary recently, after writing above) *re* snapping: "Use the Marlow hook; and before you strike give the fish plenty of time to get the bait *well within its jaws*." Most excellent advice, and mind you follow it, "P. F. C."

(To be continued.)

GILNOCKIE'S RAID ON THE BORDER

—— By Gilnockie. ——

Last week, to my intense delight, I found myself in the "merrie" city of Carlisle. What reminiscences of the past does not the very name of the place, to me, conjure up!—melancholy ones, too, as many of the friends of my youth have passed over to the great majority, while others have distributed themselves far and wide over the face of the globe. Yet when I plant my foot on the platform of the citadel station I am "neither to hand nor to bin" until I have visited some of the haunts of bygone days. Firstly, I look in at the Hole in the Wa', a famous old snuggery where anglers and sportsmen of all denominations assemble o' nichts to recount the deeds of the day; then I stare at the grim old castle, the cathedral, and the viaduct—the vilest piece of architecture in this picturesque city; I then gaze on the beautiful Eden as it slowly wends its way to the sea (but the river is in flood, and possesses fewer charms than usual, as it is too big for fishing purposes). The "lang chimley" next claims my attention, as you cannot miss it on account of its height. Finally I wind my way to the kennels to see the finest pack of hounds probably in the British Isles. Again I find myself in the Hole in the Wa', looking intently at the portrait of Dickey Routledge, the famous angler, which hangs on the snuggery mantelpiece. Dickey is depicted standing on a huge rock at Armathwaite sweeping the Eden in his well-known style. Presently Mr. W. G. Stubbs and several other anglers land in, and I am in the full tide of a fishing "crack" in a jiffy; but I soon ascertain that, although most of those present pay flying visits to the Esk at the Metal Bridge, they are very chary about giving much information anent the hauls I was informed several of them had made in that now famous water. This reticence, I am told, arises from an absurd jealousy that exists between the anglers who hail from Carlisle and those who reside nearer the Border. The Esk, by the way, joins the Eden about five miles below the Metal Bridge, and this, I suppose, is the cause of much of the haggling, fratching, poaching, bailiffing, and police-courting that has taken place anent certain rights with regard to fishing at the mouth of the river.

After a few words with Messrs. Little and Parkin, two noted fly-dressers, I scented how the land lay—or, perhaps, the water; and I determined to hie me off to Longtown to see my jolly old friend, Mr. Hugh Amos, of the Wheatsheaf Hotel, and finally wind up at Miss Cartner's hostelry at the Metal Bridge.

On the following morning I was "up with the lark." This "up with the lark" business is all moonshine, and since the saying has become a proverb it is most unfair to several other birds who are early risers; indeed, the lark does not put in an appearance at all until after the chaffinch, linnet, and a number of other hedgerow folk have been merrily piping for a good while. However, I took an early train, and scudded into Longtown in a few minutes from Carlisle. The Esk was running red as blood, and there was no fishing. All the Longtown anglers were resting on their oars until the evening, when I was told the water would be in fettle; and it was so, too; as I noticed, after I had been at the Metal Bridge a matter of three hours, that the island below the bridge, which was covered when I arrived, had almost assumed its normal area, with such rapidity does the Esk decrease in volume during a flood, after the rain ceases and the hill-side drains have run themselves dry. I found Mr. Amos, o' the Wheatsheaf, Longtown, the same auld man he has continued to be for thirty-six years. He was just on the point of jumping into his gig to drive to his farm at Penton, on the Liddle.

"A' man, how is tu wull ye no gang wi' me?" was almost his first greeting.

I explained that I was due at the Metal Bridge about twelve, but wanted a "crack" with some of the anglers at Longtown before leaving.

"Weel! weel! that caps a'. Come in, then; come in. A' man, ah am glad to see you. Come an' wat ye're whustle."

Another hearty welcome from the worthy hostess followed, and out came the special "grey-beard."

"Oh, ye want a fishin' crack,' do you?" says Hugh. "Weel, then, Mr. Joseph Bell, who kens every clint and puil in the water, and Professor Scott, the noted fly-dresser, are just the men for ye—they're baith gey auld farrant yins. But keep ye're ee on the Professor—he is the biggest wag in a' Langtoon, an' micht lead ye on to white ice. Yin nivir can tell what he's drivin' at; yet he's a gran' huik busser for a' that, an' at catchin' a salmon not a man on the Border can 'thraw saut on his tail.' D'ye mind that time

"When lang Professor Scott and friend one day
In Lyne-foot Pool did thirteen salmon slay?"

"Oh, yes, I recollect it well; and it was duly recorded in the pages of the *Fishing Gazette*, consequently it must have been true."

"True? Yes, fac' as death; and the lads had tho fush to prove it," replied Mr. Amos.

"It was a wonderful feat."

"Not sa wonderfu' as ye micht think. 'Tween here and the Metal Brig's the best stretch o' a' the Esk, an' it isn't owre fished, for a' we hae the Carel deils aye comin' prowlin' roon at times and leavin' the Eden in the lurch. Look at the water we hae, far an' aboon what they've got tother side o' the Border. First there's the Liddle rins into it. O' course the Willow Pool an' the Cauldron hev the benefit o' that as weel, but that's a', as the Thistle Pool comes next, an' that's the Netherby Water ye ken. Carwinlay Burn comes efter; then Glenzier Burn, an' Gartle Burn; an' lastly the Lyne, a guid big water, rins into the Esk within sicht o' the Metal Brig itself. Sae ye may reckon on what kin' o' a puil Lynefoot Puil is for salmon."

Bidding adieu to Mr. Amos, I adjourned to the Bush Hotel, where I found Professor Scott and Mr. Bell awaiting my arrival. After ordering a beaker each for the two anglers, and an extempore luncheon for myself, the "crack" commenced.

"It's only three miles o' water," began the Professor, "but look how commattable it is on owther side—nae rocks or bushes, nor big trees to stop the fun. I grant the Cauldron and Willow Pools are good pitches, and sae is the Thistle—but that's preserved water, the Thistle is, where the five hundred salmon were seen the other day. Look at the accommodation, too, and the situation—halfway atween Langholm and Carlisle, and the railway station at the verra door, five or six guid hotels in the toon, not to mention the Empress of the Metal Brig doon the water. What mair could ye hae? Here we hae the Graham Arms, the Wheatsheaf, the Bush, and sundry others, and the tariff reduced to a mere flea-bite. What mair wad ye hae? am axin."

Certainly this was unanswerable; and in order to somewhat vary the subject, I inquired of the Professor which he considered the best casts below Longtown.

"Oh, the Roost, Wilkins' Pool, and Lynefoot Pool," replied the Professor. "Why it's no lang syne, Mr. Bell and I killed thirteen salmon in the Lynefoot Pool. I ca' him 'Mr. Bell' whiles, but I mean that grinin' auld image ayont the hud nuik there. I got seven and he got six. Josie's no a bad fisher, but ah taught him a' he kens."

"You taught me a' ah ken? Why, you canna haud a candle till me. Whae got the 27lb. salmon the other day, yin o' the finest ivver taen frae Esk?"

"Aye. An' whae caught the 28lb. yin? Why, I did," retorted the Professor. Evidently Mr. Bell had forgotten this feat, and appeared a trifle crestfallen for the moment, but recovered his spirits by saying that "his was a new-run yin, and was stickin' a' owre wi' sea lice."

"Come now, haud away; ye needna get cross. Here's a Jock Scott for you, also a Butcher; but the 'Professor Scott' is the fly that will be a' the rage next season," continued the Professor, holding up a specimen, which he immediately pouched, as he said "it was owre suin to startle the angling public wi' it afore the spring o' the year."

At this point two other worthies landed in, neither of whom were introduced. One of them, I was told afterwards, was a large farmer on the Border, whom I shall call Mr. Sanders McCuhhy o' the Hill. Mr. McCubby was a slightly florid individual, with a due sense of his own importance. He was a great angler, he told us, and knew the Esk better than any man living, and had caught more fish in the pools than had ever been got either before or since he commenced to perform.

Well, thinks I, the champion has arrived at last, and I began to feel like a bairn o' five years old.

"Teake nae notice," said the Professor to me, in a stage whisper, "he's the biggest leear in a' Cumberland, and that's sayin' a lot when a fishin' cracks on."

"What's that you're saying, you auld sheep's head in a pair o' tongs. You're only a huik dresser, and a bad un' at that." At this sally the company roared, as the farmer was evidently well known to those present. I have not yet described Mr. McCubby's companion, but, from what transpired afterwards, I "jaloused" him to be a river-watcher or bailiff, because when it was mentioned that the fishing ceased on the 31st of October, Mr. Joseph Bell quietly observed that every one knew that, and everyone knew too that the real genuine and proper fishing which produced the best sport commenced on the 1st of November.

"Yes, it does, and no flies!" said Mr. Bell, with a merry twinkle in his eye. Every ogle was turned on the new-comer, who joined heartily in the general laugh, which was evidently at his expense. The conversation then turned on the longevity of anglers.

Professor Scott knew one old angler of the age of seventy-nine who fished every day during the season, Sundays and all.

"Mr. Bell said he knew the same old man's father, and he was drowned at Lynefoot, when he was one hundred and two, while fishing during close time, or he might have been alive yet." Mr. Johnstouc—which, I think, was the supposed bailiff's name—did not believe anglers lived any longer than other folk, especially those who poached. But Mr. McCubby called him a "hoaf thick," and told him "to haud his gab"; what did the likes o' him ken aboot anglers and angling? Mr. McCuhby was certainly a most assertive party, and got as red in the face as a bubbly jock—a jolly three-bottle man I should say.

"He was a care-defying blade
As ever Bacchus listed:
He had nae thought but to be glad,
Nae want but when he thirsted."

The jovial farmer had apparently been enjoying himself, and capped his friends on the subject of longevity by the following:—

"You know," said he, "in my country, far away ayont the Tweed, when the callants get to about sixty years of age the parents breech them and apprentice them to a trade. One young man I knew—he was only eighty-one—a great angler; he had been out one day, and had caught ten salmon, all new-run fish, some of them over 20lb. in weight. Well, at night this youth of eighty-one summers was sitting on the front door-step, crying like mad—after such a capital day's sport, too; and when someone asked the *lad* what he was greeting sae sair for, he replied that he had been oot fishing a' day, and had landed ten fish, only; as he did not bring hame a dizzen, his grandfather had gi'en him a deevil o' a lickin', an' he was flait to gang to bed in case the auld man should start on him again."

Just then Sir Richard Graham, of Netherby, and party whisked past in a brake, when Mr. McCubby again grew eloquent upon the virtues of Sir Richard as an angler and hunter, a capital hand with the gun—equal to his grandfather, the great Sir James, who was a first-class shot, either on the moors or among the turnips. The present writer, by the way, has seen the great statesman both among the grouse and the partridges.

"Ah," continued the McCuhby, "Sir Richard's a good lad, and a good landlord too."

Who was it that sang?—

"Round glanced the proud chief of the Netherby clan,
As from a deep goblet he drank to each man;
Then, raising their flagons, the hunters stood up,
And to the young chieftain each quaffed off his cup.

"If ever again across Netherby's grounds
The same hunters run with the same noble hounds
In the clear morning air, let the trysting-place be
Where the bright waters meet on fair Canonbie lea."

Leaving Professor Scott, Mr. Sanders McCuhby o' the Hill, and Mr. Bell at the Bush, I started off on foot to the Metal Bridge, accompanied by a well-known angler, whose name I need not mention at present. The wind blew big guns, but the day was beautifully fine, as we walked along the banks of the historical river from Longtown to the Metal Bridge, and examined the favourite casts dear to anglers of all denominations—viz., the Ironfoot Flat, the Roost, the Boxes, the Sheep's Wash, Birrel's Weir, Lynefoot Flat, Burnfoot Flat, Wilkins' Pool, and pools of lesser note, which all came under review, until we arrive at the famous hostelry, and the Empress o' the Metal Brig, Miss Cartner, greets us with a genuine Cumberland welcome in the old-fashioned porch of the hotel.

"Well, you've had a grand season, Miss Cartner," I remarked.

"Yes, very good indeed; and all the gentlemen I have had during the summer are baith satisfied with the fishing and the accommodation I can afford them. Ours is no' a big place. I can do with eight or ten visitors; but, when a number of friends have been here, I have whiles had as far as fourteen. Now look how handy it is for baith Carlisle and Longtown—ten minutes' ride to Carlisle, and an hour's walk to Longtown by the water-side. As for the fishing, why, the fish frae the sea must a' gang past here afore they get to the upper reaches, or go scuttling into sich wee bits o' sykes as the Gartle Burn and the Lyne—which they do sometimes in a flood, by mistake, ye ken. Mr. Yates, ye'll have heard, has only been here three weeks, and he has caught seventeen salmon; Mr. Butler had seven in one week; and others have also done well, including Messrs. J. B. Slater and W. G. Stubbs, of Carlisle. You'll have a' particulars in the reports, nae doot."

"Well, yes, most of them. Only I have been longing for a good fishing 'crack' at headquarters for some time."

"Ye'll get that," quoth Miss Cartner, "as I expect Mr. Hough, frae Carlisle; Mr. Edgar, Longtown; Mr. Mason, Rockliffe; Mr. Morton, and several other gentlemen directly; and mebbe Mr. Yates will be here soon."

With that a couple of jolly-looking anglers came in, total strangers. They had come from the Tyne. One of them carried a copy of the *F. G.* in his hand, which contained some remarks anent the Border Esk.

"Was the fishing good?" they asked.

"Yes, it was gey guid," replied the hostess.

"All right, then, we'll go no farther; therefore kindly book us for a fortnight."

Then the gentlemen mentioned above appeared on the scene, and song and story went freely round.

"Now, lads," said Miss Cartner, "ye'll be gey yap after your walk frae Longtown; just step ben the hoose and take a dish o' tea."

Nothing loth, we placed our shins beneath Miss Cartner's mahogany, and did full justice to a substantial Cumberland tea.

"Make yourselves at home," said the worthy hostess. "This is Liberty Ha'. Ye're a' richt welcome."

It was a merry party; and when we returned to the company we had left for a short time, a gentleman had taken the violin from the rack, and some of the younger spirits were dancing "Leather-te-patch" and "Cross-the-Buckle" at a rare bat, and with a vim that would have astonished anyone but a born Cumbrian. The scene reminded me of the one at Broken Buru, described in "Red Gauntlet," when blind Wandering Willie and Darsie Latimer supplied the music; only we hadn't a sufficient number of ladies. "The heart aye warms to the old home!" and when I "took the fluir" I could have registered a particularly solemn "Davy" that I wasn't more than seventeen at the most; however, ten minutes took all the puff out of my anatomy, and I was three times seventeen in very quick sticks.

As I said before, the company was a merry one, and I was pleased to be among the brawny cheils, to hear their kindly and convincing voices, to admire their breadth of chest, their symmetrical and ample calves, and to listen to the sturdy tread of their substantial boots, that seemed to defy creation and the weather. Sons of Anak with a vengeance! They jumped about like india-rubber balls; and when the fun had subsided a little, one young giant, a rollicking merry Andrew, said to me, "Are you married, Mr. Gilnockie?"—giving me at the same time a huge wink from the side of his face concealed from Miss Cartner's view—"because," said he, "Gretna-green is only a mile off, and Willie Lang could adjust the knot as securely as the Archbishop of Canterbury—so securely that you could snap your fingers at the whole universe. The only condition is that you must be single, and reside three weeks on the Scottish side of the Border previous to the ceremony."

I hastened to assure my new friend that I was very much married, and that Mrs. G. was very much alive. I merely mention the circumstance for the benefit of anglers who may wish to change their condition while sojourning on the banks of the Esk at some future time; besides, this will solve all doubts on the subject that may exist in the minds of those to whom Gretna-green is a deep and complex mystery.

After taking leave of the kindly hostess, I strolled down to Floriston Station, about a five minutes' walk from the hotel, and was spellbound by the beauty of the scene. It is a snug spot, surrounded by a dense plantation of larch, spruce, and Scotch firs, with a charming patch of heather in the foreground of the picture, and the Solway, in full view, glistening in the distance. Then, as I steam into the station at Carlisle, I feel a sort of thankfulness that some of the ancient traditions of the Borderland are still preserved among the douce canny bodies of Cannie Auld Cumberland.

RE-PRODUCTION OF CONGER EELS.

Wonderful and amazing are some of the theories put forward by the old angling writers with reference to the generation of eels. Even now, much concerning the natural history of these peculiar fish is exceedingly obscure, but we no longer believe that chopped horse-hair, if thrown into a pond will people the water with eels, nor that a similar result may be obtained by laying in the sunshine two turves covered with may-dew, grassy-side inwards, and touching one another. Was it not Oppian who thought that eels embraced, and that a gluey exudation, coming from the surface of their bodies, fell to the bottom and vitalised in the mud? Aristotle had somewhat similar ideas; and Pliny thought that eels rubbed themselves against the rocks when tired of living and from the detritus came a new breed.

It is a very singular coincidence that the latest inquirer into the natural history of eels, Mr. Cunningham, the naturalist on the permanent staff of the Marine Biological Association, has, to a certain extent, come to the same conclusion as Pliny. Not that Mr. Cunningham, for a moment, pretends to disturb the now well-known fact that eels spawn much as other fish, but he is of opinion that, so far as the eels of the sea are concerned, they never spawn but once, and die shortly afterwards; or, as Pliny puts it, conduct the process of generation when tired of living. We venture to suggest, however, that because all the eels which have become gravid in the aquarium at Plymouth, have died previous to performing the operation of spawning, it does not necessarily follow that eels in the open sea would die shortly after spawning.

It has often been observed that female conger eels in aquaria have, after a time, passed into a swollen state and then died. On examination their ovaries have been found to be enormously developed, and the unfortunate eels have evidently not had the power to extrude their eggs. Conger eels ripe and ready to spawn are rarely, if ever, caught in the sea, the reason, doubtless, being that on the approach of that condition they cease to feed and do not take the baits of the fishermen. By keeping male congers in the aquarium at Plymouth, Mr. Cunningham succeeded in obtaining some with ripe spermatoza. One of these he milted; but, as we have said, the eels in the aquarium did not seem to have the power to extrude their eggs, and all those which attained sexual maturity died. The bones of the head in congers which died with ripening ovaries were in a remarkable condition, having become so soft that they could be cut with the finger-nail, and cutting them with a knife is described as being similar to cutting cheese. The heads of ripe males were found to be in much the same condition. This may possibly be explained by the fish having ceased to feed for about six months.

The conclusions which Mr. Cunningham draws from his observations and experiments are a trifle open to criticism. Because the largest male which came under his observation was only 2ft. 2in. long (being 3½in. less than one described by Dr. Otto Hermes), he concludes that 2ft. 6in. is the extreme limit of length of male specimens. The conclusion may be correct, but seems rather hastily drawn. His next conclusion, which we have already referred to, is that each conger only breeds once in its life-time, the congers which in the aquarium were not able to extrude their eggs having all died. He admits it might be argued that in the sea the female would extrude her eggs, and then might go on feeding and breed again; but he thinks his conclusion justified by the fact that the conger (which is a hardy and voracious fish) invariably dies in captivity after attaining sexual maturity. The argument is not a very strong one, the greater probability surely being that the lack of power to extrude the eggs causes the death of the eel rather than that death is occasioned by the eel arriving at sexual maturity. Mr. Cunningham admits the objection that there is great variation in size between adult congers, some weighing only a few pounds, and others more than a hundredweight; but he considers that fact does not invalidate his conclusion, as fishes of the same age frequently vary greatly in size. In captivity the congers as they become gravid lose their teeth, and this, Mr. Cunningham thinks, also proves that they die after once spawning, for without teeth they could not eat. But one is tempted to ask would they invariably lose their teeth in the sea, and supposing they did so, might not the lost teeth be replaced? Mr. Cunningham also refers to the curious fact that river eels in their adult stage have never been known to return from the sea, and he suggests they, too, die after spawning.

From his experiments and observations in the aquarium Mr. Cunningham attempts to decide the months during which congers breed, and deems it probable that they spawn at any and every season of the year, for he has found gravid eels in every month, except November; but it may very well be that the causes which prevented the eels extruding their ova may also have considerably disarranged their breeding season. No absolutely certain inferences on this point can be drawn from observations made in an aquarium.

The points which we have referred to in the life history of the conger, are dealt with at great length in the most recent number of the *Marine Biological Society's Journal.* There is much of interest in the paper. It is worthy of note that no fertilised and developing eggs of the conger have been found in the sea, but in its larval state the conger, which is then ribbon-shaped and transparent, has been identified, and if Mr. Cunningham is correct in saying that it is to be distinguished for the larva of the fresh-water eel found in estuaries, the theories that congers are simply freshwater eels which have taken up their abode in the sea seems altogether upset. But it is just possible that the fresh-water eels after breeding remain in the sea, and after breeding again and again in salt water, their larvæ, like themselves, become changed in appearance. It is difficult to believe that the millions of eels which descend some rivers never to return, should die much about the same time. If there were such a wholesale decease of eels in the estuaries of rivers, we should expect to see something of their remains. We venture to suggest to Mr. Cunningham that as an interesting experiment he should introduce fresh-water eels gradually into salt water, and note their growth-rate and any changes in appearance which take place. Considerations of space prevent further discussion of this interesting subject. In taking his observations Mr. Cunningham has made a somewhat valuable addition to an obscure branch of icthyology, and we only disagree with him in thinking that he has drawn his conclusions somewhat hastily.

Waltoniana

It is not easy to advise those enthusiasts who wish to catch fish at such times as these. As I have already said, many lakes and ponds are not affected by the rainfall, and the chalk streams are nearly always in order, not being drainage rivers. In other rivers the difficulty is to find the fish. Where many acres of land are flooded by the river-side, the fish are all over the place, and the angler cannot do better than leave the broader parts of the river valley alone. Where the rise of the ground from the river is somewhat sharp, the floods are, of course, less extensive, and there is more chance of finding a shoal of fish. Sometimes roach may be caught on the grass, and as the water is falling the mouths of the ditches are often the abiding places of chub, tench, roach, and perch. As I explained last week, depth is all important, the fish shifting into shallower or deeper water according as the water is thick or fining down. I have caught roach during a flood in eighteen inches of water and also in eighteen feet of water. In the first instance, the water was not unlike pea-soup; in the latter, it was clear, and the weather was very cold.

Pike fishing will soon be very good unless the weather keeps very bad. One of the best methods of catching pike at the present time is with the leger. Probably not one pike-fisher in fifty has used this tackle, which differs little from the barbel leger, but must, of course, be fitted with a lead of sufficient weight to keep down the bait, and with live-bait hooks, mounted on gimp. If the bait is a small one, I give the preference to a rather large single hook, but if it is at all large there should be a lip-hook on its mouth, and a triangle (that known as the "Bickerdyke," for preference) on its shoulder. It is when the pike are lying almost in shoals in quiet backwaters, and in the eddies at the tails of islands, that this tackle is most killing. I have, indeed, sometimes found that when the fish were very shy, and not to be taken by the paternoster nor any of the ordinary methods, one or two might be induced to take a bait presented to them on the leger.

Sometimes I have taken good pike by spinning when the water has been high and thick, but that has only been when I have been using very large baits. Generally speaking, so far as my experience goes, spinning is the most killing way of taking pike. Nine persons out of ten would think and say that live-baiting was the most killing method, and I long held that opinion myself, but now I only resort to live-baiting when the fish are quite off the feed and look at a bait for a quarter of an hour before they take it. Obviously at such times it is no use to draw a spinning bait in front of their noses. The only thing then to do is either to lay out a paternoster or live-bait with float tackle. In choosing the most suitable pike tackle for any particular occasion, it should be remembered that in rivers float tackle is not a stationary arrangement, and that if any particular corner is to be fished long and patiently, the paternoster should be used. In a lake, on the other hand, the live-bait on float tackle, unless it is a chub, will not move far, and if the bottom is weedy a paternoster is apt to get foul. The other day I saw about four fish killed on spinning tackle to every one killed on the paternoster. The baits used on both tackles were gudgeon. The largest fish of the day fell a victim to the attractions of a Chapman spinner and gudgeon.

With the exception of the lucky few who have chalk-stream, grayling fishing, or some private lake, unaffected by floods, south country anglers have been doing but little during the past week. Assuming that the weather holds up for a week or ten days, there should be some really excellent fishing for pike and coarse fish, but to assume anything about the weather these times is a monstrously rash proceeding. I confess that I am beginning to lose faith in the Meteorological Office. Time was when the weather forecasts, combined with an intelligent reading of the barometer and observation of the clouds, would enable one to read the weather with some degree of certainty. But all that is changed now.

One Sunday recently there was such a storm that I decided to put off a visit which was due to some friends on the morrow. But the morrow came up smiling, as the pugilists say, and at breakfast I read that the weather was to be "fine, with light variable airs." So I started. It was blowing a stiff breeze before I reached the station, at Oxford there was a gale, and at Eversham a hurricane, which was tearing up trees by the roots, and had broken the telegraphic communication, so that I was unable to let my friends know there was a lunatic on his way to visit them—a fishing visit, if you please. With one exception, the jolly angling excursions we had planned came to nothing. One day, noting in the paper that a fearful gale was prophecied, with much rain, squalls, and all the rest of it, I suggested to my friend that probably it would be fine, and that we could not do better than go fishing. We went, and the sun shone, and the air was balmy, the pike fed well, and everything was just as it should be. The moral to be deduced from these remarkable observations would seem to be that the meteorological reports should be read backwards. But then the humorous gentlemen who sent me out fishing by promises of "fine, with variable airs," are as likely as not, at the end of a few weeks, just as we begin to understand the art of reading their reports, to suddenly commence to state exactly what the weather is going to be, and then how awkward that will be. Templar.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. R. C., Warrington: Gold fish belong to the carp family, and are not at all "like gudgeon."

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. Pritt.

"FISH PRESERVATIVE."

Sir,—Some of your readers, very likely some of your foreign friends, may be able to furnish the information I want—an efficient method of preserving fish for transit by rail in a hot climate, that of South Africa. Experiments have been tried by my brother and others residing there, but hitherto with only qualified success, Boroglycerine being the medium employed, resulting in a loss by the journey's end of some twenty-five per cent. of the weight of fish despatched, the time occupied being some two or three days. This wasting is a serious drawback where the carriage costs one shilling per pound, and the fish did not arrive in good condition if delayed at all in transit.

A process was patented in Germany I believe, some years ago, but I have endeavoured in vain to get particulars.—Yours, truly,

Joseph Sinclair.

17, Willsons-road, Ramsgate, Kent.

[We believe Boracic Acid is largely used in Norway for preserving fish; but fish so preserved, although they look quite fresh, always have a flat flavour of soda about them and are not to be compared with fresh fish.—Ed.]

FLY-FISHING FOR HERRING.

Sir,—When I noticed, some time ago, in the *Field* and afterwards in the *F. G.*, that it was considered a rare occurrence to take herrings with bait, I hoped more of your correspondents would have given their experiences in this charming but little-known branch of the angler's art. Whilst almost every conceivable method, dodge, tackle, gear, of, or appertaining unto fresh-water fishing, is pretty well known and practised, sea fishing and its ever varying opportunities for sport are sadly neglected. I have caught herring in the manner described by "W." It is much used in the Baltic, but it is nothing but pot-hunting and little sport; whilst an evening's fly-fishing, such as I had on Saturday last, is by no means inferior to a good day on Loch Leven. Flies are made specially for herring, *vide* Braddell, of "Belfast's Catalogue," and are much used about Strangford Lough, where at certain seasons, herring abound, and take the fly very freely. I cannot agree with "W." as to herring not showing sport, but will back one fairly hooked on a fly against a trout of the same weight. Although I have had many a good evening's sport with herring, I cannot recollect a pleasanter than one last summer. I had been mackerel fishing all the afternoon and had got rather tired of it, as I had more fish than I could use, or carry, besides sailing a boat single-handed; and continuously hauling a couple of lines with twenty fathoms out, and a 3lb. lead, savours more of hard work than pleasure. I reeled up about six o'clock, and made sail to beat back to Douglas, five miles off, but on the first tack, into Groudle Bay, a shoal of herring were jumping all round. The temptation was too great, so I lowered the sails, and let the boat drift across the tide, and began casting with a stiff ten-foot rod, strong enough to hold a shark. I put on one of Braddell's herring flies, white wing, silver tinsel body, as tail fly (of which I enclose pattern) one of Foster's Red Caterpillars, and another tied with a little green silk—my own idea. In an hour and a-half I three dozen and nine, sometimes taking two at a time, the Red Caterpillar and the green body killing best. I think I would have been fishing still, had not a vagabond pollack showed his ugly nose amongst the shoal, and grabbed (not fairly taken) my Red Caterpillar. Of course the cowardly cur, like all of his kind, bolted for the weeds, and "bang went several saxpences," in cast, flies, swivel, &c. I could not help wishing I had had you with me armed with the trout rod that did such execution at the tournament, as I feel sure I would have made another and most valuable convert to the charms of sea fishing. I fear I have trespassed rather too far on your columns, but if you can, at a future date, spare me space, I would like to mention a few more sea fish taken with fly and some artificial baits not generally known, but of the utmost use to amateur sea anglers.—Yours, &c.,

Stormy Petrel.

WATERPROOF DRESSING FOR FISHING LINES.

Sir,—"A Learner," who asks in last week's *Fishing Gazette* for a waterproofing that will render fishing-lines impervious to wet, should try the following: Half-a-pint of "doubled-boiled, cold-drawn," linseed-oil, and 2oz. of gold-size; place them in an earthen pipkin, on the hob of a fire-place, and keep the mixture at a gentle heat, occasionally stirring, until the oil and the size are thoroughly incorporated.

The line, which must be *quite dry*, should be wound in a loose coil, placed in the *warm* mixture, and kept there in soak for twenty-four hours, or until it is saturated to its centre (a thick line will require longer time than a thin one). Then take the end of the coil, and draw the line through a piece of cloth or wash-leather, squeezing or pressing it hard, so that all the *outside* waterproofing is removed, and hang it up to dry in the wind or sun, out of the reach of moisture.

I generally waterproof my lines in the summer. In about a fortnight, when moderately dry, re-dip the line, to give an outer coat, and wipe it again gently; then wind it on an old towel-horse, and place it before a hot fire for two or three hours, to cause the mixture to "flow," and form an even gloss on the surface of the line, which must then be left to dry as before; the length of time will depend on the weather and place. Fishing-lines should *always* be dried after using. A convenient way is to wind them on the backs of two chairs, placed a little distance apart. If lines are re-dipped every season they last many years.—Yours, &c.,

Alfred Jardine.

Dear Sir,—In reply to "Learner's" letter, in your last issue, I can strongly recommend him (*re* his grievance in the matter of running line) to use the ordinary roach silk-plaited line, dressed with the Wire-wove Roofing Company's preparation. I have myself given it a thorough trial in the sea as well as fresh water, and can testify to its usefulness. Of course an extra dressing of tallow or mutton fat is necessary before starting on a day's chubbing.

For bank fishing in a stiff breeze, a loosely-twisted line of the style of material used by saddlers for stitching patent leather will be found without equal, and merely requires fat dressing as above.—Yours, &c.,

Chublet.

PULBOROUGH AND AMBERLEY ANGLING COMPETITION.

Sir,—Owing to the excessive floods at Pulborough, I am sorry to say that the Open Roving Fishing Contest promoted by me, and proposed to take place at Pulborough on the 25th inst., will be postponed until a later date, due notice of which will be given.—Yours truly,

Alfred A. Eldridge.

P.S.—Have had a telegram from Pulborough, saying that the river is still rising, the grounds are inundated, and that fishing this week will be quite impossible or out of the question.—A. A. E.

RAYS BREAM (*BRAMA RAII*).

Sir,—I have just seen the journal of the Biological Association for May, 1891, wherein it states that a rays bream was caught on March 28, 1891, and the only specimen previous to that was caught on July 12, 1875.

If you refer to your paper of August 2, 1890, you will find that I recorded one 18in. long, 7in. wide, which was sent me by the Very Rev. Canon Du' Boulay, who was then staying at Prussia Cove, Marizion; and I also mention one that I had preserved in spirits, caught some time previous. I have seen several since, but have not made a note of the dates.—Yours, &c.,

Plymouth. William Hearder.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE READING OF PAPERS AMONG ANGLING CLUBS.

An important meeting of the above society was held at the Citizen, 70, Houndsditch, on Friday evening last. Mr. H. J. Tibbatts occupied the chair, and the room was literally packed with prominent members of the various angling clubs, every part of London being represented.

The chairman, having briefly addressed the meeting, called upon Mr. E. S. Shrubsole, who met with an enthusiastic reception. In the course of his remarks he drew attention to the fact that the idea of reading papers among the clubs of London, as promoted by that society had, during the past winter, received the hearty support of all concerned. There was not the slightest doubt but that there was plenty of work for such a society to do, and they had met there that evening to properly constitute themselves, and arrange their programme for the ensuing season; and to enable them to do this they should first of all considerably extend their committee.

The following gentlemen there upon signified their willingness to serve upon the committee, the general feeling of those present being that the movement was one in the right direction and deserving of support. Messrs. H. Howse, Clapton; G. C. Cooper, Gresham; F. Griffin, Pres. Silver Trout; Tidbury, Hoxton Bros.; J. Rich, Grange; H. O'Callaghan, Vice-Pres. Silver Trout; Kayes, Grange; R. Ghurney, Hoxton Bros.; G. Manning, Izaak Walton; Malby, Dalston; Windred, United Bros.; J. Smith, Causton; H. Higgenbotham, Battersea Friendly; H. Dunn, Causton; Croker, Grange; Sharp, Causton; R. Murphy, Good Intent; McDermott, Izaak Walton; F. Thorling, St. John's; A. Sowerbutts, Causton; A. Matthews, New Albion; H. J. Tibbatts, Good Intent; T. Keeble, Causton; W. R. Lawes, United Bros.; J. Rieb, Amicable Excelsior; J. Deplidge, Causton; J. Jones, Amicable Excelsior; and Wilson, Blackfriars.

Mr. R. B. Marston, Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*, had kindly intimated his willingness to become the President, and he was duly elected. Mr. E. S. Shrubsole was appointed to the post of hon. sec.; and Mr. G. C. Cooper signified his willingness to take charge of the vocal and instrumental items, which it is proposed to include in the evening's entertainments.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Tidbury, seconded by Mr. Sowerbutts, it was decided the hon. sec. should draw up a circular—have it printed and distributed among the London anglers, such circular to draw attention to the objects of the society, and generally make known the manner in which it was proposed to work it.

It was decided, upon the proposition of Mr. R. Ghurney, that the large hall, at the Foresters' Hall, be engaged upon the occasion of Mr. F. M. Walbran's lecture with dissolving views. Mr. W. Senior, of the *Field*, will occupy the chair upon that occasion.

It was decided that a gigantic smoking concert and conversazione, to be held at the Foresters' Hall at the end of the season, should be organised.

It was decided that the meetings of the society be held at the Citizen, 70, Houndsditch, when applications from clubs for one of its members to read a paper will be entertained every meeting night.

Several applications were made from clubs, and the following arrangements made:—

Nov. 4.—Paper by Mr. A. Matthews, at the Amicable Excelsior, Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.

Nov. 10.—Paper by Mr. E. S. Shrubsole, at the Battersea Friendly, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.

Other dates will be fixed at the next meeting.

It was decided that the paper by Mr. G. E. Simms at the Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City, be read under the auspices of this society; and Mr. E. S. Shrubsolo signified his willingness to take the chair upon this occasion. The date is Monday, Oct. 26, and the subject—"Coarse Fish Culture."

The discussion upon the advisability of printing and publishing papers read by the members was adjourned till the next meeting, which will be at the Citizen, 70, Houndsditch (opposite Bishopsgate Church), on Friday evening, Oct. 30. Anglers wishing to join this society should make a note of this. Any secs. of clubs who would like a paper read at their meeting-house, should also attend and make the application. The hearty co-operation of anglers of all grades is earnestly desired by the executive.

THE GRESHAM ANGLING SOCIETY.

What may be considered as almost a new departure in the proceedings of angling societies took place at the Gresham last Tuesday evening, at their rooms in Masons' Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street. The society possesses around its walls a goodly collection of mounted fish, and it was resolved to make this the nucleus of an exhibition. Members were accordingly invited to send in objects relating in any way to piscatorial sport, with the result that a grand show was got together, consisting of fish, aquatic birds, paintings, engravings, fishing tackle, literature, &c., and the rooms were crowded with members and friends, who expressed themselves delighted with the entertainment.

Dr. Brunton, M.A. and M.D., an honorary member, was in the chair, and with his well-known ability and genial manner contributed greatly to the success of the gathering. He commenced by welcoming the visitors, and called on Mr. Tayler, the secretary, to give some account of the present position of the society. From the secretary's speech it appeared that the Gresham was founded in 1880 to supply a want felt among London anglers. Seeing that Sir Thomas Gresham—of whom a portrait by Holroyd is in the room—had rendered valuable services to his fellow-citizens, and founded important institutions in that immediate vicinity, the society had adopted his name and also his coat-of-arms, the grasshopper being their emblem. The society now consists of about one hundred members, of whom very many are keen anglers, from the capturer of the lordly salmon down to that of the humble roach and dace; and the excellent attendance at the weekly meetings shows its usefulness and the interest the members take in its proceedings. They now have an excellent library and a capital librarian, who has a private library of piscatorial works probably unsurpassed by any private library in England, and he is good enough to place these at the disposal of the members, so that any work on angling subjects would be almost sure to be found in one collection or the other. Furthermore, the society has in print a number of papers, many of them of a highly scientific nature, that have been read before it at various times, and a complete set of copies is handed to every new member on paying his first year's subscription. The society also rents two good fishing waters in Essex, which they have lately secured on a three years' lease, and have taken steps to preserve them better than formerly.

An advance has been made in another direction. A number of the members have combined and purchased a fishing boat called the *Gresham Lugger*, which is kept near Southend, and in which, and other boats accompanying it, fishing excursions for prizes are frequently made to the mouth of the Thames, with the result that large quantities of sea fish are frequently shown in the society's rooms. The society also gives silver medals annually for the best specimen fish of each of thirteen different kinds caught in the preceding year. There was on the table a silver challenge cup presented by the chairman, Dr. Brunton, to the society, to be held one year by the member who takes the best variety of specimen fish in the preceding year, and the name of the holder to be engraved on it.

The society is strongly opposed to prizes for gross weights, and, following up a paper lately read by the secretary, have passed a resolution that fish taken by live-gorge fishing shall not be eligible for prizes, and recommending the members not to practise that method.

The chairman then called on Mr. Norman, the honorary curator and librarian, to give some particulars of the exhibits, which he did in a very careful and lucid manner, giving the weights, time, mode of capture, and other interesting details. Prominent among the collection we noticed the following: Case of seven grayling (Dr. Brunton) weighing 10lb.; pike (Mr. C. K. Turpin) caught in January, 1889; pike, 25¼lb. (Mr. F. M. Jonas), caught in February, 1891, at Ponders' End; a very fine case of eight roach, selected from 77¾lb. caught in one day at Fordingbridge, by Mr. W. F. Grimmett, also a pike and two other cases by Mr. Grimmett; pike of 26lb. presented to the society for Mr. G. E. Rose; a black-headed diver and large grebe; three oil paintings of fish by Rolfe, the property of Mr. E. C. Clements; large bream and roach caught by Dr. Ladell, July 22, 1891; six cases of handsome fish sent by Mr. Hesse, of Old Ford; six cases of splendid fish by Mr. H. L. Short, among them a carp of 11½lb. and a pike of 27lb.; two good trout by Mr. J. W. Hearn; a small grebe, taken by Dr. Brunton with an artificial fly; a moorhen, taken by Mr. J. Tayler with an artificial fly; paintings by Mr. G. Chambers, V.P.; portrait of Izaak Walton, painted and presented to the society by Holroyd; two paintings by Morton, Dr. Brunton; a case of three pike, weighing respectively 19½lb., 18lb., and 22lb., presented by Messrs. Knechtli and Jardine; a painting by Rolfe, "Evening," fishing, Dr. Davidson; a model of a Japanese fishing punt, presented by Mr. F. M. Jonas; a small collection of ten rare sea fish, presented this evening by Mr. Woodcock; a valuable and unique china bowl, exhibited by Mr. T. R. Sachs; a number of paintings and prints (many uncommon) shown by Mr. Norman.

Among the tackle was some sea-fishing lines, hooks, &c., by Mr. Parker and Mr. Fosbrooke, also some ancient hooks and tackle by Mr. F. Fletcher.

A very humorous recitation was given by Mr. Claude Meller, and the secretary read an extract from "Ye Logge of Ye Lugger," which was highly amusing.

With two or three exceptions the whole of the entries were the property of members.

A foreign gentleman, an *attaché* to the Japanese Legation, was elected a member.

All members wishing to take part in the competition at Windsor are requested to communicate with Mr. T. Gilbert, of 38, Carter-street, Walworth, S.E.

Votes of thanks to the chairman, hon. curator, and secretary terminated the meeting.

THE NORFOLK BROADS DISPUTE.

MEETING AT SHEPHERD'S BUSH.

A PUBLIC MEETING, called for the purpose of discussing the steps now being taken to defend the public right to sail and fish on the rivers and broads of Norfolk, was held at the Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, on Wednesday night, under the joint auspices of the local angling association, and the Norfolk Broads Protection Society. The chair was taken by Major-General Goldsworthy, M.P., and amongst those present were Mr. H. C. Richards, Mr. T. J. Woodrow (hon. sec. of the Norfolk Broads Protection Society), Mr. C. S. Houlder, C.C., Mr. Fountaine (president of the Shepherd's Bush Angling Association), Mr. Parkhurst (Lady of the Lake), Mr. Crumplen (Piscatorial), Dr. Spurgeon, Mr. Crump, Q.C., Mr. Harding, Mr. A. Matthews (New Albion Piscatorials), Mr. Simms (Gresham), and others. The meeting was well attended, but but the general absence of the London club anglers was much commented upon. A letter was read from Mr. Deputy Bedford, to the effect that he supposed that the society would ask the Corporation for help when the proper time came, upon which occasion "they could count on his eager and hearty support." The communication was received with loud cheers.

Major-General Goldsworthy, M.P., in opening the proceedings, spoke briefly, and said he had taken the chair with a view of hearing an expression of opinion from those interested in the question, and with a view of seeing if the thing could not be amicably settled, so that there might be no disputes between the public and the land-owners, and *vice versa*. Landlords had their rights, and so had the public, and he favoured a friendly action, in order that the dispute might be settled without the disturbances and jangles which sometimes occurred in such matters. He had taken the chair with an open mind, and should be quite impartial. (Hear, hear.) At the same time he thought that where a large number of people had found so much enjoyment in the Norfolk Broads, it would be a pity if they were deprived of their amusement, if they could participate in it with due regard to the rights of others. (Cheers.)

Mr. T. J. Woodrow, C.C., said that the sea had once been where the waters of the broads were. Therefore they considered the broads part of the Kings Highway, and they claimed the right of the public to go over them as they ever had done. (Cheers.) With respect to Hickling Broad, Mr. Micklethwaite claimed the right to it on the ground that it was granted to his father some ninety years ago. Undoubtedly an Act of Parliament had been passed, giving a right of land to the people, in order that they might re-claim it. But the Act of Parliament never gave the power to apportion the water; and they said that the award was contrary to the Act, and was therefore *ultra vires*. With regard to the right of shooting, he thought it was a very questionable right, for he was of opinion that it was just as dangerous to shoot indiscriminately on one of those broads as it was to use firearms in St. Paul's Churchyard. (Hear, hear.) In the case of fishing, it was a very harmless and innocent pastime, and they looked to the public to maintain the right to sail and angle on the broads. (Cheers.)

Mr. Crump, Q.C., moved: "That this meeting deprecates the closing of the Norfolk Broads to the public, and advocates a strenuous opposition to any such course. (Cheers.) He said that as they believed they had well-defined rights within the law, it was as necessary to keep the broads open to the public as it was to maintain the rights of the public to walk on Hampstead Heath or Wimbledon Common. (Cheers.)

Mr. Fountaine seconded the resolution as a sincere angler, but as one who regretted that the "gentle craft" was not better represented on that occasion. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Parkhurst supported the resolution, and advocated the introduction of a Bill into Parliament dealing with the whole question, getting the rights of the Thames, the Lea, the broads, and other rivers purchased from the owners.

Dr. Spurgeon referred to the Bill brought in a few years ago by the Nottingham anglers. They placed it in the hands of Mr. Broadhurst, and it was to the effect that the right of fishing should be held inviolable on the part of the public on all navigable rivers, unless the owners could show a right prior to Magna Charter. The Bill passed its second reading, and it was only through some misapprehension on the part of Mr. Broadhurst that it did not pass through committee and become law. He thought a Bill to that effect would be a dozen times better than fighting a problematical question in face of the recent decisions in cases of alleged public rights.

The resolution was passed.

Mr. H. C. Richards then proposed: "That this meeting approves of the action of the Norfolk Broads Protection Society, and offers it its most cordial support." He said the Broads Rights case was no wild radical scheme, and if they could only get the London angling societies at their back they need not fear the result.

Mr. Houlder, C.C., seconded the resolution, which was also carried, and a vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings.

PROVINCIAL ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of the committee of the P.A.A. was held on Saturday evening last, at the Globe Hotel, Castle-street, Cardiff (the headquarters of the Cardiff Association): Mr. T. Coles presiding. Letters of apology for non-attendance were received from Mr. J. W. Cundall, of Bristol; and R. Gumbley, of Birmingham, who were unable to be present owing to illness; and Messrs. Wingfield and Evans, of Worcester, were absent through pressure of business.

The minutes of the previous committee meeting, held at Bristol, on July 4 last, were read and adopted, when Messrs. Coles and White gave in a report of their interview with the London and North-Western Railway authorities in London, for the purpose of obtaining the privilege for the members of the association to travel at the reduced fare. The report went to show that great efforts had been made to obtain the concession, but from a letter read by the president the concession of the privilege had been refused for a while. After hearing the report, which the committee accepted, the gentlemen who were appointed to form the deputation were instructed to still continue their labours, with a view of ultimately securing the concession from the company.

Mr. Coles, in the absence of Mr. Wingfield, gave in a report of his work on the Severn Fishery Board, and made mention of the notice of motion which was brought forward by him, and backed by his colleague (Mr. Wingfield), and said they would use their best endeavours in trying to get the notice of motion passed, as it would be the means of opening up a new fishing ground for the whole of the Midland anglers, or those who lived within reasonable distance of the Avon, which lay between Tewkesbury and Stratford. This report was considered very satisfactory, and was approved of unanimously, and the representatives of the association on the Severn Board were asked to still continue their labours in the direction they had taken. At this point of the proceedings the secretary read certain letters received by him, and also the replies sent out, when it was moved that the action taken by the secretary, as mentioned in the replies, be approved of. Mr. Harris, of Cardiff, laid a notice before the committee, to the effect that the railway companies should be approached with a view of the privilege ticket being made available for six days instead of three.

The Secretary gave in a report of the late Tewkesbury contest, and mentioned the success that attended the same, and the great satisfaction expressed by the contestants, who all earnestly hoped that it would be made an annual affair. The question respecting the date of the annual meeting was left in the hands of the secretary and president. The meeting will, in all probability, take place about the middle of November next.

This concluded the chief business down on the agenda.

Mr. Coles proposed from the chair: "That a vote of thanks be given to the Cardiff Association for the kind and hospitable manner they had entertained the visitors." This was seconded by Mr. Luker, and was carried with acclamation. Mr. Harris, of the Cardiff Association, suitably replied.

The remainder of the evening was spent in conversation by the members of the committee and the members of the Cardiff Association, who expressed the great pleasure it gave them in making the acquaintance of the members of the Provincial Angling Committee.

LOCH LEVEN ANGLING ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

THE annual general meeting of the shareholders of this association was held in Kirkland's Hotel, Kinross, on the afternoon of Monday last, Mr. Henderson, of Turfhills, in the chair. The balance-sheet, which was submitted and adopted, showed the drawings for boat hires to be £2,059 7s. 6d., as against £1,781 7s. the previous year. After paying the rent of the fishings and other expenses, there remained a clear balance of £84 6s. 7d., and after adding balance of £131 18s. 7d., carried from last account, and £23 8s. of interest on paid-up capital, there remained a disposable balance of £239. On the recommendation of the directors a dividend at the rate of ten per cent. was declared, which left a balance of £121 9s. 2d. to be carried forward to next account. Last year the dividend was five per cent.

The report by the directors showed the season to have been a fair average one, and a great improvement on last year. The total number of trout captured with the rod was stated at 16,058, weighing 12,830lb.; and the number netted 268, weighing 343lb. Six hundred and six pike were netted, weighing 2,081lb., or an average weight of over 3lb. During the year four new boats were built, and a handsome four-oared gig presented to the association by Mr. Aitken, Edinburgh, one of the directors.

After the election of four directors, in room of those who fell to retire by rotation, Mr. Bogie, secretary, submitted a letter from Mr. Smith, of Duloch, enclosing a memorandum —which was laid before the meeting—suggesting that a notice be sent to all the angling clubs requesting them to return all trout under a certain size. After some discussion Mr. R. Burns Begg suggested that it should be minuted as a recommendation that all angling clubs competing on the loch should return all trout under 8in., and that a copy of this resolution be sent by the manager to all the angling clubs, and also to make the resolution known to private parties, which was unanimously agreed to.

A letter from Mr. Masson, Edinburgh, was read, complaining of the distribution of shares, which he stated were largely held by persons who were not interested in angling. He also suggested that the representatives of deceased shareholders should be asked to dispose of their shares. Mr. Begg said he had had the opportunity of meeting with Mr. Masson in Edinburgh, and he had spoken to him on the subject. He (Mr. Begg) quite agreed with him in thinking that it was a question of very great importance. When the association was first started it was done with the intention of spreading the shares as far as possible amongst anglers, and they then resolved that no shareholder was to hold more than one share. They adhered to this resolution until they found there was a balance of shares not taken up, and a few of the directors agreed to take these. He considered the resolution was one which would tend very materially to increase the prosperity of the association. The more shareholders they had representative of angling the better. It would be a bad day for the association if these shares were finding their way to those who were buying them solely for speculation. There was a great tendency in that direction since the association began to give regular dividends, and he thought there was a great deal in Mr. Masson's suggestion to limit the number of shares held by each person to two. Of course they could not compel those who held more than two shares to part with them, but they could pass a resolution debarring any one in future holding more than two shares. In answer to Mr. Robertson, Mr. Begg said there were a few shares in the market, and the more they had to dispose of the better, but he considered these should be disposed of to persons interested in the loch. If they adopted a resolution to limit the number of shares to each person it would not prove a great hardship to large shareholders, because it would only preclude them selling all their shares in large lots, while the probability would be that they would realise a higher price by selling them singly. After considerable discussion it was agreed to remit Mr. Smith's suggestion to a meeting of the directors, with instructions to bring up same at next annual meeting.

Mr. Robertson asked permission, on behalf of the Glasgow District Angling Clubs Association, to get the use of all the boats for their annual competition on the 31st of August next year, instead of being restricted to fifteen, as formerly; and he also suggested that the loch should be set apart, during the last week of the season, exclusively to angling clubs, which would give them an opportunity of engaging all the boats, if desired, without causing any inconvenience to private anglers. Mr. Bogie said if the association was to adopt Mr. Robertson's suggestion to set apart the last week of the season exclusively to angling clubs it would not be fair to the shareholders. After due deliberation the meeting did not consider Mr. Robertson's suggestions practicable.

This concluded all the business of importance.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association.—The delegates of the association met at Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell, on Monday, the 19th inst., at 8.30 p.m., when Mr. W. H. Beckett, the vice-president, occupied the chair. The minutes of the last delegate meeting, held on September 23 last, having been read, and confirmed, the minutes of the Renting and Preservation Committee were next read, and then those of the last General Committee. The recommendation of the Renting and Preservation Committee, that six inches should be the standard size for Crucian or Prussian carp, was unanimously adopted. The letter from the Great Western Railway granting concessions from Paddington and Westbourne Park to Staines and Colnbrook, was read, the reduced fares being from Paddington or Westbourne Park to Staines, 2s.; and to Colnbrook from Paddington, 1s. 9d., or 1s. 7d. from Westbourne Park. The question of obtaining cheap fares for sea-fishing was brought before the meeting by Mr. J. B. Close. After a short debate he was commissioned to obtain all the reliable information he could regarding this important subject, and to lay the same before the General Committee at its next meeting with any suggestions he might be able to make in regard thereto. The Perseverance Angling Society having applied for enrolment, it was decided that upon its presenting a copy of its rules, amended to meet the requirements of the association, that it should then be enrolled. The visiting officers next gave their reports, as follows: Mr. Manning had visited the Odds and Evens on the 7th inst., where two clubs were represented, the meeting being highly satisfactory. Mr. Thorling had visited the Funny Folks Angling Society, where seventeen clubs sent delegates; but hoped they would arrive somewhat earlier than they had of late. He had also paid a visit to the Islington Brothers, where members from nineteen clubs put in an appearance, a very agreeable evening being spent, listening to a good concert. Mr. Jennings reported he had not been able to make any visits for some time past. Mr. Armstrong had attended the St. Albans and Excelsior United Angling Club. The association were next asked to decide whether the fish variously known as roach bream, and bream roach should be weighed in under the head of roach or bream, there being a difference of 3in. in the standard measurements between these fish. After some discussion the matter was ordered to stand over in order that more reliable information might be obtained, as there appeared a great diversity of opinion amongst anglers, some supposing this fish to be a hybrid between the roach and bream, whilst others thought it to be a variety of the roach, and others that of the bream. On the suggestion of Mr. A. W. Parker, a preserved specimen was promised to be sent to the forthcoming Gresham Exhibition, where several naturalists were expected to be present, and as this society also possessed a valuable reference library, the authorities could be looked up and a report made to the delegates at its next meeting. The subscriptions of the Cmm Fund, amounting to £23 14s. 9d., which have been contributed by London and provincial angling societies, is now to be handed over to the trustees of this fund, and the subscription list closed. The secretary of the Royal Oak Angling Society desires to announce that it has removed to the Coborn Arms, Coborn-road, Bow, E. The delegate from the Allason United called attention to an important meeting to take place at his club, on the 29th inst., and trusted to be well supported by other club members on this occasion. Mr. Wheeldon has promised to read a paper at the Serapis Angling Society, meeting at the Neville Arms, Neville-road, Stoke Newington, on Wednesday the 11th November, to commence at 9 p.m., after which a concert will be given, at which several good artistes have promised to attend. The roll was called at 10.10 p.m., when the following sixty-one clubs responded: Allason United, Brompton, Bloomsbury Bros., Anglers' Pride, Bostonians, Bermondsey Bros., Brunswick Bros., Buxton Bros., Burton Piscatorials, Brompton, Clissold, Campbell, United Camden, Cambridge Friendly, City of London, Convivial, Cobden, Crown and Buckland, Duke of Norfolk, Dalston, Eastern Piscatorials, Golden Barbel, Good Intent, Globe, Gresham, Greenwich, Hoxton Brothers, Highbury, Islington Bros., Jubilee, Izaak Walton, Holloway, Hearts of Oak, Original Alexandra, Prince of Wales, Peckham Bros., Prince Arthur, Rodney, Odds and Evens, St. George's, Rising Sun, Serapis, Perseverance, Mildmay, St. Andrew's, Rifle, Royal Oak, South Hornsey, St. John's, South London, South Belgravia, Sundial, West Ham Bros., Wellington, Waggoners, Marylebone, North Lambeth, Midland, North Western, Lady of the Lake.—HON. REPORTER.

Anglers' Association. — VISITING LIST, EASTERN DISTRICT NO. 2.—The next return visit on the above list will place at the North London Angling Society, on Monday, November 9. Secretaries please note the date to prevent clashing with any other visit.—F. THORLING.

Anglers' Association.—SOUTHERN DISTRICT VISITING LIST.—The next visit on the above list will take place on Tuesday next, the 27th inst., at the Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Head, Queen's-road, Battersea. As this society postponed their visit from the 20th to the 27th, on account of the Bermondsey Brothers having their visit on the S L.U.V.L., I hope all clubs on both lists will rally round and give them a bumper.—G. W. ARMSTRONG, district officer.

Anglers' Association. — WESTERN DISTRICT. — The first visit on recommencing the list will be paid to the Allason United, at the Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting Hill-gate, on Thursday next, October 29. I hope all clubs which can receive a visit will attend as many clubs as possible, to assure a successful visit for themselves. J. JENNINGS.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting Hill-gate, W. — Mr. F. Roberts was out on the 18th inst., and caught 2lb. 3oz. of bream from West Drayton, and other members were at different waters and had fish. Mr. Morgan hooked a large roach at Langley, but after a struggle lost the fish, and Mr. E. Merritt lost a jack. Hoping my unfortunate brethren will be more fortunate in the next event. Mr. F. Roberts won Mr. Thomas Line's landing-net with the bream. I must remind the above members that the four following prizes are to be fished for on Oct. 25: first prize, five shillings; second, six electro spoons; third, a book entitled "The Compleat Angler"; fourth, a picture given by our esteemed member, Mr. Davis. The first visit on the Western List of the Anglers' Association takes place at the above club on Thursday, Oct. 29, when we hope to see many old faces. We will make one and all welcome. Nearest station, Notting Hill-gate, three minutes' walk to our club-house.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—On the 18th inst., Messrs. Moir and Foster weighed in roach and bream. On Monday last our return visit took place on the Central Association, which turned out a great success, there being thirty clubs represented. Mr. T. Crumplen was present, and read a very nice paper, entitled "An Angler's Visit in the Olden Times." Mr. Medcalf occupied the chair. The next visit will go to the Amicable Waltonians. Our next match (which was to take place at Witham on Nov. 1), will be postponed on account of the unfavourable reports of the different rivers.—W. H. POTTER, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our sixth outing this season came off on the 18th inst. at Windsor, when the three prizes were all taken as follows: Mr. Roberts, first, with 1¾lb. of roach; Mr. Bond, second, with 1lb. 10oz. of roach; Mr. King, third, with roach and gudgeon; and the following weighed in: Mr. G. Rich, one roach, weighing 10oz.; Mr. J. Bell, roach and dace; Mr. Bray, roach; Mr. Blyth, roach.—J. RICH, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 18th instant, our members were out in good force (to the number of twenty-five), to fish for prizes, at Chelmsford; but only two were successful, Mr. Wright being first, with roach; and Mr. A. Merry, second, with roach. The remaining prizes stand over for another outing. — E. R. EMBLETON, secretary.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—Nothing much to report this week but a lot of wet. Mr. D. Davis had a show of roach and dace, 4lb. 13½oz. on the 18th.—A. G. SMITH, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The return visit of the Anglers' Association Visiting List will be to this club on Tuesday next, October 27th, when all anglers and friends will receive a hearty welcome. A poor show of fish this week, Mr. Hopkins weighing in roach. Mr. E. S. Shrubsole will read a paper at this club on November 10th, R. B. Marston, Esq., in the chair.—G. MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—Our trays were well filled with some nice roach and dace on the 18th by the following members: H. Patman, J. Warman, P. Allum and James Smith, total weight 45lb. A visit of the clubs on the South London United Visiting List was paid to this society on the 20th, and I am pleased to say was one of the best on record. The offices of chairman and vice were most ably filled by Messrs. J. Fiddes and H. Patman respectively, and I think everyone present was thoroughly satisfied with the evening's entertainment. On the roll being called at eleven o'clock twenty-six clubs responded: seventeen on the S.L.U.V.L., and nine from the other side of the water. For names of clubs see South London Visiting List report. The B. B. return their sincere thanks to those societies that were present, and will not forget to return the compliment on the occasion of any future visit.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—On the 18th inst. we fished a match at Egham, rather light baskets being the rule. The following members weighed in: Mr. White, first prize and 5s. for largest roach, with barbel and roach; Mr. Stillman, roach, second prize; and Mr. F. Barker, third prize, with roach; Messrs. Hacker, Wheelhouse, and J. Barker also weighed in. We have elected another new member to this society.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the 18th we had a blank, though several of the members were out. The 21st being limit night we had a good muster. The auditors for the quarter are Mr. T. Brown and Mr. G. Gill. I hope all members will attend on Wednesday next, to arrange the quarterly match.—D. WARREN.

Bostonian Angling Society.—It is with regret that I have to announce the death of our late member, Mr, J. Daish, at Shanklin, Isle of Wight. The sad news has come as a blow to the members, by whom he was greatly liked. Messrs. Jennings and Lawson have had some nice takes of roach; Mr. Chapman, jack. Members who intend participating in friendly supper will oblige by letting me know not later than Wednesday next.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On the 18th inst. Mr. Robson had a nice take of roach; also Mr. Cowper and myself had over 10lb. each: and Mr. Avis had a nice jack. On Wednesday evening I saved a blank with a few roach. The competition arranged to take place at Bourne End, on the 25th inst., has been postponed until the 8th of November. Members will please note that next Wednesday is quarterly night. -H. ROACH.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—We have had a very poor show of fish during the past week: Mr. J. Watkins, roach and dace; and Mr. T. Hawkes, perch and roach. We intend getting up a smoking concert for the benefit of an old member (Mr. R. Buffham). He has been suffering on and off for many months past with bronchitis, and is now ordered to give up work for some time to come by the doctor. I feel sure that all those who know "Old Buff"—as we call him—will rally round and give him a bumper. It is intended for this to be a real benefit. There will be no expenses to be paid out of the takings; the printing and postage expenses have been kindly borne by our worthy host and treasurer (Mr. Young). The concert will take place at the club-house on Tuesday, Nov. 10; so, friends, please keep that date open for this event.—T. HAWKES, secretary.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—We had a nice show of roach in the club-room on the 18th instant: Mr. D. Flint, 5lb. 2¼oz.; Mr. J. Pether, 4lb. 12oz.; Mr. Green, 1lb. 13oz.—J. PETHER.

Burton Piscatorials, Globe, Derby-street, King's-cross.—Although the heavy floods have rendered successful angling hopeless for a few days, anglers must congratulate themselves on its good results. On the 18th inst. Messrs. Jones, Hill, Sturman, and Richards weighed in roach and dace. Our next sweepstake takes place at Cookham on Nov. 29; two rods allowed, and bank fishing only, when a good muster is anticipated.—C. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Caledonian Angling Society.—The members of this society fished for three prizes on the 15th inst., at Bourne End, a fair number of members (accompanied by a few friends) taking part therein. The first prize was won by Mr. W. Rooke; the second by Mr. Knock; and the third by Mr. A. George. Since then Mr. A. George has weighed in 6lb. 10oz. roach and dace and one grayling; among the roach was a fine specimen of 1lb. 7oz. Mr. A. Knock also weighed in nine roach weighing 9lb., the two heaviest fish weighing 1lb. 12¾oz. and 1lb. 10½oz. respectively.—A. GEORGE, secretary.

Cambridge Friendly Angling Society, Mason's Arms, Titchborne-street, Edgware-road, W.—In consequence of the flooded state of the river the outing to Pangbourne is further postponed until November 1. Members wishing to compete must give in their names on Wednesday, the 28th.—W. SUTTON, sec.

Campbell United Angling Society, Sir Colin Campbell, High-road, Kilburn.—Several members fished Langley Canal on the 18th inst., for prizes, but I regret to report a blank, the first we have had this season. The prizes will be fished for again on the 25th. Go where you please; all fish to weigh.—E. W. WOOD, hon. sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—Another member was introduced on Monday last, and there are more to follow next week. Mr. Alfred Sowerbutts read an interesting and humorous account of "Fishing with Elephants," as described by Mr. G. P. Sanderson in his "Thirteen Years amongst the Wild Beasts of India." Mr. Sanderson's—as an angler—conscience evidently pricked him, for he says: "I believe—at least hope—that, had the shades of Old Izaak watched us, he would have forgiven us under the circumstances." During the past week Messrs. Harry Dunn, Charles Dalton, C. Spanswick, H. Elleston, &c., have had good sport up the Thames, while Messrs. Fred Schmidt and A. Thorn, fishing off Ramsgate, caught more than sufficient codling, &c., to satisfy all their friends. Mr. E. S. Shrubsole has kindly consented to preside at the meeting of this society on Monday next, under the auspices of the Society for Promoting Readings of Papers at Angling Clubs. Mr. G. E. Simms, of the Gresham Angling Society, will read his paper on "Coarse Fish Hatching." Brothers of the rod are assured that a hearty reception awaits all who may favour the Causton with a visit on that occasion.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—Since my last report the following members have weighed in: 9th inst., Mr. Wilson, 18lb. roach: 11th inst., Mr. T. Jameson, bream, 2lb.; Chapman, bream, 2lb. 11oz.; Painter, roach; J. W. Jameson, jack. 15th inst., Mr. Wilson, bream, 9lb. 12½oz., largest fish, 3lb. 4oz. For the 18th inst. I have to record a blank, the first this season.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clerkenwell and District United.—The next return visit on the above will be to the Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-street, where a pleasant evening can be spent by any angler or friend who will favour them with their company.—F. CASTELL, hon. secretary.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We fish a match for private prizes on Nov. 1, from Bourne End Railway Bridge to Marlow Point. Members to proceed by first or second train same morning; names to be registered at Westbourne Park Station or side of water. Fish to be registered at railway hotel at Bourne End not later than seven p.m., and return by the 7.42 p.m. A roving match, two rods; all fish to weigh; no live bait to be taken or bought; members must make themselves eligible to fish.—A. SMITH, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 18th inst. in spite of the flood water, Messrs. Freeman, Parram, W. Midson and Killick, had a fair show of roach, dace, perch, and bream. On November 1 a boundary match will be fished in the Lea for a series of prizes. Full particulars to be obtained at the club-house.—S. MALBY, sec.

East London Piscatorial Society, London Hospital Tavern, Whitechapel-road, E.—We fished a competition on Oct. 1, from Rye House to Ware, three prizes, 1st, £1 1s.; 2nd, 10s. 6d.; 3rd, 10s. 6d.; three highest gross weights; two rods, and was taken in the order named: Mr. Foggie, perch; Mr. Ewer, dace; Mr. Worrall, gudgeon. Messrs. Napper and Chapman were elected members. Our president, Mr. Myers, and Mr. Worrall, have been elected hon. bailiffs of the river Lea. The members fished at Earley, Berks, punt fishing, river Loddon, on Oct. 15, for three prizes: 1st, box of hundred cigars, which was taken by Mr. Ewer; also a box of hundred cigars for the finest specimen fish taken during the competition, which was also taken by Mr. Ewer; the other prizes were not taken. Mr. Morgan weighed a roach, 7½oz., from Wimbledon Park, also a small jack.—FRANK WOODS, sec.

Eustonian Angling Society, King's Head, Swinton-street, King's Cross.—On the 18th inst. we had a very poor show, Mr. B. Pitt saving the club a blank. On Wednesday last it was decided that we have an outing the 1st of November.—R. NEALL, sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On the 18th inst., the following weighed in a fair show of fish: Messrs. Biggs, roach; F. Vanhegan, roach; and Shevill, roach and rudd. The next return visit on the Clerkenwell and District will take place at the above on Monday, Oct. 26, when we shall be glad to see any that can attend. The following are the winning numbers in the draw: 512, 98, 1027, 1306, 148, 1521, 537, 38, 78, 214, 901, 642, 1180, 597, 854, 395, 868, 170 494, 1061, 530, 249, 189, 1147. The prizes will be given over on Monday, Nov. 2, when a concert will also take place.—J. W. BIGGS, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had a few roach and dace, taken by Mr. Caborn on the 18th inst., and a nice jack, taken by Mr. Higley, weight 4lb. 10½oz. In Mr. Shrubsole's notice in the *Gazette*, on Saturday last, a slight error occurred—for Mr. D. Thomas's "roach," 1lb. 3oz., read "rudd," as we do not mount roach under 1lb. 4oz.—A. PAYNE, sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road.—Our sweepstake, at Langley, on the 18th, was very poor: Messrs. Chambers, Dodd, and Roach, all with a few roach each. The next sweepstake will be at Goring on Nov. 1.—J. ROACH, sec.

Good Intent Angling Society, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch.—There was a good show of fish at the club on the 18th inst. brought in by Messrs. Maybury, Taylor, Murphy, Mardell, and several others. The members will fish for prizes on the 25th inst., at Cheshunt; all start by the 9.8 train, Liverpool-street Station. On November 1, we shall fish for Christmas prizes at the Rye House, when I hope to have a large muster to compete; it is open to all members clear on the books, both honorary and working members; roam of water, Rye House boundary, both sides of the river.—R. MURPHY, secretary.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—Some members of the above club were out on the 18th, when Mr. J. Grand weighed roach, perch and dace; W. Creeke, roach. I wish to remind members that the match takes place at Taplow on the 25th, when I hope to have a good muster; all meet at Stratford Station at 7.30.—G. F. WEAVER, sec.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Robin Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville. — Taking into consideration the bad condition of the rivers on the 18th inst., our show of fish was very fair, especially from the Thames. The following members weighed in some good samples of roach from the above river: Messrs. F. Watling, 13lb. 8oz.; W. Barnes, 7lb. 7oz.; J. A. Fitch, 5lb.; H. Proehl, 5lb., including a nice barbel 3lb. 13½oz.; J. Hewitt, 2lb. 3oz.; C. Large, 1lb. 10oz.; C. Watling, 1lb. 7oz.; H. Watling, 1lb. From other waters, W. Parkin, roach, 9lb. Total 46lb. 3oz.—J. A. FITCH, sec.

Great Yarmouth Piscatorials.—We fish a pike and perch match, at Potter Heigham, on the 29th inst., and a salt-water match, at Breydon, on Nov. 5. Good sport have been had with codlings recently in the sea and river. Fishing on Heigham Sounds last week, two days, Messrs. J. H. Fortescue, L. P. Garrett, and W. Kirby, landed eight jack; the largest taken by Mr. Garrett turned the scale at 23lb., and measured the extreme length of 39in.; Mr. Fortescue landed a perch, weighing 2lb. 9oz.—WM. KIRBY, hon. sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—On the 18th inst. our members fished for special prizes at Broxbourne, three only being won—first, Mr. G. H. Wood, perch; second, Mr. T. Haycox; third, F. Gardner, perch. Our Christmas prizes will be fished for on Nov. 8 and following weeks until all are won, with the exception of Nov. 15, the day of the Rye House Competition in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. We voted a prize, value one guinea, towards the competition.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—On the 18th several of our members were out, the following weighing in: Messrs. Wilson and Pope, with roach and gudgeon. At our last meeting, Mr. Gray was proposed as a working member. We are open to enrol a few more of this class.—SNAP.

Islington Angling Society, Jubilee House, Hornsey Rise, N.—The usual fortnightly meeting was held on Tuesday, with Mr. C. S. Bentley in the chair. Some ordinary business was transacted. The next meeting will be on Monday, the 2nd November, at eight p.m.—C. DOWNING, secretary.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—It is arranged to have a roving match up the Thames in November, date not fixed. Several prizes have been added to the list. The following weighed in on the 18th inst.: Mr. Holder, roach, 6lb. 0¾oz.; Mr. Leach, roach, 3lb. 6¾oz.; others were out, but returned with a blank. We have room for a few more members.—J. H. HERBERT, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—As announced last week, the members will compete for three special prizes on the 25th inst. Competitors may choose their own fishing waters for these prizes. Mr. G. Washington weighed in jack and perch on the 18th inst. Messrs. T. Harris and J. Pool weighed in perch on the same day.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—On the 18th we fished a roving match at Cookham for four prizes, the result being as follows: 1st, Mr. Sadgrove, with roach; 2nd, Mr. E. Challen, roach and gudgeon, best roach, 1lb. 3½oz.; 3rd, Mr. Onree, roach; 4th, Mr. Child, with roach. Messrs. Fielding, Dunham, Manning, Wheeler and Warner also had fish.—A. IDE, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Goldhawk-road, Shepherd's Bush.—At the weekly meeting, on Friday evening last, the treasurer reported having placed a further £5 in the Post Office Savings Bank. Members will receive, in a few days, the half-yearly balance-sheet and a revised list of prizes. Members are again reminded of the five special prizes of 10s. 6d. given for the largest roach, dace, barbel, chub, and pike, weighed in during October. It is hoped that Father Thames will reduce himself in size and colour, so that the various "bobby dazzlers" of the club can bring them up to the club house. Members will be pleased to know that "Nelson" has at last bought a frigate, and intends dodging the bushes for chub.—T. SALTER, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 18th inst. several members were out, the following getting some good fish: Mr. Johnson, roach and dace; Mr. Watling, roach; Mr. Webster, dace; Mr. Belton, dace. On Wednesday, the 21st inst., Mr. J. White and Mr. Palmer were proposed working members of the above, and will be balloted for in the usual way at our next meeting.—W. WATLING, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association, Bee Hotel, 5, Queen's-square, and 18, St. John's-lane.—Only a few members turned up for the day's fishing on the 15th, and these experienced shocking weather, the rain being incessant, with a cold wind. A few fine bream were taken, but really nothing to what there ought to have been got out of the particular water they were fishing. Messrs. Baker and Wood won prizes. It was resolved to have a day's fishing in the Vyrnwy on the 29th, going over night. This will probably be the final outing this season, and therefore members will do well to avail themselves of this excursion. Grayling should now be nearly at their best, and chub, perch, roach, and dace must be in prime condition. There will be four very good prizes, besides the two challenge clocks to be won, and specimen fish are often obtained in those classes at this time of the year. This will be a roving affair, and members may fish either up or down the river, but of course not in the prohibited water.—R. WOOLFALL.

Marylebone Angling Society. Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 18th inst., our members were at various waters, Messrs. Penfold, Milburn, and Barnard, weighing in roach from the Thames, one of Mr. Penfold's roach, weighing 1lb. 8½oz. I wish to remind members that the special meeting is adjourned till Wednesday, 28th October.—W. F. PEARCE.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road.—We had another new member elected on Tuesday, our usual meeting. Several of our members were out on the 18th, Mr. J. Osborne being the most successful, with a fine show of roach and dace; several more prizes have been added to the list.—J. COMBER, sec.

Mitre Brothers Angling Society, Mitre Tavern, Kingsgate-street, Holborn.—Members of the above society were out fishing for prizes on October 11, when Mr. W. Talbot weighed in dace, from Ware; Mr. Crocker, from Richmond; Mr. Wells and Mr. Irish, from Walton, on the 17th instant. Mr. Timmis weighed in jack, from Cheshunt, on the 18th instant. Mr. Ryan weighed in a nice show of roach and dace, from Richmond, on the 18th instant. Members must not forget that there are other prizes to be fished for on the 25th instant.—J. JOLLIFFE, sec.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—Owing to the floods our competition of October 29 has been postponed, and the *locale* of the outing left to the committee to decide on Thursday next. A letter was read from the Causton Angling Society *re* Mr. Simm's paper, and Mr. Arthur Matthews was elected to represent us at the same.—A. E. BALDWIN, sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 108, Westminster Bridge-road.—Several of our members were out on the 18th inst., but no fish were taken up to our standard. Members are reminded that several prizes will close at the end of this month; also that quarterly night is the 25th inst. The balance-sheet will be read on the 1st November, when all members are requested to be present.—F. WALLIS, sec.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway-road.—Since my last the takes have been but small, only a few members weighing in. We have elected Mr. Mayer as a member, and have another proposed for membership. Our match in the Thames turned out a failure, only one prize being taken (by Mr. Bennell), Mr. Hoyle weighing in dace, Mr. Taylor, gudgeon. The next visit on the Anglers' Association, No. 2, takes place at the above society on Monday, Nov. 9. It being our first visit on this list, I hope that the other clubs on the list will rally round us and give us a bumper.—H. STRETCH, hon. sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland-park, N.W.—Owing to the recent floods our members have had poor sport, but I am pleased to say that Mr. Lambert had a splendid jack from the Lea on the 18th inst.—G. S.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—On the 18th inst., we had a fair show of roach, brought in by the following members: Messrs. Forster, Bygrave, sen., Bygrave, jun., Harrison, and Smith. At our last meeting night we made two new members, and we shall be glad, as we have room to have a few more eligible members.—J. CUTHBERT, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Arthur, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Only two of our members were out on the 18th inst., but did not have fish, this being the first blank this season. Our anniversary supper will take place at the above on November 9, when we hope to see a good muster of members and friends.—E. A. FAUTLEY, sec.

Prince Albert Angling Society, Prince Albert, Lincoln-street, Bow-road.—Our members were out on the 11th inst.; the result was, Mr. Fitt weighed in a nice show of roach. On the 15th, Mr. Gandy showed a splendid jack, scaling 8lb. On the 18th our members were out, to fish for a silver cup, Mr. Pignatelli taking the prize with a jack. We have two prizes to be decided next meeting night, when we hope to have a good muster. We are open for a few more members.—F. P., hon. sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—A good muster of our members were out on the 18th inst., fishing in the match at Langley, but only one member got fish worth speaking of, but refused to weigh in, so that we can have another outing to try and take all the prizes. Members will notice that the match will take place on the 25th inst., in the same place, under the same conditions except the one referring to live-bait, which will be allowed to be taken, and I trust that we shall have a good muster.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—The following weighed in on the 18th inst.: Mr. Davis, tench, 3lb. 6¾oz.; Robbins, roach, 11lb. 5oz.; Hayden, roach, 5lb. 7oz.; Ivermee, 3lb. 14oz.; Gibson, roach and dace.—WILLIAM BOWYER, sec.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—Owing to the small attendance of members, the necessary arrangements could not be made for the forthcoming outing. It is particularly requested that members will endeavour to be present on Monday next for the despatch of business. On the 18th, Mr. Comley had a nice show of fish of 6lb.—J. SKINNER, sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The following members weighed in some very nice shows on 18th inst.: Messrs. J. Wigley, roach; F. Lamberton, roach; F. T. Lamberton. The monthly outing takes place on the 25th inst. at Pangbourne. Members note that there is a prize for the largest roach on same day; to go where they like.—F. T. LAMBERTON.

Royal George Angling Society, Queen's Arms, Bateman-street, Soho-square, W.—On the 18th inst. several of our members weighed in from the Thames; but Messrs. Chart, Longland, and Harris had the best takes of fish. I beg to remind members of Mr. Wood's prize of ten shillings and sixpence, for the 25th inst. (bank only), and likewise the remaining prizes on our list which have to be won. On the 21st inst., we elected five fishing and one honorary members, and still have room for a few more respectable gentlemen. We fish another outing at Marlow, on the 8th November. Full particulars will be duly announced.—F. C. LONGLAND.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Coborn Arms, Coborn-road, Bow, E.—Several of our members were out on the 18th inst., but the only gentlemen who had any sport were Mr. F. Barrow, with 13lb. 13oz. roach and bream; Mr. A. Barclay, 13lb. 5oz. roach; Mr. G. Barclay, dace. Secretaries will kindly take notice of our change of address from the Royal Oak, Roman-road, to the Coborn Arms, Coborn-road, Bow. Near to Coborn-road Railway Station (G.E.R.).—A. BARCLAY, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—We had a full meeting on Wednesday, and a great deal of business was gone through. We have ten prizes to fish for, given by Messrs. Wood, G. H. Howard, F. Birch, J. Wright, George George, A. Whitson, T. Ovens, and club prizes. They are to be fished for on the 1st of November. Place to be decided on Wednesday next; roving. I hope that all members will be present, so they can vote for the water they would like to fish in. No fish were weighed in on the 18th inst., although I heard that a member caught a specimen roach of 1lb. 12oz., which would have entitled him to the half-yearly prize given by Mr. George.—J. WRIGHT, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—Sport has been very quiet lately with the members of this society. The following members had fish on October 11: Messrs. E. Wright, roach and dace; J. Petrie, roach, 5lb. 11½oz. On the 18th the following also had fish: Messrs. E. Wright, roach and dace; W. North, roach; H. Rigsby, roach; J. Petrie, roach, 8lb. 11¼oz. Members in arrears are requested to attend on Tuesday next without fail.—S. E. CANE, sec.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.—On the 18th inst. we had a good show of roach and dace by the following members: Mr. Kelly, about 7lb., largest roach 1lb. 0¾oz.; Mr. Smales, 6½lb., largest 1lb. 3½oz.; Mr. Jacobs, about 4lb., one dace going 9oz.; Mr. Massoy, 3¼lb., one dace 6¾oz.; Messrs. Clark and Williams also had roach. Our next outing will take place at Moulsford, on November 1, members to go down the previous afternoon, but may join on same morning. To enable the members to have a long day the fish will be weighed down there, and on this occasion jack will be weighable; entrance fee 2s. 6d.—PELICAN.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—A most successful visit on the above list was paid to the Bermondsey Brothers on the 20th, when a most pleasant evening was spent by all present. On the roll being called at eleven o'clock by the president of the list, Mr. G. H. Field, the following twenty-six clubs responded: Second Surrey, Rodney, South London, Anchor and Hope, Peckham Bros., Angler's Pride, Battersea Friendly, Grange, St. Albans and Excelsior, Blackfriars, St. George's, Clapham Junction, North Lambeth, St. Thomas's, Amicable Excelsior, Cliftonvillo, Crown and Buckland, North London, Islington Bros., Wenlock, Funny Folks, Amicable Waltonians, Odds and Evens, City of London, Amicable Bros., and Bermondsey Bros. The next visit will be to the Second Surrey, held at the Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth, on Tuesday, Nov. 3, when I hope to see as good a muster of clubs represented. The delegates from the societies on above list are requested to attend committee meeting at the Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey, on Friday, the 30th, at nine o'clock, to settle some important matters of business in connection with the list, and also to arrange for the next friendly competition amongst the societies.—A. CONN, hon. sec.

United Brothers, Deptford.—The members of the above were to have fished a match in the Medway on the 18th inst., but owing to the Medway being flooded, it has been postponed until a future date, which will be settled this evening (Saturday), when I hope all members will show up in good force. Several members were out on the 18th inst. but the takes were rather small. Mr. W. Tyler, roach; T. Beak, roach; H. Richards, gudgeon. Several other members were out, but returned with blanks.—H. TYLER, secretary.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear. Best quality only.—EAST LONDON RUBBER Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—Several members were out on the 18th inst.; the following had fish: Messrs. Clegg, Smith, Russ, and A. Fry. We had a fair attendance on the 20th, Mr. Smith in the chair, in the unavoidable absence of our chairman, Mr. Phillips; Mr. A. Fry, vice *pro tem.* After our financial business was disposed of, we received a very interesting report from Mr. Skinner; after which an important discussion arose which could not be settled on that night. Sorry I could not get away to the Bermondsey Bros.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—The result of the competition on Wednesday last was—Mr. Overton, first; Mr. James, second. No other fish weighed in. On Wednesday, Nov. 11, we propose to have our first smoking concert of the season, when ladies are cordially invited. The admission will be by programme, which we shall charge a nominal price for, and the proceeds will be given to the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—C. HIBBLE, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 18th inst., Mr. A. Corras weighed in roach and dace; Mr. W. Gordon, roach and dace. On Wednesday next the place and conditions of November competition have to be settled; there is also a notice of motion regarding the same by Mr. T. Jenkins, so I hope members will show up in force to discuss the same.—R. J. DARTNALL, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—We had a few members out on the 18th inst., but hardly any fish weighed in, owing to the state of the waters: Messrs. Sullivan, roach and perch; Harden, jun., jack and roach. Our next outing will take place on the 1st of November; roving; all members to go where they like; start same morning. Members intending to compete must sign book at club-house on the Saturday night after nine o'clock.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 18th inst., but sport was poor, as only the following weighed in fish: Mr. R. Lowther, 5lb. 1½oz., of roach and bream; Mr. Hobbs, also roach. I hope our members will not forget the match for Mr. Beresford's prize on the 25th inst.; go where you please; and no roach to weigh for the prize less than half-a-pound. Our members passed a hearty vote of thanks to Brother Willis for the present to the club of a photo. (enlarged) of a group of our members.—R. LOWTHER, sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—I beg to remind members that the third club match will take place on the 29th inst. and 1st Nov. Any public water; bank or punt. Members are allowed to start the day before, but not to fish before the morning of match. Members fishing on the Thursday must give notice at the club-house. Weights and prizes the same as in the last match. Mr. Edward White was elected a member at our last meeting.—J. J. HUNTER, hon. sec.

QUEEN'S HOTEL,

QUEEN'S ROAD, BATTERSEA PARK TOWN.

PROPRIETOR—C. SIMMONDS.

Under the auspices of The Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers among Angling Clubs,

MR. E. S. SHRUBSOLE

will read a Paper upon "FISHING BASKETS, BAGS, AND CREELS," at the above Hotel, on

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10.

There will be an exhibition of upwards of one hundred fishing baskets, bags, &c., to illustrate the lecture.

R. B. MARSTON, Esq. (Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*) will take the Chair at eight o'clock.

A GRAND SMOKING CONCERT, organised by Mr. Godfrey C. Cooper, will be held the same evening.

All anglers cordially invited.

ONE hundred and twenty-one fish Mr. Bott's party have landed within a month from a comparatively small section of the Don this season. It is the best record we know of to any one section, bar the Invercauld Water, on the Dee at Ballater, or the Glontana Waters.

LADY ANGLERS have been doing splendid work on the Dee and Don this season. On the Invercauld Arms Water, Miss Borthwick; on the Huntly Lodge and Dess, Mrs. Pickering; on the Woodend, Mrs. Farnell Watson; on the Carlogie, Miss Butchart, &c., have had several successes with heavy fish. On the Don, Miss Blair had a thirty-pounder to her own rod from the Kintore Water.

A CORRESPONDENT writes us from Perthshire that he has had some grand sport with salmon on the river Earn, having already killed over thirty fish, some of which were over 25lb. in weight each, and that he hopes to make a grand total of fifty ere the season is over.

⁂ Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.

Holloway's Pills are securities of health to all nations, of whatever clime. They have given hope, relief, and comfort to millions. In irritation and debility, generated by excesses of any kind, or in general prostration of the system, their effect is rapidly soothing, renovating, and restorative. They rapidly drive from the system the morbid cause of ailment, and renew in the frame its pristine animation, health, and vigour. They greatly increase the appetite, give tone to the stomach, assist the digestion, and impart elasticity to the spirits; the essence enters the circulation and, carried through its course, exerts its cleansing power over every organ. In the lungs they affect most striking changes, converting the impure venous into pure arterial blood, by which the whole frame is recruited.

MAZAWATTEE TEA

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1891.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add 30 min. for Chelsea.
40 „ „ Putney.
45 „ „ Hammersmith.
50 „ „ Barnes.

Add 55 min. for Kew.
75 „ „ Richmond.
80 „ „ Twickenham.
85 „ „ Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Oct. 24	6.13	6.42
Sunday,	„ 25	7.15	7.52
Monday,	„ 26	8.33	9.25
Tuesday,	„ 27	10.10	10.43
Wednesday	„ 28	11.22	11.50
Thursday,	„ 29	—	0.14
Friday,	„ 30	0.33	0.52

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—In reference to the letter of "Liberia" in last week's *Fishing Gazette* on "Thames Fishing Reports," I was somewhat inclined to be amused, as it is generally understood by Thames anglers in a succession of takes of roach and dace the gross quantity represents those fish, and any other fish mentioned are simply supplements to the take. I have never before heard of a similar interpretation as that of "Liberia," and there can scarcely be an angler on the Thames who would decipher after a repetition of takes of roach and dace "in one day five dozen and four jack, the largest 6lb." to mean *all* jack. If it is essential to put "roach and dace" after each take of those fish in the tidal waters, I think it would occupy too much valuable space. I hope, however, with this enlightenment, my friend "Liberia" will be satisfied, and as a rule the takes of roach and dace in the tideway are estimated by weight and not by quantity. It will be no matter of surprise to learn that the angling reports this week are of a very limited character, as owing to the large amount of rain which has fallen, and so much boisterous wind, it has in most places been impossible for the boats to go out. With an overflow of water the fish are frequently carried away into the adjacent meadows and private grounds, and the value of honorary river keepers developes itself on such occasions, as will be seen from the following letter, received from Twickenham this morning (Wednesday), under date of the previous day: "I have been engaged with another honorary river keeper since eleven o'clock this morning, trying to save a great quantity of fish that have been washed over the high asphalte path by Richmond Bridge into Paul's meadow. The family are away from home, but the head gardener gave us permission to open the drains with keys. We had put a boat on the meadow, and employed two or three men to find the plugs. River keeper John Davis was there, and the head river-keeper is coming, and there is little doubt all will be right." The T.A.P.S. is now well fixed with some valuable honorary river keepers in most parts of the river.—B.

TWICKENHAM.—John Spong, in four days, 4lb. of roach and dace and a couple of bream; Pert Hammerton, in two days, 20lb. of roach and dace; and John Coxen, in one day, two dozen of roach and dace.

TEDDINGTON.—Joseph Baldwin, in one day, one and a-half dozen of roach and dace and three bream.

KINGSTON.—One of the bank anglers has taken a fine carp, variously estimated from 11lb. to 14lb., but it was a very large one, and was afterwards seen by Mr. Alfred Nuthall and Mr. M. H. Blamey, and the same angler another day got a fine bream of 6lb.; John Johnson, in three half days, six dozen of roach and dace, six barbel, and five chub; and N. Bolton, during the week, eight dozen of roach and dace, and twelve dozen of fine gudgeon.

HAMPTON COURT.—William Milbourne writes: "The water is high and thick, and no prospect of it going down. With the heavy rains no punt has been out, but the anglers are getting a few roach and dace from the banks."

STAINES.—John Keene, jun., says he has been out four days, but not done so well, owing to the condition of the high water. In two days, with Mr. Codd, who caught eight dozen of roach, the largest 1¼lb.; another day, with Mr. Wilson, three dozen of roach, one chub, one barbel, and a bream of 3lb. 6oz.; and another day, with Mr. Newbury and friend, 15lb. of roach.

Upper Thames.—Anglers intent upon paying the "grand old meanderer" a visit will be well advised to defer their slaughtering intentions until such times when the river can be found, which just at present in many places, between Windsor and Lechlade, it would be difficult to do. For many years I have firmly stuck to it, that the excellent new weirs and the still better, in time, management would prevent any serious floods as of yore, but the incessant rain of the past five or six months has at last mastered the weirs and their careful attendants, and the Thames Valley, before this is in print, will be in high flood. Fishing with any amount of success is out of the question, but roach, chub, and even jack may be sought for and found in quiet, inshore nooks and corners, behind boughs, or in lay-byes, and literally on the grass. Many years ago in Spade Oak Reach, in a very high flood, in a few hours' fishing, with tail of lob as bait, I took a splendid basket of roach—all sogdollagers—in some eighteen inches of water. When the flood subsided, I found I must have been fishing on the grass, three feet from the edge of ten feet of river proper in depth. As I write, it is deluging with rain, and my advice to those who think of fishing in the Thames just now is the same as that of *Punch* to those about to marry, viz., "Don't!"—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Windsor).—A tremendously heavy water is now rushing through the Thames Valley and causing serious inconvenience and damage, though anglers for barbel are having excellent catches, the baskets being too numerous to mention all individually. Strange to say, out of the many hundreds caught, 6lb. appears to be the largest. Any eddy is worth trying for them now, as I doubt if any can live in the stream as it is at present. All those caught have been by bank anglers and quite close to the side out of the rush of water. Mr. Windsor, of Windsor, one afternoon had sixteen, about 40lb. Mr. Price, of Etonwick, nineteen fish, largest 5lb. The brothers Vickers, of Windsor, in one morning had thirteen, and a roach of 1lb. 3oz.—in all about 40lb. Mr. T. Skelton, of Datchet, Mr. Copsey, of Windsor, and Mr. Eaton, of Etonwick, have all had good baskets. Roach have been numerous and of good size, Mr. Young, of Windsor, having a specimen amongst others of 1¼lb. Water very high, being now over the weir staging and still rising, with every prospect of more rain. Worms only of any use.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—The recent rains have made the water too cloudy for good sport; a few fish of 3lb. or 4lb. were, however, caught at the end of last week. The best basket of the week was probably made by Mr. Hawkins, who had a nice dish of twenty fish, on Saturday afternoon. When the tempestuous weather ceases, sport should improve; and after the first frost, pike would doubtless begin to run. Several visitors were over from Hull, on Tuesday, but results were not reported.—THOMAS FORD.

Arun (Pulborough).—Owing to the incessant rain and high tides the river is in flood, and angling is at a standstill. There are, under the circumstances, no takes of fish to record.—GOOSEQUILL.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—The heavy rain storms of the past fortnight have, in most waters put a veto on angling pursuits. The rivers are overflowing the banks, and in Mid-Sussex the country is for miles under water. The Canal at Chichester is the only available water, to my knowledge, and here the Canal is nearly three feet below the banks, and until the spring breaks there will be but little addition to the volume of water, which although at present weedy, is in good colour. A few enthusiasts have been out, and bream, roach, and a few small perch and pike have been taken. Several eels up to 2½lb., have been taken with both live and dead bait. Sea fishing is good, both from piers and boat, but the weather at present is too treacherous for boating operations. Wild fowl are already making their appearance. A young gannet was recently shot in Chichester Harbour, and several curlews and lapwing plovers.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Dove and Tributaries.—Weather is still too wet for grayling fishing here. A few dry days will put the water right for fly-fishing; but as it is trout only can be got. And the law decrees trout out of condition, whilst, as a matter of fact, they are in prime order for sport and table.—D. and W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourne.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—Another week of good takes. At no time probably has the Esk been so plentifully stocked with salmon and salmon trout, and anglers are busy every day, when the weather and the stream are at all favourable. A good many of the fish below recorded were caught with the fly; but, for the bulk bait with the lure. Mr. J. Moore, Whitby, has landed four salmon trout of the following weight—3lb., 5lb., 11lb. and 12½lb.; Mr. Robert Hay, Grosmont; six of 5lb., 13lb., 11½lb., 7lb., 8lb., and 6lb.; Mr, F. Lloyd, Grosmont; three of 2lb., 14lb. and 5lb.; Mr. Geo. Tonkiss, Grosmont; two of 1lb. and 11lb.; Mr. Wm. Jackson, Grosmont; four of 3lb., 21lb., 17lb. and 5lb.; Mr. J. Calvert, Lealholm; three of 11lb., 12lb. and 12lb.; Mr. Wright, Castleton; three of 16lb., 12½lb. and 5lb.; Mr. Jefferson, Whitby; three of 8lb., 12lb. and 13½lb.; Mr. J. A. Bulmer, Trinidad; seven of 5lb., 11lb., 11lb., 7lb., 12½lb., and two others; Mr. J. W. Nicholson, Whitby; six of 6½lb., 17lb., 7½lb., 13lb. 11lb. and 13lb. Mr. Linton caught eight salmon in one day, the total weight of which was 110lb. Mr. Westgarth landed during the week ten salmon, but I have not been able to ascertain the weights. Several other anglers have made good catches, but complete records are not to hand.—JOHN J. JACKSON.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—The gale of last week put a temporary difficulty in the way of angling, but during the favourable intervals since some fairly good business is being done. Most of the local gentlemen are devoting themselves to trolling for pike, and they are beginning to meet with fair success. The Fortyfoot is still complained of for its weedy condition, but there are some capital reaches about the Donington Bridge, and some other places. Among the captures recently in this locality may be mentioned one by Mr. Dunn, who land five pike, averaging 5lb. each, and by Mr. Jackson, three being 5lb., 3½lb., and 2lb. respectively. In a three days' outing Mr. Smith captured eight pike, and running up to over 6lb. each, besides having lost three through the failure of the tackle to hold them. About Surfleet there has been some good sport.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—The storms have not largely interfered with the angling on the Idle, and the water running into fairly good condition, the members turning out on fine days is somewhat on the increase. There is a nice colour on, owing to the rains, and whilst the storms last week deterred some, those who braved the elements, both last and this, did fairly well. Good fish are now to be got from the deeper water, and anglers reporting success with both gentle and worm. Several fine dishes of grayling were caught in the river last week, with worm, from a swim above Ordsall. The samples shown were made up of well-fed fish. This week a nice lot of both roach and dace have been taken, and on Wednesday I saw a pretty lot of dace taken from a private water on the Ryton. Pike are coming to hand in the lower, and some of the higher, reaches rather freely; but they are poorly fed.—L.

Ilfracombe.—Sea fishing has been very good during the past week. Notwithstanding the stormy state of the weather, good quantities of whiting, codling, and pout have been taken from the pier by anglers. The herring season opened with good prospects, all boats having from three hundred to six hundred herrings at a haul. On Monday there was a fine seal captured in the harbour by Mr. N. Barbeary, boatman; it weighed about ¾cwt. When the boats are able to get out, those fishing with ground-lines get good sport with cod, ling, and conger. Should the weather be moderate, there is every prospect of a good fishing season. Weather stormy; wind, S.W.—E. COMER.

Leicester.—The autumn fishing season in Leicestershire so far has not proved up to expectation. This may be attributed in a measure to the extraordinary amount of rain, scarcely a day passing without heavy storms occurring, which have not only interfered with sport, but has caused the rivers and canal to rise very fast, and in many parts, where the banks are low, to overflow and cover large tracts of land. The only places where sport was obtained was at the bends of the river, at which the stream was not so rapid, but the colour of the water was almost like clay. Messrs. Rylott, Hobbs and Pirime, and a few of the more hardened disciples of the craft, were busy bait catching, but the supply was far short of the demand. A few anglers tried for chub at Aylestone, but only an odd brace or two was obtained. Late on Thursday rain was still falling rapidly, and the waters continued to rise.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Rivers still nearly bank-full of discoloured water; weather unsettled; rain more or less every day; uncertain when there will be a chance of fishing with the fly—am afraid not this month.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—The waters of the Medway are still unfishable and have been over the banks, not much sign of alteration under present circumstances, a few roach have been caught in the eddies, trust soon to see a change cannot be worse than it is now.—W. SHRUBSOLE.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—Roach and dace are well on now in all our waters, and I can with confidence recommend my London angling friends to have a try. They can go to Littleport, where there is plenty of good and reasonable accommodation. Get a ticket from Benton, the keeper. They can also go to Brandon, where there are tons of good roach, dace, perch, and pike, and one of the most comfortable inns on the river bank that I know of; Mr. Rolph, the landlord, being a very obliging man, and a very good angler. I can with safety recommend anglers to this hotel. There is also the Lark, at Mildenhall, full of good fish—certainly some of the finest roach and dace to be had anywhere. You may fish from Mildenhall to Icklingham, right up to Ely—a distance of twenty miles or more, with good swims all the way. In most all our rivers and streams the weeds are cut, and the recent heavy rains have washed them away, so that I am safe in recommending the angler to try anywhere; and shall be pleased to give any information I can to persons wishing to visit these waters. Weather at time of writing fine and clear.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Ouse (Offord).—On Saturday last, October 17, Mr. Taylor took a pike weighing 10½lb., and two small ones of 2lb. each, below the mills, opposite Diamond Point. Mr. Ridgway had a good run with another one, about half an hour afterwards in the same place; but broke away just as he was trying to land him, weighing quite as much as the one Mr. Taylor took to-day. When writing quite a flush of water. It will be impossible to do any more fishing for four or five days.—H. COLLINS.

Ouse, &c. (York).—Nothing doing in this river nor its tributary streams, owing to heavy rains and the consequent floods. Much adjoining land submerged, especially in the Lower Rye district.—RONALD.

Plymouth.—SEA FISHING.—The succession of gales for the last week has almost put a stop to fishing, but nevertheless, in the lull, boats have been out and have had some good catches. Our harbour is admirably suited for fishing in rough weather, as it is sheltered from almost every wind, and we have that great protection from the southward, the Breakwater, which is nearly a mile in length right across the harbour. Flat fish and mullet are taken in the inner harbours, and some fine bass from off the Iron Bridge at Laira.—WILLIAM HEARDER.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this part has now gone down but is still muddy, and there is a good volume of water going down it which is swiftly lowering and clearing. At the end of last week there was more water in the river than has been since the flood of 1886. If the weather holds fine, sport should be had by the end of the week.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this district fishing is still at a dead stop, the water being high and muddy. By the end of the week it will be in fair order for fishing again.—WORCESTER.

Torridge (Torrington).—River big and thick; hundreds of salmon up, and only three weeks left to fish for them this season. Mr. J. D. Bastard, fly-maker, Torrington, took the first prize at the Bideford Show this week with a pair of Blue Duns against the United Kingdom.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—A fairly good muster of anglers have been again noticed on the Witham and the waters in connection with it, during the week, and though somewhat disturbed by the gales, the water was in fair condition. Anglers, however, report that fish, roach, dace, eels, &c., were somewhat difficult to catch. One expert, well known as a wily hand at thee business spent the best part of three days in getting about 6lb. Some of his fish were pretty roach, up to about 12oz. or 13oz. Some capital eels are being caught, both on the Witham and Trent. On Wednesday I saw a fine specimen, scaling nearly 5lb., and another over 3lb., among about 24lb. or 25lb. of smaller. How they had been taken I did not learn, but believe with rod, as one or two had their mouths cut. Poor luck has followed pike fishing.—LUCI.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire).—The rivers have been overflowing their banks during the past week, so that fishing has been quite out of the question; but as salmon have had a grand chance of running up, we still hope to have some sport ere the rod season closes.—H.

Teifi (Lampeter, Cardiganshire).—The rod season for salmon has closed here with a week of flood-water.—H.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—Our rod salmon season closes on Nov. 1, and at time of writing, there is quite a sea of water out.—H.

Scotch Reports.

Border Esk.—Salmon fishers have enjoyed good sport in the Esk during the past week, notwithstanding the somewhat unfavourable state of the weather. Nearly an inch of rain fell in the Langholm district during Monday morning early. The river is now, however, in good order. A few selected results will be found below. Mr. D. Edgar had a splendid fish of 33lb. from the Willow Pool, and on another day three from Red Linn and Long Pools; Mr. A. Jardine, Skelton, had three fine salmon from Byreburnfoot Water, 21lb., 24lb., and 21lb. respectively; and Mr. W. Riddle, Rowanburn, had two from the same water, 12½lb. and 15½lb.; Mr. J. Graham, Rowanburn, had three fish from Willow and Cauldron Pools, 29lb., 19lb., and 14lb. While fishing below Gilnockie Bridge, Mr. William Urquhart, Langholm, got a salmon of 33lb.—45in. long, 22in. in girth, and 10in. deep; rather a coarse, ugly-looking male fish. The Metal Bridge Water is again to the fore with a capital record. My indefatigable Canonbie correspondent informs me that this has been the best angling season ever known in the Esk within the memory of the oldest native. My fair correspondent at the Metal

Bridge acquaints me that the recent numerous floods have caused several well-known and amiable anglers to resort to language that would not be tolerated in a kirk. One consolation, however, exists to soothe the feelings of the Metal Briggers—the Eden, the formidable rival of the Esk, has been in the same fix for some time.—Gilnockie.

Carron (Easter Ross, Ardgay, N.B.).—The angling season is now almost over, and as most of the sportsmen left for the south some weeks ago, very little has been done since last reported. Mr. Littlejohn and party, Inverchurron House, including General Bell and Mr. Bruce have been getting some sport on the Craigs Water. On Saturday week a fine salmon weighing 18lb. was landed. On Monday week two salmon of 13lb. and 15lb. were caught, and on Thursday other two weighing 16lb. and 12lb.—McB.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—Another week of floods; and yet the amount of sport obtained is something surprising, seeing that the water has been in the worst of condition. However, the results obtained may be taken as an index only of what would have been the case under more favourable auspices. On the Birkhall Water, belonging to Her Majesty the Queen, Colonel Maude landed three fine fish, while several others have been got on the Abergeldie and Balmoral reaches. On the Invercauld Arms Water, Ballater, Mr. McGregor's gillie, Donald Morgan, landed the heaviest fish of the season, scaling 30½lb., while Dr. Mitchell, on the same water, landed two, of 9lb. and 10lb. each, on Saturday last. On the same water Sergeant James, of H.M. Guard of Honour, an enthusiastic angler, has made daily splendid baskets of both salmon and trout, in all kinds of weather, his favourite flies being the Yellow Eagle, and White Moth. On the Cambus O'May Water, Mr. Gaskell landed a fine fish of 18lb., while Captain Broadwood had two, of 20lb. and 10lb. respectively. On the Glentana Water, Sir William C. Brooks, Bart., M.P., and party are having splendid sport. Every day the pools can be covered, of all weights from 8lb. to 9lb., to between 20lb. and 30lb. in weight, and mostly fresh-run fish. On the Aboyne Water, Mr. Digby Cayley, who made his first essay for the autumn on the Huntly Arms Water, on Friday last, grassed two excellent salmon, of 11lb. and 17lb., and on Saturday one of 16lb.; while Mr. Hollis had one of 18lb. On Aboyne Castle Water, Lord Huntly had two on Monday, and two on Tuesday, ranging from 16lb. to 22lb. On the Desswood Water, Colonel Charles Leith Hay, landed one of 15lb.; Captain Brooke, two, of 6lb. and 7lb.; Harper, one of 8lb.; and Mrs. Pickering, a beauty of 15lb., on Monday. On the Kincardine Lodge Water, Mr. William Lamond, during the week, had one of 16lb., three, 29lb., 21lb., and 16½lb., and one of 28lb., while Colonel Charles Leith Hay had one of 15lb. on the same water. On the Carlogie Section, Captain George Campbell had one of 8lb., one of 7lb., one of 21lb., and one of 15lb.; while Mr. Archibald Campbell landed one of 26lb., two 23½lb. and 17½lb., one 19lb., one 17lb., one 20lb., and one 15lb.; and Miss Butchart made her first essay with *Salmo salar* on Wednesday last, and grassed a beauty of 16lb., after a most exciting run; following this up on Monday with a second success of 9lb., on the same water. On the Borrowstone Water, Admiral Hopkins landed a fine fish of 20lb., and the Rev. Mr. Stewart, R.C., one of 12lb. On the Ballogie Water, Mr. W. E. Nicol landed three, of 19lb., 18lb., and 8lb., and two, of 22lb. and 23lb.; Dr. Martin, three, of 14lb., 13lb., and 7lb., two, of 16lb. and 15lb., and two, of 14lb. and 15lb.; while Major Douglas had one of 7lb.; and Mr. Valpy, two, of 18lb. and 19lb., and one of 21lb.—in all sixteen fish for the week. On the Sluie Water, Mr. G. L. Chambers landed two, of 18lb. and 20lb. On the Commonty Water, Mr. Joe Farquharson, artist, had two, of 18lb. and 14lb.; and the Rev. Mr. Stewart one, of 14lb.; while Duncan, keeper, had other two. On the Woodend Water, which has been in the worst of angling condition during the whole week and two days unapproachable, Mr. Farnell Watson scored one, of 9lb., four, scaling 19lb., 15lb., 9lb., and 7lb., two, 18lb. and 13lb., and two, 20lb. and 8lb. On various days while Mrs. Farnell Watson added to her already magnificent score, two splendid fish, of 20lb. and 18lb., after some first-class play. On the Blackhall Castle Water, Mr. G. T. Hay landed one of 16lb., seven scaling from 12lb. to 22lb., two, 7lb. and 14lb., eight ranging 18lb. to 28lb., one of 20lb., and five varying from 16lb. to 21lb.—in all twenty-four splendid fresh-run fish. On the Inchmarlow Water, Mr. Duncan Davidson and friends had some capital sport, considering the state of the river; Mr. Davidson landed one of 20lb., and one of 11lb.; Captain W. L. Davidson had five, of 9lb., 25½lb., 22lb., 9½lb. and 16½lb. on one occasion, and two, of 11lb. and 16lb. on another; while Mr. E. Hanbury had one of 12lb. on the same water. On the Lower Crathes, Durriss, and Park Waters a great many fish have been got, while Mr. Irvine, on the Drum Water has added considerably to his already heavy record. On the Heathcot Hydropathic Water five fish were got on Saturday, of average weights.—Deesider.

Deveron (Banffshire).—The recent rains kept the river Deveron in good ply for angling during the past week, and the pools on the whole extent of the river are reported to be well stocked. Capital sport has been had.

Don (Aberdeenshire).—The sport on the lower sections has been unprecedented, considering the uncertain state of the water. On the Kintore Section, Mr. J. H. Bott and party have landed the magnificent total of one hundred and twenty-one fish during the past month, and they are still adding heavily to this grand record every day. Miss Blair, a guest of Mr. Bott's, landed two great fish on Friday last, one of which scaled 30lb.—the heaviest fish got to the rod of a lady angler this season. On the same section, Lord Adam has had splendid sport, having one, two, and more fish every day. On the Grandholm Water, Mr. R. Y. Ellis, London, had nine fine fish to his rod one day last week, his total for the week being sixteen in all. Mr. Rooper, on the same water, had twelve; Professor Niven, eight; and Mr. Jopp, five, all of an average of 22lb. apiece. The closing week promises even better results.—Don.

Liddle.—This river has been more or less flooded during the week, and very little angling has been done. It is now in good order, and a high old time for Liddle anglers anticipated during the forthcoming week.—Gilnockie.

Loch Migdale (Bonarbridge, N.B.).—In the course of the past week the following excellent baskets were made by Mr. John MacPherson, Bridge Hotel, Bonarbridge. On Monday, in five hours' fishing, he landed twenty-nine trout, aggregating 12lb.; on Tuesday, in four hours, fourteen trout, averaging over ½lb. each; on Wednesday, in one hour and a half, seven trout, 4lb.; and on Thursday, in five hours, twenty-six beautiful trout, weighing in all a little over 14lb.—McB.

Rhiconich Hotel Waters (via Lairg, N.B.).—The weather has been exceptionally stormy of late; nevertheless some nice clean-run salmon have been caught since last reported. On the 5th inst. the Rev. D. Lundie, Tongue, caught an 8lb. salmon on Loch Garbetbeg; and Mr. William Wallace on same loch two salmon weighing 8lb. and 10lb. On the 7th, Mr. MacDonald, Inshegra, landed a salmon of 5½lb. on river Inchard, besides a ten-pounder and eight sea trout, aggregating 9lb., on Loch Garbetbeg; Mr. Wallace on same loch had one salmon 10lb., and two sea trout 3lb. On the 10th, Mr. MacDonald had a 10lb. salmon on Loch Garbetbeg, and one of 7¾lb. on river Inchard.—McB.

Shin.—Mr. Walter Scott Brock, Achinduich House, Invershin, and Mr. R. MacHardy, Culrain Lodge, have been fishing the upper waters with fair success. On the 7th inst. a fine salmon weighing 15lb. was landed. On Monday last week they caught two salmon weighing 14lb. each; and on Thursday four salmon were grassed, weighing respectively 8lb., 8lb., 9lb., and 10lb.—McB.

South of Scotland.—The back-end salmon fishing in the South of Scotland has been very seriously interrupted ever since the beginning of September. Now there is a prospect of a good wind-up before the season in the different rivers close. In the Annan some grand sport has been had yesterday and to-day, indeed, I do not remember of such good sport during the past thirty years. The Annan has had no less than fifteen floods since the 1st of the month, and yesterday the waters began to come into ply for fly. Mr. Arthur Nicholson, St. Asaph, North Wales, has carried off the record for the season so far. In three hours angling on Wednesday, Mr. Nicholson killed five salmon of 30½lb., 30½lb., 17lb., 18½lb., and 7½lb., a total of 91lb. Mr. Nicholson caught his fish in the Blackpool of the subscription water, with a Grey Turkey Fly. Mr. Nicolson lost two other salmon. Mr. Nicolson killed one on Wednesday of 21lb., on the same cast. This pool was fished well on Wednesday, Mr. William Park, Annan, killed one of 10lb.; Mr. John Laurie, Annan, landed one of 18lb.; Mr. McGiverin grassed one of 11lb.: the Rev. Mr. Philpott, Manchester, had a long fight with a big fish computed to be nearly 10lb., the fish broke his line after an hour's play; and Mr. John Omerod had a similar misfortune; Mr. James Dixon killed one in the afternoon, in the Battery Pool, of 19lb. In the Fish House Pool the Rev. Geo. Kennedy, Newington Lodge, caught one of 12lb. Below Millbie Canal, Mr. Will Robinson, fisherman for Mr. Gardiner, Annandale Distillery, killed one in the forenoon of 21lb.; and in the Tower Pool of Mount Annan, Mr. Crawford's fisherman, William Carrick, killed one of 20lb. On Wednesday, in Mount Annan Water, Mr. P. A. Pasley-Dirom, of Mount Annan, killed one of 20lb. in the Long Rig, and in Jamie's Stream he had another of 12½lb. His fisherman, Andr. Bell, caught one of 19lb. in the Flat Water. These salmon were killed with the Black Doctor Fly. Sir William Marsh, a visitor at Mount Annan, killed one of 20lb. in the Backwood Pool; Mr. Crawford's man had one on Wednesday of 7lb. On Friday, Mr. John Bell-Irving, Mount Annan, killed a fine salmon of 18½lb. His keeper had one of 19½lb. in the Wood Pool, and another of 7½lb. On the following day James Riley, keeper, killed one of 20lb., and a second fish of 18lb. out of the Salmon Pool. Mr. Andrew Bell landed one of 18lb. out of the Wood Pool; and in the Tower Pool Mr. Crawford's fisherman caught one of 20lb. In the Hoddom Castle Water, on Saturday, Mr. Thomas Hoare, Kinmount House, Annan killed a good fish of 18½lb. out of the Scales Pool, and on the previous day Mr. Hoare caught two of 22lb. and 7½lb. Captain Bell-Irving, Whitehill, caught four salmon of 22lb., 18lb., 15lb., and 15lb. Mr. John Rad, the Firs, Ecclefechan, had one of 19½lb. in Castle Milk Water. Mr. Alex. Scott one of 20lb. in Jamie's Stream, above Brydekirk Bridge. In the higher waters, Mr. James, London, killed one of 13½lb. Besides these kills a great number of other anglers have all been landing salmon. The sport in Castle Milk, Murraythwaite, Dormont, Kirkwood, and Four Town's Water has been the best for many years. The full details have not come to hand this (Thursday) evening.—Heatherbell.

Tay (Perth).—The river has been very high and unsettled lately. On the Burnmouth Water, on Wednesday, Mr. G. Clark, Bedford, had a fish of 26lb.; the same gentleman fished the Birnam Hotel Water, on Thursday, and killed four fish, 25lb., 18lb., 18lb.; and 16lb.; Mr. P. D. Malloch killed nine, 20lb., 18lb.. 17lb., 16lb., 16lb., 13lb., 9lb., 8lb., and 7lb., casting from the bank. On the Ballathie Water, Col. Chalmers, Brighton, and Mr. Alston Stewart, Urrard, killed four, largest 24lb., gave the Colonel excellent sport and took two hours to kill it. On the Taymount Water, on Saturday, Mr. Murray landed six, and Captain Menzies on the same water killed eight; Mr. C. Holland, London, fished the Stanley Water on Saturday and landed nine fish, one of which weighed 46lb. It is the largest fish got with the rod on the Tay this season. The dimensions are as follows: Length 54in., girth 29in., breadth of tail 13in. Col. Hornsby Drake had one of 18lb., and Mrs. Hornsby Drake had one of 13lb., on the Delvine Lower On the Icone Palace Water, Lord Stormont had two fish and two grilse on Saturday. On Monday the boatman had a fish and a grilse on the Bertha Water; and on the Burnmouth Water, George Clark killed seven, 30lb., 21lb., 19lb., 18lb., 11lb., 11lb.. and 9lb. On the Taymount, on Tuesday, Mr. Murray killed two, largest 42lb.; Mr. C. L. Wood on the same water had five; Colonel Hornsby Drake killed two on the Lower Delvine Water, 21½lb. and 15lb.; and Mr. B. Malloch killed five, 22lb., 18lb., 16lb., 11lb., and 9lb. Sir R. D. Moncrieffe fished the Icone Palace Water on Monday, and landed ten fish.

Free Water.—On Wednesday, Mr. Armstrong had one, 14lb.; Mr. D. Malloch, one, 20lb.; and Mr. Murdoch, one; Mr. Bruce, a fish and a grilse; Mr. Spiers, one, 20lb.; Mr. Brody, one; Mr. Ramsay, one, 14lb.; Mr. Mason, a fish and a grilse. On Saturday, Mr. D. Malloch killed one, 23lb.: Mr. Armstrong, one, 15lb.; Mr. Muirhead, one, 7lb. On Tuesday, Mr. Wardrope had three; Mr. Forbes, one; Mr. Muirhead, one, 14lb.; Mr. Paterson, one, 7lb.; and Mr. Shaw, one.

Earn.—Splendid sport continues to be got on this river On the Lower Dupplin Water, Mr. Hart, two, 20lb. and 16lb. On Trinity Gask, Mr. Forbes, Crieff, five, total weight 88lb. On the Lower Earn, Mr. Hunter, three; Mr. Bell, Crieff, one, 16lb.; Mr. D. Hally, one, 20lb.; Mr. McCallum, one, 8lb. On the Duniera Water, Mr. McKenzie, the keeper, one, 15lb. On the Drummond Castle Water, Mr. T. Bright, Liverpool, two, 20½lb., 15½lb.; Mr. Cresswick, one, 19½lb. On the Inner Peffray Water, Mr. Dixon, four, 19½lb., 17½lb., 16½lb. and 11lb. On the Club Water, Mr. Tuck, five, 22lb., 21lb., 21lb., 12lb. and 11lb.; Mr. Kelsall, one, 7lb. On Friday, Mr. Dixon had a fish of 18½lb., and one of 10lb.; Master T. Dixon, one, 8lb. On Drummond Castle Water, Mr. Cresswick, one, 15lb.; Mr. T. Bright, Liverpool, one, 13½lb. On Strowan Water, Mr. Welsh, Chester, three, 21½lb., 16½lb., and 16lb. On the Club Water, Mr. C. McCowan had two, 8lb. and 7lb.; Mr. Tuck, three, 14lb., 13lb. and 7lb. On Drummond Castle Water, Mr. Cunningham, three, 19½lb., 16½lb. and 7lb.; Mr. East, London, four, 20½lb., 18lb., 12lb. and 10lb. On the Club Water, on Tuesday, Mr. Tuck had four, 15lb., 11lb. and 14lb.; Mr. Kelsall, two; Mr. McCowan, two, 21lb. and 16lb.; Mr. P. White, one, 19lb.; and one of 20lb. was caught on the Innerpiffray Water by Mr. Dixon.

[Received too late for last week.—Ed.]

Tay (Perth).—The rod fishing on this river closed on Thursday. This year it opened on the 15th January, instead of the 11th February, as formerly, giving the rods twenty-three clear days before the nets went on on the 11th February. On the opening day the river was in good order, and a number of fine fish were caught, both on the upper and lower reaches. For several days after the opening the river kept in high flood, so that anglers were unable to get on the river. Notwithstanding this drawback the result was very satisfactory, over ninety fish being killed on the Tay, besides a number on the Tummel, Garry, Lyon, and Loch Tay, before the nets went on. The spring fishing all through has been one of the best experienced for years, and opening the river at this early date will prove a great benefit to the upper proprietors, and afford good sport to anglers. Over six hundred fish were killed throughout the spring, one of the best individual takes being that of Mr. Pople; one day he killed, on the Stobhall Water, six fish, weighing 107lb., and in five days eighteen fish were got on this water. The largest fish got in spring was killed by Mr. Shaw, London, and weighed a few ounces under 40lb. Nearly all the beats fished well. The Tummel, Garry, and Lyon also did well. The Foskally Water, fished by Lord Mount-Steven and friends did very well, from two to five fish being killed daily. Bonskied Water did well, so did Tullynut. In July grilse were fairly plentiful, and several were killed in the lower reaches in August. Both salmon and grilse became plentiful by the end of the month, and the autumn fishing was fairly begun from this time till the close. Flood after flood came, bringing up a continual supply of fish. The oldest anglers and fishermen never remember them being so numerous and of such good quality; even on the closing day large numbers of bright fish were observed passing up. The supply seems to have been unlimited. Comparatively few heavy fish were got, however, only three over 40lb. having been recorded. A good deal of time was lost with high floods, but the moment the river came into ply rare sport was got, the fish being so strong that in many instances the angler's tackle came to grief. Grilse have been of a good weight, some of them reaching as high as 12lb. and 14lb. Only three spring fish have been recorded this autumn. On the Free Water at Perth good sport was got, both from the bank and boat. The Bertha Water, fished by Dr. Wyman, has done fairly well. His best day was eight fish. Redgorton Water fished by Mr. McLean and friends, yielded over one hundred and fifty fish. Benchill Water, fished by Sir J. E. Millais, has not done so well owing to the high state of the river. Nevertheless, he has killed sixty-three fish. Scone Palace Water, fished by Lord Stormont and friends, has done well; and Stanley Water, fished by Charles Holland and friends, has done fairly well considering the high state of the river, close upon two hundred fish having been killed in seventeen days. Mr. Holland has been successful in killing the largest fish that has been got on the Tay this season with the rod; it weighed 46lb., and was killed on Oct. 10. He has sent it to Mr. Malloch, Perth, to have a cast taken of it. Burnmouth Water, fished by Mr. George Clark, Mr. Marples, and Mr. Archibald has done fairly well, Mr. Marples' best day being ten fish. Stobhall Water (the home of the salmon), fished by Mr. Field and friends, has done exceedingly well, a very large number of fish having been killed; the largest, 43lb., was killed by Capt. Morris. Taymount Water, fished by Mr. Charles Murray, has done exceedingly well, close upon three hundred having been killed. Mr. Murray's best day, eighteen salmon, one grilse, weighing 273lb., while a friend on the same beat had ten fish on the same day, Mr. Murray's largest fish was killed casting from the bank, on the 13th October, and weighed 42lb.; and on the 10th October, he landed one 37lb.; Ballathie and Mickleour Waters have fished well. Delvine Water, fished by Col. Drake, has done fairly well. Murthy Water has also done fairly well. A few fish have been killed on Birnam Hotel Water. Dunkeld, Dalguise, Kinnaird, Logierait and Grandtully Water, have been blank. Fish had not run up this length from the time the nets went off. The prospects for a good spawning season could not be better. Owing to the high state of the river, fish have got well up and into most of the tributaries. No signs of disease have yet appeared in the Tay this season, and it is to be hoped it has entirely disappeared. The Earn goes on to the end of the month, and some fine sport should be got up to the close.

Tweed.—On Floors Castle Water, on Wednesday, rare sport was got: the Duke of Roxburghe had thirteen fish; Her Grace the Duchess seven; and Mr. C. G. Barrington had a like number. On the Sprouston Water, Col. Trotter had three; and Capt. Griffith three. On the Makerstoun Water, the Messrs. Deakin (Milnthorpe, Westmoreland) and Grange (Sands, Lancashire) had capital sport, killing seven, 19½lb., 19lb., 18½lb., 17½lb., 17lb., 14lb., and 7lb., on the same water. On Thursday (to-day) they had half-a-dozen, weighing 18½lb., 20lb., 17lb., 16½lb., 16lb., and 14lb. On the Ednam House Water, Mr. Forrest, Kelso, had four, the heaviest 20lb. On the Hendersyde Upper Water, Mr. R. P. Page had four fish, 19lb., 18lb., 14lb., and 8lb. Weather to-day splendid, and rivers full of fish; grand sport expected to-morrow (Friday).—Maxwheel.

Whitadder (Ellemford).—Since my last report the fishing has been very good (of course Mr. Turnbull's water is closed). Mr. John Wilson, Fence Houses, fishing the Dye Water, on Saturday, had fifty-three trout. Mr. Stephen Eltringham, of Sunderland, had thirty-four, one over a pound on the same day. On Monday, Mr. Eltringham had twenty-three trout, one a bull trout weighing 2½lb. Many bull trout have come up in the late floods. Weather more settled to-day.—R. V. Fenton.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—The heavy rains of the past week put the Ballinderry out of fishable order till Saturday last; but only a few pike were caught on the upper reaches. A further flood resulted from the rains of Sunday. On the following day, Mr. C. R. Stevenson and your correspondent fished the Ardtrea Sections, and had five and four pike respectively, taken on the Devon and Phantom. Mr. Cooke killed a 7lb. salmon on the same water. On the Coagh sections, Mr. Glen had a 16lb. salmon; and Mr. Compton had three salmon, 8lb., 8lb., and 12lb. each. From Coagh Bridge to the Burmouth is well stocked with salmon, and on this water professionals are doing well.—J. A. B.

Lough Neagh.—Rough and wet weather have again greatly interfered with these fisheries. In the storm of last week a good deal of damage was done to the fishing boats and fishing gear, and at the "Battery," the new piers in the process of being built for the more convenient shipment of fish, were washed away by the tremendous waves dashing against them. Salmon netting is weekly declining, and scarcely any are being caught just at present. Trouting is practically over. Eel fishing continues prime, and looks like continuing so till the end of the season.—J. A. B.

Suir and Tributaries (Clonmel).—The season for angling for salmon and trout closed here on the 16th. inst., and on the sister rivers Nore and Burrow a fortnight earlier. The spring fishing, owing to the constant low water from the commencement, was the worst on record, but the rivers of Peal and Antrim was the best we have had for many years, and since the nets were taken off on the 16th August, increasingly good sport was had during the two months that remained open for angling. The rivers during the past week or ten days have been flooded bank high and overflowing in places so that the salmon have easy access to the tributaries, up which they are crowding in shoals promising to make the coming an abundant spawning season, and, so far, everything promises well for the future. We never, in my memory had so many fish up so far at this time of year, it is generally held that the early spawners are the best.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

ONE of the most important meetings that has been held during the present year in connection with the Birmingham Association, took place on Thursday evening last, Oct. 15, at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield. The meeting was called for the purpose of taking into consideration the unsatisfactory condition of the public fishing grounds to which the members had access, and to see what could be done to improve the same; but in order to carry out the work, as indicated in the circular drawn up by Mr. T. Coles, the president of the association, the subscriptions of the members would have to be considerably increased. Mr. T. Coles presided, and Mr. J. Dance occupied the vice-chair. Forty-six clubs were represented by about seventy delegates, and the following clubs were unrepresented, namely, the Oak Society, Ring of Bells, Bordesley Waltonians, Ladywood, St. John's, Convivial, Anglers' Pride, Birmingham Heath, and Brothers Well Met. The president, in opening the business of the meeting, dealt at some considerable length with the objects of the circular, and pointed out that the principle had already been affirmed, and took date from the last July general meeting. As to the *locus standi* of the association to deal with the matter, he referred them to the bye-laws, which stated that the objects of the association be to promote the general interests of all the united clubs, so that, while recognising that the railway concessions was one of the props upon which the association rested, there would be no doubt but what the angling interests was another, without which the association could not exist. The depleted conditions of the Midland fisheries called for immediate action by them. Illegal netting and pollution had been two important factors in the unsatisfactory condition of the same. With regard to the first, the speaker said that canal companies and other public bodies must be approached, and it must be made worth their while to suppress netting and other illegal means of taking fish. They could not expect them, having no other interest in the water-way than the maintaining of the same for the transit of goods, to take an interest in the fishery, and the water committee, if appointed, would extend their operations, not only to the canals, but the public portions of the rivers Severn and Avon. He (the speaker) could pledge his word, and that of his worthy colleague, Mr. Wingfield, as members of the Severn Fishery Board, to do all they could to improve these rivers. The navigable portion of the Avon must receive their attention, and notice of motion lies before the Severn Conservancy Board in the speaker's name, dealing with important matters in this direction. He (the speaker) earnestly hoped that the meeting would that night do something practical towards the improvement of the fishing grounds, and in a little time they would be what they should have been a long time ago—a source of attraction to the followers of the gentle art. In conclusion, he hoped the delegates would discharge a duty that would do credit to themselves, do honour to the association, and give a convincing proof of their desire to advance another stage of the principles of the association, and in order to carry out the objects in view, the subscriptions of the members would have to be increased to carry out the work to a successful issue.

MR. LEE, of the Brookfields Society, wanted the meeting to appoint a water committee, but the president pointed out that the question of raising the member's subscriptions would have to be decided first. Mr. Dance said that he had given the matter his consideration, and that he should put his foot down upon any increase of subscription on the members, he also said that he was in favour of a water committee being appointed in order to see if there were any prospects of water being acquired in the vicinity of Birmingham for the members of clubs who did not rent water, and at the same time he did not think it fair or equitable for members to pay, as some of the large clubs rented water for their own use, and it would be hard to tax them for a thing they did not require.

MR. ARKELL, of the Midland Piscatorials, said that he thought the Association should adopt the matter contained in the circular, and that the Association should watch and give the scheme a fair trial. He agreed that something should be done to provide fishing for the members of clubs who did not rent water, and would willingly give all the assistance in his power to further the object in view. The representatives of the Highgate Society were in favour of water being secured, and to support the principle of the circular.

MR. GRIFFITHS, of the Prospect Club, said that he was instructed to vote in favour of the scheme, but wanted to know if the water rented could be fished on Sunday. Mr. Keeling, of the Plume Society, said that he objected to the unfair tax being placed upon the members, and agreed with Mr. Dance, he also said that the Severn Board should take steps to better the fishing of this river, and it would be hard on the Birmingham Association to benefit the Severn, when the anglers who did not belong to the Association, would, in certain instances, reap more benefit from the fishery than those who did the paying, and he hoped that the delegates would seriously consider the matter before either for or against the matter contained in the circular.

MR. HUGHES, of the St. Paul's society, said that his club agreed with the purport of the circular, and his members were unanimous that the subscription to the association should be increased in order that the surplus money should be used to start the scheme, in order to provide better fishing for the members—and finished his remarks by proposing the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. C. Wainwright, of the West End club: "That the yearly subscription of each member to the Association be increased to one shilling per member, in order to carry out the important matter contained in the circular. This was followed by an amendment by Mr. Lee, Camden Society; seconded by Mr. Pratt, Deritend Society. That this association disagree with the proposed increased subscription, and that no levy be paid until a water committee has been appointed; and that they set to work and bring in a report at the next general meeting, so that the delegates may have something before them. Mr. Turner, of the City club, supporting the amendment, and said that the canals should receive the attention of the water committee in preference to the rivers. Mr. Kendrick, of the Aston Britannia also supported the amendment. Mr. Simkiss of the St. George's, supported the resolution, and said that his society although a large water-renting club, had instructed him to support the scheme; and that the whole of his members were in favour of the subscription being increased for the purpose indicated in the circular, and he the speaker was in favour of the canals being better looked after, but without the increase of the subscription, the committee if appointed would be powerless to act.

MR. ALLEN, Old Green Man club, said that his club was in favour of the subscription being raised, providing the canals were included in the scheme, for the purpose of providing better fishing—Mr. Hall, St. George's; favoured the scheme, and said that it was the duty of all present to aid and assist in bettering the present unsatisfactory state of the public fishing in the Midlands, and quite agreed that the funds should be increased before the committee be appointed, as they would then have funds in hand to work with, and that the present funds were inadequate to meet the requirements of the scheme, and he was of the opinion that the present funds should not be encroached upon for the purpose laid down in the circular.

THE PRESIDENT, in summing up the various arguments brought forward, pointed out that the water committee would be in a foolish position without funds to work with, and pointed out that those who were in a position to rent water, ought not to object to pay the increased subscription, and also that the Association should be generous, as it was impossible to conserve the water for the exclusive use of the members only, and also said that he would not become a member of any committee until the funds were increased, to carry out the work. With these remarks he concluded by saying that he left the matter in the hands of the delegates, which might be deferred, but sooner or later something must be done to benefit the unsatisfactory state of the Midland fisheries. with this he proceeded to take the vote, when the amendment was carried by a majority of thirteen votes, the result of the voting being received by the majority with acclammation. After hearing the result, it was moved by Mr. Griffiths and seconded by Mr. Lee, "That the election of the water committee take place at once," when Mr. Turner moved, and Mr. Hughes seconded "That the election be deferred until the next general meeting." The latter was carried by the casting vote of the president, and the meeting, which was of a lively character, terminated.

THE members of the Duke of York Angling Society, Dudley, held a scramble contest on October 10, at Cornsale, near Kidderminster, to contest for the remainder of prizes left from their annual contest on August 1. The rain fell very heavily during the forepart of the day, but happily it cleared up during the time of fishing. Twenty-four members sat down to fish, and the contest was of the usual duration—two hours—at the termination of which it was found that only ten had been successful. Much to the surprise of the members, the first prize again fell to the junior member of the club, Master Harry Lane, who, it is well to state here, has never taken a rod in his hand, only in the last two contests. He managed to take a roach of 9¼oz.; Mr. Thomas Septon was second; Mr. George Hunt, third; Mr. W. Cannon, jun., fourth; Mr. John Shaw, fifth; and Mr. F. Brown, sixth, &c. The prizes were distributed on Oct. 19, and consisted of some very nice articles, not forgetting the copper kettle. Great praise is due to the umpires and referee, for the able manner in which the contest was conducted.

NOTES FROM THE LAKE DISTRICT.

SALMON fishers are making the most of their opportunities and the limited time still at their disposal. The stormy weather and heavy rains have operated in contrary directions. While the floods and constant high state of nearly all rivers have enabled salmon to run up many streams often impassable, the gales of wind have militated against successful, or at any rate, enjoyable angling. Many well-known hands have been out when half an opportunity offered, and from all sides reports speak of an unusual number of fish in our north-country rivers. Mr. T. Browne fishing last week in the Troutbeck, Windermere, took a 5lb. grilse; and in the same stream, Mr. J. Coward, on Tuesday, caught two salmon of 5¾lb. and 7½lb. respectively; and on Thursday, two others of 5¾lb. and 2½lb.

A CURIOUS experience is recorded of the latter gentleman which may be worth quoting. On the Tuesday he had hooked a large salmon, in addition to those given above, but this big fish broke him—as is the way with big fish—and escaped with the hook in its mouth, and a long piece of gut and line. The following morning at the same place he saw his lost gut and line floating on the water, and thought he might still secure his salmon; but when he pulled it in he found a large eel with the identical hook and line fast in its mouth! It is asked, how had the hook got out of the salmon's mouth and into the eel's so securely? How, indeed!

IN the vicinity of Keswick, the Greta has been much swollen, the following being the takes I have heard of: Mr. D. Melvin, Brigham, four salmon, the best 13lb.; and one each to Mr. J. Stanley-Burns, Mr. M. Stanley-Burns, Mr. Mark Stanley; Mr. A. Taylor, 10lb.; and Mr. W. Gasgarth, 8lb. The Cocker has yielded some good fish, as will be seen from the following list: Mr. J. Graham, Papcastle, three, 9lb., 20lb., and 27lb.; Mr. A. Graham, one, 5lb.; Mr. J. Wilkinson, 20lb.; Mr. J. Reynolds, 13lb.; Mr. J. Douglas, 26lb.; Mr. J. Vickers, 20lb. and 18lb.; Mr. G. Banks, 17lb.; Mr. W. H. Clift, 17lb.; Mr. Thompson, Embleton, three, two of which weighed 16lb. and 20lb.; Mr. J. Newman, 18lb. and 26lb.; Mr. J. Neale, 15lb. and 18lb.; Mr. J. White, 20lb.; Mr. J. Clark, 5¾lb.; Mr. J. Lister, Great Broughton, 7lb.; Mr. D. Bowes, Netherton, 20lb.; Mr. J. Atkinson, Penny Bridge, 18lb.; and Mr. J. Byers, one of 22lb. I have also information of Mr. A. B. Dunlop, troutbeck, securing three salmon, the best of which scaled 12lb.

THE advisability of extending the close time for salmon in this district was considered at a quarterly meeting of the Board of Conservators last week, held at Bowness (Windermere). Mr. Pollitt moved a resolution that their bye-law, altering the annual close time for salmon, and confirmed by the Board of Trade on the 18th of February, 1888, be altered, so that the annual close season for rods shall commence on the first day of November in each year, instead of on the fifteenth day of November. A lengthy discussion followed on this motion, and some widely divergent opinions were expressed. Mr. Pollitt argued that many fish in the Kent and other rivers, captured in October, were full of spawn, mentioning some striking instances, and asked the board to seriously consider whether the fortnight in November ought not to be given up entirely as a quiet time to the fish while breeding. Mr. Rawlinson opposed the motion strongly, as far as concerned below Ulpha Bridge. Below that bridge the fish were quite fit to take until the middle of November, indeed that was the only time they were able to catch good salmon. Major Machell opposed it on behalf of the Leven, where some of the biggest salmon were caught in November. Mr. Dickson said that the best fish were supposed to run up at the end of October and beginning of November, and those caught below Low Wood Bridge were most of them good fish, though they might get worse higher up, and when they reached Lake Windermere might not be fit for food. Down below, however, they were perfectly eatable and very good. Mr. Watson said with regard to the Kent side of the district the end of October was quite late enough to have the season open. On Monday there was a fish taken about 10lb. weight, which was simply covered with spawn. The head watcher to the board was called into the room and questioned as to the condition of salmon in different rivers, and his evidence tended to show the advisability of an earlier close time. On being put to the meeting, Mr. Pollitt's motion was rejected by a majority of one.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

FISHING in this district during the past week or ten days has been all but *nil*. The rivers and brooks generally are bank high, and in some instances overflowing. This state of things naturally causes enforced inactivity, and consequently items of interest are very scarce,

THE minutes and balance-sheet of the Amalgamated Anglers is at last to hand after a month's delay. It is as usual entirely free from any minute of interest to the general body of its members, but in the balance-sheet is subject matter for consideration, and in all probability for searching criticism at the forthcoming district meetings of the various districts composing the parent association. If the trip profits are left out, the expenses of the delegates exceed the legitimate income. Again, so heavy are the costs of the trip, including the gratuity of an extra five shillings each to the committee, that the balance is so small that many will think the great risk is much too serious an item for such a small possible profit. Business appears to be very bad with the delegates when private correspondence is read and resolutions passed on the same to gratify a questionable feeling of injured dignity. Delegates would do wisely in always continuing their deliberations to questions affecting their organisation, and not introduce extraneous subjects; much irritation would then be avoided.

THE Dee season has a far better record than it has enjoyed for some years past, and the present flood, although, now preventing extensive operations may tend to a further period of good sport when the waters return to their normal condition. The Ribble also may be classed amongst those rivers whose condition has somewhat improved. Whilst the Dane is so much fished sensational catches cannot be expected, and yet considering the demand made upon its resources it comes out of the season's ordeal in a highly satisfactory manner. The Northwich Waters have this week been unproductive of good sport, but after the heavy demands of late this may be expected.

THE Palatine Club had a very successful outing to Poynton Pool, valuable prizes were offered for competition, and fair all-round catches were made by the members taking part in the contest. The first prize was secured by Mr. W. Jennett, the second by Mr. J. Cleumcy, and the third by Mr. J. Kershaw.

THE last match of the season arranged by the Gorton tank anglers, was fished at Lostock Graham, on the 17th, only poor sport resulted. The prize winners were: First, J. Crawshaw; second, E. Massey; third, E. Taylor; fourth, R. Ashley.

THE Openshaw Club appear to have abundance of support given to them in the way of prizes, and on Saturday last, the unsuccessful competitors in previous contests had an opportunity offered them of obtaining prizes in a consolation contest arranged for their special benefit. The following is the result: First, H. Hamley; second, J. Curran; third, W. Thomas; fourth, T. Ruberry; fifth, C. Cartwright. Three prizes remain unawarded.

A NOTICE of motion is down for the next meeting of the Manchester District, to appoint a sub-committee to secure waters for this district, the members appointed will have a lot of work before them.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

BOTTOM FISHING during the past week has been very much below par, in fact only one or two anglers have been out; the weather having been so cold and wet. The water on the Yare is in very good condition. At Brundall this afternoon it was in splendid colour. Last Wednesday the river was lower that has been known for years, but now it is of more than usual volume. The pike fishing is very good, and some nice baskets of fish have been taken. The rivers are full of them, owing no doubt to the fact that all the waters in the county were frozen up last winter and very few pike being caught there.

On the Yare some few roach fell to the lot of two or three of our local anglers. I cannot say the total weight, but one fish of 2lb. 3oz. was caught at Brundall last Thursday. Several lots of pike, amongst them one fish of 17lb (taken on Rockland Broad on Friday), have been secured.

On the Bure a few bream have been taken, but I can only vouch for the weight of one catch 1½st. taken on Thursday near Ranworth Dyke. On Friday twelve pike were caught by a party of gentlemen between Horning Church and Woodbastwick Broad. On the 18th inst., three-score fair roach were caught at Horning.

On Thursday a splendid catch of pike was made on a private broad, total weight about 45lb., largest fish 15lb.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

The practical portion of angling is at present under a cloud. Anglers are ever the victim of circumstances, and during the last ten days the Fates have been most adverse to them. No sooner are there slightly encouraging signs of the river receding and improving in colour, than rain again sets in, and makes matters really worse than they were before. On Sunday night, the flood was fast disappearing, and arrangements were made in some quarters to try the high banks at Shardlow and Weston, but before daylight on the following morning another violent storm sprang up and completely upset calculations. On Tuesday, the water was again out in the fields, and on Wednesday, when my Notes were written, prospects were still on the gloomy side. Yet one or two "items" have reached me. On Friday, at Colwick, Mr. T. Leak, Nottingham, caught a remarkably good perch, weighing, I understand, 1¾lb.; and on Tuesday and Wednesday, in the Long Higgins, above Holme Pierrepont Loch, sundry choice captures of roach and bream were effected with the cockspur worm. The meadow wherein the sport was obtained belongs to the estate of the late Mr. G. C. Musters, who used to hunt the South Notts Hounds, and since the Colwick rights have been secured on lease by the New Racecourse Company, Limited, of Nottingham, fishermen go into it, and so far they have not been interfered with. Legally speaking they have no claim whatever on the fishery, and as the whole of the fishery rights have been taken over by the company named, I suppose that when they take formal possession of the property they will issue season tickets. But these should not be overdone as regards price. Some people have a notion that if they rent a water close to Nottingham, they can secure any number of subscribers at a big price. All I can say is they had better try. The fishing in the immediate neighbourhood is overdone and requires a rest.

Mr. John Theaker, of Canal-street, Nottingham, has just consigned a splendid lot of live pike to Mr. Warner, at the Welsh Harp Fishery, Hendon. The order had been on hand some time, but pike for stocking purposes are not obtained every day. The consignment included about forty of *Esox lucius*, some of them measuring between fifteen and sixteen inches in length. They were a fine healthy lot, and ought some day in the future to afford Mr. Warner's numerous patrons a grand bit of sport. One of the heaviest fish was badly undershot, but in condition it was all that could be desired, and there is no doubt the malformation was bred with it. The whole of the fish came out of clear-running streams in the Nottingham district, and they are certain to thrive in Host Warner's extensive lake.

A few days ago a portion of the Nottingham and Grantham Canal, which joins the Trent immediately below the New Trent Bridge at Nottingham, was netted in most wholesale fashion. The water is supposed to be in the right of Mr. A. Heyman, J.P., of West Bridgford, and it would be curious to know who gave the necessary permission for the stream to be dragged. Mr. Heyman himself is a thorough sportsman, is highly esteemed, and he has not hitherto interfered with the quiet enjoyment of large numbers of Nottingham people frequenting the water. In the summer season hundreds of boys may nightly be seen plodding away in search of humble roach, bleak, or perch, and it seems a thousand pities that a few swoops of a formidable drag-net should deprive them for perhaps months of a little innocent recreation. I have heard it stated that when the last wholesale slaughter took place, Mr. Heyman was away from home, and he ought by all means to know who are the authors of such wanton destruction. There is quite enough netting indulged in on the Trent, without resorting to the canals.

The prizes—special and ordinary—won by the members of the Nottingham Bowling Green Inn Angling Society, during the summer season were presented at the recent half-yearly dinner of the society. I briefly mentioned the matter last week, and have now pleasure in publishing the awards. They are: Barbel, first, Mr. G. Bee, 5lb.; second, Mr. S. Pogson, 5lb.; third, Mr. J. Minion, 2lb. 1¾oz. Roach, first, Mr. C. Pidd, 1lb. 3¾oz.; second, Mr. W. H. Smith, 1lb. 2¾oz.; third, W. H. White, 12½oz. Dace, first, Mr. R. Fish, 8½oz.; second, Mr. W. Burrows, 8oz.; third, Mr. W. Dupe, 7¾oz. Bream, first, Mr. C. Tye, 2lb. 13¾oz.; second, Mr. J. Iago, 1lb. 15¾oz. Perch, first, Mr. H. Coxon, 1lb. ¾oz.; second, Mr. A. W. Smith, 7¾oz. Chub, first, Mr. E. Towers, 3lb. 2¾oz.; second, Mr. P. Wilson, 2lb. 10oz.; third, Mr. J. Farnsworth, 1lb. 3¾oz. Bleak, first, Mr. E. Rogers, 3¾oz.; second, Mr. A. Bostock, 1¾oz. Special class (pike), first, Mr. H. Burrows, 4lb. 9¾oz. The last prize was liberally given by Mr. A. W. Smith, and he has promised one of similar value for the winter club now in progress. The prizes generally were remarkably good, and those who had given the "specials" received a hearty vote of thanks. The dinner, I might add, was very ably presided over by Mr. P. Wilson, who had as his *vis-à-vis*, in the vice-chair, Mr. W. H. Smith, the genial owner of the *Althea*, in the Barton Waters. Host Pogson promised sundry "specials" for the winter term, and during the evening his voice was heard to great advantage. Recitations were given by the president and Mr. Joseph Simpson, and one of the best gatherings ever held in the club-room extended into a second night. Mr. Iago, the secretary, announced that the receipts for the old club amounted to £16 1s. 6d. The classification of the winter fish runs as follows: Chub, roach, dace, bream, perch, and pike.

At the annual dinner of the Fisherman's Rest Angling Society, held on Alfreton-road, Nottingham, the prizes won during the summer season were awarded to the following—viz.: Messrs. P. Aram, A. Bennett, S. Squires, E. Allen, H. Bretnall, A. Keys, and J. Smith. The club, although not a strong one in point of numbers, is certainly one of the oldest in the town, and efforts are being made to increase its popularity, as well as to strengthen its membership. Mr. E. Allen presided over the dinner, and the *post-prandial* proceedings were enlivened by songs and recitations from Messrs. Squires, Smedley, Barnett, and Allen.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

For more than a week the Severn has been converted into a seething, turbulent and discoloured stream, and for several days many acres of land have been under water. The constant rainfalls have kept the river at high flood, and it will be yet some days before it resumes its normal height, and gives anglers an opportunity of pursuing their lost avocation. Probably, however, the flood will be beneficial in arousing the fish from their lethargy, and as soon as the stream becomes clear, pike-fishers should have some good sport. Two enthusiastic pike anglers, one a well-known local Excise officer, and an ardent follower of "Old Izaak," journeyed on Tuesday to Cottingham, for a day's pike-fishing in Lord Berwick's water, hoping against hope that the water would have become sufficiently low to enable them to visit their favourite localities. Alas! however, for human hopes, the Tern was quite as turbulent and high as its parent stream, the Severn, and the meadows on each side were flooded to such an extent that it was impossible to find a resting-place. Disconsolately the disappointed would-be anglers fled the scene without putting rods and tackle together, and returned home to await a more propitious opportunity.

Mr. A. Mostyn Owen, a prominent member of the Severn Board of Conservators, who has taken energetic action on behalf of those interested in the Severn salmon fishing in the upper waters of the Severn, in pressing for an increased supply of fish, writes an interesting and practical letter in reference to the recent visit of inspection paid by Mr. Berrington, Chief Inspector of Fisheries, to the weirs in the Severn. He accompanied Mr. Berrington in his official visit to the weirs below Worcester, and gives a valuable account of the journey down the river, and the result of the inspection. His visit was made in the interests of the upper riparian owners, by whom he was particularly requested to undertake the journey. Embarking in a small steamboat at Worcester bridge, on the 18th, they journeyed to the first weir, below that place, "Diglis" Weir, just above that which they landed and took "a hasty view" of it. "Hasty," says Mr. Owen, because they were not there long, and did not attempt to take any measurements of the formation and incline of the arrangements existing at this weir to enable the salmon to pass over it. He, however, made the best observations he could. On the north side he says there is what was termed a salmon pass, but which was so badly constructed—the breaks in it so ill-shaped, the flooring so steep, and the entrance so impracticable for salmon to enter it at the time he saw it, that he considered it almost useless; for, in his opinion, what fish managed to get over the weir at certain states of the water would do so as easily as if the so-called pass was not there. None but the most active fish, says he, and certainly but very few gravid hen-fish could accomplish it, and even if they did so they would be considerably damaged by their exertions. On the south side of this wear there is no attempt at the provision of a salmon pass, such as is made with breaks in it, to lessen the force of the water rushing through it, but there is a long piece or bulk of timber fixed on the face of the sloping weir, diagonally slanting down the weir, which has the effect of congregating the water coming over the crest of the weir against the side of the timber, and down which it rushes with such unchecked violence that, at the time when Mr. Owen made his inspection, no salmon could, in his belief, possibly get up it, the incline up the side of the piece of timber being so steep. The actual incline of the weir at the place were there was this rush of water was not, however, measured. Mr. Mostyn Owen was unable to attend the inspection on the evening of the 17th, when he inspected the pass on the weir at Lincome, above Worcester, but he states that he heard from a Conservator who did so that it was worse than the one at Diglis. On the weir at Tewkesbury, he continues, there is no pass, and when he saw it, it would be very difficult for a salmon to get up at the north side where the crest of the weir was slightly lowered, but at certain states of the water the fish would be able to pass over with the tide. It ought, however, as Mr. Owen remarks, to be passable at all times, and a perfect pass might easily be made close to the nort side where the fish are now expected to get up with a rush or stop below till the water rises higher, or, what is much more likely, till they are taken in the nets. Concluding, he says he is decidedly of opinion that the present imperfect state of the contrivances for assisting the salmon to get over Diglis Weir, without reference to the efficiency of the others, quite sufficient to account for the lamentable falling off in the supply of salmon from the Severn Fisheries, and that unless a perfect pass is made at this weir, these fisheries must continue to decline. It is not, he says, reasonable to expect that the owners and occupiers of the upper waters, will devote enough time, trouble, and money to preserve from ever-ready poachers the few fish which are now enabled to get to the upper waters where, if the fisheries are to recover and prosper they must have easy access at all times. At the south side of Diglis weir there is, continues Mr. Owen, ample space between where the timber is now placed diagonally and the shore to make a perfect pass, and it would be so if made with an elbow so as to elongate the pass and thereby diminish the incline which should not be steeper than *one in eight*, and with the entrance below low water mark near the foot of the weir so as to allow and entice the salmon to swim into it without leaping. If the passage of Diglis and one or two other of the weirs in the lower water were thus altered, and this might be done at a small cost, the result would undoubtedly be a large increase of salmon in the upper waters.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

An important meeting of the North-Eastern Sea Fisheries Committee was held at York Castle, on Wednesday, Mr. J. W. Woodall, of Scarborough, presiding. Professor Mackintosh presented an exhaustive report on the mussel beds of the Tees, the Humber, and the Yorkshire Esk, which it was decided to print and circulate, as being of great interest. Mr. J. C. Clayton, of Darlington, proposed a bye-law to apply within so much of the district as lies between Skinnington Beck on the south, and Castle Eden Dene on the north (excepting as may be otherwise provided by the 13th section of the Sea Fisheries Regulation Act, 1888); the object being to put down the wanton destruction of young sparling and salmon by means of haffle or offal nets. There was no objection to anyone fishing for sparling with a rod, say merely for sport, but with nets it should be discontinued between March 21 and July 21 inclusive in any year. The nets which he proposed should be used in future were those recommended by Mr. Noel Malon, made of thirties yarn, with a five-tenths to six-tenths mesh. Mr. Alderman Toozes seconded, and Mr. Alward supported the motion. Mr. Jeffs could not support it, and considered it a question for the Tees Salmon Fishery Board. The resolution was, however, subsequently adopted by eight votes to three.

A meeting of the riparian owners, anglers, and others interested in the improvement of salmon fishing in the river Ure was held on Friday evening, in the Town Hall, Ripon, to agree upon a requisition to the Yorkshire Fishery Board, and to point out to the conservators the urgent necessity of reconstructing the present faulty structure at Linton Weir; and, if thought necessary, assisting them with subscriptions, so as to give salmon at all times an easy access to the upper waters. The Most Hon. the Marquis of Ripon, K.G., presided, and amongst those present were Mr. J. H. Phillips, secretary to the Yorkshire Fishery Board; Major St. Paul, Ripon; Mr. F. Sharp, Newby; Mr. T. Arton, Tanfield Lodge; Mr. Brian Hebden, Ripon; Mr. Arthur J. H. Wood, Bellwood; Mr. S. Swire, Mr. R. M. Bowman, and others. The noble chairman, in opening the meeting, said he was of opinion that some permanent good was certain to result from the steps which were proposed to be taken to improve the salmon fishery in the river Ure. Speaking for himself, he considered the salmon fishing in the Ure was not what it ought to be; but he fully believed that the various works which had been undertaken by the Yorkshire Fishery Board had in the past produced some good results. But the weir which it was proposed to deal with at Linton had always been a great difficulty—in fact, one of the greatest obstacles they had to deal with; and although the fish-pass constructed some years ago had improved it, yet experience had shown them that the alterations were not adequate, and that the results were not such as they hoped for. The Fishery Board had done something at Westwick; but the Linton Lock was a much larger and more important matter, involving an estimated expenditure of £600 or £700. As most of the income of the Yorkshire Fishery Board was spent, such a large sum was beyond their reach; it was, therefore, the duty of everyone interested to assist them in this matter. The alteration proposed was simplicity itself, for it was well known that the less gymnastic exercise they asked the salmon to perform, the greater number of fish they were likely to get up their rivers. He therefore moved: "That this meeting wishes to impress on the Yorkshire Board of Conservators the necessity of reconstructing the present defective fish pass at Linton Weir, so as to give salmon access at all times to the upper waters of the Ure." Major St. Paul seconded the motion, and said he was convinced if the new scheme were adopted, that it would be greatly to the advantage of the riparian owners. Mr. A. J. H. Wood said the Fishery Board had long wanted to improve the pass. They had now an excellent pass at Boroughbridge, but unfortunately at present they did not get the full benefit of it. They were now to have a pass at Westwick, so that the salmon could ascend the river there; but they still had the difficulty of Linton Weir to be surmounted, while the income of the Fishery Board was almost entirely spent in watching the rivers. He remembered, some sixteen years ago, holding a meeting of that sort, when £510 was promised by the riparian owners. The present fish pass at Linton was designed by an eminent engineer on theory, but not on practice. The models they now saw on the table were designed by himself. Her Majesty's Inspector of Fisheries, Mr. Berrington, wrote that he had carefully considered this fish pass, and was of opinion that the method and scheme were the most feasible ever proposed for helping the fish over the weir. The proposed weir was on the same principle as the one at Boroughbridge, which had proved so successful. A river-watcher, writing under date October 7, had said that he had counted thirty-five salmon ascend the weir at Boroughbridge in an hour, and salmon were ascending all day. He had received a letter from Lord Grantley, who had promised to subscribe £20 to the project. Mr. J. H. Phillips, secretary to the Yorkshire Fishery Board, speaking from twenty-seven years' experience, said that the present chambers at Linton Weir were too small, and the fish never found their way above the second pool. The water at present was too much confined, consequently there was too much boiling, and the salmon fell into deep water, and there deposited their spawn, which became addled and good for nothing. He pointed out that in the Ure, they had, in its higher reaches, a quiet unpolluted water-shed, which was calculated to be most favourable for the breeding of fish. Salmon must have clean water and a clear run if they desired to have large quantities of them. He was informed that at present they were running up the Yorkshire rivers in large quantities, and never hesitated at the Boroughbridge Weir. Lord Ripon then put the resolution, which was carried unanimously. His lordship said he should be happy to subscribe £50, provided the scheme was carried in its entirety, but if a smaller scheme were adopted, then he would reduce the amount of his offer. Mr. Arton then moved: "That, in order to raise the requisite funds to cover the estimated cost of the alteration of this fish pass, and (as the revenues of the Board of Conservators is almost entirely spent in watching and protecting the fisheries throughout the district) this meeting is of opinion that a vigorous canvass for subscriptions should be made amongst those more particularly interested in the fisheries of the river Ure, and that Mr. Arthur J. H. Wood, of Bellwood, Ripon, be requested to accept the office of hon. secretary and treasurer." He added that he would give £25 to the fund, and a little more if need be. Mr. Bowman seconded, and the motion was adopted *nem. con.* Major St. Paul then moved, and it was agreed: "That a committee, consisting of the following noblemen and gentlemen, or their representatives—viz., The Most Honourable the Marquis of Ripon, the Right Hon. Lord Grantley, the Right Hon. Lord Masham, Sir Reginald Graham, Bart., the Hon. S. Cunliffe Lister, J. T. D'Arcy Hatton, Esq., A. S. Lawson, Esq., T. Arton, Esq., R. C. Vyner, Esq., and H. St. Paul, Esq. (with power to add to their number) be appointed, for carrying these resolutions into effect with as little delay as possible." He was of opinion that some steps should be taken to prevent the pollution of the stream by the Aire and Calder. The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

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elegraphic Address—"RIVSAM, London."
TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31st, 1891.

THE ABERFOYLE DISTRICT.

By DUINE MÔR.

the genius of Sir Walter Scott had never d its "kindly light" (at least to inn-keepers, way companies, *et hoc genus omne*, that live by wandering stranger) over the district of rfoyle, yet in time that district would most redly have become famous, not only by son of its marvellous natural beauty and proquity to the busier haunts of men, but also on ount of the excellent lochs which are embraced hin its other charms. It is, nevertheless, a ky thing that Aberfoyle rhymes with toil, and , at least to a Cockney, is suggested by the same d; so that the celebrated stag in the "Lady the Lake" is made most naturally to pause think what rhymes with toil, and so makes his mind not to seek refuge "by far Loch Ard Aberfoyle," it being only an *obiter dictum* on part, introduced no doubt to help the Pegasus the Wizard of the North on his way. "Rob ," however, made Aberfoyle famous, and, if inn of the present day be a somewhat more tely and more imposing pile than that which ltered the immortal Bailie, still it retains his ne, and the veritable poker which he so iantly wielded yet waves on an adjacent tree the credulous to gaze at with wonder, and the ptical to regard with a cynical sneer; but the is the latter's, for it is pleasant to believe that all these things were true, not the fictitious creations of a genius that persuades us into belief. Aberfoyle is only some twenty odd miles from Glasgow; so that the journey to it is by no means a long one, and occupies only about one and a-half hours. The journey from Edinburgh (*viâ* Stirling) is rather tedious, and Glasgow is undoubtedly the best starting-point. If one prefers a circuitous route, then that *viâ* Callander and the Trossachs, and thence by coach to Aberfoyle, will satisfy him, and the scenery will, of course, more than compensate (if the day be fine) for the somewhat protracted journey. Arrived at Aberfoyle, one is at once in the midst of charmingly diversified scenery. Wild, precipitous, rocky hills, whose bold cliffs rise sheer for many hundreds of feet, long wooded vistas, diversified with smiling fields, and soft green pastoral undulances, and over all, in the distance, the huge masses of Ben Lomond and his attendant hills, with the Forth murmuring over its pebbly bed as it glides past the door of the hotel—forms as fair a picture as one would wish to see. This, however, is only the beginning of the many lovely views. The road to Loch Ard is full of beauty. Nestling under the hill-side lie many lovely villas, which, here at least, from the good taste displayed in their architecture, seem in harmony with their surroundings, not out of place. The road is richly wooded in all its length, and the drive is a lovely one. The "Queen's View," from a point a mile from Aberfoyle, is alone worth going all the way to see, and when at length Loch Ard opens up, with the morning breeze sweeping gently over its surface, one no longer wonders at the enthusiastic admiration of Osbaldistone for its many and varied charms.

There are three lochs attached to the hotel at Aberfoyle: Loch Ard, Loch Dhu, and Loch Chon. The first of these is, of course, the most celebrated, and viewed as a whole is the most pleasant to fish, because the scenery is as fine as anything in Scotland, and the fishing is at times very good indeed. Loch Ard is an irregular sheet of water, about three miles long by a mile wide. These are the dimensions of Loch Ard proper, for there is a lower loch—two lower lochs in fact from one point of view—one of which is about half a mile in length, or perhaps a little more. The fish in the lower loch are, as a rule, larger than those of Loch Ard proper, but they are also shyer, and hence sport is more uncertain. Some very heavy trout frequent the lower loch, but they do not rise freely. The average size in the lower lake is about ¾lb. Pike are numerous here, but the loch is not very suitable for trolling. Between Loch Ard proper and the lower loch there is a longish stretch of good water known as the Narrows. With a good breeze this is a capital place for sport, and every inch of water should be carefully searched. The trout here run on an average better than in any other part of Loch Ard, and are very well fed and handsome fish. Loch Ard proper is, as I have said, about three miles long by one wide, a small area of water, apparently, but there is in reality a much greater extent of fishing ground than the dimensions of the loch would lead one to suppose. There are a great number of bays and shallow banks, and all these afford good fishing. The boatmen can be trusted to put the angler on the best water, as they are, as a class, very keen and very willing, and the stranger cannot do better than put himself entirely in their hands.

The best flies for Loch Ard are those ordinarily used in Loch Leven, but of a smaller size than those employed on that celebrated loch. Indeed, on Loch Ard small flies will be found most deadly, especially amongst the better class of fish, and the cast should be as fine as possible, especially in calm weather, for Loch Ard trout rise in lighter airs than almost any trout on the mainland and much-frequented Scotch lochs—a fact which did not escape the keen notice of the late Francis Francis.

There are undoubtedly far too many boats on Loch Ard, each of the many feuars on the loch side having the right to put a boat on the loch. I do not see how this can be avoided. I do not think a restrictive clause in the feu-charter against trout fishing would hold good in law, because the land passes, and hence such a strict pertinent as trout fishing must go with it, but the question (so far as I know) has never been decided. In spite of the number of boats there are many days when few—some days when none—are out, and hence the angler fortunate enough to be able to reside in this lovely region for some time has a much better chance of sport than the transient stranger. Despite the many boats, too, the trout are bold risers to *small flies* on *fine* gut, and personally I have found little or no "short-rising." I cannot say the fish are very lively or great jumpers, though they pull hard and fight obstinately, if they keep somewhat low; but perhaps the glorious pluck of our Western islands trout has made me a little difficult to please. On the table, the Loch Ard trout fulfil ably the most ignoble portion of troutish duty, and for flavour and delicacy are unsurpassed by any trout in Scotland, Loch Leven trout not excepted.

Loch Ard is a very early loch, the earliest in Scotland, perhaps, for, with the exception of Loch Vennachar (on which I have seen trout killed with the fly early in February on a wild day with snow *everywhere*), there is no loch on the mainland where fish are so soon in condition and willing to rise. Indeed, I have been told by anglers who have fished it early in the season, that they have cast *on to ice* and drawn their flies off it to kill trout in good condition at the edge of the frozen portion. March is often very good, April and May first-rate, but I should prefer the two last months, as fishing from a boat in March is rather chilly work. Moreover, the trees are not "out" and half Loch Ard's charm consists in its sylvan splendours. The season is supposed to end with May, but I am credibly informed by the boatmen that the fly-fishing is often better in June than at any other time of the year, and I see no reason why it should not be so, though most attention is then given to trolling with the natural minnow—a mode of fishing only to be resorted to when all other means have failed—at least from my point of view. I will not attempt to describe the natural beauties of Loch Ard. The scene is one not easily forgotten, and if there is a lovelier loch in Scotland I have yet to see it. So lovely is Loch Ard, that no angler whose soul can rise above slaughter, ever comes off it disappointed, however poor his day may be, because one could not gaze on the richly-wooded shores, the bluff rocks, and towering mountain peaks of Loch Ard, and think the world anything but beautiful or a place made only to be the chosen home of regrets.

Loch Dhu is a much smaller loch than Loch Ard, merely a tarn, in fact, or a large pool formed by the stream connecting Lochs Ard and Chon. One can easily see how it acquired the name of Loch Dhu, or the Black Loch, because even were the water clear, which it is not, being intensely peaty, the dark and frowning hills which lie around it would in themselves be a sufficient justification for the title. Loch Dhu, though a small loch, is a very good one. If one does not capture a great number of fish, those one does get are beauties, better from my point of view than either the Loch Ard or the Loch Chon fish. The bay at the head where the burn flows out on its way to Loch Ard is a very good place, and should be carefully fished. I once killed a genuine Loch Leven trout in this bay—a good number of which were put into Loch Ard, and if none were put into Loch Chon (about which I am not sure), this is the first instance, so far as I know, of Loch Leven trout *ascending*, their tendency always being to descend out of a loch, if they are allowed to do so. The shore next the road is the best shore of Loch Dhu, and some very heavy fish of 3lb. and 4lb. lie here, but of course it is a matter of chance whether one may drop into a fish of that size or not. I have never fished the loch without raising or hooking one of these large fellows, but curiously enough fortune has not yet favoured me with a sufficiently killing smile for the capture of one of these big ones. Loch Dhu requires a great deal of patience, but yields well to a persevering angler. The boat belongs to the Water Works, but can, as a rule, be easily obtained. A dozen trout running from ¾lb. to 1½lb. is a fair day's work on Loch Dhu. The loch is about six and a-half miles from Aberfoyle, a lovely drive.

Between Loch Dhu and Loch Chon there are two deep pools in the burn, well worthy of a trial if the breeze be good. There are some very fine trout in these dubs, and, if in the mood (and they will rise at once if they are), a moderately skilful angler should secure half-a-dozen or so before the rise is "off."

Loch Chon, the third of the hotel lochs, is a largish sheet of water, some three miles long by three-quarters of a mile broad, situated amidst wild, mountainous scenery. The sylvan beauties of Loch Ard are absent, save at the Aberfoyle end; but this is compensated for by the rugged hillsides and the wild, romantic scenery. Loch Chon was at one time a favourite abode of herons, if we are to suppose that Sir Walter Scott had some reason for the lines—

> "On Duchray's towers no beacon shone
> Nor scared the heron from Loch Chon."

But now only an occasional heron is to be seen, and they no longer build on the island, which is, however, a great resort of black game. Loch Chon rather a fickle loch *by reputation;* but I have found, on the few occasions on which I have fished it, that the trout rise quite as freely as on Loch Ard, and, if a little inferior in quality, are larger in size, and, if anything, have more spirit. They run all over about ¾lb., and from a dozen to twenty fish is a fair day's work, though larger and, of course, *smaller* baskets are often made. April and May are the best months for fishing Loch Chon with the fly, and a brisk, steady breeze blowing up and down the loch is the best wind. The far end of the loch from Aberfoyle is very good, but round the islands the fishing is, I think, best, and especially round the large island at the eastern end, where one may spend the whole day comfortably, especially if it be blowing hard outside. The feeding here is excellent, and the fish numerous and of a good quality. Patience is a *sine quâ non* of success on Loch Chon, for the trout come "on the rise" every now and then in a very marked way, with intervals of non-rising, and one has to keep working away to reap the benefit of these moves. After May, the Phantom or natural minnow is largely used on Loch Chon, and some fine heavy trout up to 3lb. (with an occasional giant) are thus captured. The natural minnow is much better than the Phantom, both in Loch Dhu and Loch Chon, but it does not yield much in Loch Ard owing to the plentiful supply of minnows in that loch. In June, fly is not much used, at least during the heat of the day; but in the evening, I believe, the fish rise freely to the fly, and it is well worthy of trial.

I can conceive of no more enjoyable prospect than the idea which a fine June evening on Loch Chon presents to my imagination, with the sun sinking behind Ben Lomond, and he and all his neighbouring vassal hills bathed in the golden splendour of the declining rays, and the soft balmy breath of the summer evening sweeping gently over the waters of this romantic lake. Add but a little fishing, and the angler who would not be content must be hard to please; and he who would not leave the scene with regret would be callous indeed to the charms of Nature and the soothing influence of its unspoken sermons.

To return to the practical, however, I may mention that the charge for a boat on Lochs Ard and Chon is three shillings a day, and the boatman's fee is four shillings, exclusive of lunch and the inevitable whisky. The hotel at Aberfoyle is a very comfortable one, and commands lively views. The charges are not excessive, but just what one would expect in the locality, while Mr. Blair, the proprietor, and Mr. Logan, the manager, are more than obliging, as I can readily testify from many personal experiences of their kindness and attention. The boat on Loch Dhu is to be had free of charge, but of course one has to ask for it. The fishing on the Forth (or Avon Dhu), which passes the hotel door, is often very good, yellow trout running about three to the pound, with an odd large one, while sea trout, after the "Lammas floods," are fairly numerous, and run pretty heavy.

Viewed as a whole, the Aberfoyle district is well worthy of a visit. It is conveniently situated; the fishing is usually fairly good, and sometimes excellent; while the scenery is certainly unsurpassed in variety, picturesqueness, and beauty by that of any district in Scotland, and has many romantic and traditional associations to enhance its natural interest for the lover of Nature in all her varied forms and moods.

THE best individual record this season on the river Annan was obtained on Saturday last, on the Mount Annan Section, when Mr. John Bell-Irving killed six fish, of 17lb., 18½lb., 19lb., 20½lb., 21lb., and 22½lb.

"REDSPINNER" ON TWEED.

[WE advise our readers to purchase *Baily's Magazine* for November, and read a delightful article by "Redspinner" (Mr. Wm. Senior, Angling Editor of the *Field*), who, we are glad to see, got four good fish in one day. We give an extract from it.—ED.]

THREE men, in costumes that might serve for either fishing or shooting, come out under the porch and gravely survey the scene. It is a picture of late autumn in a year when the foliage of the woods has been preserved to the farthest limit of change. But the sportsmen are not noticing either the glossy green of the hollies, the bright colours of the remnant of leaves on the maples, the russets and yellows of the oaks, or the rich deep brown of the beeches. They are not contrasting the purplish-green of the Scotch firs with the out-at-elbow larches, nor the dense cover of the rhododendrons with the scarlet patterns on the hawthorns. They are looking very dolorously beyond the woods, beyond even the fields—dotted now with grazing cattle, now with sheep—to the broad river, and they cannot but confess that "she is up again." Behind the group is the fair-haired young mistress of the establishment, trying hard, out of a sense of duty to her husband, to look as sympathetically dismal as he and his friends undoubtedly do, yet scarcely concealing an irresistible desire to laugh merrily at the downcast demeanour of these full-grown men, as they give up hoping against hope, and realise the hard fact that there will be no line cast on either upper or lower water that day. It is no use tapping the venerable glass on the wall, consulting the aneroid for the fiftieth time, or saying that it looks a little lighter to the westward. There has been rain during the night—there is rain now; and no amount of specious explanation can do away with the evidence of that grassy tongue of land on the left bank, and the shingly promontory on the other. Surveyed at the end of a vista of trees, both have been considerably reduced since last night by the swelling water. The old gillie at this moment stalks up from the winding path in the shrubberies, and laconically announces that she is a foot higher, by the figures on the post, than she was yester-even, and nasty in colour.

"She'll nae fesh the day," he says.

The three knights of the sorrowful countenance smile in sickly fashion at one another, enter the house, cast themselves into easy-chairs, and moodily charge and smoke their after-breakfast pipes. Eventually they relieve their feelings according to their respective temperaments. Though the host says nothing, there is a pathetic look of appeal to Fate in his dark eyes; the young cousin, resigning himself to the inevitable, placidly reads a yellow-back, not permitting anything in the world to disturb his philosophic serenity.

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At length dawns a brighter day. Before fairly opening your eyes you ask the servant with the water, as he draws up the blinds, what the weather is like, and an admitted gleam of sunshine answers the question before he has time to speak. November, however, is quite as chill as October, and the sunshine cheers rather than warms. At any rate, it promises a change of weather. The water is now just right—volume and colour beautiful. The nasty specks of creamy froth are no longer coming down; the yellow leaves, loosened by the frost, are swishing below the surface swiftly out to sea. As you trudge down to the river by the high bank you see that fish are on the move—not noisy and splashing, as if they are on the run, but quietly priming on the top. I never heard of such fish taking the fly, though few anglers can resist the temptation of casting towards all rises of the kind. In due time you reach the fishing ground, and go forth full of hope; and fortunate may you be if, under these conditions, you fare as well as did a small party of which I was one. Let me tell the story briefly of a characteristic back-end day.

The old gillie, looking at the sun, shook his head, and said it was too bright for that time of the year. There had been lightning the previous night in a clear moon-lit sky. The hoar-frost was thick on the grass. The two boats put off a few minutes before ten o'clock, A. N. G. giving me the lower, himself taking the higher section of his bonnie water. The Silver Grey was on my cast; and my host had a fly of his own creation and bearing his name. As he was working up an down, at the start we were within fifty yards one another; and we had just got into the sw of the thing when I heard the scream of winch. A. N. G. was clearly into a fish, an glanced over my shoulder, to see the rod arc like the rainbow of the day before. One m cast and half-way down a splendid sensat enabled me, in answer to the boatman's " G.'s got a fesh," to say, "By Jove! and so have

There was no breaking of the surface with mi he took the Silver Grey fairly under wa sheered off a little, and sulked. When he be to move he did it briskly, shaking head savagely throughout. I was, in truth, g to have the salmon flopping in the net, be not a bit sure of the result, even after I stepped to land and brought him near the sh I had ten minutes more fun even now, but at a bright, handsome fish of 19lb. was landed. hold was torn wide and loose, and anot minute would have given the fish the liberty which he fought so well. Some time now elap without a touch or sign, and I exchanged Silver Grey for the Wilkinson, the mage hackles of which I always fancy. Three thro and at the fourth the winch was again speed round in full song. This was a more determi customer than the other, and he never slacke pace till he had run out seventy yards of line stream. There is a pleasanter music than e that of the reel—to wit, the soft hissing sound the line tautened on a salmon cutting its through the water. Most soothing is it to ear, because it generally signifies a firmly-hoo fish, running deep and steady. This fish walked up and down the bank after we had left the bo but I felt quite certain of him, and a better ba end fish I never greeted than this, which mar an honest 20lb.

The other boat had long since passed from view, but my skipper opined that A. N. G. wo be "amang 'em." The water he was fishing more rapid than mine, but it is always conside excellent holding ground for fish at that condit of water. The old man at the oars was in midst of telling me this when I hooked a th fish. It was obviously small, and, could I ha had my way, I would have had him netted fr the boat; but the netter was not of my mind, a we went ashore to settle accounts with num three—a grilse of 8lb., red, indeed very red, wh we placed him in the bottom of the boat by side of the larger silvery fish. The Wilkinson too good to depose, and, within half-an-hour, brought up a lusty fish, which jigged about a g deal on the surface, leaped a yard out of water, and betrayed an irritable or restless d position. Here again was a fellow that could be considered caught until he was actually in t net, and by the net he was duly lifted out on t grass, after a really spirited fight both from b and shore. This was a fish of 16lb., and he m have had an unpleasant interview out at sea cently with a seal or some other marine enem who had left deep, ruddy reminiscences of cl and tooth on his side. Like the other three, No had the so-called sea-lice upon him. Putting again, I rose a grand fish that did not fasten; only rolled over like a porpoise.

Three salmon and a grilse in three hours oug to content anyone. It contented me, and I f happy and at peace with all the world as I sp through the wood to join the other sportsm at lunch in the rustic hut.

⁂

Next morning there was no need to go out the porch or survey the stream from our windo Beyond any question she was in yellow flood aga turbulently foaming around the post, where showed seven and a-half feet above summer lev so that for the time all angling was suspended. *"Redspinner" in "Baily's Magazine" for Novemb*

ON the Makerstown Water of the Tweed t gentlemen—the Messrs. Deakin—on Friday la week, scored sixteen salmon and grilse, and t trout, the weights of which were 18½lb., 16½l 16lb., 15lb., 15lb., 15lb., 14½lb., 14½lb., 14lb., 9½l 9½lb., 9lb., 8lb., 7½lb., 7½lb., and 5½lb—a total 195½lb. This beats the record on this water t season. The Duke of Roxburghe and Mr. Berrin ton topped the individual one-day scores for t week, each with twelve fish. A few other tak closely approaching these two twelves were go

Notes

Flyfishers' Club.—The annual dinner of the Flyfishers' Club has been fixed for Wednesday, December 9, at the Holborn Restaurant. Mr. Basil Field will preside. A smoking concert will be held in the club rooms, on Tuesday, Nov. 17.

A correspondent writes: "Two anglers who recently went fishing in the vicinity of Richmond, report that they saw a red fluid discharging itself into the river. The fisherman who was with them said the fish liked it (the red fluid). Considering, however, that many barbel have lately been discovered in a sickly and dying condition, between Barnes and Richmond, the contrary would appear to be the case, so far as regards the red fluid being 'good for the fish,' as the owner of the punt added."

With reference to the Note about his story in the *Boy's Own Paper*, Mr. E. M. Tod writes: "I fear I did not quite explain that my story in *Boy's Own Paper*, as told by William Landsborough, one of Australia's most fearless explorers (recently dead, to my sincere regret), is only 'history' till his brother John's station is reached (and here memory failed me); and as the story was told to me by himself in 1864, I had to invent the story of the fight, to give it greater interest to the 'boys.' The journey, the swim for life, and the hurricane which he endured that terrible night, are all *facts*; no man was ever less of a 'Jack Brag' than William Landsborough, M.L.C., whose silent jaws seldom opened, and whose bravery was a matter of no doubt whatever. He was a stranger to fear—if ever man was. This much to explain your kindly notice in 'Notes' of this week in *F. G.* I had altered the surnames only, but as he and his dear little wife are now both in their graves, I see no reason to conceal my hero's real name. Might I add (but that I fear to trespass on your space with so much foreign matter) that I think you are both right and wrong in your view of the Queensland blacks? They in no way lack courage when face to face with one of their own enemies equally armed; but when a man with a stick in his hand —a stupid, uneducated, savage to boot—has to try conclusions with a man, or men, active, intelligent, and armed with weapons of precision, I think it will be conceded that, sooner or later, discretion becomes the better part of valour with these poor fellows; and, I add with a blush, that when the white man has shown his power, and has humiliated and cowed the natives until they are afraid of their unknown power, I fear they import more vices than virtues—more grog than Bibles—and so by degrees the race becomes (under this very influence) so degraded and debased, that no doubt cowardice is added to their other degraded qualities. Worst of all, they die like rotten sheep from the lives they lead under civilisation! I know no man whose record has been a cleaner one in all these respects than that of William Landsborough. All honour to his ashes, say I!"

It is reported that a fish of 45lb. has been got on the Ardoe Water on the Dee. If this turns out to be the case, this will be the largest salmon landed on the Dee for the year. It was on this same water, some years ago, that the heaviest weight ever got on the Dee—a fish of 57lb.—was landed.

Very few fish over 30lb. have been grassed this autumn, yet the number between 18lb. and 30lb. is unprecedented.

Lately a run of small fish, scaling from 8lb. to 11lb., have come away more spring-like in appearance than autumn fish.

Let of Tay Fishings.—Last week, at Perth, the Kinfauns and Inchyra Fishings were let by public roup. The total price obtained was £1,815, as against £1,812 of last year.

Still another lady angler has made her *début* on the Dee this season. Mrs. F. H. Irvine landed a beauty of 20½lb., on Tuesday last, on the Drum Water.

Mr. G. L. Chambers (Madras) has done some splendid work on the Sluie, a small section of the Dee; while Mr. Archibald and Captain George Campbell have made a splendid record on the Carlogie Water.

Mr. G. T. Hay had a salmon of 33lb. on Blackhall Castle Water last week.

This year, amongst the noted "back-end" fisheries, the Floors Castle Water of the Tweed appears to be "taking the cake." On it, takes in a day by one rod of ten, twelve, and fourteen fish, would seem to be nothing uncommon. The Duchess of Roxburghe has, on different days, run up scores of six and seven fish, while on day, after lunch, she had six. The best reaches of the river are reported to be "perfectly *hobblin'* with fish of all sizes and colours."

On the North Esk, have been three takes, this autumn, of nine salmon in one day by gentleman anglers, without gillie assistance, fishing *with fly*—wading and from the bank. In this fine autumn river quite bright fish, in great numbers, were ascending continually up to the very closing day.

Mr. Alexander Speedie, one of the largest salmon fishing tacksmen in Scotland, died at Perth, on Sunday night. Mr. Speedie leased fishings on the coast, in the Tay, Sutherland, Caithness, Ross, and indeed all over Scotland. He was a singularly able and successful business man. Twenty years ago he purchased the estate of Kinshaldy, in Fife, whence came most of the rabbits and hares in connection with his business in Perth.

In a salmon poaching case from the Don, before the Sheriff in Aberdeen, last week, a poacher of more than ordinary notoriety had to "pay the piper" sweetly—in the shape of a heavy fine.

When fishing on the river Ayr, on Saturday afternoon, last week, in company with Mr. Lipscomb, dentist, Kilmarnock, Sergt.-Major Flyn, Kilmarnock, was drowned at the head of the Barskimming Holm. This is the second drowning accident on Scotch rivers during the present angling year.

Mr. Fortescue's (of Kingcansie) half-mile stretch of the Aberdeenshire Dee, yielded one day, the other week, no fewer than eleven fine fresh-run salmon, ranging in weight from 10lb. to 30lb. upwards. Nine of the fish of this take were got with the Gordon Fly.

Lieut.-Col. John Foster Forbes, of Rothiemay, has acquired a large extent of land from the Duke of Fife, to add to his estate; and going with it is a nice stretch of the river Deveron, running along the south boundary. The fishing, both for salmon and trout is excellent, and with this recent acquisition, Col. Forbes has now a length of river about two miles in extent, forming one of the finest fisheries connected with residential estates to be found on the run of the Deveron.

A beauty of a fish, about 33lb. in weight—the heaviest killed on the Deveron this season—fell to a rod on the Mountblairy Water, on Friday of the week before last. That week a lady angler at Eden House, Banff, had ten fish, the heaviest 20lb. Old anglers on the Deveron are unanimous in saying that this past month of September has been the most notable for numbers of salmon caught for the last thirty-five years.

The top weights caught on the Don last week were three thirty-pounders, a thirty-two, a thirty-four, and a forty-pounder, the last mentioned by Mr. Fred Rooper.

One boat's fishing for three days on Loch Stack during the past season was one hundred and thirty-three sea trout, with brown trout besides. In consequence of the very low state of the Laxford river, during June, no sea trout were forward to the loch till early in July—nearly a month behind the usual time.

About five hundred salmon, ranging in weight from 6lb. to 40lb., have been killed on the Grandholm Section of the Don since 1st Sept. The fishing is let to seven rods at £30 per rod, and this sum covers the right to what spring and summer angling there is, besides the capital early trouting.

Doctors differ. Recently we published a note from a correspondent to the effect that Loch Stack is "the most productive sea trout loch in Scotland." Afterwards another correspondent wrote stating that some other loch is the "best," but without indicating whether it *is more productive* than Loch Stack or not. A mistake must have been made by this correspondent in saying that Mr. Archibald Young, Scotch Salmon Fisheries Inspector, favours the claims of the particular "water" he named to be the best in Scotland for sea trout, for in his report Mr. Young says that "the loch of Strand is, for its size, the *best* sea trout loch in Scotland."

On Spey and Tay the back-end salmon angling closed on the 15th; on Dee, Don, Deveron, the Esks (three), and indeed the bulk of the late-season rivers of Scotland, it closes to-day; but on some of the Solway rivers it goes on for yet a while longer, whilst on Tweed there is still a whole month of it to go."

A very good season has been had by the Gordon Castle party on His Grace the Duke of Richmond and Gordon's miles of the Spey. From Aug. 27 to Oct. 15, fish to the number of eight hundred and eighty-eight, ranging in weight from 6lb. to 35lb., were caught. The best day was sixty-three fish. Only once—six years ago, when one thousand and forty-one fish were got—has this season's take been exceeded since 1870.

A Lochy-Spean angler writes: "All over the river, in consequence of a splendid head of fish having come up, we had quite a grand month during September, killing double the number of fish that we did in August, which is a most unusual thing. I am particularly pleased to see you suggest that no one should be allowed to dispose of salmon after the close of the net season. This is one of the most important points needed in salmon fishery legislation that could be given effect to."

A correspondent writes: "The fishing on the Duke of Richmond's water at Fochabers has been a successful one, but considerably below the highest season's take recorded. The number of salmon taken by the rod since the close of the net-fishing on the 26th August, is 888, as compared with 1,041, the highest recorded take obtained some six years ago. There has been a considerable number of heavy fish landed, several weighing over 30lb. Most of the salmon were taken with the fly, except on the last two days. On Tuesday of last week fifty-eight fish were landed, and on several other days the number exceeded fifty. Large numbers of fish are now going up the smaller streams for the spawning. These streams are now quite full of them, more so than for many years past. There is a good stock of spawning fish in the river Spey itself. I don't believe the notions of the "old school" party on Speyside—that in spring and autumn fish we have two distinct breeds of salmon."

The superintendent and bailiffs of the Dee Fishery Board have for some time back been engaged stripping the small early-run fish on the upper tributaries of the Dee, for the purpose of obtaining ova wherewith to stock the Durris hatchery.

Some magnificent sport—with as bright and fresh-run fish as have anywhere been got in Scotland—has for over a month past been obtained on Lord Aberdeen's complimentary ticket section of the river Ythan.

The Burgh Water of Don, at Kintore, for which the charge is one shilling and sixpence per rod a day, since the middle of September has been yielding an average of twelve to fifteen fish daily.

Miss Fortescue, of Kingcausie, Deeside, is, as usual, to the front with the largest fish of the year to a lady angler A fortnight since, she hooked, played and landed a thirty-seven pounder.

A FORTNIGHT'S HOLIDAY.

By Francis M. Walbran.

(*Continued from page 245.*)

On the following morning, when "Redspinner" and I turned out with our impedimenta on to the platform at Pickering railway station, we agreed that for once in a way the Fates appeared to be in our favour, as the day was dull, and a fairly good breeze blowing, both of which contingencies are considered necessary to ensure good sport on the Costa. Under such circumstances we were neither of us likely to waste much time, so that after a brief call at the White Swan, to ensure our beds and a good dinner when we arrived home in the evening, we chartered a trap, and were soon bowling along a level country lane *en route* for Kirby Misperton Bridge, which is on the lower portion of the club's water, and which was to be our starting-point. Dismissing our Jehu, we commenced putting our rods together, that operation being greatly accelerated by my friend's announcement that he had just seen a thumping grayling below the bridge. I got to work the first, and at the third cast up-stream I hooked a small fish, about a quarter of a pound, which was duly landed. "Green Insect," I shouted, in reply to my friend's inquiry what fly the fish had taken, and accordingly he put that fly into his cast as top dropper. We fished on for perhaps a mile without another rise, excepting baby fish about two or three inches long, with which the river appeared literally to swarm. We accordingly held a consultation of war, under the lee of a thick fir plantation, and eventually decided to cross a ricketty plank bridge and try the other side.

Hitherto we had seen very few really good-sized fish, but now they appeared more frequently, and at last my friend beckoned to me to approach cautiously. I had the pleasure of seeing a real two-pounder, waving his tail and huge dorsal fin slowly to and fro, showing in fine relief against a patch of golden gravel.

I should have mentioned before that the great fly on the Costa is a kind of small silver-bodied Alexandra, with a bit of red swan and jungle cock in the wing, so that when we had both of us cast some half-dozen times over the above-named leviathan, we concluded that the best thing that we could do was to try the favourite well sunk. "Redspinner," in his usual unselfish way, wanted me to have the first try, but I would not hear of it; and at the third cast had the satisfaction of seeing a big wave in the water, and hearing the welcome cry of "Got him." Our triumph, however, was brief. One tremendous plunge for the weeds, the sight of a broad silvery side in the crystal water, and the next moment the line floated like a pennant in the breeze. Our faces were a picture, but nothing further could be done; the hold had simply given, and the fish departed to his shelter under the weeds, *liber et exultans.*

We had gone a short distance farther when we met a couple of anglers—father and son—who were fishing in turns with one rod. They had killed three and a-half brace between them, a couple of the fish being about 1½lb. each. On inquiry, we found that all these had been taken out of one place, which was a sheltered corner under a plantation, and where the wind just ruffled the surface; whereas the part that we had been fishing was exposed to the full fury of the blast, which was now blowing a small hurricane. Round the next corner we found perhaps a quarter-of-a-mile of sheltered water, and out of it we both got a few decent fish, chiefly with Red Tag and Little Marryat.

Metcalfe, the head-watcher, now appeared on the scene, and had a long chat with us about the water, recent sport, &c. It seems that up to mid-day the top length near Pickering always fishes the best, the fish rising there more freely; but towards afternoon, the water that we had come from should be visited.

As the sun began to settle westwards the wind lulled a little, and we strolled slowly onwards, casting here and there in a likely place until we arrived at the lower mill. Before reaching that place there is about half-a-mile of shallows, with pebbly bottom and patches of weeds here and there. It is here that the trout spawn, but not with satisfactory results, so that the club are seriously meditating the introduction of yearling fish into their waters. A single line of rails (to Kirby Moorside) crosses the stream in the middle of this length, and below it, in a gravelly basin, we saw what "Redspinner" quaintly termed "a mob of grayling." There must have been at least fifty, and some of good size; but the rise was over for that day, and we walked up-stream to the second mill, where we had ordered the trap to meet us. The stream rises about a mile above Pickering, at a place called Keld Head, coming direct out of the earth like the generality of the rivers or becks in that district. Near the source, Metcalfe told us there are several monster trout, which defy the angler's art.

Some very heavy trout have been taken from the Costa. Some eight years ago, one of nearly 9lb. weight was taken from a deep hole below Misperton Bridge, on a trimmer, sad to say. A friend of mine, Mr. H. Coverdale, of Pickering, was paternostering for pike, in the last week of December last year, when he hooked something considerable, and which flew about in a very lively manner. He never saw the fish for some time, and then he beheld the spotted sides of a huge trout. Metcalfe was with him, and ultimately the fish was landed; it had, however, gorged the hook and rather than injure it by endeavouring to abstract it, the gimp was cut off close to its mouth and the fish returned to the water. It measured 23½in. in length, and 13½in. in girth. Mr. C. estimated its weight at 6lb. or 7lb. I told him at the time that I should have considered him quite justified in killing it, as such fish are quite as destructive as pike in a club's preserve.

Now comes the most curious part of the affair. In the early part of June in the present year, there was a flood in the Costa, and after it had subsided, a farmer, named R. Kitching, was walking along a ditch on his land, when he saw a large fish almost stranded. After some difficulty he succeeded in landing it, when he found it was a large trout, which measured 23½in. in length, and 13in. in girth, weight 5½lb. The fish was sent for preservation, and upon being opened, Mr. Coverdale's pike tackle was found just as it had been cut off nearly six months previously. As the fish measured half-an-inch less on girth in the May-fly season, when he ought to have been much more, it is only fair to assume that he had wasted, and ought to have been nearer Mr. C.'s estimate.

But to our fishing once more.

The next morning appeared a much more likely day, the wind not being nearly so blustering; we were therefore eager to commence business, and at ten o'clock we were both on "bended knee," casting a single dry fly on the shallow, between the lower mill and the railway bridge.

I should have said that the club limit of takeable fish is 8½in., and we caught several under that size before we basketed one.

"Redspinner" drew first-blood in the shape of a nice half-pound trout; and then I left him the upper water to himself, and walked half-a-mile down-stream to the plantation, where I knew there were some good fish. Here, the water being deeper, I changed my single fly for a cast (consisting of the Alexandra arrangement) as point-fly, a red tag as first dropper, and a partridge hackle with a rough red body and gold tip, as the top fly. I had not been long at work, when I hooked a good grayling on the last-named, but after a roll or two he escaped. I murmured something softly to myself, and made a cast into a little bay between two thorn bushes on the opposite bank. A three-quarter pound trout responded at once, and was just being transferred to my creel as Metcalfe approached. After another false rise or two, we proceeded to the end of the plantation, where the river took a turn, and there I experienced some good sport. Kneeling on the ground, and casting carefully towards the opposite bank, I caught six or seven nice fish, nearly all on the tail fly, besides losing several others. While I was so engaged, my friend passed. He said he had killed other two grayling and a trout, and he started fishing about fifty yards down-stream. He had not been there ten minutes when I happened to glance in that direction, and saw his rod bent almost double; at the same moment he commenced running down-stream. "He is into a good one at last, Metcalfe," I said, "run and help him;" but before he could get to the place, I saw "Redspinner" stoop and net the fish, Metcalfe returning shortly after, announcing it to be a two-pounder which had fallen a victim to the Alexandra. So the day went on, and when we reeled up near the mill again in the evening, we had a very pretty spread of beautiful silvery grayling, and three or four trout, on the grass.

After October the worm is allowed below Black Syke Foot, and then grand sport is experienced among the large fish with which the river swarms. I hope to have another couple of days there as soon as ever the first frost appears. Metcalfe is an excellent keeper, full of odd experiences, and thoroughly well up in natural history. I quite enjoyed listening to his conversation. I wished our stay had been longer; but as we had arranged to meet Mr. Phillips, the genial hon. sec. of the Costa Club, at Helmsley, to fish the Rye the next day, there was no help for it. Our adventures on that beautiful river I will relate in my next article.

(*To be continued.*)

A NIGHT WITH THE CONGER.

By Clucas Gill.

It is just a year ago since I received a telegram from my brother, telling me to catch the ten o'clock train that night from Euston for Liverpool. We had arranged to spend our holidays in the Isle of Man, induced thereto by the glowing descriptions of the beauty of the place, given by our friend, the manager of the Bank of Port. St. Mary, who wound up by promising us a night's conger fishing if we would visit him. Hence the telegram; and the next day we were driving into Port St. Mary, "The home of the artist and the pleasure-seeker," through a fine drizzlin grain, to receive a warm welcome from our Manx friends.

Day after day we spent on the cliffs, or in the bay; but each evening saw the clouds coming up from the south-west, bringing a heavy swell which prevented our getting our night with the conger. We had spent a day on the Calf of Man, and fished without success in the strait; we had shot rabbits every evening on the cliffs, and had spent one calm day on the Chickens' Rock Lighthouse, making friends with the keepers; but our brief holidays were nearly over before we got our wishes so far as conger fishing was concerned.

We had heard wonderful yarns of the sport afforded by these monster eels; of their biting through the thickest leather with ease; how fishermen would sometimes as lief let them go as keep them, when it became a question as to which was to remain in the boat. And so, when our friend Cannell hurried in one afternoon, and told us we were really going at last, and that Breeze (the lighthouse-keeper on holiday) would go with us, we experienced those joys of anticipation which are never spoilt by the dregs of fact.

Scouring the little town for fresh herring for bait, and borrowing a couple of lines as reserve from an old fisherman, we got down to our boat after tea to find all the fishing population ready to see us off, with good-humoured chaff, for had not the most experienced declared the season was young for conger, and was it likely cockneys would succeed where natives had failed? Each of us had on two suits of clothes, for the air bites shrewdly at night on the sea, even in August. With no little pride in our "feathering," we went across the bay, and made for the Calf, for it was under the lee of that little isle that Breeze intended to anchor for the night. What a pull that was! It took an hour's hardest of hard work to get across the strait. Breeze told us he had seen a boat with four fishermen for three hours try to cross, and then they gave it up, so strong are the currents which rush round Manx land. We were all right under the Calf, however, and soon we had anchored and had our light lines out. Not for conger, however, it was too early for that. In an hour we had a 6lb. cod and a dozen callach (?) in the boat, when, at Breeze's suggestion, we started for the lighthouse for more clothes.

He thought the tide was a thirteen-feet one, whereas it was one of sixteen feet six inches—a serious mistake, and one which nearly cost us our lives. The idea was to creep along under the cliffs until we got to the end of the Calf, and then, striking boldly into the current, to let it carry us down until, by careful steering in the midst of the stream, we reached the rock. From the point of leaving the land to the lighthouse was about one mile, but, to our surprise, we found we were in the swirls of the parting current in front of the rock before we were aware. Desperate pulling almost carried us into the smooth middle water, when the last swirl caught us—the boat spun round like an autumn leaf in a corner, heeled over, and, as we hung over the other side with our legs in the water, the edge of the swirl knocked us into the calm water. Then we could attend to the three lighthouse keepers who had been down on the rock shouting directions and watching our struggle. Their faces were worn and haggard with the intensity of their feelings. Fully expecting to see us swept away to death, they knew they could not help in the least, and that, if we did not reach the rock, no boat could live in the boiling backwater beyond.

"Ye have reason to thank God this day, lads," said Black, as we landed, and with bared heads we stood while the good old Scotchman gave thanks in a trembling voice for the wonderful preservation of his young friends. It was wonderful. He who doubts that, on a specially calm evening, we could have been in such peril, let him write to the head lighthouse-keeper, Chickens' Rock, Isle of Man, and ask whether it would be advisable for anyone to approach the rock with a sixteen-foot tide running, whatever the weather; no doubt the reply would contain an allusion to our adventure last year.

My brother and I stood watching them moor the boat, when, stooping, I tore off a mass of seaweed, and threw it into the current. In a moment it was out of sight down the stream. We turned, looked at one another, and silently shook hands, and then climbed the ladder into the lighthouse. Two hours later we were fighting the current again. Had we stayed, the boat would have been smashed, and Black's duty would have been to have reported us as "shipwrecked mariners;" and the results might have been serious to Breeze—whose manful exertions had saved us—for taking us near the rock with a high tide running.

High water sweeps over the rock, but the current slackens half-an-hour before. We therefore got into our boat, and pulling into the V of slack water, for an hour we maintained our position, our friends of the beacon watching us from the platform round the lamp. Every now and then, Black's voice came floating down, "Are ye comfortable down there?" And the reply went up, "Comfortable it is" The adjective afterwards reminded us of Sam Slick's "miserably fat turkey," but it was no laughing matter at the time, and we were glad when we found ourselves gradually pulling away amid the parting cheers of our friends above. Our clothes had been dried, so we were fairly "comfortable" when we settled down to fish under the cliffs of the Calf. Weird was the effect as every seven seconds the light came round, showing up every plank in the boat and every detail of the overhanging cliffs.

Before long, however, the excitement of conger catching—for, in spite of the prognostications of the experienced, we were successful—made us forget our surroundings.

Cannell struck the first—feeling the hook, it went sweeping round in huge circles. The other lines were quickly taken in to avoid tangling, while round and round it went, the phosphorescence of the sea, enabling us to follow it as we leant over the sides of the boat.

We got it up at last, only to see it go slap over the other side, and we had the struggle over again. When in the boat, we found we had but a small pocket-knife with which to kill it. Holding its head on the seat, Breeze felt for the nick in its neck, and thrust the blade in, only to find it snap off short; so we had to stun the rest of our catches by punching them with the boat-hook in "the white."

Out went the lines again, and by four o'clock we had six fine fellows, when, in the increasing light, Breeze lifted up our first catch, already dead, though the rest were moving sullenly up and down, groaning and hissing, and shouted, "Look lads, it's no an eel we've caught the neet; saw ye ever an eel with gills like that? 'Tis a ling, and the finest ever caught off the Calf," and so it was.

At six we hauled in our stone anchor, and set off for the lighthouse again—a risky proceeding I thought; but we got there all right, had some breakfast, and after wishing a kindly farewell to the keepers—men Britain may well be proud of—we pulled home. After passing Spanish Head, the back current carried us across the bay with so little effort on our part, that at one time the boat and those in it were asleep on the placid sea.

When we got to Port St. Mary, hearty were the congratulations of the fishermen, and many were the visits paid to the owner of the boat, to whom we gave our catch, and who placed them on view prior to despatching them to Liverpool.

The others lounged about all day—self-satisfaction writ large all over them—but going to my room for a bath, the bed looked inviting, and I knew no more till sundown.

MR. W. F. F. ROBERTSON.

By Garthdee.

Knowing that the readers of the *F. G.* delight to hear of any noteworthy angler, irrespective of his social position, I have roughly drawn up a short account of one of our best-known and most-respected Tyneside anglers—viz., Mr. W. F. F. Robertson, late Wylam-on-Tyne, but who has now made Hexham his headquarters.

Like most anglers of repute, he first saw the light of day on the other side of the Border. He was born in the vicinity of Sanquhar, situate on the Nith side. Afterwards he removed, with his parents, to the County of Ayr, whose river was at one time one of the best trout streams in the North—but now, alas! from various causes, sadly deteriorated; it, however, still holds its own as one of the best streams for grayling. On this stream, Mr. Robertson received his first lessons in the angler's art. Later he visited most of the best-reputed streams between Berwick and the south-west of Scotland, and tested for himself the fishing capabilities of each, at the same time improving himself in the theory and practice of his art. From there he turned southward and proceeded steadily, trying the various streams on his way until he reached our Coaley Tyne, upon whose banks he has long resided, and where I have heard him repeatedly declare he has spent some of the happiest hours of his life. He possesses a fine, tall, athletic figure, with a genial and pleasant face. He is, like most Scotchmen, naturally fond of all out-door sports, but angling is his pastime of pastimes.

MR. W. F. F. ROBERTSON.

During the seventeen years that he has resided on Tyneside, his exploits with the rod and line are well known, indeed to see him throw a line is simply a treat; he can throw equally well with either hand, in fact he can throw better with his left hand than many anglers can with their right.

J. G. Wood, Esq, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, in a letter giving an account of a day's fishing in Miss Allgood's water at Hexham, says: "On the Hexham side of the stream was Mr. Robertson, who landed five fish, weighing from 8lb. upwards, a most difficult achievement to perform, deep and dangerous wading being necessary, and long casting; but at the latter Mr Robertson is an adept, in fact, a *gem of the first water.*" His biggest kill on that stream was, I believe, seven in one day, and the weight over one hundredweight.

At the waterside, Mr. Robertson is kindly and genial, and ever ready to give a tyro the benefit of his knowledge and experience, and many an angler, myself included, have been indebted to him for many a valuable hint, which has operated very materially in increasing the weight of our creels.

He is a very temperate man, but can take his glass in reason, and those who are fortunate enough to obtain his services, either as an angler or tackle-maker, will find him always obliging and cheerful. He knows his work and does it well.

THE ANGLING PASSION TRIUMPHANT.

By Edgar S. Shrubsole.

In a southern town, which for my present purpose shall be nameless, there dwells an ardent lover of the gentle art of angling, one who espouses sport and activity of every description. The ranks of the Local Volunteer Fire Brigade, and the Ambulance Corps know him, a prominent and popular officer of the Rifle Volunteers, he is known as a sure shot, and is bursting for the time to come when our great civilian army will "prove they are Englishmen." In the contests of cricket and football he is found a formidable antagonist, and in fact he is a good all round man.

His hours of relaxation, when the sun has gone down, are devoted to the billiard cue, or to consorting with boon companions. Very popular is our friend, and his word is accepted as final upon matters appertaining to sport generally, and angling in particular. He is also considered a good judge of an old October brewing, and this last-named accomplishment has been very frequently the means of sending the subject of this veracious narrative to his home and family—for he is married, very much married—in the small hours of the morning, and in that condition which is euphemistically denominated as "fresh." It has, too, placed him in situations which have gained for him a rather extensive local notoriety for amusing and witty escapades, one or two of which are worth relating here.

The old tale of the tin fish possessed our friend upon one of these early migrations, and when he chanced to pass the bedecked establishment of the local seller of fishing tackle, his optics, though dim, enabled him to discern the fishing rod which projected from the premises, and the line with the orthodox metal fish attached. With instinctive alacrity he began to pull at the shop-door bell, and to kick with might and main at the panels of the door itself. The shopkeeper was as might be expected, disturbed from his peaceful slumbers, and with alarm he appeared at the window and inquired what was the matter? The belated disciple of Izaak replied, "Why, you old idiot, you've got a bite" (pointing to the tin fish), "and you don't know it." The irate shopkeeper at once knew he had been had by a chestnut, and his feelings may be imagined; but, recognising his visitor with a charity which did him credit (!), he thanked the jovial interferer with his repose, and bethought him of immediate retaliation. He held out the inducement of a view of "some of the finest live-bait you have seen for years," and further instructed his visitor to go quietly down the passage and unlatch the back gate; "I'll be down at the kitchen door to let you in." "Right you are," says our friend, and away he goes in the desired direction. It was a dark—a very dark—passage, but he knew his way, "every inch of it"; and, arrived at the back gate, he lifted the latch, and——the next instant there was a yell and a splash. The local waterworks company had been "looking to a loak," and had to go some depth for it; the soil in the particular locality, a foot below the surface, is clay, and our friend found himself at the bottom of a pit about 8ft. deep, with perpendicular sides of a soft greasy nature. Vain were his attempts to get out of his prison, until the shopkeeper, thinking of our friend's wife more than our friend himself, consented to lower down a ladder, and the late prisoner wended his way home, having every appearance of a brickmaker and a sewage man combined.

The habits of our Bohemian friend, as may be conjectured, very frequently reduced him to the unpleasant condition known as the impecunious, and upon one of these occasions his watch was deposited with "mine uncle," in order to "raise the wind." It so happened that at an early hour in the morning of a dark day in November he was meandering past the shop of the local pawnbroker, when the sight of the pendant gilt three-fold sign reminded him of the transaction with the owner. To vigorously pull the bell and kick at the shop-door was the work of an instant, with the result that the half-drowsy pawnbroker came to the window and loudly demanded the cause of the sudden disturbance. The reply delivered in stuttered accents was: "I want to know the time, and you've got my watch!" Tableau!

Particularly addicted to beer as a potation, his capability for partaking of an October brewing was unlimited. Upon one occasion, when on fishing bent, he pulled up at a roadside inn, and calling loudly for the landlord, asked him if he had any *good* beer. The reply being in the affirmative, the beer was produced, and *three pints* rapidly disappeared down our friend's throat. "Ah," said he, smacking his lips, "that *is* good beer. Here!"—to the ostler who was looking on at our friend open-mouthed—"just hold the pony's head, *I think I'll get down and have some!*"

These are small incidents, by the way, but the crowning episode in the somewhat eccentric career of our friend is the one which I propose to narrate as it actually occurred, leaving the moral (if such there be) which attaches to it to be drawn by my readers. Before proceeding to do so, I must say a word upon the manner in which our friend scoured his worms for hook baits. Those of my readers who know the dodge will not mind the repetition, and those who do not will probably be pleased with the information; all will probably appreciate the concluding portion of this paragraph. When he really meant it, our friend would bait up a bream hole for days before he fished it, and during that time would scour the worms, which he intended for the hook, in the following manner: He would first of all place them in damp—not wet—moss for at least three days, constantly shifting them about and picking out the dead or dying ones. Then he would take the healthy worms, one by one, and place them in another large tub filled with thoroughly cleansed moss, and feed them on eggs and milk! Fact, I assure you! He'd get about a pint of milk, and whip up in it the yolk of an egg; a little of this was sprinkled over the moss once a day—and it's a splendid tip if you care to take the trouble. Treated in this manner the worms get beautifully bright, pink-coloured, and tough. I have said our friend was very much married. Upon one occasion the sharer of his joys and sorrows thought he had had *quite* enough fishing for a time—and a day or two before a projected fishing excursion—a magnificent lot of worms, that had been liberally fed upon eggs and milk, and were literally in the pink of condition, received an ample sprinkling of salt at her hands! Our friend's language can be better imagined than described when he discovered what had happened; but his better half got the worst of it, after all, for he went away, all the same, for a day's fishing—and stopped a week. This is a true and awful warning to those angler's wives who object to their husbands going a-fishing.

In the town of the nationality and abode of him whose idiosyncrasies I have faintly indicated, there is in full working order a mill which affords employment to many hundreds of men and women. This mill is picturesquely situated in a lovely valley, and its surroundings embrace the most charming sylvan beauties. The house of the proprietor, a stately building, has stretching from its portals a commanding lawn of emerald verdure, and flanking the lawn and in close proximity to the mill premises is an extensive pond, which is well stocked with coarse fish of every description. For permission to fish in this water, our erratic friend had, on many occasions, applied, but for reasons which were not stated, his applications were not acceded to. Often in his wayward wanderings had he glanced at the forbidden pond, and as far as his sense of devotion allowed him, he had offered up a prayer to that fickle God Fortune that she would be propitious in aiding his angling desires. Little, however, did he think of the curious manner in which the jade would befriend him and how soon the great object of his angling ambition would be gratified.

It so happened that at early morn in the month of August the mill to which I have referred was discovered to be on fire, and the members of the Volunteer Fire Brigade, of which, as I have said, our friend was a member, were called out. Overcoming a heavy drowsiness, he rose in response to the call of duty, donned his fireman's costume, and sallied forth to the station. He learned that the *locale* of the fire was the mill contiguous to the much-coveted water, but he found that the engine, manned by his comrades, had departed, and that nothing was left for him but to proceed to the spot on foot. In doing this he passed near to his domicile, and when within sight the thought flashed through his mind that in some way opportunity would arise for a quiet turn at fishing in the pond without the permission for which he had so long sought. Instinctively he entered his house, and reached down his roach rod and tackle-book. The only bait available was the crumb of a day-old loaf (and a very good bait too) and this was quickly appropriated and stowed away.

The scene of the fire was reached, and there he could discern his old chums all engaged in the self-denying and heroic labour to which they had voluntarily devoted themselves. To get at the conflagration he had to skirt the pond, which, in the soft break of day, presented a picture of lovely repose. Before him was the raging fire, and nearly at his feet the pond, upon which his hopes had been so long set. Duty called him to the fire and his angling passion to the pond. For a few moments he mentally struggled as to what his action should be. For one moment duty triumphed, and in the other the angling passion. Like the lady described by Byron, he

> "Struggled oft, and oft relented,
> And, vowing he would ne'er consent,
> At last consented."

Angling gained the supremacy over his will, and making for a quiet and secluded nook, our recreant fireman put to his tackle, threw in his line, and, to his ecstatic delight, fish after fish fell to his lot; and by the time the fire was nearly extinguished, he had filled his knapsack with a couple of dozen as fine roach as ever fell to an angler.

It is the practice when fires have reached the happy stage of subdual, for much-needed refreshment to be supplied to the firemen, and as our friend felt in the condition described by himself—namely, that if anyone had kicked him, dust would have come out of his mouth!—he put his tackle and fish in a place of safety, and with an innocent effrontery warranted by the occasion, presented himself in the throng of refreshment-takers, and partook of his share of the supply. In the bustle and excitement his absence had not been noticed, and therefore no remark was made.

This narrative its subject is fond of relating to a few of his more particular friends, and in publishing it I am willing to bear the full force of any irate feeling which the publication may cause him. But I don't think he will drop on me very severely!

SPORT BY NIGHT IN NEW ZEALAND.

By W. H. S.

It is the first week in '91. The scene, a bare, bleak spot on the Canterbury Plains—a low, barren, uninteresting flat, with nothing growing on its surface near but the coarsest grass and rushes. An acre of it would not produce sufficient nourishment for a single sheep. No living creature cares to stay there except swarms of marsh flies, that rise in angry thousands at our approach, exulting to find at last some animal on which to prey; in front, an apparently almost interminable expanse of water, bounded only at a great distance by a low range of hills; far behind, a few clumps of trees scattered here and there, marking the site of a homestead on the plains—surely the last place in the world to spend the night for choice.

Only turn round and walk back a mile or two; there is splendid grass and waving tussocks. If the sky is to be your only covering, surely it will be better to pass the night there, where there are no marsh flies nor a single harmful thing to disturb your sleep. The evening is warm and delicious, and there it will be no great hardship for once to lie on the sweet-scented grass during the few hours of darkness at this time of the year. Why choose a wet, sandy, dismal swamp, hardly raised above the level of the stream, that may be swept by any sudden gust from the south-west, coming cold and biting, even in summer, from the surface of the lake, flinging particles of sand and dust with stinging violence in your face, when yonder is a comfortable couch?

What on earth can induce human beings to cluster here so late as this? Already the sun is nearly gone; yet we three land and drag our canoe ashore as though our day's work were only just beginning. Two other apparent lunatics are there already, seemingly for no other purpose than slowly to fill their pipes. At a distance of a couple of miles several others are evidently making their way towards us—now a cart, now a buggy arrives; occasionally a man on horseback. Soon we number over twenty souls. This sandy waste, which half-an-hour ago was barren—bleak, and desolate, is full of life. It must be that a meeting of some sort is about to be held—a secret meeting, too, for nearly every man carries a lantern. Has this bleak, desolate, out-of-the-way place been chosen by some band of conspirators, to avoid discovery?

Yet what object can these have in common? Workmen, labourers, Government officials, lawyers, schoolmasters, well-to-do farmers, professors, clerks—all are here, all unanimous, all evidently actuated by some common object, all well drilled, too, for each goes about his business, whatever it is, after only a word or two with the others. No one attempts to take any lead; there seems no head or tail to this meeting—a Socialistic gathering of some sort, certainly, for our professor yonder is chumming with Tom White (who has a contract for cutting gorse), while the two are busy cutting tobacco in the most approved colonial style, and interchanging ideas of consuming interest to both.

The scene is the mouth of the Selwyn river, where it enters Lake Ellesmere. As the sun sets, the great trout come from the lake to the river to chase the little silveries and bullies and gorge themselves therewith. We are all actuated by one common object, a new kind of sport—trout fishing by night.

There is no waste of gorgeous apparel here; nearly every man is equipped in the commonest, but most comfortable garments. C.'s trousers would be more complete and useful if they possessed their proper quantity of buttons, fewer holes, and less dirt. H. has a shirt with different coloured arms, while my own hat and general outfit would be dear at eighteenpence to a swagger. Yet what do we care? We are out for a holiday, and our object is to catch trout, and mighty ones will be here presently this warm night; and there is not a man amongst the crowd who would not sit down without hesitation in the dirtiest mud pool on the flat if it expedited the catching of a ten-pounder. As C. says, after all, it is mostly sand and water, and we can wash it all off to-morrow, and dry our things while we enjoy a glorious bathe in a deep pool of the Selwyn near our camp. C. has a special facility for acquiring sand and dirt when on a camping expedition, and H. and I have much difficulty in keeping his washing arrangements up to the mark.

But mark the tackle, as each man puts his rod and line together, and fits it with a 6ft. cast; there is no mistake about that—everything is of the best, no frayed gut, no weak lines, no cheap and bad winches, no worthless rods; everything has been overhauled with the utmost care before being put together, and the gut well soaked in our bait cans, for we are too old hands not to know that success or failure depends more than anything upon attention to details like this, and that the newest hat and best shirt in creation won't be of any avail against that leviathan that H. lost the night before last, then only thought to be about 8lb., but which H. is certain now was at least 25lb. If somebody doesn't catch that fish to-night he will have grown into a 20ft. crocodile by the time we strike camp next week.

It is evidently too early yet to begin fishing: several have been trying the last hour with no result. You can never tell, though; the fish may begin to feed at any moment, so we put on our fishing stockings and take a turn, just arranging things carefully in the canoe, and putting our mackintoshes handy in case a shower may come up from the lake. The bank of clouds in the south-west look like it too; we shall get some sport at some time or other to-night, if we only stick to it.

What a queer and incomprehensible thing is a trout! Often for hours not a fish will move. Your choicest baits and most skilful casts, where you know there are hundreds of fish, are of no avail; then suddenly, with no apparent cause, every fish in the whole river seems on the alert, and not only here, but all up the river, the water is alive with fish. I have fished a stream teeming with trout for four solid days without moving a fin; and yet, at another time, fishing in the same water, in the same condition, and with the same wind, almost every cast has produced a rise.

Apropos of this, about two years ago I was fishing with a well-known resident magistrate and his brother in the Waitaki. On the evening of our arrival I had had grand sport, catching 28lb. weight of trout in about two hours, without moving fifty yards, besides losing several good ones. These I had to carry home on my back in the dark. The next morning we all determined to try this place again, and it being about two miles from our hotel, B's. brother and I had a long wrangle whether fish could be best carried on a string or in a kit. At last a happy thought struck us. The resident magistrate was noted for his decisions, and it should be left to him to decide on the best way of getting home the trout we were sure to catch. He decided the matter off-hand—a man on horseback should come down to us with a sack, and take the spoil. Steadily we fished on, for three, four, five, six hours, and not a fish did we move. Presently, along the top of the bluff, appeared the man on horseback, a large sack conspicuous on his horse's neck, and there he promenaded for two hours while we fished, and fished, and fished below, and the recriminations were frightful; B's. brother openly saying, if that was a specimen of the resident magistrate's decisions, he wouldn't give a twopenny something for a bushel of them. Next morning there was seven-and-sixpence in the bill for the man with the sack. B's. brother and I decided off-hand that he and I were not liable on that item, and absolutely refused all leave to appeal.

But Tom White below has got a fish, and a good one too; a sharp and short struggle, and an eight-pounder is gaffed. The fish are about to move, and we leave the shelter of the canoe, where we have been taking in grub, lying sheltered from half a gale of wind from the north-west, and start fishing in earnest. It is no good, however; two hours more of it, but not one of the twenty rods has touched another trout, and then most of them throw it up, and make off home, wondering how on earth it was the fish did not take to-night. Beside ourselves, only one angler is left—left in a double sense, for his horse has got away, and he must wait till the return of light before he can hope to find it on the flat.

It is one o'clock, and we go back to the canoe and take a slight sip of something from a little flask, which, on occasions like this, can generally be found in H's. coat pocket, though oftener empty than not. It is dangerous work leaving the flask with H. when the fish don't bite; however, it is all right this time, and another hour passes listening to choice and chaste anecdotes from C. of his experience in the north island. We can sleep all day to-morrow in our tent, two miles up the river, if necessary, and we intend to stay it out. Meanwhile the clouds in the south-west are getting bigger, and the man who has lost his horse advises us to go home. He would, if he only had the chance; and he enlightens us as to his course of proceeding with that something—something old horse when he does get hold of him. After a pull at the flask, however, he agrees to let the horse off half of it.

Suddenly the wind changes round to the south-west, and we know at once that now is our time. H., who is a little ahead of C. and myself, throws in his smelt, and before I can get my line in the water he is fast in a trout; in another minute a yell from C. tells us that he is fast too, and before they are landed (both good fish of 6lb.) I am aware that a mighty one has taken my bait; he gets away, though, five minutes later, but why I cannot make out; he was well hooked and the tackle is not broken, so I bait again, and have not moved a yard before I am fast in an eight-pounder. This time he is safely landed, and as we lay the three prizes side by side and admire their wonderful condition, we forget the long hours we spent in vain, and hasten to re-bait our hooks. The fish are on the feed, and for two hours either one or the other of us is fast in a glorious fish. Then, as the first glimmer of the dawn shows itself behind the tops of the distant hills, and another day in life's mystery begins, they cease to take the bait everywhere as if by mutual consent, and our sport by night is ended. We gather up our spoil —twelve trout, weighing 68lb.—a glorious end to an unpromising beginning; not the biggest take of the season by any means, but enough surely to satisfy the most exacting angler. Slowly we paddle up the river in our canoe, reach our camp about four a.m., have breakfast, and go to bed.

Waltoniana

The following extract from a letter I recently received from a friend is somewhat instructive reading: "I was up at the big artificial pool, and found that though there was a good stream there was no ripple. Remembering the day on which I took eight fish out of it when the water was smooth, I tried a trout cast and sunk a good-sized Jock Scott. I felt a tug under water, in the hole above the tail of the pool where the water was quite smooth. I struck to no purpose, and, after cutting off a lot of the fly that overlapped the hook, tried again; and what they call a 'sulky boil' was the result, but although the fish did not take the fly, Sandy was satisfied it was the biggest fish ever seen at G. So again I tried with the fly well sunk; and the fish came slowly swimming after it, near the bank. Half in desperation, half as an experiment, I gave the fly a little jerk which made the fish dash at it and take it right down. No need of striking, and very lucky too, as he was right under my nose. I did not know which was most astonished, the fish or myself. He sailed up the river, with every inch of line before I could say 'Jack Robinson,' or run after him; and how I blessed W. for sending me ten yards more line than I ordered. And in due course it was landed; and was not the largest ever taken from the river, but much above the average."

I have some bad news for the many anglers who fish the Bedfordshire Ouse. A company is in the course of formation to re-open the navigation of the river between Earith and Bedford, and if the project is carried out, the effect on the fishing will be very serious. Of course, where considerable commercial interests are involved, everything else has to go to the wall; but a lament over the introduction of steam traffic on the waters of the fishy Ouse may be allowed. Not only do the steam-tugs and launches scare the fish, but they actually kill the small fry by thousands by washing them high and dry on the banks of the river. I have seen some millions so destroyed on the Thames. But perhaps the greatest injury of all which is done by these abominations-in-the-sight-of-anglers is the washing away of spawn in the spring-time of the year. Once the eggs are shifted from their position among the weeds, they either sink to the bottom, where they die, or get washed down-stream, and fall a prey to a variety of the enemies of fish, including fish themselves and water-birds.

Of course it will be very pleasant to have the locks in working order between Bedford and the Wash, and if a canal is made between Bedford and the Grand Junction Canal, there will be through communication by water between the Midlands and the East Coast. But no longer will there be a first-rate river nearly as large as the Thames where the angler can peaceably and quietly pursue his favourite sport. The next best river to the Ouse will probably be the Warwickshire Avon, but nearly the whole of that river is in private hands, a considerable portion being let to Birmingham angling clubs. The fishing it affords for roach and some other coarse fish is decidedly above the average.

I hear unpleasant rumours that certain riparian owners on the Upper Thames intend netting the meadows as soon as the floods subside sufficiently for the purpose. It has been done before in the Henley district, and a great quantity of fish killed. I can imagine nothing more unsportsmanlike or more selfish. Possibly the riparians are within their rights in acting in that manner, but if that be so, the sooner the Conservators obtain powers to put a stop to the practice the better. The way to pay these gentlemen netsmen back in their own coin would be to rent some land close to their pheasant preserves, lure their birds on to it by a plentiful supply of corn, and then slaughter them ruthlessly. They might then understand the feelings of others when their sport is spoiled by this wholesale slaughter of Thames fish.

Newspaper writers have been making the most of the Thames floods, but, as a matter of fact, nothing so very extraordinary has taken place. About nine years ago the water was as high as it has been recently. Had the wet weather continued for a few days longer we should have had floods worth talking about. On Saturday last, the river reached its highest, but on Sunday fell about a foot in the upper reaches. On Monday the fall was checked by a fresh downpour, but the water did not rise. On Tuesday and Wednesday there was a considerable fall of water, and, so far as colour was concerned, the river was in by no means had condition for fishing. The difficulty was to find the fish, as they were still scattered over the meadows. By the time these lines are in print, I expect the river will be fishable, but the weather has been subject to such sudden changes that nothing certain can be said. If there is no more considerable rainfall during the next few days, and we are favoured with a frost or two at night, some remarkably good perch and pike fishing should be enjoyed on most of our South of England coarse fish streams.

The difficulty I always find on the Thames at such times as these is to get baits. Minnows—which in particular cannot be done without—hide themselves in the most marvellous way. If you can find them at all you will probably find them in goodly numbers, but they will not come over the minnow-net as they will when in the river during the summer months. Ditches and brooks communicating with the river are the places to find them, and unless a fine meshed little flue-net is available for the purpose, the only plan is to hold the round minnow-net at a slight angle, and get someone to drive the minnows into it. Minnow catching in winter is quite a fine art. By the way, there is a plan by which minnows can be caught in a glass trap, and I should be very glad to know who makes such traps, and if they really answer at this time of year. Templar.

Increasing the Stock of Fish in the Thames.—It is now some time since the committee of the T.A.P.S. have been able to increase the stock of fish in the river by means of netting a lake or reservoir, but that has not arisen from want of making application for such a purpose. The river, however, in the Chertsey district has been fortunate enough, through the energy of Mr. A. E. Armstrong, the active honorary river-keeper in that neighbourhood, to obtain a most satisfactory consignment from the lake of Mr. W. C. Gosling, through the kindness of his bailiff, Mr. Stewart, in offering them to him at a very short notice. It was not until eleven o'clock in the morning that notice was given of the drawing-off of the water, and it required all the energy Mr. Armstrong had at his command to get his forces together, and a water-cart to convey the fish to Chertsey Bridge. At one o'clock, however, the work commenced and was continued until six o'clock, when during that time ten thousand roach, rudd, carp, and chub, and about one hundred perch were safely placed in the river. Mr. Armstrong was well supported in his work by Mr. F. J. T. Capes, Solicitor, Ottershaw, who rendered great assistance in their migration, and also in making an accurate return as to the quantity of fish deposited for the future benefit of anglers in the Thames. Thirty of the carp weighed 5lb. each.—B.

Thames Angling Preservation Society.—At the last committee meeting of this society, Mr. R. B. Marston, the Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*, was unanimously elected a vice-president of the society, which is the oldest of the kind in the country, having been instituted in 1837.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. H. S.: There are plenty of grayling in the Clyde, and probably in the lower reaches of some of its tributaries.

A LEARNER: Any fishing tackle maker will show you how to put the bait on by threading, but a much better plan is to use the Jardine snap tackle.

F. W. HOLLOWAY: (1) Messrs. J. Cooper and Sons, 28, Radnor-street, St. Luke's, London, E.C.; (2) Manley's "Notes on Fish and Fishing," six shillings, published by Sampson Low and Co.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. PRITT.

THE IMPROVED "MOSCROP" REEL.

SIR,—At length I have succeeded in making the reel to my satisfaction; and send you the small trout net so long promised.

In order to get at the inside, take reel in the *left* hand, and insert the thumb and first finger between the bars, and exert pressure outwards on the revolving part; then nip with the nails of the thumb and first finger of the *right* hand the small spring catches, and the reel should come out.

I do not propose to attach an adjustable drag to trout sizes, unless specially desired.

The points in the reel to which I may draw your attention are—the click, the drag (on salmon reels), the corrugated plates, and the handle.

The click is on new lines. I have tested it thoroughly: fished it a year; and also run it, from a revolving shaft, during four weeks, when it made three million revolutions, and still clicked merrily. This satisfies me that brass is durable enough, and has the advantage over steel of not rusting. You will note that the spring to the pawl is obtained by torsion: this has the advantage of pointing always centrally and of being without rivets.

The drag (in the salmon reel) is delicately adjustable.

The corrugations in the revolving plates add stiffness without weight.

The handle is solidly attached. I have left the ebonite part loose in order that you might examine it.

The reel (2⅜) weighs five ounces; holds forty yards of ordinary trout line; is absolutely without screws; and I claim for it simplicity, and quick access to the working parts without tools.

Personally I prefer a reel all black, or to be direct from the workman's (the brass turner's) hands, and to allow the brass to take a natural tarnish; but it is necessary to consider the taste of the general public, and I therefore send you the reel as I propose to make it.—I am, yours truly,

Market-place, Manchester. J B. MOSCROP.

[The objection to the old "Moscrop" was its weight. The sample sent us is as pleasantly light as the old one was unpleasantly heavy. As regards the various improvements Mr. Moscrop describes, as far as we can judge, without long trial in wet weather, they seem to be real improvements. It is very strong, very easily taken apart, and, above all, there are no screws to work loose. As regards the check, if it stands three million revolutions on a revolving shaft, it ought to wind in a good many fish without showing signs of wear; all the same, we have lively remembrance of anxious moments caused by a reel "sticking" through the cog-wheels getting worn when playing a salmon. This improved "Moscrop" has very strong claims to attention, especially from salmon and trout anglers.—ED.]

THE SLIDING-HOOK ON FLIGHTS.

SIR,—Would you allow me through your columns to draw the attention of tackle-makers to a matter which I have no doubt has occurred to others than myself? It is that the so-called sliding-hook on flights does not act as it should. One takes, say, an ordinary snap-tackle, armed with a double and small hook and a sliding-hook; the chances are that, either from the size of the bait or its movements whilst the tackle is adjusted, there is considerable sag between the sliding-hook at the back fin and the flight behind the gills, which will soon free the latter unless rectified. Now is the time for the slide, in order to draw things up taut; but will the sliding-hook work?—not a bit; as a rule it is as fixed as if whipped to the gimp. On examining, it is at once found that in addition to the gimp passing through the two eyes of the hook so tightly as to be (as a rule) sufficient to prevent the bait being drawn out of shape, two, and sometimes *three*, turns of the gimp has been passed round the shank, rendering it for all practical purposes a fixture. To answer the purpose, one single turn between the two eyes, I should say, would be ample.—I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

Bishop's Stortford. J. W. KING.

WHAT EFFECT HAS PRAWN FISHING ON SALMON?

DEAR SIR,—I shall be much obliged if you will be so kind as to give me your experience of the results of prawn-fishing upon fly-fishing for salmon. I should not ask you myself, but I have been appointed by several fishermen to make the inquiry of you. The facts are these. The river Conway is a short one, with about eight miles of fishing, narrow enough to be covered by a good cast almost anywhere. The fish are very shy. There has been a movement on foot for the use of the prawn all over the river, which has for the last two years been limited to about a mile, with six or seven pools after one o'clock. Some of the old fishermen object to it, and I for one, though I am not an old one. I have been asked by friends of yours to ask you to give us your experience, but as the matter has to be settled this week, I cannot ask you through your paper, but only privately; and several will be glad if you will kindly say if the use of the prawn spoils fly-fishing in the river, or even a pool? and if so, for what length of time, and in a shy river, if it will not affect the fly-fishing for the day, and after or even the next season, and entirely destroy the prospects of fly-fishing hereafter. Can you tell me any rivers that have suffered from it?

Your kind reply will be much appreciated.—Yours faithfully, T. DUTTON.

[We told Mr. Dutton that, in our opinion and experience, the use of the prawn is most detrimental to fly-fishing. Of course there are some heavy waters where fish never rise to the fly, where you must use minnow or prawn if you want to catch fish at all. It seems a little unreasonable to expect the proprietor of a stretch of salmon (river on which fly-fishing is useless) not to fish at all; but there can be little doubt that fish which have to run the gauntlet of a hard "prawn" water, will not rise so freely when they get to fly water as unmolested fish will. We should like some other opinions on both sides of this interesting question.—ED.]

PIKE FISHING WANTED IN NORMANDY.

DEAR SIR,—I should be very much obliged if you could inform me through the *Fishing Gazette* whether there is any place within fifty miles of the coast of Normandy where one could get good free pike and coarse fishing? I have consulted the "Anglers' Diary," but the information given is very scanty, though several places mentioned might do.—Yours, &c., P. S.

UNSIZEABLE FISH.—George Pewky was brought before the Kingston County Bench on Thursday last, charged with having in his possession twelve unsizeable roach, which he had taken out of the river Thames on Tagg's Island at Hampton Court. Mr. T. S. Bunting, solicitor to the Thames Conservancy, prosecuted on behalf of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, upon the evidence of Head River-keeper William Douglas, who stated he had previously cautioned the defendant against repeating the offence. The Bench thereupon fined him in the sum of thirty shillings.

*** **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association.—Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly meeting of the general committee will take place on Monday evening next, November 2, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Association. — VISITING LIST, EASTERN DISTRICT NO. 2.—The next return visit on the above list will take place at the North London Angling Society, held at the Highbury Brewery Tap House, near Highbury Station, on Monday, November 9. That well-known and regular attendant at all return visits, Mr. Stretch, sen., is the secretary, and as this is his first return visit I hope he will have a bumper. Clubs in north London please note this and oblige.—F. THORLING, visiting officer.

THE LONDON UNITED ANGLERS' SOCIETIES' FOURTH ANNUAL ANGLING COMPETITION, in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. On Friday, the 23rd, the sixth committee meeting took place, when the committee were appointed for their various duties on November 15. The following prizes were added to the list: Mr. E. Levett, a prize; Mr. E. Shrubsole, a prize; a Friend, a prize; Hoxton Brothers, a pair of lustres, value £1 1s.; North London A.S., tackle case and reel; Mr. Cuthbert, of the Odds and Evens, a second prize, value 10s. 6d. Received from Izaak Walton, 10s. 6d.; Prince Arthur, 10s.; Campbell United, 7s. 6d.; Dalston, £1 1s., for prizes. Gentlemen and societies who have promised prizes will kindly oblige by sending same to the Foresters' Hall, E.C., as soon as possible. The next committee meeting will take place on Friday, the 13th of November, when I hope to see all the committee present.—S. MALBY, sec.

Allason Piscatorial Society, Golborne Liberal Cub, Portobello-road, Notting Hill, W.—A few of our members were out on the 25th instant, but met with little success. A match takes place at Cookham, on November 22. We have some tickets for the Rye House Competition, which takes place on November 15.—W. MILLER, sec.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting Hill-gate, W.—The match, which was arranged for the 25th ult. was not successful, no prize being taken, therefore the match will be discussed at our next meeting, and will take place on Nov. 8, two rods, jack, eels and pope barred. Members are therefore notified that less than a half-pound of fish will not take a prize. [See Cobden Club report.]—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—Several of our members were out on the 25th, but returned with a blank, on account of not being able to get near the water. Our quarterly competition is postponed to Nov. 8, on account of the flooded state of the river. Our secretary was out on the 27th, and weighed in 15lb. 12oz., including a grayling, 14½oz., a dace 10½oz., and best roach, 1lb. 1½oz., a nice show of fish.—J. PAILES, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—On the 25th inst., Messrs. Moir and Abel weighed in roach, bream, and jack. It was proposed by the members present on Wednesday last, that we fish a roaming match from St. Margarets Lock to Aqueduct Lock, on November 8. I trust members will show up on Wednesday next, so that the minutes can get confirmed as regards the above.—W. H. POTTER, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our seventh outing that should have taken place at Windsor, on November 1, is postponed until further notice. A paper will be read at the above club by Mr. Mathews, on Wednesday, November 4. The chair will be occupied by Mr. Shrubsole, when members and friends are cordially invited.—J. RICH, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 25th instant, several of our members were out, but only three members were successful. Mr. Wright with roach, dace and jack; Mr. Munn, sen., with jack; and Mr. Rowe with jack. The next return visit on the Central Association takes place at the above house on Monday, November 2, when we hope our brother anglers will show up in good force on this occasion.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday, when Mr. J. Rennington was elected as honorary member. Mr. D. Davis weighed in roach and dace, 3lb. 12oz.; Mr. Elston, 2lb. 9¼oz.; Mr. A. Davis, 1lb. 9¼oz.; and Mr. F. Davis had fish weighed to his account. I should like to see some of the members at the Amicable Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, on Monday, 2nd November, and also at the visit to the Second Surrey Angling Society, on Tuesday, 3rd November, on the South London List.—A. G. SMITH.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—Our trays were again fairly well filled on Oct. 25 with roach and dace, contributed by the following members: H. Patman, Pallum, James, Smith, and Mr. Hamp a small jack. Members wishing to take part in the forthcoming benevolent competition at Rye House, on the 16th November, can obtain tickets at the club house.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—Despite the adverse weather, on the 25th inst. four of our members managed to get into some nice fish. Mr. Hacker, fine show of roach, bream, and perch; Mr. Rouzilier, nice show of roach; and Mr. F. Barker, roach; also Mr. Deplidge, an honorary member of this society, showed a splendid basket of rudd.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—The only one to weigh in on the 25th inst. was Mr. C. Davis, with roach. Our usual quarterly match will take place at Ware, from the Engine House down, on Nov. 8 for three prizes. Mr. Clark will give a prize for the largest roach taken in the match.—D. WARREN.

Bostonian Angling Society.—Since my last report, Messrs. Jennings, roach and dace; Hoare, roach; Halsell, roach; Pearson, perch; Clark, jack. Annual friendly supper next Wednesday at the club-house at eight o'clock.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On the 25th inst. only two of our members weighed in: Mr. Robson, roach; and Mr. Aitchison, roach. On Wednesday evening Mr. Norton brought up a nice show of roach, bream, perch and dace; and Mr. Williams roach. A special meeting has been called for

Wednesday, the 11th November; every member will please to make it convenient to attend, as some very important business will be brought forward.—H. Roach.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—Since last report the following gentlemen have weighed in bream, roach, and dace: Messrs. Watkins, Wilson and Tucker. Will members kindly attend next Tuesday, for the purpose of deciding and arranging details of smoking concert on behalf of R. Buffham on Nov. 10? Members can have tickets on sale or return, sixpence each, on application to "Uncle Foster," who has the matter in hand.—T. Hawkes, sec.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—I hope members won't forget to come up next Wednesday night, as we go out for prizes on Nov. 8, to fish a pegged-down match. We had a very nice show of roach on the 25th, and one small jack. Mr. D, Flint weighed in 13lb. 1oz. of very nice roach; Mr. Gurney weighed in one small jack, 1lb. 14oz.—J. Pether, sec.

Buxton Brothers' Angling Society, 4 and 6, Buxton-road, Walthamstow.—On the 22nd inst., Mr. W. Davis caught roach and dace; Mr. J. Berry, dace; on the 23rd, Mr. W. Davis, jack; on the 24th, Mr. W. Davis, roach; on 25th, Mr. Howell, dace; and Mr. Maxwell had a grand show of roach, including one of 1lb. 3oz. (a fine specimen), as well as ten others, making a nice trayful. On the 28th, Mr. W. Davis landed some very nice roach and dace. On the 23th our meeting was well attended, and some interesting discussions took place. Members are informed that there will be a meeting every Wednesday evening, to make arrangements for the future outings.—A. Shuker, secretary.

Cambridge Friendly Angling Society, Mason's Arms, Titchborne-street, Edgware-road, W.—It is proposed by this society to hold a public meeting shortly, to take into consideration the advisability of increasing the standard of fish. The meeting will be held at the Swallow Assembly Rooms, Swallow-street, Piccadilly, W. Further particulars will be duly announced. The outing to Pangbourne is again postponed until November 8.—W. Sutton, secretary.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On October 18 the following members weighed in: Mr. King, roach; Mr. Sairtin, roach; Mr. Leslie, roach and dace; Mr. Critcher, roach. On the 25th, Mr. Sharp, dace; Mr. Critcher, roach: Mr. Marshall, dace; Mr. Boxall, jack; Mr. King, roach. I beg to remind members that Wednesday next, November 4, will be quarterly night, when I hope that all members will show up.—E. T. White, sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—On Monday next, November 2, Mr. J. Deplidge will read from Sir Samuel W. Baker's "Albert N'Yanza" an account of "Fishing in Abyssinia." An account of last Monday's meeting will be found in another column.—John Smith, hon. sec.

Central Association.—The monthly delegate meeting will take place on Monday next, November 2, at 8.30 p.m., at Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, W.C.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—On the 11th inst., Mr. Castell weighed in bream from the Thames. On the 18th, we had no fish weighed in, on the 25th, Mr. Castell had roach and dace from the Thames.—Cas.

Clerkenwell and District United.—A visit on the above was paid to the Funny Folks Angling Society on Monday evening, Mr. Embleton in the chair, the following eighteen societies being represented, viz., Great Northern Brothers, Lincoln, St. John's, Convivial, St. Andrew's, Crown and Buckland, City of London, Seymour Brothers, Amicable Waltonians, Funny Folks, Islington Brothers, Bloomsbury Brothers, Burton Piscatorials, North London, Camden, Dalston, Royal George, and Bermondsey Brothers. The next visit will be to the Islington Brothers, held at the Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road, one of the best visiting clubs on the list.—F. Castell, hon. sec.

Cliftonville Angling Society, Cliftonville Hotel, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey.—We fish a match on Nov. 1 on the Stort at Burnt Mill. Members to start from Liverpool-street by the 8.2 train. Full particulars can be had at the club-house. Mr. Levim weighed in some good roach from the Lea. Mr. Emberson was successful in securing first prize in the roving match. Mr. A. Payne also weighed in some nice dace. Members are requested to show up at the Second Surrey Angling Society on Tuesday, Nov. 3.—P. Gardner, sec.

Cobden Angling Society. Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—The £23 14s. 9d. collected by Mr. B. Abrahams for Mrs. Camm was paid over on Friday last to the trustees, and we take the opportunity of thanking Mr. Abrahams for the spirited manner in which he took up this sad case. The match is put off until further notice, on account of the floods.—A. Smith, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 25th inst. a few of our members ventured out, but the only gentlemen who were successful were: Messrs. Parram, Wild, Freeman, Cogswell, Killick, W. Midson, and C. Flowers, who had, considering the state of the water, a fine show of dace, roach, and jack. On the 1st of November we fish a boundary match in the Lea, from Carthagena Weir to the Fish and Eels.—S. Malby, sec.

Earlsfield Angling Society, Half-way House, Earlsfield, S.W.—There will be an outing of the members of this society on Nov. 1, weather permitting, from Hampton Court Bridge to Kingston Bridge; all fish to weigh; all to go down by the 8.40 train from Earlsfield. We made two new members this week. Three of our members, Messrs. Waterman, Biéderman, and Mayer had lively sport amongst the gudgeon and dace on the 25th inst., the total reaching twelve dozen. I must ask as many members as can make it convenient to attend next Wednesday, as there will be some important business to discuss.—R. W. Bird.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On the 25th inst., we had a nice show, by the following: Messrs. F. Vanhegan, roach and chub; and Biggs, roach, rudd, and dace. Total 21lb. 11oz. Our return visit on the Clerkenwell and District, took place on Monday last, and was well attended, eighteen clubs answering the roll. I hope friends will not forget the distribution of prizes in connection with Mr. G. Watling's benefit on Monday, Nov. 2.—J. W. Biggs, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We were saved from a blank on the 25th inst., by Mr. Stebbings with bream, and Mr. Payne with nearly 3lb. of roach and dace.—A. Payne, sec.

Good Intent Angling Society, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch.—Thirty-four of our members fished at Cheshunt, on the 25th inst., for nine prizes, but only six were taken by the following: Messrs. Devon, Almeroth, Huggett, Wilkinson, J. Sallomon and F. Raynor. We fish for Christmas prizes on Nov. 1, at the Rye House Fishery; roam; all to start by the 9.8 train, Liverpool-street. All members—honorary as well as working—can compete who have cleared the books.—R. Murphy.

Grange Angling Society, the Earl Derby, Grange-road, S.E.—The members are particularly requested to attend the meeting on the 5th of November, as there is some very important business to be done.—W. K.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—On the 25th inst. the members of the above club went to Taplow to fish for several prizes, but owing to the flooded state of the river, one fish only was taken, winning Mr. J. Grande first prize. I wish to remind members that Tuesday, the 3rd Nov., is quarterly night, when I hope to have a good muster.—G. F. Weaver, secretary.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, with Mr. Frank Fletcher in the chair. Mr. Fosbrooke reported on the sea-fishing competition, which took place off Southend, last Saturday. It had been arranged that an equal number of rods and hand-lines should be used, but from a variety of circumstances, chiefly the previous bad weather, the sides were very unequal, three fishing with hand-lines, and eight with rods, which with two visitors, made thirteen in all, and the total amount of fish taken was 171lb. 15oz. The greatest take by one individual was 17lb. 5oz., by Mr. Fosbrooke, who also had the best five fish, weighing 7lb., and the best specimen fish, 2lb. 2oz. All had some fish, the least weight caught by anyone being 4lb. 4oz. In consequence of the numbers on each side not being equal, it was resolved that the competition should be fished over again on Saturday, Nov. 7, at the same place. Train leaves Fenchurch-street at 9.5 a.m. Should the numbers on the two sides vary, they are to be reduced to an equality by lot; not less than three on each side. Prizes: Articles worth a guinea, half-a-guinea, and half-a-guinea respectively. The competition from punts on the Thames is postponed till Tuesday, the 10th, for a prize of tackle worth a guinea. Intending competitors are requested to communicate with Mr. T. Gilbert, 52, Lyndhurst-grove, Camberwell, not later than Tuesday, the 3rd November. Dr. Brunton reported having caught a pike over 6lb. on the Upper Lea. The fish snapped the trace the first time, but came again immediately, and was taken. Mr. F. R. Ohlson will read his paper next Tuesday, Nov. 3. On the 10th, Mr. C. S. Bentley will read a paper. On the 17th a smoking concert, and on the 24th a paper by Dr. Brunton. —James Tayler, sec.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—It has been arranged to fish a roving match at Cookham on November 8. The following weighed in on the 25th inst.: J. H. Herbert, roach, 2lb. 13½oz.; Mr. Willsher, roach, 2lb. 0¾oz.; others were out, but had no sport. The next return visit on the Clerkenwell United Visiting List will take place at the above on Monday, November 16.—J. H. Herbert.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members competed for three special prizes on 25th inst. Only two members succeeded in taking prizes, Mr. C. Layton being first, Mr. J. Mack second. Messrs. G. Washington, Harry Auburn and D. Auburn, had takes on the same day. The members will compete for a series of Christmas prizes on November 8, between the lock at Ratty's Weir and the Cattle Bridge, above St. Margaret's, and fish from the towing-path only. In the event of the whole of the series of prizes not being taken on the day named, the remainder to be fished for afterwards.—H. B.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Goldhawk-road, W.—Many of our members have been out during the week, the most successful being Messrs. Carter and Stevens, who weighed in a nice show of gudgeon and dace respectively.—T. Salter, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 25th inst. several members were out; but few fish were taken owing to the very thick and flooded state of the rivers. Messrs. Belton and White, roach and dace. On the 28th inst., Mr. J. White and Mr. Palmer were unanimously elected working members of the above.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool East End Friendly Angling Association, 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool.—Our match took place on the 25th inst., at Rufford Canal, for several prizes. Very little sport was obtained, on account of the weather. However, we were saved from a blank by Mr. E. Matthews weighing in perch. The prizes are added on to the prizes for a match which is to take place on November 1, at Raby Mere, Cheshire. All competitors to go by the 8.35 train from Woodside Station on morning of match; no fish under 2oz. to be weighed in; one rod only. Members must abide by these rules, or be disqualified.—T. C. Segar, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 25th inst., our members were at various waters. Messrs. Penfold and Barnard only showed up to weigh in with a few roach and one small barbel. I wish to remind our members of the match on November 1, at Bourne End. Pegged-down; all to start same morning.—W. F. Pearce.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road.—We had a good show of members on Tuesday, but a bad show of fish, owing to the state of the river. Mr. J. Osborne had a nice show of dace on the 25th. I hope all members will attend on Tuesday next, as there is some important business to bring forward.—J. Comber, sec.

Mitre Brothers Angling Society, Mitre Tavern, Kingsgate-street, Holborn.—Members were out fishing for prizes on the 25th inst., when Mr. Ryan won first prize (fishing box) and money prize; Mr. L. Talbot won a money prize; Mr. Crocker and W. Talbot also weighing in fish from the Thames. I am sorry to inform members that Mr. J. Irish, one of our old members, met with a severe accident at Elstree Station by breaking his ankle; he is now lying in University Hospital.—J. Jolliffe, hon. sec.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—The outing on Nov. 5 will be an open competition for roach only (bank or punt). Mr. Taylor having expressed a wish to read a paper before the club members, we have fixed the night of Nov. 26 for the occasion, the proceedings also to include a smoking concert.—Arthur R. Matthews.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway-road.—We met as usual on Wednesday, when it was decided that we fish for the prizes left over from last match, from the Rye House to Broxbourne, on Nov. 1; all to go by the 8.8 train from Hackney Downs. The next return visit on the Anglers' Association No. 2 will take place at the above society, on Monday, November 9. On the 25th inst., Mr. Dain weighed in perch, heaviest 10¼oz.—H. Stretch, hon. sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland-park, N.W.—On the 25th inst., in spite of the bad weather, Mr. Lambert weighed in jack, and Mr. Scultz, junr., also jack. Members please note that Thursday, November 12th, is the half-yearly night, when all subscriptions are due, and all those who can make it convenient to attend that night will greatly oblige.—G. S.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—In last Saturday's *F. G.*, under the heading of "Anglers' Association," Mr. Manning is said to have visited this society, and reported that "two" clubs were represented; this should have been "twelve." On the 25th inst., although a most miserable day, and the water overflowing in all directions, three of our members succeeded in bringing in fish to our headquarters—viz., Mr. Bygrave, sen., bream and roach; Mr. Harrison, dace and roach; and Mr. Neville, roach.—J. Cuthbert, secretary.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Arthur, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Our next series of prizes will be fished for on Nov. 15; members to go where they please, same morning only. Only a few of our members were out on the 25th, and only two weighed in—viz., Mr. Fautley, dace and gudgeon; and Mr. Daniels with dace and gudgeon, the largest gudgeon going just on 2oz. All members who are desirous of attending the supper on Nov. 9, would they kindly give in their names, with their friend's, by Wednesday, Nov. 4.—E. A. Fautley, sec.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Old St. Pancrass road, N.W.—On the 25th inst., two prizes were angled for; Mr. Carr gaining first prize, and Mr. Charles Dove the second prize. Twenty members competed, but not many fish were taken. On Tuesday last, our half-yearly supper took place, when seventy-one members and friends sat down to a splendid spread provided by Host Ben Forster. —W. Elbourn, sec.

Prince Albert Angling Society, Prince Albert, Lincoln-street, Bow-road.—Our members were out last week, Mr. Gandy taking two nice jack. I beg to contradict the report made by Mr. Pignatelli last week; the fish was disqualified, as he did not land it himself.—W. Fitt.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—Our match was continued on the 25th inst., but only two members were successful, which leaves several prizes not taken. I hope members will attend on Wednesday next, to arrange what we shall do with what is left, and to hear the auditors' report.—J. W. Harris, secretary.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—Notwithstanding the state of the water on the 25th inst., several of our members were out, and the following weighed in: Buckland, jack; Hayden, roach and perch; Davis, jack; Ivermee, dace. As the weather seems to improve, I hope to record better shows next week.—Wm. Bowyer, sec.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—On the 25th inst., Mr. Affelett had a nice show of roach, 5lb. 3oz.; and Mr. Comley, 4lb. 2oz. I must remind members that there are several prizes to be fished for, and that we are only waiting for them to attend to settle the time and place.—F. Bradley, hon. sec.

Royal George Angling Society, Queen's Arms, Bateman-street, Soho-square, W.—On the 25th inst. we fished for Mr. Wood's prize of 10s. 6d., where we liked; but, in consequence of the water, only Messrs. Gibbons, Harris, Jerquet, weighed in, Mr. Gibbons taking Mr. Wood's prize. Mr. Frederick Flegg was duly ballotted for and elected a fishing member of this society. We fish our next outing at Marlow, from Marlow Bridge to Temple Lock; tow-path, one rod only; when several prizes will be competed for. I trust all members will make a point of attending next Wednesday to settle the outing. The balance-sheet was audited by Messrs. Gibbons and Jerquet, and found favourably.—F. C. Longland.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Coborn Arms, Coborn-road, Bow, E.—On the 25th inst., several of our members were out, but owing to the flooded state of the waters, the only gentlemen who had any sport were: Messrs. A. Barclay, F. Barrow, J. Yeo, and G. Barclay, with a very fair show of roach and dace. We had our first meeting at our new club-room at the above house, on Tuesday last, when every one was satisfied with the room.—A. Barclay, secretary.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—As the weather is not suitable to fish for our prizes on Nov. 1, outing postponed. The place will be settled on Wednesday next. Our visit on the South London United Visiting List will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 3, not as I have stated on the post-cards to the various clubs as "Tuesday, Nov. 1." Our club-house is only one minute's walk from the tramway, Westminster-bridge, where we hope to see many friends on that occasion.—J. Wright, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 25th inst., a few members ventured out, but only one succeeded in weighing in: Mr. J. Petrie, roach, 5lb. 8½oz. We had a poor muster present on Tuesday last. I hope members will show up better on Tuesday next. Members in arrears will greatly oblige by attending next Tuesday, and clear the books.—S. E. Cane, sec.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—On the 25th inst., in a downpour of rain, at Twickenham, the match between sides captained by the president and vice-president took place and resulted in a win for the latter. Sport was very indifferent, owing to the river being in flood. Fifteen members out of twenty-eight took part in the match, which was very gratifying to the committee. On returning to headquarters, our host (Mr. Watts) had ready a splendid dinner, which fully compensated for the bad weather. Two members were elected at our last meeting. —C. B.

Silver Trout Anglers' Association, Bedford Head, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden.—Our next outing announced for Nov. 1st, at Moulsford, is postponed till Nov. 29, in consequence of the flooded state of the river.—Pelican.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—The only members weighing in fish on the 25th inst. were Messrs. D. Marks and G. Pleydell. Notice to members—a special meeting will take place on Thursday, November 5, to take into consideration an outing for Christmas prizes, when I should like to see all members present. —R. Spencely, sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on the above list will be to the Second Surrey Angling Society, held at the Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Upper Marsh, Lambeth, on Tuesday, Nov. 3, and as this society has not been able to receive a visit for the past two years, on account of the room at their late quarters not being large enough, a fact which has not prevented them turning up in fair numbers at every visit on the list, I trust they will be well supported.—A. CONN, hon. sec.

St. John's Angling Society.—Our match that was to take place at Great Marlow on Oct. 25 for four prizes is postponed till Nov. 1. Honorary members are invited to compete. We were saved from a blank last week by Mr. A. Catanach with a few roach.—F. THORLING.

Stoke Newington Angling Society, the Dun Horse, Kingsland-road, E.—In consequence of the floods, none of the prizes were won on the 25th inst. They will be fished for again at Wateringbury on Nov. 1. In the event of their not being taken, members will be allowed to choose their own water from week to week until they are decided. Quarterly night is Wednesday, Nov. 4.—T. GRETTON.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—Many of our members were out on the 25th inst., but it rested with Mr. Carpenter to save us from a blank with one jack. The half-yearly supper took place on the 21st, inst. when over twenty members and friends sat down. Mr. D. A. Parker occupied the chair, faced by Mr. G. Boreham. The secretary read a statement of accounts showing a substantial balance in hand, and stated that the club was increasing in numbers rapidly, making new members almost every meeting night. The company dispersed at an advanced hour all having spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening.—H. R.

Tadcaster Angling Club.—Eight members of the above club had a fishing contest on Thursday afternoon in the river Wharfe, at Ouston. The successful competitors were Mr. William Holloway, 1lb. 15½oz.; Mr. E. Jackson, 3½oz. Mr. Holloway (the secretary) was fortunate in hooking a grand specimen roach, weighing 1lb. 9¼oz.—said to be the best that has been taken in this neighbourhood for some years.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Mr. F. Beak, out on the 25th inst., saved the club from a blank with roach and dace. The members of the above will fish a pegged-down match on Nov. 1 on the Thames for several money prizes, and the given prizes will be fished for on the same date and at the same place. Should the weather keep fine, I hope to see a good muster on this occasion.—H. TYLER, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society. George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—Several members were out on the war path on the 25th inst., Mr. Clegg. roach and perch; Mr. Petty, roach; Mr. Smith had fish, but did not turn up to weigh in. We had fair attendance on the 27th. I was very pleased to see our chairman, Mr. Philips, in his place again, but nothing of importance was done, owing to the members arriving late. I wish they would attend much earlier, as we have a lot of business before us.—H. C., hon. sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 25th inst., Mr. W. Gordon weighed in roach and dace. The November competition will take place on Nov. 1, from Richmond Bridge to Kingston Bridge. Bank only. All fish to weigh. Members to go down by eight o'clock train, Waterloo; 8.5, Vauxhall. Show fish at Swan, Twickenham Ferry, at six o'clock.—R. J. DARTNALL, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—On the 25th inst., we had a few fish by Messrs. Francis and Sullivan; other members returned a blank. I hope members will not forget to sign the book at the bar of club-house, for match on the 1st November, roving.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 25th instant for Mr. Beresford's prize, which was won by Mr. J. Newton, who had six roach over the half-pound. The total weight was 4lb. 6oz. Mr. Goodrich, 1lb. 1½oz. of roach; Mr. Maxted, 1lb. ½oz. roach, and a dace weighing 8½oz.—R. LOWTHER, sec.

CLUB FIXTURES.

Nov. 2.—Clerkenwell and District visit to Funny Folks, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road, and distribution of prizes.

Nov. 4.—Paper by Mr. A. Matthews, at Amicable Excelsior, Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea. Subject: "Some Angling Experiences."

Nov. 9.—Supper at Peckham Brothers, Prince Arthur, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Eastern District, No. 2, Anglers' Association visit to North London Club, Tap House, Holloway-road.

Nov. 10.—Paper by Mr. E. S. Shrubsole, at Battersea Friendly, Queen's Hotel, St. Philip's-street, Battersea Park Town. Subject: "Fishing Baskets, Bags, and Creels." Exhibition of upwards of one hundred baskets, bags, and creels. Chairman, R. B. Marston, Esq.—Concert at Brunswick Brothers, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E., in aid of Mr. R. Buffham's benefit fund.

Nov. 11.—Paper by Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, at the Serapis, Neville Arms, Neville-road, Stoke Newington. Subject: "The Science of Angling."—Smoking concert at Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.

Nov. 15.—Competition at Rye House, in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.

QUEEN'S HOTEL,

QUEEN'S ROAD, BATTERSEA PARK TOWN.

PROPRIETOR—C. SIMMONDS.

Under the auspices of The Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers among Angling Clubs,

MR. E. S. SHRUBSOLE

will read a Paper upon "FISHING BASKETS, BAGS, AND CREELS," at the above Hotel, on

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10.

There will be an exhibition of upwards of one hundred fishing baskets, bags, &c., to illustrate the lecture.

R. B. MARSTON, Esq. (Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*) will take the Chair at eight o'clock.

A GRAND SMOKING CONCERT, organised by Mr. Godfrey C. Cooper, will be held the same evening.

All anglers cordially invited.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE READING OF PAPERS AMONG ANGLING CLUBS.

A PLEASANT and highly instructive evening was spent under the auspices of this excellent society, at the Causton Angling Society's club-house, the Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City, on Monday night; when Mr. G. E. Simms (of the Gresham Club) read a paper on "Coarse Fish Hatching." Mr. E. S. Shrubsole took the chair, and there was a fair attendance, taking into consideration the wretched weather which prevailed. In the course of his opening remarks the chairman observed that he had received a very interesting letter from Mr. Evans, of the Westbourne Park Piscatorials, who had sent on with it two samples of line which he had himself dressed in linseed oil and terebene, and had had in use for four years. He (the chairman) thought the subject of dressed lines was a very interesting one, and he invited a discussion upon it, prior to Mr. Simms's paper, which, he had no doubt, would be a most excellent one.

Various anglers—including Messrs. Dunn, Keeble, Smith, Simms, Wood, Guest, &c.—then related their experiences of dressed lines and the preparations they, as amateurs, had used to dress them with. Pure linseed oil was spoken of as being one of the best dressings known. The chairman said, of course the great desideratum was to obtain a preparation that would render the line as pliable as possible. In the course of the discussion it was announced by several of the speakers that they had brought mutton fat, the fat in the region of rabbit's kidneys, and red-deer fat into use, with satisfactory results.

The chairman then announced that Mr. Simms would read his paper, and spoke encouragingly of the work and aims of the society. He hoped that the London anglers would feel it their duty to extend their support to it, and that, whenever a paper was announced to be read, they would make a point of being present on that occasion. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Simms, in the course of his paper, spoke of the "miserable little specimens" of fish which the Thames and Lea fishermen took under the cognizance of the Thames Conservancy, the T.A.P.S., and the two leading angling associations. He was glad to say, however, that a number of the London angling clubs had voluntarily raised their standard of fish, although he believed, as far as the general question was concerned, that the movement would only be spasmodic. He (the speaker) did not believe that any standard short of making it almost prohibitive to take fish out of the Thames and Lea would prove effective. His reasons for saying that were: firstly, where there was one angler thirty years ago, there were one hundred, perhaps two hundred, to-day; and, secondly, owing to the improved process of drainage, he very much feared that large quantities off fish would be left high and dry when the water was run of at flood times. The only means of dealing with the question was, he contended, to continually keep restocking the rivers he had mentioned, from over prolific waters. If that could be carried out he (Mr. Simms) should not insist upon an increased standard. The reader then proceeded to give some interesting and valuable particulars on coarse fish hatching; varying his remarks from time to time with many humorous anecdotes, and succeeded in commanding the rivetted and close attention of his audience. He gave instances of his own attempts at fish hatching, and said that with ten pickle bottles and a couple of aquariums he once produced ten thousand roach and perch. In the course of his investigations he said he had discovered that the plant microbe was an admirable food for young roach, and would, he thought, prove equally efficacious to perch, although it was very difficult to get the latter fish to feed elsewhere than the river. Mr. Simms thought that if the Anglers' Association and the Central Association would only collect the spawn in the waters rented by them, and treat it in the method he had described to them—using wicker hampers—they would have a large increase of fry; and, in conclusion, he expressed the opinion that the question of restocking was the pivot on which the whole future of our inland fishing depended. (Applause.)

A discussion followed, and upon the motion of Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Guest, a very hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Simms for his paper.

The reader having replied, a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding brought the proceedings to a close.

TO CLUB SECRETARIES.—Many club secretaries will shortly be buying the prizes for their clubs. We strongly advise them to write to Messrs. J. Knight and Co., 47, Boar-lane, Leeds, before purchasing elsewhere. We have every confidence in recommending this firm.

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MAZAWATTEE TEA

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1891.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea.		Add	55 min. for Kew.
	40 ,, ,, Putney.			75 ,, ,, Richmond.
	45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.			80 ,, ,, Twickenham.
	50 ,, ,, Barnes.			85 ,, ,, Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Oct.	31	1. 8	1.25
Sunday,	Nov.	1	1.39	1.54
Monday,	,,	2	2. 7	2.22
Tuesday,	,,	3	2.36	2.52
Wednesday	,,	4	3. 8	3.23
Thursday,	,,	5	3.39	3.55
Friday,	,,	6	4.13	4.30

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—In the absence of any rain on Tuesday the water began to recede, but up to that time there was one of the heaviest October floods that have been known for years. There was a time in my recollection when it was no uncommon thing to expect a flood at that period of the year, and I have known it to be of long continuance. I went down to Staines last Saturday and found the water had then risen to a considerable height, completely covering the towing-path [and coming up to the boat-house of the Pack Horse Hotel, which hostelry has just been taken by my friend, Mr. E. H. Blamey, whose brother is the deputy-chairman of the T.A.P.S., and I had the pleasure of enrolling the new proprietor as a subscriber and supporter of Thames Preservation—anglers will kindly make a note of this. The holidays which give the river keepers so much anxiety, and for which special arrangements have to be made at the cost of the T.A.P.S., are now over, and I am happy to say have passed away without any interference by the poachers. In this work the keepers of the Thames Conservancy are united with our own, and in the Chertsey district the committee are largely indebted to their honorary river keeper, Mr. A. E. Armstrong, for liberally taking charge of it. I am always glad when this time is over, as I remember the days of old when there was an organised gang of poachers infesting the river on those occasions, and there has been many a good fight with them for mastery, and we have not conquered without the keepers receiving rough usage and jeopardising their lives in the struggle. At the meeting of the committee, on Tuesday last, the reports from all portions of the river proved how satisfactory the arrangements had been carried out in respect to the three periods in this month when the river required additional watching. At that meeting the committee having regard to the very valuable services which have been given for so many years by Mr. R. B. Marston, Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*, in the interests of the general body of anglers, and as an appreciation of what he has done for the Metropolitan river unanimously elected him as a vice-president of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, which I hope he will do them the honour to accept, as no one is more deserving of the recognition. There was another complimentary and deserving act agreed upon, and that was in making my old and valued friend, Mr. T. R. Sachs, a honorary member of the society. It has been my pleasure to receive from him for more than a quarter of a century the customary guinea qualification as a member, and he is well deserving of the position he has now gained. The fourth rule of the society gives power to the committee to elect vice-presidents and honorary members. The agenda of last Tuesday's meeting was a very heavy one, having no less than seventeen items upon it, and as evidencing the work that has been going on since the previous meeting, there were three distinct cases of illegal offences—the turning into the river of 10,000 stock fish at Chertsey, including thirty-five carp of 5lb. each, and a systematic examination of takes in punts and on the banks, between Staines and Isleworth, when no unsizeable fish were found in any of them. I must before closing refer again to the flood which has so disturbed the rats as to drive them away in large quantities, and on the island at Twickenham, I heard, they ran up the trees, and some ferrets were got and sent up after them. I hope I shall have better news about the river next week.—B.

Upper Thames.—Thursday evening.—A very big memo. for the upper regions of the Thames should be made, for it has actually not rained for three consecutive days, the result of this not long raining over these uninhabited and unvisited solitudes being to reduce the flood by many inches per day. As I write I can, from my windows, now discern the outlines of the "grand old meanderer," which has for days past been merged in a "sea of troubles," against which it was useless for anglers to take up arms. By the time this note is in print (without further deluge) the Thames water will be snugly tucked up in its little bed, and as the weir tackle will be gradually put down, meadow netting in flood time abolished, ditch snatching looked after, and the weeds well cleared away, ye gods and little fishes, what sport there should be.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Datchet).—The river is falling fast, and by the time this is in print, weather permitting, anglers will be able to make another start. The water is in splendid colour for anything, and jack fishers will have a fine chance in the eddies.—G. LUMSDEN.

Thames (Windsor).—It is nine years since the Thames Valley had such a thorough cleansing, and though at first sight nothing but discomfort and damage would appear to be the result of such a flood, an immense amount of good is done, as during the summer months our once beautiful crystal stream is most horribly polluted by the many hundreds of house-boats, launches, tugs, and barges, to say nothing of the thousands of smaller crafts, which all add their quota. At time of writing the subsidence is well maintained, and since yesterday has fallen about 6in. By the time this is in print it should be once again in bounds. Many anglers who will not be denied their favourite pastime, have been fishing in the meadows, and some in kitchen gardens, where some very fine roach were taken from amongst the potato rows and marrow beds. A few afternoons back I noticed quantities of good-sized fish, presumably barbel and roach, in a meadow, quite two hundred yards from the river. They should be in good condition after such a "diet of worms."—B. R. B.

Ancholme District.—Notwithstanding the recent fresh, and consequently muddy state of the water, better sport has been obtained during the past week. The Hull Angling Club fished a match on one of the stormy days; the chief prizemen were: Messrs. W. Goodwin, A. W. Dhata, and F. Temperton. Mr. Goodwin had amongst his take a fine bream of 4lb. 8oz.; and Mr. Dhata obtained the gold medal for the largest aggregate catch during the season. Mr. White had a good basket of fish, on Saturday last. The elements have now moderated, and prospects for the coming week are good. Pike and bream will offer the best returns.—THOMAS FORD.

Arun (Pulborough and Amberley).—All fishing has been stopped by the floods. The competition arranged for Oct. 25, at Pulborough, has been postponed indefinitely. The district was, however, visited by about one hundred anglers from London on that day, but all they could do was to go flood-seeing. As the water and floods are beginning to subside, I hope soon to have to record some good baskets, especially of roach.—GOOSEQUILL.

Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, and Suffolk Rivers.—Nearly all our waters in these three counties are flooded, and high coloured. I think by Friday or Saturday, if we get no more rain, anglers may come and have a try.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Dove and Tributaries.—Weather is now dry and genial and favourable for sport with the grayling. The water is also in good trim for the fly, and the wind and weather-glass promise a continuance of fine weather. There are no fishermen out as club members have not had time to hear of the favourable change as yet.—D. and W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourn.

Eden (Carlisle).—After a blank time of fully a week the river was just fishable in some places on Wednesday, the 21st inst., when Mr. E. L. Hough landed five fish at Crosby; Mr. T. Robinson, Mr. R. Ellwood, and Mr. T. Bone, each two in the Cargo Water; Mr. J. Hills, two, at Corby; and Mr. J. Robinson and Mr. Cameron, each one. On the 22nd, Mr. T. Robinson and Mr. T. Bone had respectively two and three in the Cargo Water; and Mr. E. L. Hough landed eight fish at Crosby, weighing 202lb. This is likely to be the record bag of the season. His heaviest fish was 34lb. He had five more the next day, making twenty-four fish in five days' fishing. Two other bags of five fish were made by Messrs. T. and J. Robinson at Cargo; Mr. Wright had six at Warwick; and Capt. Rhodes, four, at Warwick Hall. Several other anglers had one or two each. On the 24th, Mr. Mackenzie killed four; Archdeacon Prescott, Mr. J. W. Hills, Mr. Spottiswoode, Mr. T. Hodgson, Mr. G. Selby, Mr. John Little and Mr. William Stephenson, each one. On the 26th the Rickerby Water yielded well, Mr. MacInnes getting two; Mr. Catherall, two; Mr. J. Fox, three; Mr. Sayers, Mr. Parkins, Mr. C. Wilson, and Mr. Francis, each, one. On the 27th, Mr. J. Robinson had four, and Mr. Huthart, one, at Cargo; Mr. Bland, three, at Rickerby; and Archdeacon Prescott, one. In the Association Water, Mr. Matthews killed two; and Messrs. Catherall, Widowes, Francis, Howitt, and Learess, each, one. The fish average fully 20lb., and are in grand condition, giving excellent sport. The river is now getting very clear.—SILVER GREY.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—The sport on this river has again been excellent. The results so far as can be ascertained are as follows: Mr. C. G. Broadwood, Acomb, York, caught with the minnow, eight salmon, weighing respectively 12½lb., 10lb., 8lb., 3½lb., 5lb., 12lb., 8lb., and 10lb.; Mr. J. Marsden, Scarboro', four salmon of 5lb., 7lb, 8lb. and 3lb.; Mr. William Bradley, Ainthorp, four salmon of 15lb., 14lb., 10lb, and 20lb.; Mr. Robert Hay, with the fly, near Grosmont, three salmon of 13lb., 15lb., and 7lb.; Mr. C. Rhodes, with the fly at Sealholm; one salmon of 20lb.; Mr. F. Jefferson, one salmon of 8½lb.; Mr. J. W. Nicholson, Talbot Hotel, Whitby; seven of 3lb., 13lb., 13lb., 9lb., 6lb., 6lb. and 4lb.; Mr. T. Morris, Sheffield, one salmon of 4lb.; Colonel Clark, Canterbury, one of 13lb.; Mr. Geo. Falkinghidge, Whitby, two of 12lb. and 14lb.; Mr. J. W. Wheldon, Pickering; two of 10½lb. and 6lb.; Mr. G. H. Rhodes, four of 5lb., 5lb., 12lb. and 10lb.; Mr. J. H. Keighley, Whitby, five of 13lb., 14lb., 15lb., 16lb. and 17lb.; Mr. T. Gray, Beckbole, eight salmon of average weight of 4lb. each; Mr. F. W. Horne, two salmon.—JOHN J. JACKSON.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—The past week has been very favourable for angling, the weather having settled and the streams run lower. Roach, dace, and other smaller fish have been feeding better, and some very fair baskets have been made by the bottom fishers. The colder nights have been favouring pike fishing, and some pretty good specimens are coming to hand. Among the catches in the Fortyfoot, in the neighbourhood of Billingborough, were a nice pike by Mr. Dexter, scaling 7lb., one of 6lb., and another of nearly 4lb.; Mr. Heath, bottom fishing, also caught in two hours 7½lb. of good roach. These were brought from near Denington Bridge, a very good length on this water. Water much improved, and now in capital trim.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—Autumn angling has had a good time this week. The weather having settled down, most of the streams are in good order both for bottom fishing and trolling. Roach and dace are to be had in many places, and not only on the Idle river, but on the Ryton, the canal, and the older drains. A few good grayling have been again brought down from the Eaton and Gaveston district, and I hear that several anglers have caught some good pike about the Hardimoors. About 6lb. or 7lb. are mentioned as among the best. There are a lot of flounders still in the river about Mattersey, and plenty of eels abound. Many of the latter are now taken in the night-time about the sluices and sent to market.—L.

Lake District.—With a week of really magnificent weather, the best we have had during the present remarkable year—salmon fishers have enjoyed sport that at one time could hardly have been expected, and takes which will bear favourable comparison with past seasons have everywhere been obtained. The lower reaches of the Kent have accounted for some good fish, chief among which was a twenty-pounder, killed by a working man named Bigland, on the Waste, a favourite stretch of free water, a few miles below Kendal. In Captain Bagot's private portion of the river running through Levens Park, Mr. R. Craig had a salmon of 10lb. and one other of 14lb. was taken on Tuesday week from the Troutbeck, in the neighbourhood of Windermere. Keswick and West Cumberland generally have a splendid record. Of course it is chiefly bait that has been accountable for the greater part of the fish taken. In the Greta and St. John's streams, the following have been successful: Mr. Q. Brownrigg, 11lb.; Mr. J. Hope, 16lb.; Mr. J. Millican, 8lb.; Mr. M. Stanley, 12lb.; Mr. D. Melvin, 11½lb. In the Derwent, Mr. G. E. Lowthian had a grand fish of 25lb. In the Cocker and Derwent a great many fish have been taken, Mr. Thompson, of Embleton, accounting for no less than seven during the week, ranging in weight from 16lb. to 27lb. The following have also taken fish from the same rivers: Mr. J. Neale, 25lb.; Mr. J. Graham, 23lb. and 25lb.; Mr. J. Atkinson, 17lb. and 18lb.; Mr. J. Lister, 6lb. and 19lb.; Mr. J. Shaw, 24lb.; Mr. G. Grabam, 7lb., 18lb., and 19¼lb.; Mr. G. Smith, 10lb., 19lb., and 21lb.; Mr. J. Graham, 19lb., 19¾lb., and 28lb.; Mr. J. Clarke, 10lb. and 22lb.; Mr. J. Lister, Great Broughton, 24lb.; Mr. J. Sbaw, 23lb. and 27lb.; Mr. J. Dixon, 8lb. and 7lb.; Rev. J. Gamble, 6lb.; Mr. T. McGlasson, 18¼lb.; Mr. W. Bell, 18lb.; Mr. D. Sanderson, 18lb.; Mr. D. Pollock, 13½lb.; Mr. H. Clift, 17lb.; Mr. J. Dixon, 24lb.; Mr. A. T. Martin, 20lb.; Mr. J. Pearson, 18lb.; Sergeant Howard, 28lb.; Mr. J. Wilson, 17lb., 15lb., and 17lb.; Mr. Vickers, 18lb. Mr. Thompson, Embleton, is said to have taken, during the season, twenty-seven salmon, of an aggregate weight of nearly 450lb. Other captures in addition to the above, might be recorded, but regard for your valuable space bids me refrain.—WESTMERIA.

Lea and Stort.—Both rivers are now rapidly getting into fishing order again, and anglers prospects are decidedly in the ascendent. The fine weather of the last few days has brought the old river down almost to its ordinary height, and another day or two of continued fine weather will make the water in the best possible condition. During my walk to-day (Thursday), I noticed that many banks or beds of the obnoxious weeds have been carried away, and now that we have had two nights' frosts, they will soon rapidly disappear altogether. I saw a good many anglers starting out, evidently anxious to take the first opportunity of getting on terms with the quarry; and I have no doubt, whatever, that some good sport has been had. The navigation river at the present moment is in very nice order; of course, it has not suffered so much from the floods as the old river has done. There is nothing special in the way of catches to record, except that of a handsome well-fed jack of 6lb., taken by Mr. Tuck, from the lower pool, at the Ferrie Boat, Tottenham. When there this morning it was a significant fact that fish were likely to be got, when I saw that able veteran angler, Mr. Bennet, turn out on a spinning expedition against the pike; I thought he showed great judgment in using a bright spoon bait in the present state of the water. I am a great advocate of spinning in any state of the water, both on account of its being the most artistic and pleasant method, and also the one that injures the fish least of all; just now it gives the very best chances of success. After the late flood and the frosty nights there is a certainty that pike will feed well.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—There has been a splendid change in the weather, and now that the heavy storms have ceased anglers are putting in full time at the river side. At the end of last week the waters were again in fishing order, the canal at Leicester being the first to receive attention. The best fishing has been in the canal at Aylestone village, some fine lots of roach and perch coming to hand, and among the more successful were Messrs. Hobbs, Bacehus, Manship and Rylott. Most of the roach were of good size, the best being one landed by Mr. Hobbs, a handsome specimen, weighing 1lb. 9oz. Mr. Rylott, amongst a mixed lot of fish, showed one roach of 1lb. 3oz., and other anglers had nice lots. Pike fishing has been remarkably quiet. The waters a distance away from the town do not run away so quickly as at Leicester, thanks to the admirable flood scheme. Angling, therefore, in the Wreake and above Leicester has not attracted a great many anglers during this week.

Loddon (Earley).—For the last fortnight nothing but torrents of rain and wind, and the country a perfect lake. It has been the highest flood known here for many years, however the water has rapidly gone down, and the river is in good condition, as it is quite cleared out of all rubbish and weeds. Some grand all-round sport ought to be had.—J. R. GOULD.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams have gone down and improved since last week, they are clearing nicely and there is every prospect of sport if the weather will hold fine. The Pinsley is in fair fishing order, but little has been done in it of late.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Rivers are still high and sink but slowly. Yesterday was the first day this month without rain. After a strong frost last night, to-day (Thursday) has been fine, and if it continues, bottom fishing may be resumed with the coming week, though possibly the water may be rather high, it will be the latter end of the week before the fly can be used.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—The Medway has been in flood, one of the heaviest we have experienced for some years; but the water is now running down, and getting a good colour for angling. Anglers were very busy on the 25th, and a large quantity of bream were taken with the worm. under favourable conditions the water should prove right for the pike fishing. The roach are also taking the worm.—WM. SHRUBSOLE.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—Fishing has fallen flat in this neighbourhood on account of the extraordinary wet weather. The river is very much swollen, and much land is under water. Angling prospects, therefore, for a few days at least, are practically *nil*. The water is rising, and to-day the guage at Peterboro' Bridge rogisters 13½ft.—NENEBANK.

Ouse (Brandon, Norfolk).—The reason I have not sent a report for the last three weeks is because we have had nothing but rain and wind. I have visited the place during that time eight different days, and am now writing from where the waters are high, but the weather has set in with frosty nights and fine dry days. Host Rolph has just told me in about three or four days, with suitable weather, the river will be fit for angling, and good catches are expected. Will write again next week.—JOHN O. GEORGE.

Ouse (Offord)—We have been flooded all the week, but the water is going down, and we hope to be able to fish again in a few days, and after this flush of water I think we shall have some good sport if the weather holds fine.—H. COLLINS.

Ouse (York).—Our river has run down since my last report, and prospects for the bottom fishermen are much brighter. Some capital catches of roach and bream are being made just now in the Bream Field Swims below the city, where several local hands have banked some splendid specimens with maggot and paste. Now that the weather is a bit more settled, with sunny days following sharp nights, we may expect good sport among the grayling.—RONALD.

Scarborough.—(SEA FISHING).—Since the storm left us, both pier and boat anglers have had excellent sport. Billet are very plentiful with each return of the tide, and one of our local anglers caught four stone in weight the other afternoon, varying in weight from 1lb. to 12lb. each, and Mr. Wardell and Mr. Jubb, fishing from a boat over one of the "sears" in the bay, caught eight stone in weight of rock cod in the course of two hours' fishing. Plaice are also plentiful, and we shall doubtless have a continuance of good sport for another month at least.—H.

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—The late flood has passed away, and both rivers will soon be down to their ordinary level again, when anglers will be out after the pike, no doubt. Warner, of the City Club, and another member, have had some good sport among them (in private water) during the past week, and a grand lot of roach, some over 1lb., were taken off the grass when the Severn was nearly bank full, the worm being the most taking bait.—R. WINGFIELD.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—The river is now in better condition than it has been for weeks, and since the water has cleared some excellent pike fishing has been obtained. These fish seem to be on the increase, and if they continue to do so some measures will have to be taken to destroy them. Craddock, a professional fisherman, has made some good captures during the week. On Monday he took ten pike at Uflington, at the junction of the brook with the river. The lot weighed 30lb., all being between 2lb. and 5lb. On Wednesday the same angler captured five pike in the same locality, the heaviest weighing 7lb. Mr. Goodman took a 4lb. fish on the same day, and his companion Mr. Edwards captured four nice pike. Coarse fishing continues good.—PISCATOR.

Sussex Rivers and Chichester Canal.—The Sussex rivers, where are they? In some districts the channel is difficult to define, and one huge sheet of water covers the lowlands. The Adur, the Arun, and the Ouse have overflowed the banks, impeding the train service, and in some districts the water has been up to the carriage doors. Angling prospects must be the tenour of my letter. It will be some days with favourable weather before enthusiasts can hope to wet a line on the rivers, yet at Chichester the canal is far below its height, and in good colour. Fish are not feeding well, too much natural food perhaps—but a few bream, roach, and small pike have been taken. The water in most reaches is at present too weedy for spinning. Sea-fishing, both from piers or boat is remunerative, and with favourable weather anglers cannot do better than patronise the briny.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Taw (North Devon).—The rivers were much over-flown last week; but since the water has cleared, some good day's salmon fishing has been had. One gent took four fish weighing 25½lb., 23lb., 21lb. and 20½lb., in the junction of Mole and Taw.—RUSTY GAME.

Tees (Barnard Castle).—Never since the erea of the Tees Fishery Board have such a number of salmon been known to ascend the river as have done this autumn. The numerous floods have enabled the fish to bid defiance to Dinsdale Dam and other obstructions, and at the present time I am quite within the mark when I say that both river and tributaries are *literally swarming* with salmon. As the season closes on Saturday next, I will endeavour to give you next week the catches for the last week. The water is in good order, and, with the exception of rather too much frost at nights, all seems promising for a good finish up.—J. H. R.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this part is now running slightly coloured, but a nice height; it is slowly clearing, and if the weather will hold fine, should be in good order for either fly or maggot fishing by Saturday.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).—The water has lowered considerably, but is still stained. Greyling fishing should be good by the end of the week with the maggot and fly.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).—River reporting of late in the Newark district would have been a waste of space in the *Gazette*, which has been more profitably occupied. For nearly three weeks the Trent has been in full flood, and though at time of writing it is running at something approaching its normal winter level, its waters are charged with a peculiarly heavy colour, not at all acting as an auxilliary to success with the rod. Though several attempts have been made during the past week, but little reward has been attained, and the capture of a few chub, heaviest 2½lb., from the Corporation Waters, by Mr. C. Brownlow, and a brace of small jack, and a few roach by other gentlemen about, represent the average takes, but with a continuance of the present weather good sport with either worms or gentles may be looked for, and pike will in all probability come freely at either live-bait or spinner, as a symptom of frost is apparent at early morn, and the bed of the river has received a thorough cleansing of all accumulated weeds and rubbish.—TRENTSIDER.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—Since the boisterous weather has given off there has been a better chance with the rod and line. The colder weather is stirring up the eels, and many have been taken for market. Eels of 2lb. to 3lb. have been by no means rare, and are worth angling for. A great many good tench are now being caught about Bardney Lock, and experts tell us that seldom before have they been caught in greater quantity and more freely. Of course, trolling is now the chief game, and it may be worth while mentioning that the bottom has much improved since the floods. The river has also been cleared in other ways for a long distance below Bardney. Live-baiting is declared best, but the pike now are beginning to run at anything in the shape of a spinning, as well as live bait.—LUCI.

Yore (Hawes).—The Yorkshire rivers are now getting into nice order for grayling and pike fishing, and some good sport may be looked for during the next week. I have heard of several fairly good baskets, having been made on both the Yore and Wharfe, with worm and fly, the latter principally. Several members of the Yorkshire Angling Association have been salmon fishing on the Eamont during the past week. Mr. H. Knott, Staleybridge, had three fish in two days, largest 17lb.; smallest 9½lb.; these were with the Angel. Mr. F. C. Branson, Leeds, killed a fine fish, 18½lb., with fly.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Yare (Norwich).—The sport amongst the pike has continued good since my last report. I heard yesterday that on one broad on this river considerably over one hundred pike have been caught this season. Only a few days since eleven nice fish were caught on a broad lower down stream; these fish were captured before noon, which shows they must have been well on feed. Last Thursday, I heard of very fine jack which had been caught a few miles above Norwich, on the Yare; it weighed 16½lb. I have called on the man who captured the two very large bream on the Wensom, which I reported about a month ago, and he says the weights were as I gave them, viz. 8½lb., and 6lb. 10oz.—The weather during the past two days has very much improved, and sport is likely to go on merrily.—ROBERT MOLL.

Usk (Abergavenny).—The river has been bank-high for days. It is now clearing and gradually falling. As the barometer is rising, it is expected that there will be some good sport during the last three days left of the season. The river is full of salmon, and it is hoped that they will be well watched during the spawning season.—J. CLARE.

Scotch Reports.

Border Esk.—Glorious weather at last, and the river in splendid trim. The season closes at the end of this week, and good sport is prognosticated up to the finish, especially in the Middle and Lower Reaches. Lower Waters.—Despite the fact that the Border Union coursing is now in full blast in the vicinity, anglers are catching salmon fast. Mr. Yates, Metal Bridge Hotel, two, 30lb. and 26lb.; Mr. Story, Longtown, one, 18lb.—GILNOCKIE.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—The last week of the season promises to compare favourably with any of its predecessors in this most gratifying season all through. Had it not been for the floods the record would have been undoubtedly broken by the present closing back-end, but as it is, a very high average has been made, which will be considerably augmented by the close of the week. On the Ballater reaches a good few fish were got on the Birkhall (Queen's) Water, Invercauld Arms, and Cambus O'May Waters, while Sir William C. Brooks, Bart., and party had very good sport, Dr. Kerr landing a fine fresh-run fish, with sea lice adhering, on Saturday last, which scaled 16lb. On the Huntly Arms Hotel Water, Aboyne, Mr. Digby Cayley has had splendid sport every day during the week. He had one of 15½lb.; two, 16½lb. and 15½lb.; four, 20lb., 22lb., 17lb. and 18lb.; two, 21lb. each; and two, 7lb. and 5lb. and on Saturday a fine fish of 20lb., while Mr. Gerold Collis had one of 11lb. and Mr. Cayley, three, 7lb., 11lb. and 15lb., on a later occasion. On the Desswood Water, Captain Davidson landed two, 11lb. and 8lb., and three on Monday, 16lb., 21lb., and 22lb. On the Kincardine Lodge Water, Mr. Lamond had one of 14lb., while Colonel Charles Leith Hay landed three on Friday, 32lb., 16lb., and 21lb. On the Upper Dees Water, Captain Ramsay had three on Tuesday of 8lb., 9lb., and 22lb. On the Carlogie Water excellent sport is being had daily. Mr. Archibald Campbell landed one of 18½lb., one of 18lb., two of 18lb. and 20lb., two of 18lb. and 19lb., and two of 18lb. and 29lb., while Captain George Campbell had one of 16lb., one of 22lb., and one of 20lb. On the Borrowstone Water, Admiral Fane had one of 21lb. and another of 15lb., while Mr. Hart had one of 21lb. On the Ballogie Water, Mr. W. E. Nicol landed one of 16lb., and another two on Monday, while Mr. Valpy had one of 25lb., and Mr. Petrie, postmaster, one of 26lb., on the same water on Saturday. On the Sluice Water, Mr. G. L. Chambers has had some very good sport, having grassed a fine fish of 25lb. on Friday, two of 8lb. and 11lb. on Saturday, and one of 16lb. on Monday. On the Commonty, Mr. W. Blacklaws had one of 12lb. on Tuesday. On the Woodend Water, Mr. W. Farnell Watson landed during the past week, one of 21lb., one of 22lb., two of 17lb. and 22lb., and three of 18lb., 17lb., and 17lb., while Mrs. Farnell Watson had a fine fish of 17lb. On the Blackhall Castle Water. Mr. G. T. Hay had two of 18lb. and 15lb., two of 18lb. and 10lb., five sealing from 10lb. to 29lb., seven, from 17lb. to 24lb., three from 17lb. to 23lb., and three of 15lb., 19lb., and 33lb., in all, twenty-two fish ranging from 10lb. to 33lb. On the Inchmarlo Water, Mr. Duncan Davidson and Lord Chesterfield landed twenty fish during the week, all heavy weights. On the Cavinton, Mr. T. Turner Farley had similar successes, while the lower sections are doing admirably well. On the Drum Water, Mr. F. H. Irvine landed four fish one day, scaling 18½lb., 22lb., 24lb., and 24lb., while Mrs. F. H. Irvine had a fine fish of 20½lb. On the Durris Water, a salmon of 37lb. is said to have been got, and on the Ardoe, a fish of 45lb., but these have not yet been authenticated. Most of the fish have been got with the fly, while the Phantom Minnow has also done noble execution. Sea trout of 2lb. and over, have been quite plentiful, and very good baskets have been made on the tidal waters, chiefly with the worm. There is a splendid run of fish in the pools, which are seldom so well stocked so early in the autumn, and an excellent spawning season will undoubtedly be had. The best sport has been had with the latest arrivals of the autumn migration, stale fish taking but quite indifferently, although they are literally swarming in the pools in the middle and lower reaches.—DEESIDER.

Deveron (Banffshire).—The river Deveron continues in fair fishing order, and sport was well maintained during the past week. A large number of the fish killed were newly-run. On the 23rd inst., on the Netherdale Water, Turriff, Mr. Findlay had three salmon of 13lb., 13½lb., and 20lb.; Mr. K. Maitland, a grilse of 5lb.; Captain R. W. Calquhoun, a salmon of 11½lb.; Major Hunt, a salmon of 16lb.; and Mr. Fraser, the keeper, one of 22lb. On the Mountblaing Water, Major Ramsay, London, had two grilse of 4½lb. and 9lb.; the keeper had a grilse of 4lb., and a salmon of 14lb.; Mr. Beecham had fourteen salmon of 8lb. to 19lb. On the Cragston Water for the week, Colonel Alexander landed eighteen salmon, for the week, of 7lb. to 19lb. A similar number were killed on the Forglen Water, ranging from 9lb. to 30lb., by Sir Robert Abercromby and party. On the Camonsie Section, Colonel Napier had three fish; Mr. R. J. Beech, three, and the keeper, one, from 7lb. to 19lb. On the Mayne Water, Mr. Lawrence, Dr. Barry, Mr. Thurburn, and Mr. Sandison had six fish of 11½lb. to 19lb. On the Laithers Water, Dr. Grey, Fyvie, three; and Mr. Mintz, Corse of Jackston, two. On the Connehaugh Water, Huntly, Mr. Porter had two salmon. On the Huntly Lodge Water, Mr. W. P. Sutherland had four salmon of 7½lb. to 25lb. On the open water, at Huntly, fair sport was also got by Mr. A. Brander, Mr. George Gray and others. On the Edinglassie and Beldornie Sections, Mr. Smith and Mr. R. W. Grant had four fish of 7lb. to 18lb. Several good baskets of trout have also been got lately on the river and tributaries.—H. WISEMAN.

Earn.—This river has been in good ply, and some good sport has been got lately. On the Club Water at Crieff, Mr. P. White killed four, 24½lb., 24lb., 22lb., and 19lb.; Mr. D. Forbes, two, 16lb., and 16lb.; Mr. McCowan, one, 18lb.; Mr. J. Halley, one, 26½lb.; Mr. Relsell, one; Mr. McLevy, London, two 18½lb. and 7½lb.; Mr. Cameron, four, 28lb., 15lb., 8lb., and 6lb.; four fish were also got in the Ferntower Water. On the Dupplin Reserved Water Miss Oliphant Gask had one, 11lb.; Mr. Harvey and Mr. Willyams two, 18lb. and 15lb.; Mr. Grindlay one, 7½lb.; Captain Murray one, 18lb. On the Inner Pettray Water Mr. J. S. Pagan killed twelve, 24lb., 18½lb., 18lb., 17lb., 17lb., 16½lb., 16lb., 15½lb., 12½lb., 11lb., 11lb., and 8lb.; total 186lb. On the Club Water Mr. Jack killed two, 27lb. and 21lb; P. White three, 20lb., 20lb., and 7lb.; Mr. McCowan one, 16lb.; J. Bell one, 17lb.; G. S. Comrie one, 16lb. On the Drummond Castle Water Mr. Cameron killed two, 15½lb. and 14lb.; Mr. Thomson, Alloa, one, 15lb.; Major Grove, Maidstone, three, 30lb., 15lb., and 15lb.; Mr. Gordon one, 9lb.; Mr. Archibald, one; Mr. McLeay two, 15lb. and 6lb.; Mr. Marples one, 17¾lb. On the Strowan Water Mr. Archibald killed four, 20½lb, 15lb., 17lb., and 8½lb. On lower reaches on Saturday Mr. Pierrie killed two fish and a grilse; Mr. Hunter, three; Mr. Hutchison, one; Mr. Mason, one. On the Club Water on Monday D. Forbes killed five, 28lb., 17lb., 16lb., 15lb., and 7lb.; Mr. Tait three, 20½lb., 16lb., and 9lb.; Mr. P. White, five, 28lb., 24lb., 23lb., 18lb., and 16lb.; G. S. Comrie, one, 10lb.; Major Gibson, four. On the Gask Water Mrs. Moon killed three, 14lb., 12lb., and 9lb.; Mr. Moon, three, 20lb. 15lb. and 7lb.; F. D. Malloch, three, 19lb., 16lb., and 13lb. On Stronwan Water Mr. Henderson killed three, 16lb. 12lb., and 8lb. On the Strathallan Water Lord Strathallan killed nine during the week, 27lb., 24lb., 22lb., 19lb., 20lb., 8lb., 8lb., 8lb., and 7lb.; Mrs. Fellows, one, 8lb. The master of Strathallan two, 22lb. and 9lb. On the Dipplin Reserved water Mr. Willyams, Col. Leigh, and Sir E. Moss killed six Monday, and four on Tuesday. On the Lower Dipplin Water Mr. Macpherson killed two, 9lb. and 8lb.; Mr. Beattie, one 14lb.; and Mr. Hamilton the keeper, one.

Nith (Dumfriesshire).—Since the floods have passed away, the autumn salmon angling has much improved, and some capital sport has been had during the past week in the middle waters. On Friday, Mr. Levy, of Dalswinton, killed three beautiful salmon, of 17lb., 19lb., and 27lb. on the Dalswinton portion of the river; Mr. Fergusson, of The Isle, and a friend, killed five salmon in Cowhill Water, the gross weight being 101lb.; Mr. T. Tait, Boghead, had one of 19lb. in Ellisland Water, and Mr. J. Webster, Portrack, one of 20lb. On Saturday, Mr. Fergusson and another rod had again good sport, securing five salmon, weighing a total of 100lb.; Capt. Thackeray, from Dalswinton, had two, weighing 25lb. and 19lb. respectively; Mr. D. Welsh, Dumfries, killed one in Portrack Water of 17lb.; Mr. Miller, Dumfries, one of 31lb. in Blackwood Pools; Mr. Currie, two, of 16lb. and 10lb.; Mr. Grierson, Ellesisland, and Mr. Tait, Boghead, had one each in the Ellisland Water. On Monday, Capt. Thackeray, Daltwinton, had two fish, weighing 19lb. and 16lb.; Miss Levy, Dalswinton, one of 10lb.; Mr. Ainslie, Stroquhar, killed five fish in Blackwood Water, weighing 22lb., 18lb., 18lb., 18lb., and 13lb. respectively; Mr. Tait, one of 21lb.; Mr. McMillan, Dumfries, one of about 18lb.; Mr. Aitken, two, of 25lb. and 22lb., in the Isle Water; Mr. Fergusson had a fine catch in the Cowhill portion of the river by killing six salmon, weighing over 100lb. On Tuesday, Mr. Mitchell, Dumfries, landed a capital salmon of 30lb. in Blackwood Water, and another of lighter weight; Mr. Maxwell, jun., of The Grove, killed one in Friars' Carse Water, weighing 17lb.; Mr. Ord, Closeburn, on Friday and Saturday, had a good salmon on each day in the Closeburn portion. Mr. Duncan, Dumfries, landed two on Monday in Ellisland Water, weighing a total of 47lb., and another angler had two good fish. Near the town of Dumfries I hear of a fish or two being killed this week. Season closes November 14.—HEATHERBELL.

North and South Esk (Forfar).—On the Panmure Arms Hotel Water, Mr. W. Murdoch, Aberdeen, landed a fine salmon of 18lb. At the Sheriff Court, Forfar, Roberts, labourer, Brechin, was fined 5s. with £1 1s. expenses, for being found in possession of a gaff, at Brechin Castle Dam Dyke; while Sangster, a mason, Brechin, was mulcted in the sum of £2, with £2 4s. expenses, with the alternative of thirty days in prison, for a similar offence; Stewart, a sweep, £5, with £1 2s. 3d. expenses, or sixty days in jail; and Alexander, a labourer, £2, with similar expenses, or thirty days' imprisonment, for being found with a lighted lamp and gaff at the river's bank for the purpose of catching salmon. These wholesome lessons will no doubt have effect on the Brechin poachers for some time to come.

South of Scotland.—THE ANNAN (GRAND SPORT).—The autumn salmon fishing in the Annan has been of a magnificent character during the past week, and many remarkable catches have been made within the last few days, the like of which has not occurred in the river for the last thirty years. I noted last week in the *Gazette* the killing of five salmon in about four hours by Mr. Arthur Nicholson, St. Asaph, North Wales, which weighed a gross total of 94lb. It was thought at the time that this could not be surpassed; but, good though it was, four other rods have over-topped this record by many pounds. Mr. John Bell-Irving, Mount Annan, angling in the Mount Annan Water on Saturday, on the Island Flatt, killed with fly in three hours six salmon, weighing 17lb., 19lb., 21lb., 17lb., 16lb., and 17½lb., a gross total of 108lb.; Mr. Bell-Irving's keeper, James Riley, angling in the pools immediately above his master, at the same time, had four salmon, weighing 21lb., 17½lb., 16lb., and 22½lb., thus giving a grand total of 185lb.; for ten fish, an average of 18½lb. Angling in Sir Robert Jardine's water at Castlemilk, Mr. D. J. Bell-Irving, Waterside, ran his brother a close race by killing five salmon, weighing 17lb., 18lb., 24lb., 23lb., and 24lb., a total of 106lb. This gentleman lost four salmon on the same day, when attempting to gaff his own fish. At two outings he had other four salmon, weighing 21lb., 23lb., 26lb., and 21lb., and lost three others. On Saturday morning he killed one of 23lb., thus he had a grand total of 220lb. for ten salmon, or an average of 22lb. each. In Mount Annan Water, on Thursday, Mr. Crawford (Northfield), fisherman, William Carrick killed one of 20lb. in the Tower Pool, and on the following day one of 16lb. on the same cast. On Friday Mr. P. A. Pasley Dirom, of Mount Annan, killed two in "James's Stream" with the Black Doctor fly, which weighed 19lb. and 15½lb. Out of the "Long Rig," Mr. Dirom killed another immediately after of 20lb. His fisherman, Andrew Bell, landed one out of the "Long Rig" of 19lb., and the gardener at New Park, D. D. Phillips, killed one of 4lb. in the Luce Pool. On Saturday Mr. Dirom's fisherman killed two in Alice's Pool of 18½lb. and 9lb.; and Mr. Dirom, one of 23lb., in Jamies Stream. Sir William Marsh (a guest at Mount Annan) was rather unfortunate on Saturday; he hooked four salmon, and every one escaped. On Monday there was again some grand sport in this part of the river, Mr. Dirom and his fisherman killing seven salmon of the following weights: Mr. Dirom, 16lb., 19lb., 19lb., and 20lb.; Andrew Bell, 16lb., 17lb., and 21lb.; a grand total of 130lb. These fish were all killed within the stretch above Brydekirk Bridge, and the killing fly was the Black Doctor. Sir William Marsh killed two of 11lb. and 16lb. in the Wood Pool on Monday; and the keeper had two of 7lb. and 18½lb.; Mr. Crawfords, fisherman, one of 24lb. in Luce Pool; Mr. Joynson, Wyseby, in Castle Milk Water, killed two of 23lb. and 21lb. In the Hoddom

Water scores of salmon have been killed, the Rev. James Monilaws had two of 20lb.; Mr. Johnstone, Ecclefechan, one of 18½lb.; Mr. Charles Brook, a fine fish of 25lb. In the same water, on Saturday, the second keeper (T. Reid) had four salmon of 18lb. each (average). The keeper, Moscrope, one of 18½lb. The head-keeper (A. Dalziel), one of 20lb. Mr. John Bell, Howrig, landed one of 25lb. Capt. Bell-Irving, Whitehill, killed three salmon in Castle Milk Water, weighing 7lb., 20lb. and 25lb. Mr. J. Bell, one of 22lb. Mr. Stewart, Ecclefechan, two of 7lb. and 30lb. Mr. Wm. Johnstone, a fish of 10lb. Mr. D. Tweedie, Ecclefechan; one of 17lb.; Mr. R Bell, one of 17lb.; Mr. Irving, Tweedie, Ecclefechan, a fine salmon of 22lb.; Mr. Johnstone, two of 12lb. and 16lb.; Mr. Crear, Langlands, one of 18lb. Mr. Thomas Hoare, Kinmount House, killed one of 18lb. in Hodden water. Mr. David Halliday, Brydekirk, landed one of 16lb. On Monday, a large number of good fish were killed in Hoddem, Castle Milk, Dormont, Murraythwaite and Kirkwood Waters, besides what have mentioned. On Tuesday, on Hoddom Water, Mr. T. B. Johnston, Lord-street, Liverpool, aud his friend Mr. Ramsbottom, killed six splendid salmon; Mr. Johnston weighed 21lb., 19½lb., and 16lb. Mr. Ramsbottom, 22lb., 19lb., 16lb. In the same water on Tuesday, Mr. D. Tweedie, Ecclefechan, killed four capital fish of 22lb., 20lb., 17lb., and 17lb. The keeper (Tom Reid) killed five, weighing 24lb., 20lb., 18lb., 18½lb., and 17½lb., a total of 98lb. Yesterday, Mr. Ramsbottom, Liverpool, killed four salmon, in Hoddom Water, of 25lb.; 18lb., 16lb., and 14½lb.; Mr. T. B. Johnston, Lord-street, Liverpool, killed a good fish of 18lb.; Mr. Irving Tweedie in the same water had one of 20lb.; Mr. William Smith, Brocklerigg, one of 17lb.; the keeper (Walker) had one of 18lb.; and others had fish. In the tidal and lower waters, the sport obtained has been the best ever known in the Annan.—HEATHERBELL.

Tweed.—Salmon anglers on this river have had no cause to grumble at the lack of sport since last week. The elements, generally speaking, have been all that could be desired for the prosecution of angling amongst the monarchs of the "Tweed's silver stream," and the disciples of Old Izaak have not been slow to take advantage of the opportunities afforded them. Fishing began in earnest last week on Wednesday, on the majority of the salmon casts, although a few were out on tho day previous, and managed to kill a few good fish—more especially on the Floors Castle Waters. To give a full and detailed account of all the salmon and grilse that have been got since last report, would take up too much of your valuable space. At present the weather is all that could be desired for the season of the year, being fine and dry, with a touch of frost during the evening and in the early morning; this latter circumstance having caused the river to run in pretty low once more, and we would be nothing the worse for a small flood—seeing that the various angling waters have been well thrashed for a week past—while, at the same time, such an occurrence would promote a fresh run of fish from the sea, as well as give a much-needed rest to all the casts on the river.—MAXWHEEL.

Ugie (Aberdeenshire.)—A good few fish have been got during the latter part of last week, the floods having had a had effect as far as present sport was concerned in the earlier part of the week.—G. U.

Ythan (Ellon).—The angling season, on the Ythan has been exceptionally good. Mr. W. T. Tourney, Brockhill-park, Kent, has made a record of over fifty fish, scaling from 5lb. to 30lb., and this will be considerably augmented before the season closes. On the tidal reaches anglers fishing from the Udney Arms, have met with exceptionally good sport: general details of which will be given next week.—G. U.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—The Ballinderry is in splendid trim for pike spinning, and a good many anglers have taken advantage of the favourable state of the water and weather. On the Finvoy reaches many heavy pike have been taken, and on the Ardtrea Sections Mr. Campbell, Mr. Manuely, Mr. Norris, Mr. Armstrong, and other local anglers have had good baskets of pike. Last Monday Mr. S. Anderson killed a 12lb. pike on the Tullyleggan water, and same day he hooked a heavy "dullaghan," but it broke off after a short struggle. The season has now closed for the ensuing four months of the close season.

Lough Neagh.—The netting of pollen ceases to-day (Saturday), and the close-season commences. On the whole the season was a very good one, considering the large number of boats employed, and the increasing scarcity of fish. Salmon are running up from the sea now through the Lough to the inland streams, making for the spawning beds. Lake trout are also leaving for the spawning beds in the rivers. Some of these as high as 20lb. in weight have been seen crossing the bars at the mouths of the Bann, Blackwater, Ballinderry, and other Tyrone streams. Perch and pike fishing is fairly good, and eel fishing is prime, the takes on the night-lines being heavy.

Waterville (County Kerry).—SEA FISHING.—As the fresh water angling has closed here, anglers have turned their attention to sea angling. The weather up to Saturday was very bad, however, and no boats could venture out. Since then one or two boats have done well at the Ballinskelligs side, principally of gurnet and bream. Mackerel are reported to bo numerous in the bay at present. I expect good sport will be had for the next few days if tho weather continues favourable.—THOMAS J. DENNEHY.

Shannon and Lough Derg (Killaloe).—It was a pity the storm and rain, which continued up to Saturday last, spoilt all chance of sport on river and lake. Thero can be no doubt that the salmon fishing would have finished up brilliantly, as there was quite a large quantity of fish in all the pools on the preserves at both sides of the river. The water has gone down a few inches since yesterday (Tuesday), and although there are only one or two casts fishable on the streams, we expect that a few of the big twenty-five or thirty-pounders will be landed. On Oct. 20, Mr. Sidney Mitchell, one grilse, 6½lb.; 22nd, one, 6½lb.; 23rd, Mr. F. Johnson, one, 5lb.; Mr. S. Mitchell, three, 7½lb., 6½lb., and 6½lb.; Mr. J. H. Gillott, one salmon, 10½lb.; 24th, Mr. S. Mitchell, one salmon, 24lb.; Mr. Gillott, one grilse, 7lb.; Mr. F. Johnson, one salmon, 8½lb.; 26th, Mr. Gillott, one salmon, 16lb.; Mr. S. Mitchell, three grilse, 9½lb., 8½lb., and 5½lb.; 27th, John Barry, on Mr. W. Young's preserves, one salmon, 11lb.; Mr. S. Mitchell, one, 18lb.; Mr. Gillott, one grilse, 5½lb. Mr. W. Young, D.L., Mrs. and Miss Young, and Mr. J. W. Young, who have been fishing their preserves here for two or three weeks, have returned to their seat, Brockley Park, Stradbally, Queen's Co. Mr. H. W. Tayler has returned to England.—S. J. HURLEY.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

DURING the last fortnight or so angling in the Midland rivers and streams has been out of the question to a certain extent. In the neighbourhood of Eckington and Defford the floods stretch as far as the eye can reach, and viewing the scene from the railway on either side the flooded fields puts one in mind of travelling between two large lakes, and the level is only broken here and there by the tops of the willows and trees just showing themselves through the water. The same state of things is to be seen in the Trent district. I am pleased to say that as these Notes are being written the weather signs are more favourable; the barometer is rising, and the improvements in the weather not only in the Birmingham district, but throughout the Midlands is more marked. There is one thing that the floods will do, and that is, they will clear the rivers of the weeds and rubbish, and also part of the natural feed which the fish have been living on, so that those who are hale and strong and do not fear the weather will reap the benefit of what the floods have done in this respect.

THE St. George's Society, held their by contest on the 25th instant, at Amington, near to Tamworth, in the river Anker. The contest was fished under the most disagreeable surroundings, as the river was over the banks, and only places here and there could be found where there was a chance of getting the line in, besides the state of the ground was beastly to the extreme, and nothing better than a perfect quagmire. Owing, no doubt, to the bad weather, the contest was not so well patronised as the committee desired. The contest was of two hours' duration, at the end of which time it was found that only five of the contestants had taken fish above the standard for weighing in. Mr. Rose was first; Mr. Stanmore, second; Mr. Luckman, third; Mr. Bedell, fourth; and Mr. Bowler, fifth. The prizes were distributed on Monday evening last, and there remained over about twenty prizes for another contest, which will be held at Christmas, during the holidays, if the weather is anything like favourable.

A COMMITTEE meeting of the Birmingham Association will be held on Thursday evening next at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield, chair to be taken at 8.30 prompt.

I AM pleased to inform the members of the Provincial Angling Association that the Great Western Railway authorities have again granted the concession to the members to travel at the reduced fare for 1892.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

LANCASHIRE men are always to be depended upon for taking their full share of the hard work connected with any popular movement, and the way they are now at work with the undertaking to secure extended privileges in railway tickets further proves that the traditional character of the county Palatine will not suffer in this instance. The Northern Anglers' Association has long been engaged in a quiet way in putting their extensive organisation into working order, and have, after mature consideration, put into the hands of the various clubs a memorial, the drafting of which is excellent. Signatures are now being obtained, and it is to be hoped that every angler in the north of England, and especially in Lancashire, will immediately visit his club-house, or if unattached to any club, find out where a copy is lying, and promptly do his duty. From the formation of the N.A.A. great importance has been attached to its constitution, and the loyal support hitherto awarded it is now being amply verified in the splendid efforts put forth on behalf of every angler within its jurisdiction. One of the chief objections to the issue of anglers' tickets was the great difficulty experienced by the railway companies in dealing with the various organisations, but now that all are merged into one large and responsible body this will be removed, and the guarantee about to be offered for a faithful observance of the conditions laid down should lead to a favourable verdict in our favour.

ONE of the best known and enthusiastic anglers in this district is Mr. J. Statter, of Oldham; his efforts on behalf of the sport generally are a feature of our local reputation; and we are glad to learn that his health is so good that he intends to resume his addresses and visits to the clubs in his own town, and also those in Ashton and Staleybridge. Mr. Statter and Messrs. W. H. Hudson, J. Ormrod, together with the Rev. —Phillpot, have been visiting Annan, but owing to the prevailing bad weather their sport was of a disappointing kind.

ALREADY the festive meetings usually heard of during the winter have commenced; but it is not every club can sit down to two salmon of the weight of 25lb. and 35lb., both taken by their own members; yet such is our happy lot.

BOLTON is running Oldham a close raco for the honours attending the furthering of anglers' interests, and in Mr. S. W. Redford they have a worthy and hardworking representative.

THE Manchester executive will do well to inquire into the action of one club in their district, who havo awarded prizes to the competitors in a recent contest for the fish locally known as "Jack Sharps."

THE Royal Walton Angling Society held their first smoking concert after their removal to the present headquarters, which aro exceedingly desirable ones, and in the genial landlord of tho Farm Yard Inn they have a good friend to all true sportsmen. It was a matter of regret that the president of the district found himself unable to be present, and Mr. Chadwick, the indefatigable general secretary, was also prevented from accepting the invitation extended to him. The attendance of visitors was very good and included members of the Blackly Football Club. Mr. William Smith officiated as chairman, being supported in the vice-chair by Mr. Henry Etchells. Somewhere about a score of singers contributed to tho programme. Mr. Tom Higgs acted as the accompanist. A word of praiso is due to Mr. John Holmes, the secretary, for the excellent programme and arrangements generally.

MESSRS. ALLSOP, Timpé, and Boyers have been paying a visit to Sibsey. They report the coarse fishing in that district as excellent. The Hob Hole and Trader's Drains were the two waters mostly patronised, and abundance of pike, perch, roach, bream, and eels were taken. On the 26th, Messrs. Allsop and Timpé secured six pike and about 40lb. of mixed fish in six hours, and this may be taken as indicative of any day's sport. They speak highly of the accommodation of the district, and recommend any angler anxious for this kind of fishing to pay Sibsey a visit.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

OWING to the very high tides, which have made the water on all our rivers very thick, no bottom fishing has been done during the past week. On the Yare, only one catch is worth recording—that of about fifty good roach in Buckenham Reach on the 25th inst. On the Bure, on Friday, a nice catch of twelve pike were taken at Ramworth. On Saturday, at Salhouse, about a stone of roach and bream were taken by two rods; and on the 25th inst., a similar catch of the same fish fell to the lot of a party fishing near Woodbastwick Broad. On Thursday a good pike of 22lb. was caught at Potter Heigham.

ON Tuesday evening a meeting of the Norwich Angling Club was held at the club-room, Walnut Tree Shades, to elect officers for the ensuing year. The officers of the past year were re-elected as follows: Mr. J. B. Pearce, president; Mr. G. G. Whineop, vice-president; and Mr. J. D. Beeston, secretary.

AT an influential meeting of riparian owners, held at the Norfolk Hotel, Norwich, on Saturday last, it was unanimously resolved: "That it is expedient to take such steps as may be necessary for obtaining an Act of Parliament for the regulation of traffic, the keeping of public order, and the prevention of nuisances on the rivers of Norfolk and Suffolk."

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

ANGLERS have at length been fortunate in enjoying a brief spell of fine weather, although on most days the wind has blown at a most furious rate. On Sunday it veered round from the south-west into the north-east, in which quarter it remained when my Notes were penned on Wednesday night. The river, I am glad to report, was on Wednesday fast running into condition for pike fishing, and as the back waters had been well flushed out by the floods, it is fair to presume they will hold plenty of fish. Several gentlemen were even out on Monday, and at Colnick, in the Parson's Water, one of the subscribers killed eight small fish with the live-bait; whilst two others landed five. At Barton, on Tuesday, Mr. H. Stafford, Nottingham, bagged seven, including one of 6½lb., and on the following day the same angler was again busy amongst them. Sundry fish have also been met with at Weston Cliff and Clifton. A report has reached me that recently three grand fish, weighing 50lb., were caught in the Home Pit below Clifton Hall. The pit, or rather lake, is fed by the Trent, and in years gone by I have enjoyed brilliant sport in it. Now, however, the water is strictly preserved, and there is no doubt that the three fish named were, to use a slang phrase, got on the cross. The heaviest was reported as weighing 24lb. Coarse fish anglers have been doing considerably better. At Weston, on Saturday, Mr. H. Atkinson, of Radford, had a substantial bag of roach, chiefly by the aid of bread-paste; and at Shardlow, Mr. M. Leek, of Lenton, bagged a variety of roach, bream, and perch with the worm. At Barton, Mr. H. Stafford caught nearly a stone of roach with the maggot, using for groundbait a mixture of bread and bran; and at Weston, on Monday, Mr. J. Theaker and Mr. P. Wilson; of Nottingham, took a number of very fine bream and roach. One of the bream weighed 4¾lb., and the next best, 3½lb.; Mr. Harrington, Radford, caught many splendid roach; and on Tuesday, Mr. Atkinson showed a large quantity of roach and bream.

AT the last meeting of the Nottingham County Council the Health and Sanitary Committee reported that they had further considered the question of the pollution of the rivers in the county. Complaints having been made to them of the pollution of the river Soar, which flows into the Trent below Trent Lock, the committee communicated with the Leicestershire County Council and the Loughborough Corporation. They were pleased to state that steps were being taken by both to remedy the pollution; the Corporation of Leicester had spent large sums of money this year in dealing with their sewage, with the result that there had been a great improvement in the effluent. The Corporation of Loughborough had purchased thirty-four acres of land on which to deal with the sewage of the borough by precipitation. In addition to the steps taken by the Leicester and Loughborough Corporations, the inhabitants of Keyworth had under consideration a scheme for dealing with their sewage. The committee had been in correspondence with the Corporation of Newark-on-Trent with regard to the pollution of the Trent below that town. They regretted to report that, although the matter was still under the consideration of that authority, no definite steps had been taken by them to deal with the sewage. The committee hoped that before the next meeting of the County Council they would receive from the Newark authority an assurance that definite steps had been taken. The committee had received from the Nottingham Wellington Angling Society a complaint as to the serious pollution of the Trent owing to the discharge of matter from the Burton-on-Trent sewers, and they were in correspondence with the Derbyshire and Staffordshire County Councils and the Corporation of Burton on the subject. A complaint had been received from Long Eaton Local Board of the flow of sewage into the river Erewash, at Stapleford. The committee had forwarded a copy of the complaint to the Shardlow Rural Sanitary Authority, in whose district it was.

FROM the above it will thus bo gathered that at length anglers have got in the thin end of the wedge. Pollution is rampant, not only in the Trent, but in the majority of the tributaries—rivers like the Soar, the Derwent, the Erewash, and the Leen, to say nothing of the various canals which find their outlet into the parent stream. The evils complained of are a standing disgrace, and it is to be hoped that, now the County Councils have started on the work, they will be heartily supported by the angling community at large. Personally, I do not think the Burton refuse is so bad as it was a few years ago, but anglers visiting the upper reaches of the Trent will very quickly ascertain—for it is generally in November that the outpouring of the brewery stuff takes place. When it is coming down the stream it is almost impossible to fish, especially in the districts of Willington, Foremark, Swarkestone, and Weston. We must, however, hope for the best.

I presume the annual meeting of the Trent Fishery Board will shortly be held, and in anticipation of it, the following gentlemen have been recommended for the election on the Board for the County of Nottinghamshire by the Notts County Council—namely: Mr. Henry Bromley, Ald. Fearfield, Mr. G. S. Foljambe, Mr. J. Neale, and Mr. C. W. Wright. Of these Mr. Bromley and Mr. Wright are devoted anglers, and it is chiefly to them that our fishermen must look for support. Already Mr. Bromley has been a most active member on the Board.

I was much struck and amused with an original fishing term used by an old fisherman the other morning. He called upon me, asking whether I had any scissors that required grinding. I replied, "Yes, you may grind my old fishing scissors." I handed them—they had seen some service—to him, and after the sharpening had been executed, he plaintively uttered: "Ah! my boy, they have assisted in some happy days amongst the fish. They have carved up a few *Izaaks*." "Izaaks," I retorted, "what do you mean?" "Why," he rejoined, "you have read of our esteemed angling father, the venerable Izaak Walton. His scissors were something like yours, but in his day they were only used for cutting hair—not worms." Enough, I thought. *Izaaks* for *worms* is not bad.

Mr. H. Spray, hon. sec., informs me that the half-yearly dinner and musical evening of the Nottingham Wellington Angling Society, takes place at the society's headquarters, the Wellington Hotel, Station - street, Nottingham, on Thursday, Nov. 5. It is not intended to issue any complimentary tickets, but members may introduce a friend or friends at dinner on payment of a small fee. By this means it is believed the popularity of the society may be increased still more than at present. The season for weighing in specimen fish extends from one March to another, and already some extraordinary specimens have passed the scales. The society is in a sound financial position, and is doing a good work amongst fishermen generally.

A very unpleasant incident cropped up at the Nottingham Bowling Green Society on Friday evening. One of the members—I won't mention names—produced a roach at the bar for weighing in purposes. Its appearance and general condition at once aroused suspicion, and although Mr. Pogson, the treasurer, placed it on the scale, and duly weighed it, he informed the member he could not pass it until the fish had been seen by members of the committee. The member was very indignant, but Mr. Pogson felt justified in retaining the fish, which I might state weighed 1lb. 10½oz. Subsequently it was shown to me, and I have no hesitation in saying it had been dead at least four days. It was filled with water, the points of the fins were dropping off, and the gills were nearly white through decay. When picked up and shaken, the water rattled in it, after the manner of a child rattling the milk in a cocoa-nut. On Saturday night the committee met, and not only disqualified the fish, but ordered the secretary to inform the member that his name would be struck off the society's books. No angler with the slightest knowledge of the art would ever have mustered sufficient courage to show such a fish. Its very appearance carried conviction, and I am in possession of information that it had been seen floating on the surface of the Nottingham and Grantham Canal on the Tuesday.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

That never-ending source of complaint, the weather, has been more than usually unpleasant during the last twelve days or so, and that is saying something. Anglers are just the kind of people to air a little grievance of this kind and to let it rankle in the heart, sour their nature and make them obnoxious to all the women folk around the place. Their chief solace and recreation during these incessant rainy days is in wandering about their respective domiciles, and using bad language on every conceivable opportunity, and towards every possible animate and inanimate object. They scatter their tackle all over the house, and swear if any of it gets moved in the course of domestic labour, or if perchance some of their numerous hooks find their way into mater's dress or Freddy's fingers. They meander about like Othello, with their occupation gone, and in short make themselves profoundly miserable and nuisances to themselves and to everyone around them. Such is the angler in the damp dismal dreary days with which we have been favoured during the first few weeks of golden autumn. A fitting ending is this to the wretched summer season that we have experienced through the vile conspiracy hatched between Jupiter Pluvius and that facetious and eccentric demi-god, the Clerk of the Weather.

The angling season proper, now past, has not been one against which the red-letter of distinction may not be fixed in the annals of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society. There is no gainsaying the fact that, during this summer, this excellent institution has not been doing the work it might have done, and has not maintained that high standard of popularity that it has achieved in the past. Undoubtedly the wretchedly bad season has had a good deal to answer for in this respect; but whatever the conditions and reasons, the doings of the society have not by any means been as prominent as they might have been, and the danger of allowing its popularity to wane must be at once apparent. One outing only has been held, and, to the credit of Mr. J. Williams, the hon. sec., who beyond doubt, has the thorough welfare of the society at heart, it must be characterised a distinct and decided success. The management, however, should not rest content with bringing off one or two outings during the year, promoting an annual dinner and one annual meeting, and hatching a few thousand trout fry. If the society is to continue to prosper there must be more gatherings of a convivial and social nature organised, which will tend to bring the members more in touch with each other, and promote a feeling of good fellowship, without which no institution of the kind can expect to prosper and flourish to any appreciable degree. There are many ways in which this may be accomplished. At the present time there are only one or two angling gatherings held during the season, and these take place on a Thursday. Now, doubtless there are many of the members whose business engagements prevent them from attending these, and thus they are debarred from obtaining any advantage by their connection with the society, except that by supporting it they assist in promoting the interests of anglers in general by the amount they contribute towards restocking the river. This is a condition of things on the face of it hardly tending to bind the members together and ensure the success of their society. In the first place a series of contests may with success be brought off during the season in the water near the town, and as the Severn encircles the borough, within five minutes' walk from the centre, there should be little difficulty in bringing the members together in an evening or holiday. As to the winter months, a few social gatherings might, with equal advantage, be arranged, and at these papers might be read by the members. At present there seems to be a lack of interest among the members in the welfare of the society, and a want of touch between them and the committee which represents them. While complimenting the committee for their excellent work in the past, it may be well to suggest the infusion of a little new blood into their ranks. There are doubtless many members who are desirous of studying the best interests of the society, and a change in the management would, perhaps, have a salutary effect. It is hoped that at the next annual meeting suggestions will be made and taken up whereby the members may be brought together more often, and that the popularity of the society will by this means be more than sustained in the future.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

After a somewhat unpleasant and trying delay, anglers have this week been enabled to resume the favourite pastime under more normal conditions than has been vouchsafed to them lately. By Monday—and in some places Saturday—the streams had pretty well cleared themselves of the surplus water caused by the recent heavy floods, and capital sport has been forthcoming during the past week. Grayling angling on the Yore has been very good, while at Boroughbridge pike have been taking fairly well. The best flies for grayling have been Snipe and Purple, Grey Palmer, Green Insect, Olive Blue, and Red Tag. Several gentlemen, on Saturday, journeyed to the Pocklington Canal, to indulge in pike fishing. Perhaps the most lucky amongst them was Mr. C. H. Slater, a member of the York Angling Association, who hooked and successfully landed a pike weighing about 16lb., and measuring 3ft. 3in. in length, and 17in. in girth. The Derwent at Malton and Hackness has afforded good sport, while the Swale at Richmond has been successfully fished.

Active efforts are now being made by the Northern Anglers' Association, *re* railway facilities for anglers. Although with the North Eastern service anglers appear to be fairly satisfied, they are far from being so with the London and North Western and Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Companies, who have, as will be seen from the subjoined petition, withdrawn their facilities, through their being misused by some unscrupulous persons, whose conduct well merited due punishment. Through the decided action of the Northern Anglers' Association, however, there yet remains a hope that these privileges may be once more restored. Petitions are to be presented to the two railway companies mentioned above, of which the following is a copy: "To the chairman and directors of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company. The memorial of the undersigned members of the fishing clubs, and other anglers in the counties of Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Durham, and Northumberland, showeth that your memorialists have viewed with great regret the withdrawal by railway companies generally of the facilities in the way of reducing fares, and other accommodation, formerly granted to *bona-fide* anglers. They do not doubt that the reason of that withdrawal was the improper use made by unscrupulous persons of those facilities, and attributes this, to a great extent, to the want of a central association able and willing to undertake the detection and punishment of those who have offended. This difficulty has been remedied by the establishment of the Northern Anglers' Association, which is essentially a federation of angling clubs and individual members of the six northern counties of England, now comprising about seven thousand members, which are daily being increased. Your memorialists beg to request that a deputation of the Northern Anglers' Association be received by your board for the purpose of conferring with yourselves and your officials, in order to devise an effectual method for preventing the misuse of such privileges. In the event of these facilities being again granted, your memorialists will be only too anxious to support the Northern Anglers' Association in the rigid enforcement of such regulations as may be found necessary. Your memorialists would respectfully urge (1) that there is, according to estimation, a body of no less than fifty thousand anglers in the district of the Northern Anglers' Association, and the ordinary passenger rates are, to the bulk of these persons, absolutely prohibited, except for the very shortest distances; (2) that the reduction of fares will tend very largely to the renting of more distant waters, to which anglers are at present unable to resort, on account of the expensive travelling; (3) that the Northern Anglers' Association promises to pledge itself ready and anxious to undertake, in the interests of angling generally, to support and uphold such rules and regulations as may be necessary to insure that no persons but *bona-fide* anglers avail themselves of these special facilities, and your petitioners will ever pray, &c."

Last week, at the Bishop Auckland Police-court, two residents of that place, named John Dowson and John Brown, were charged at the instance of Police-constable Weir and Fred Lambert, river-bailiff, with illegally fishing for salmon in the river Wear, and Brown was further charged with assaulting Lambert. The two defendants had been observed by the officers taking fish with a long net below the dam. Upon Lambert attempting to arrest Brown, he threw a stone at the officer, which struck him in the breast. Defendants had captured several fish. Both pleaded guilty to illegal fishing, and were fined £2 each, or a month's hard labour in default, and Brown was mulcted in a further sum of £2 or a second months' imprisonment for the assault.

NOTES FROM EAST TYRONE.

With the closing days of the month angling practically terminated over the remaining parts of Tyrone where the season did not close on the 10th inst. On the whole it was a very good one, considering that the number of anglers are yearly increasing, and that the stock of fish in all the waters is yearly decreasing. The broken weather and frosty nights precluded the possibility of making heavy baskets this last three weeks.

The Ballinderry has scarcely yielded anything, except a few pike, in the past and closing week. Salmon and trout are yet running up from lough to the spawning beds in the mountain tarns. A water-bailiff assured me that he never saw a better run of salmon than was during the late floods. One monster, which had great difficulty in getting over the "curries" in the stream, weighed at least 40lb.

The Blackwater is down to its usual level, and many salmon are lying in the pools, waiting for an increase of water to push farther up the river. The season closes today (Saturday), and it has been but a middling one. All the season the trout did not rise well, and the run of salmon was poor. Trouting on the tributaries—Callan, Conah, &c.—was much better than on the main stream, but such small rivulets suffer greatly from netting. On the mountain waters of Kildress, Broughderg, Doravill, &c., the past season has been an average one.

The Pollen Fisheries of Lough Neagh ceases on the 31st inst. Take it all round, the season was much better than was expected, but firm and prompt legislation is required if this important industry is to be pursued. In the early months of the season immense numbers of under-sized fish were taken and exposed for sale in the public markets. Some of these were not more than 5in. in length. The matter was brought before the Local Board of Conservators, and posters were issued containing the section of the Irish Fishery Act, which defines the minimum length (8in.) of the pollen to be taken, and the penalties attached for the infringement of the section cited. This had the desired effect, but we hope to see Mr. W. E. McCartney's Bill, which deals with this important question, pass into law next Session. The eel fishery is now the staple one of the Lough.

NOTES FROM IRELAND.

[From Our Dublin Correspondent.]

On the 1st Nov. the notable salmon rivers of Ireland will by law be closed for this season against all intrusion of the rod. On the majority of the late rivers sport during the past fortnight was of but an indifferent nature, and indeed the weather during that period has not been of an over-inviting nature to the angler, and during the few favourable days that intervened rods were scarce, and although some good salmon were landed, it was found in most parts that the fish are now too far advanced in spawn to admit of sport being pursued.

Glancing through the season just concluded, we find that although it has not been by any means a remarkably successful one, it has proved at least an improvement on its predecessor, and on all sides it is admitted that, as regards the run and condition of salmon, nothing was more satisfactory. The western districts, with one or two exceptions, held out remarkably well, and in this quarter special mention might be made of Loughs Corrib and Mask, where many magnificent fish were killed during the season. The Westmeath Lakes were rather unfortunate owing to bad weather, whilst the early salmon fisheries of Wexford and Waterford were comparatively good. Netting in the latter county was wonderfully successful, and fish were caught in great numbers, so much so, in fact, that, during the recent inquiries by the Fishery Inspectors concerning the salmon fisheries of the south and south-east, it was elicited that, in one particular instance, the fish were so numerous that pigs were fed on them because of the insufficient demand from the markets.

Although angling for salmon has been slightly backward it is pleasurable to be able to record the trout fishing of this season amongst the best for years. Every district has the same to say—and in a few of the localities I personally know, Wicklow and Meath for instance, trouting has been phenomenal.

The first opening of next season's rod-fishing commences in a few districts in January, but for the majority of them February and March are the months, and a perusal of the latest orders issued by the Irish Fishery Inspectors will be of much assistance to intending anglers in Ireland.

Westmeath Lakes.—A general meeting of the Westmeath Lakes and Rivers Fish Preservation Society was held at the Greville Arms Hotel, Mullingar, on Thursday, the 22nd inst., for the purpose of electing a chairman, vice-chairman, and other officers for the ensuing year. Amongst those present were Mr. Charles Tottenham, J.P., Major Fetherstoutt Whitney, J.P., Mr. James Doyne, J.P., Mr. John Holt, Mr. Thomas McDonnell, Mr. Francis Stafford, Mr. H. W. Lloyd, Mr. N. J. Downes, Mr. Thomas J. Shaw, Mr. E. J. Hope, Mr. William Murray, Mr. William Paul, Mr. Arthur Fetherstoutt (solicitor to the society), and Major Grant, J.P., and Mr. W. J. Thomas (hon. secs.). It was duly proposed and seconded that the out-going chairman (Colonel J. R. Malone) and the other officers be re-elected, which was unanimously adopted amid applause. Arrangements were made for the appointment of a suitable staff of water-bailiffs to take charge of the lakes and spawning streams during the close season of 1891-2, and other routine business was discussed. Several members expressed the highest approval of the manner in which the fish preservation scheme had been carried out by the hon. secs. (Major Grant and Mr. W. J. Thomas). It is currently reported that otter fishing is practised, both in the open and close season, on Lough Lane, in the north of the county. The lough contains splendid trout of large size, but it is claimed as private property; and the Westmeath's Society's scheme of preservation does not extend to it, although fished by the public.—T. J. W.

Holloway's Pills.—In general debility, nervous tremour, and mental depression, these unrivalled Pills have a marvellous effect. They have won the confidence of millions in all parts of the civilised world. Constitutions shaken by sensual excesses, or by long residence in unwholesome climates, or by sedentary habits, are wonderfully renovated by a course of this extraordinary medicine, which, powerful as is its action on the whole system, is perfectly harmless to the tenderest frame. The Pills are composed of rare balsams, without the admixture of a grain of any mineral whatever, or of any other deleterious substance. They operate directly, powerfully and beneficially upon the whole mass of blood, nor can we question the fact when we see indigestion cured, liver complaints arrested, the oppressed lungs brought into healthful play, and every physical function renewed and strengthened by their agency.

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FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

imunications relating to the Literary Department Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

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GAZETTE can be had by sending Postal Order or Stamps to Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Co., Limited, the Proprietors, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London, to whom all money payments should be made.

One Year, post free, to any part of Great Britain and Ireland			10s. 6d.
Six Months	ditto	ditto	5s. 4d.
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pplications respecting advertisements should be addressed to Manager of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-), London.

Telegraphic Address—"RIVSAM, London."
TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH, 1891.

SOME "ORCADIAN" MEMORIES.

By DUINE MÔR.

ORKNEY, apart from the very excellent angling be obtained in some of its lochs, is a very in-esting place to visit, because one meets more ices there of the Norse influence in all its anifestations than in any other part of the ited Kingdom, with the exception, of course, of tima Thule. The names of all, or nearly all e towns, villages, lochs, hills, headlands, and ys "smack of the wild Norwegian still," as rquil,

> " . . . from Dunvegan high,
> Lord of the misty hills of Skye,"

marks to the Abbot in Artornish, by way apology for his bluff manner. The tenure which the land is held (Udal), is Norwegian, d bonnet-lairds are as "thick as autumn rains," that, when shooting, you can only judge of ether or not you are on your own ground by erally taking your bearings, for, say if such and ch a church be bearing north-west by north, and ch a hill be east north-east, and in a line with mething else, then you are off your ground, and d better not shoot until you are on it, unless u want the laird of the spot, on which you are standing, to come and make you an offer of his extensive moor at half-a-crown per annum (this is fact, not fiction, and a difference of opinion as to an additional sixpence a year for a portion of your shooting may, in certain parts of Orkney, lead to your not getting that portion at all); the whole superstition of the islands composing the Orcadian group is of Scandinavian origin, with perhaps a dash of Scotch spirits thrown in, and altogether the place is unique and intensely interesting. Kirkwall and Stromness are equally good centres for the angler, but there is more life and bustle about Kirkwall and more accommodation. Kirkwall is most conveniently reached from Aberdeen or Thurso, to which the angler should proceed by rail, and thence by sea. The steamers are very good and comfortable boats. There is plenty of accommodation, both at Stromness and Kirkwall, either in the hotels or private apartments, but many anglers prefer farm-houses as places of residence, on account of their proximity to the lochs. Accommodation in these is, as a rule, easily obtained. The fishing in Orkney, though at times very good, is remarkably fickle, and one may fish in unfavourable or even apparently favourable weather on the most justly celebrated of Orcadian lakes—Loch Stennis—without much reward. I was shooting a good deal when in Orkney, but so far as my memory serves me I spent four or five very unprofitable days in trying to wile some of the Stennis trout into taking; a few did take, but they were very few indeed and far between, and I do not think that I killed a fish over 1½lb., though I had one or two rises from apparently heavy fish. I was too early (August) for sea trout, which, I understand, run very late as a rule in Orkney, and secured only a few of no great size. The days I spent at Stennis were, in the main, bad angling days—a cold north-east wind sweeping over the sullen waters of the loch; one day, however, was warm and fine, with a good breeze, and on it we did fairly well. Stennis is a peculiar loch, quite unique, in fact, and though there are a good many lochs, comparatively speaking, in the Outer Hebrides, into which the sea flows at both ends and in which the water is as much salt as fresh, there is no loch which is so much of a wandered bay of ocean—if one may so put it—as Loch Stennis. Loch Bee, for example, in South Uist, attached to Creagorry and Caarnan Hotels, is a loch connected with the sea at both ends; yet it contains only remarkably fine yellow trout, from 1lb. upwards, but no sea trout, or at least only a very odd one; whereas, Stennis contains both loch and sea trout, and all manner of sea fish besides, from flounders up to lobsters. The water of Stennis, so far as I observed it, is remarkably clear, the trout very pretty and game fish of, or very similar to, the *Salmo nigripinnis* order (with some variations); and all over it is a pleasant loch to fish. The real big fish of Stennis are rarely killed with the fly, but fall, as a rule, to the bait or the minnow. To get a monster—I am not speaking of 3lb., 4lb., or 5lb. fish—is about as hard as to get a Thames trout or big *ferox*. Luck may favour you at once, or only after a very long time, if ever. Last year one of 12lb. was killed on the Phantom. He must have been a fine fish, and on the fly would have given the perfection of sport on a trouting-rod. In a loch, where feeding is as plentiful as it is in Stennis, these big fellows must rise but rarely. However, the chance is always there, and I can remember that it was the possibility of raising such a fish that made me stick almost entirely to the fly. The 29½lb. Stennis trout of, I think, two seasons ago (caught on a set-line) was the largest fish of his kind I ever heard of, save a 30lb. fish killed in the Tay many years ago with the fly, and a 39½lb. fish said to have been picked up dead in the Loch of Wester, in Caithness-shire. Loch Stennis is well worth fishing for the chance of a big fish turning up, for there are probably more enormous yellow trout in it than in any loch in the United Kingdom, with, of course, the exception of some of the famous Irish lakes. Of small fish it yields, as a rule, only a very moderate quantity, Harray, the connecting loch being much more productive of steady sport. The trout of this loch, according to local belief, cannot stand salt water, and, after high tides have poured into Stennis, are, it is said, not only so sickened that they will not rise, but are even occasionally poisoned. The influx of salt water may certainly keep them from rising, but the supply of food which it carries in is probably the reason why it so affects them, for trout are in no way affected by salt water, and often go down to the sea (though non-migratory in the strict sense), while in Orkney it is no uncommon occurrence for the angler, fishing in the sea for sea trout, to kill an occasional ordinary yellow trout. Yellow trout of a large size are likewise often killed in the Strome, in South Uist, the water of which is almost entirely salt. These do not appear to be estuary or slob trout (if there be such a distinct species), and only, so far as I could judge from the specimens which I have seen, deserved the title from the fact that they were killed in an estuary. The best brown trout fishing which I had in Orkney was in Loch Swannay or Swona (though Loch Isbister and that many-named lake Loch Twatt or Kirbuster or Boardhouse or Birsay, which has as many *aliases* as a distinguished criminal, are also good), and I thoroughly enjoyed the few hours I had on it, killing fifteen the first day (one and a-half hours) and twenty-five the second (three hours), the fish running from ½lb. up to 1¾lb., and giving excellent sport. Though somewhat dark in colour, they were well-fed, handsome fish, while for the table they quite equalled any trout which I have ever tasted. Curiously enough, my companion, who had killed more trout, perhaps, before I was born than I have done since that memorable event, secured only one fish and had only one rise on the second day, and fared but little better the first; the only reason I could assign for the difference being that I fished with a short line and he with a long one, and so I got in three casts to his one, though perhaps it was only another example of the many mysterious curiosities of angling. Swannay seemed to me to be a most admirable loch and a very pleasant one to fish. Apart from the really good fishing, of which there is plenty to be had free or for the asking, Orkney is a very interesting island. Its coast scenery, though perhaps inferior on the whole to that on the west coast of Shetland, is nevertheless extremely fine; to the ornithologist it offers a splendid field; while to the antiquary and the lover of romance the many memorials of the old Viking days and the traces of the Norse influence in the wild legends of a somewhat barbarous superstition, invest each rude hill, wild lake, and barren plain with an interest which the stern hand of Nature has denied them, Orkney has a charm almost peculiarly its own. The more matter-of-fact observer will be struck by what appeared to me, at least, to be the three salient features of modern Orkney—namely, the manifest enterprise displayed in extending the "margin of cultivation," the beautiful flowers in every cottage window, and the immense number of hens and geese everywhere to be seen. With regard to the poultry, the revenue derived by Orkney from eggs is, I believe, in excess of the rental of the whole group, while, though geese do not pay so well to keep as of old, they still say in Caithness-shire when it snows, that they "are plucking geese in Orkney." The love for and the cultivation of flowers amongst the cottagers is due to the fact that annual prizes are offered for the best specimens of cottage growth, while the reclaiming of waste land and improved agricultural methods, though partly due to the operation of "industrial progress," is to a large extent to be attributed to fresh energy and enterprise in the people. Triptolemus Yellowley, were he resuscitated, though he might still, with some show of justice, complain of the niggard generosity of Nature to these northern isles, could hardly accuse their inhabitants of lack of energy and enterprise in utilising such advantages of soil and climate as she has bestowed upon them.

LOCH LEVEN TROUT.

MIGRATION TO THE SEA.

By EDWARD HAMILTON.

IN August, 1888, I sent you a short letter on the migration of some Loch Leven trout from a hill loch in Argyleshire, where they were bred, to a river which, after a course of a few miles, terminated in a salt-water loch communicating with the Sound of Mull, and I asked the question—Will these Loch Leven trout migrate down to the sea loch? I have visited the locality again this year, and the result of my inquiries induces me to send you a more detailed history, from the depositing of the ova to the present time.

On January 25, 1882, somewhere about nine thousand loch Leven trout ova were procured from Howictoun. Five thousand of these were deposited in the sand and gravel at the mouth of two or three small burns which supplied a hill loch about 1,000ft. above the sea level, in which there were no fish of any kind, and which had only one outlet, a small burn with a very steep descent, almost dry in summer, but connected at its mouth with a small but swift-running river, joining a much larger one, which contains plenty of salmon and sea trout. The hill loch is about three-quarters of a mile long by some two to three hundred yards broad, weedy at the upper part, not very deep, with a pretty, woody island in the centre. There appeared to be plenty of food, in the shape of small snails and abundance of water insects, &c. The remaining four thousand ova were placed in some burns which supplied a much larger loch, about 500ft. above sea level, some three miles away, containing common trout (*Salmo fario*), which seldom attained a larger size than half-a-pound. The hatch-out in both cases appeared to be very successful. In the autumn of 1883 the hill loch was visited, and small fish were seen rising in every direction. Some were caught with the fly. They were beautiful little fellows, very bright and silvery, from 4in. to 6in. in length. In May, 1884, four fish of the respective weights of $3\frac{1}{2}$lb., 3lb., $2\frac{1}{2}$lb., and $2\frac{1}{2}$lb., were taken with the fly out of this loch. When we consider that only two years and four months had elapsed since the ova were deposited, this growth was very remarkable, and is attributable in all probability to the virgin water and excessive quantity of food. In the autumn of this year (1884) some fine fish were taken, one weighing over 4lb. They gave capital sport, and were very pink in the flesh. In the winter of 1884-5 heavy rain caused the hill loch to overflow its banks, and a great quantity of water came down the burn into the river below. Whether the large fish were washed down in this flood, or whether they took the opportunity to migrate, must remain a problem. Be that as it may, in 1885 some large ones were caught whilst salmon fishing in the upper river, one angler taking a sea trout of $3\frac{1}{2}$lb., a loch Leven of $2\frac{3}{4}$lb, and a sea trout of 2lb. in three successive casts, and in that year only one or two were taken in the hill loch itself. In 1886 not a large trout could be taken in the hill loch, but were constantly being captured in both the larger rivers, one, indeed, of $3\frac{1}{2}$lb. being taken in a pool within a quarter-of a-mile of the sea. In 1887, although the hill loch was full of small trout, none above $\frac{3}{4}$lb. were taken, but there were plenty of large ones in the rivers, even in the pools and streams very near the sea; and in 1889 two unmistakable loch Leven trout were taken in the nets in the sea loch about half-a-mile from the river's mouth, together with a number of sea trout and some salmon. In 1890, many loch Leven trout were taken in both rivers, but none in the hill loch; and I was informed by one who had fished it that he could take none exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$lb. to $\frac{3}{4}$lb. Loch Leven trout were also taken in a famous sea trout loch, which communicates with the above two rivers. This year, on September 25, when salmon fishing, I hooked a large trout which gave me grand play, and, on landing it, both my gillie and myself thought he was a sea trout which had been long in the water, but, on closer examination, I found he was a Loch Leven, and weighed $3\frac{1}{2}$lb. Whilst playing him, he behaved very much as a sea trout does—throwing himself several times out of the water and making a hard fight for his life; he took a large salmon fly (the Butcher). Whilst playing him, two salmon, as is often the case, threw themselves out of the water as the line went over them. On the next day I took another Loch Leven much lower down the river with a Popham, with which I had just killed a salmon of 9lb. I found, on inquiry, that the Loch Leven trout would take the sea trout and salmon flies in the rivers, but only smaller trout flies in the hill loch.

In the other loch, in which the four thousand ova were placed in 1882, the Loch Leven trout have never grown to any size, a half-pounder being considered large. This may be accounted for by the number of the common trout in the loch, causing thereby a deficiency of food; but from this loch some have migrated seawards and last year were caught in the brackish water at the mouth of the small river leading from the loch to the sea.

It appears from the above account that Loch Leven trout, or, at any rate, some of them, will migrate to the salt water when they have an opportunity. Will they eventually lose their specific dress and put on the spots and colour of *Salmo trutta?*

A VISIT TO THE "SEVEN SPRINGS."

By H. R. FRANCIS.

AMONG the pleasantest of the angler's rambles I have always reckoned those devoted to tracing a stream—a trout stream especially—from its sources downwards. Such explorations I have enjoyed in Scotland, in North Wales, and even when seeking to recruit an exhausted brain in beautiful Tasmania. But nowhere have I pursued them with greater delight than in Devonshire and the adjoining ranges of Exmoor. The high moorland ridges which divide that wildly picturesque region form a watershed, whence flow a multitude of picturesque streams, of which the course is necessarily short, and consequently swift and varied. They hurry to the sea with no ungraceful haste. The explorer finds the first sources of the infant stream welling up through patches of gravel, and forming little pools, marked by bright green herbage, amidst a wide expanse of heather and coarse bent. Tiny streamlets from several of these sources soon unite to form a runnel—narrow, dark, and occasionally deep—which steals along, growing as it glides, till it swells into a brooklet not incapable of trout. I have on several occasions amused myself with bestriding such a "bit burnie," and dropping my fly into the mere riband of water left clear between its feathered banks, and extracting sundry troutlets, who had mostly to be sent flying, in defiance of all angling propriety. After gathering its forces during a mile or two of peaceful and almost level progress, it nears the sloping border of the high *plateau* across which it has led me, and anon plunges downwards to the vale—sometimes by a continuous rapid descent through some sylvan combe, where you need steady nerves and feet to follow it; sometimes by a series of leaps from one rocky basin to another down a slippery green hill-side, where each dark pool, stirred by its own little cascade, pays tribute to the careful angler. Ah! these were pleasant rambles, while I enjoyed unimpaired powers as a pedestrian; and if I were proposing to revel in the pleasures of memory I could enlarge with delight on the rapid changes of the scene as the brook swells and widens in its more peaceful passage through the vale to the sea.

But to-day I wish to say something on a different though kindred theme—the birth-place of a great river. Much of poetic interest has always attached to such places, and every student of Virgil will remember with pleasure the fine passage in the Fourth "Georgic" where Cyrene shows her son, in a sort of underground panorama, the sources of divers mighty streams. I resist the strong temptation to quote; but lovers of good English poetry will forgive me for referring to a parallel passage in Armstrong's "Art of Health," a poem which has, I think, been underrated, owing to its didactic character. In these days of reduced water supply and wholesale pollution of our streams, anglers should remember, to Armstrong's honour, that he sets forth eloquently and forcibly the importance to public health of pure and abundant water. Beginning with the invocation—

> "Now come, ye Naiads, to the fountains lead" . . .

he approaches, with reverent awe, the rocks,

> "Whence glide the streams renowned in ancient song;
> Here from the desert down the rumbling steep
> First springs the Nile; Euphrates hence devolves
> A mighty flood to water half the East;
> And there, in Gothic solitude reclined,
> The cheerless Janais pours his heavy urn."

Surely these lines, which I have purposely abridged in quotation, have a genuine ring about them! No doubt, however, the theme is an inspiring one; and when I started from Cheltenham, some four months since, to drive to the "Seven Springs," the cradling-place of Father Thames, I felt some kindling of the imagination, some vague dream of an ideal scene, where the infant river, destined in its full growth to bear the commerce of a world, should burst forth amidst surroundings of appropriate grandeur and beauty. Never were poetic visions more rudely dispelled. The drive, it is true, was a beautiful one; the undulating green pastures, chequered with rich woodland, which mark the lower slopes of the Cotswold range, were in all the freshness of early summer. But where were the glorious springs? Readers of "Charles O'Malley" will remember the laughable *tableau*, when Dr. Barrett, looking at the remarkable excavation under the walls of Trinity College, Dublin, pointed out to him by the pitiless joker, Frank Webber, vents his disgust in the profane exclamation, "May the Divil admire me, but it's a rat-hole!" My feelings of disappointment at what I saw were much like those of the learned Provost, and I was almost tempted to exclaim, "May the Divil admire me, but it's a gutter-sink!" There was just a small dirty hollow by the road-side, into which trickled rather than gushed several tiny streams of clear water, issuing from beneath the bank, and thus justifying, no doubt, their title of "springs." There were, however, five only instead of "seven"—a deficiency perhaps due to the rainless character of the past season. The meeting of these waters just formed a respectable puddle (or, Scotice, a "dub"), the overflow of which ran away under a grated arch, surmounted by a wall which effectively forbade any ulterior views. But by stooping and peeping through this arch, I caught a glimpse of something beyond that looked like open water, and though the romance of the affair was hopelessly dead, something of curiosity survived. So I turned up the road, following the obstructive wall till I reached a door therein which to my surprise and pleasure I found unlocked. Anglers are said to have generally rather loose notions as to the law of trespass; at all events, I made no scruple of entering, and was rewarded by a pretty scene enough. On my left lay a crystal pool or lakelet, surrounded by trim gravel-walks and well-kept flower-beds, and evidently fed from the obscure sources I have just described. Two noble swans, one of them the finest I ever saw, floated double—swan and shadow. On the farther side of the pool the garden ground sloped boldly upward to a park-like hill-side, showing some good timber, with glimpses of a well-placed mansion at the summit. Oddly enough, not even a gardener or labourer was in sight. Prompted and encouraged by my wife—[N.B.—The company of a lady on such occasions is a real safeguard to the otherwise unprotected male]—I went down with her to the water-side, and followed the footpath round the margin. When we reached the end farthest from the springs, I was interested by observing that the stream at the outlet far exceeded in volume that which entered from the road-side. It was clear that there must be a spring—probably several—welling up from the bottom of the pool before me, and I thought I could distinguish two or three dark patches which showed their position. My scrutiny of the waters was rewarded by another pleasant discovery. Gliding hither and thither, heedless, if not unconscious, of my presence, were a goodly number of trout—not babies, mark you, nor three-year-olds, nor of that "herring size" (convenient term) which so often figures in vague accounts of unweighed baskets—but lusty, well-grown fish, averaging, I should say, some two pounds a-piece. One or two that I saw were fair three-pounders, nor did I see a single fish under a pound weight. Some such, no doubt, there were which, in spite of a bright and breezeless sunshine, escaped my notice in the broader parts of the pool, but they were certainly few. The water was evidently first-rate feeding water, and as I could see no likely breeding-ground, I assumed it to have been judiciously stocked with sizeable fish—perhaps from the pretty brook formed at the outfall, and augmented, as I heard, by two small tributaries, respectively three and five miles farther down. We left this young river as a sort of "Yarrow unvisited," as the downward exploration would have been, for one of us at least, too much of a scramble. Moreover, I must confess that I was not sorry to make a timely retreat after our successful reconnaissance. So retreat we did, with all the honours of war, unopposed and unquestioned. We could say, like Grizzle, in "Tom Thumb"—

> "With victory our arms are crown'd;
> For though we have not fought, yet have we found
> No enemy to fight withal."

And so we went galumphing back to Chelten-

m. On our homeward drive I reflected much, t on the poetry of river sources—that line of ought had received too rude and too recent a ock—but on the relative values of land and ater, and the possible profits of pisciculture—rdid considerations, no doubt, but by no means t of place. Here was a pond barely over an re in extent, capable, I am convinced, with very tle aid to its natural food supply, of turning out arly some fifty brace of two-pounders, which ould find a ready market at a good figure hardly x miles off. To the general cheapness of prosions at Cheltenham I can bear witness; but, dly enough, taking into account the large and y no means dear supply of the finest salmon, the rown trout is the only fish that fetches what ay be called a fancy price. I repeatedly saw a w on sale; indeed, a small lot used to appear bout every other day in one of the best shops, ut never at a less price than one shilling and sixence per pound, and it was remarkable how uickly they found purchasers. Now, I am not oing to work out a formal calculation on paper; ut it strikes me forcibly that here we have an cre of water which would easily pay a better nt in these days of agricultural depression than ny but the very best land. No doubt the water of the finest quality, thanks to the pure sources y which it is fed. But pond trout are far less articular about their *habitat* than theorists ssume; and there are other fresh-water fish esides trout that would be welcomed in the arket if they were supplied regularly and in heir right season. Perch, tench, and pike from ear pools are all excellent from October to March iclusive, and even carp in winter are less ependent on cooks and sauces than is generally upposed. If some of the successful energy which as been thrown into the breeding of fish for stock ere applied to feeding them up for the table, reat results might be achieved. We must not hut our eyes to the fact that our streams, already owered to a formidable extent by improved drainge and the silting up of gravels, are beginning to uffer yet more serious depletion owing to the vholesale tapping of springs for town supply and anufacturing purposes. The hope of pisciculture, vhether for food or sport, must yearly depend nore and more on careful water storage and the ormation of pools and reservoirs.

But it is time to wind up, after this long ligression. Should any brother angler visit the Seven Springs, I hope he will improve on my xperience, and neither expect too much nor do oo little. Many of your readers would, I think, e interested in learning how the youthful river ares after issuing from the pretty pool I have ttempted to describe; how it is gradually swollen y fresh affluents till it sweeps through the open valley "a broader and a broader stream," a joy to rtist and angler.

Notes

ON Tuesday evening next a paper will be read by Mr. E. S. Shrubsole, at the Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea Park Town. The subject is, "Fishing Baskets, Bags, and Creels," and the lecturer will show a collection of different baskets, bags, creels, and other appliances, for carrying fish and fishing tackle, which have been lent to him from all parts of the kingdom. Mr. R. B. Marston will take the chair at eight sharp. Among the many creels, &c., Mr. Shrubsole will show upon this occasion, is the favourite—fishing-box we should call it—of the late "Dicky Routledge," and a basket of Nottingham make more than fifty years old. Mr. S. also has in his collection baskets and creels from all parts of the kingdom, made of wicker, tin, leather, wood, &c. Most certainly such a collection of different makes and styles has never been brought together before, and we feel sure many of our readers would like to see and examine them.

"How long will trout live?" we asked Mr. Thomas Andrews, the well-known fish breeder, who says: "I knew a man, whose father put a trout 1¼lb. into a well; after twenty-five years the fish was taken out weighing less than 1lb."

HUBBARD'S SOUTHERN CROSS SMOKING MIXTURE.—Messrs. Hubbard, who advertise this tobacco in our columns, sends us a packet to notice, and after trying it for a week, we can, with confidence, state that we believe it is a mixture which will find favour with the majority of smokers, being fragrant, cool, and in every way pleasant to smoke.

WITH reference to a letter received at this office, anent the Border Esk, Gilnockie writes: "I never expect to send full and complete records, only accurate ones, so far as they go. I have the northern papers sent me, and receive two of them on the morning I write my report. These are useful to me sometimes—but only sometimes—as I am usually so far ahead of them that their contents are valueless to a great extent. On the other hand, I have two correspondents in Langholm; two in Canonbie; two in Longtown; one at Metal Bridge; and one in Carlisle, all of whom have unusual facilities for getting angling information, and whose veracity is unimpeachable. I repeat I don't pretend to supply full lists; no one can; besides, certain anglers are averse to having their names mentioned, while others are particularly anxious to shine in print as being great fishers, notwithstanding the fact that at the same time they may be very small fry. With regard to the former section, sometimes their innate modesty has been studied at the expense of the report. On the other hand, the Editor of the *Fishing Gazette* cannot be expected to immortalise every embryo angler who may happen to catch a minnow while fishing wi' a preen in the guse dub. Perhaps neither of these is the class of man who has written the rather ill-judged letter; indeed, it has more likely proceeded from one of those semi-professional native fishers who would like to farm the river entirely in his own interest, and send visitors anywhere but in a Metal Bridge direction. I may say I know the Esk river. I spent the first twenty years of my life in its vicinity. I visited the Netherby, Longtown, and Metal Bridge portions of it a little over a fortnight ago, and recorded what I saw and heard on the occasion in this paper. 'A chiel's amang you takin' notes.' Yes, I took several notes, and no doubt that is the real grievance, because I ascertained several things that were intended to be hidden from me by certain persons I foregathered with during my short stay. The letter is an ill-judged one; and if the writer will assume the responsibility of his name and address in these columns, he shall have complete satisfaction from me. I may say the report complained of was cut down through want of space, and last week's only embraced eight lines, and contained only two names—viz., Mr. Yates, Metal Bridge; Mr. Story, Longtown."

WATERPROOFING COMPOSITION.—We have received some pots of Gishurstine "with the compliments of Price's Patent Candle Company, Limited, who hope that the Gishurstine continues to be approved of." We certainly hear nothing but praise of this excellent composition, which has now been before the public for many years.

DURING last week, at the close of which the season ended, the Hon. Robert Cotton, Messrs. John Webster, W. L. Freeman, R. Robertson, W. Milne, and another captured, on Dee and Don, fish weighing respectively 39½lb., 35½lb., 33½lb., 33¼lb., 32½lb., and 30lb. A fish of 40lb., hooked by the back fin, was taken from the Don the previous week.

IT is much to be regretted that salmon disease is making headway in the back-end rivers of the East Coast of Scotland. On the autumn fish in only a couple of these rivers has it not yet appeared. The North Esk is in a particularly bad way. The grappling and consequent injury to the fish in this river, together with dykes, and the almost impassable natural barrier known as the "loups" at the Burn policies—close below which and where there is no spawning-ground—the fish are packed like sardines in a box, which cannot but tend very greatly to make the disease spread. The sister river, the South Esk, has far from a clean bill of health.

LATELY the best one-day takes and heaviest fish killed on the Tweed have been got by Mr. Arkwright, who scored twelve; Lord Home, ten; Sir Richard J. Waldie Griffith, nine; Mr. Drummond, seven; Mr. Hamilton, seven; Mr. Gilbey, six; and the Hon. Alexander McDonnell, for six days, forty; Mr. Hamilton, one, 37lb.; Lord Home, one, 35lb., and one, 31lb.; Mr. Arkwright, one, 31lb; and Mr. Gilbey, one, 30lb.

AMONG the rivers of Scotland, Tweed and Tay are ties for the distinction of having yielded the highest take, or top score, of salmon to one rod in a day this autumn. On each a catch of seventeen has been obtained—by the Duke of Roxburghe, on the Tweed, and by Mr. Barclay Field, on the Tay.

DURING the last ten days or fortnight of the now past season, lots of anglers on Tay, Spey, Deveron, Earn, North Esk, South Esk, and other rivers, were much disappointed with the fish, particularly those of Earn, Spey, and Deveron, of which a great proportion were greatly off colour, being "quite black, red, and striped," as one correspondent puts it.

A MEETING of the Fishery Board of the district of the river Doveron was held in the County Buildings, Banff, last week, Mr. A. F. Leslie, Montcoffer House, presiding. A statement of the income and expenditure was submitted, showing a deficiency of £275 9s. 4d., which, it was stated, could be met by an assessment of 2s. 9d. per £, and the board resolved to assess accordingly.

THE Ugie pollution case, in which the clerk of the Fishery Board charges several parties with polluting the river, to the detriment of the salmon fishings, has been taken to the Court of Session.

ON many of the Scotch salmon rivers, during the last week of the season, when, with the water having run too low, the angling was poor, it was a practice, widely prevalent, of making the fish come out on to the bank, whether they voluntarily initiated the proceedings leading up to this or not!

IT is singular that whilst all the other back-end rivers of note in Scotland have yielded fish of up to 40lb. in weight this autumn, Spey and Deveron, two of the most important, have not.

A STATEMENT has been published giving the takes of salmon on the larger back-end sections of the Aberdeenshire Dee during the late autumn fishing as: Blackhall, 170; Crathes, 180; Drum, 140; Park, 200; Durris, 300; Cairnton, Woodend, Ballogie. Borrowstone, and Inchmarlo, 600—in all 1,580 off the fifteen miles of the best autumu water of the Dee.

IT is looking as if salmon disease will soon be very bad in several of the rivers of the Solway.

THE autumn season's heaviest fish caught on the Earn was 40lb; on the Firth, 44lb.

THE rod salmon fishing on the North and South Esks closed for the season on Saturday. This has been the most successful season for the past five years, and the only one of those years that anglers generally have been satisfied with the amount of sport obtained. On the North Esk, between eight hundred and nine hundred fish have been landed from the policies of Colonel McInroy at the Burn to the sea; while upwards of three hundred have been taken from the South Esk.

WE have some prospectuses of our Fourteenth Annual Christmas Number now ready; they are specially designed and printed in five colours, and have been produced to attract more attention to our paper. Any of our friends and subscribers can have some of them to distribute, and we should esteem it a favour if they would apply for same. We shall spare no expense in the production of our Christmas Number, and hope our efforts will be appreciated. Our many friends can substantially assist us in the above manner.

SALMON HATCHING ON THE DEE.—It is very gratifying to learn that the Deeside Salmon Fishery Board have recently taken over the Durris Salmon Hatchery, which stood empty last season, and that already it is being stocked with salmon roe from the upper feeders of the Dee and its tributary, the Cluny, where ripe fish are easily secured at this season. Mr. Duncan, the Inspector of the Dee and Don Fishings, has charge of the arrangements, than whom it could not be in better hands. The Durris Hatchery has already done good work in the past, when in the private hands of Mr. Baird; but a step in the right direction has been taken by the Dee Fishery Board, which it would be well were the good example thus set to become general with every fishery board throughout the country.

SOME NOTES ON THE BEDFORDSHIRE OUSE.

BY AN OLD HAND.

(Continued from page 260.)

ST. IVES.—St. Ives is a municipal borough, head of a union, and a parish situated on the north bank of the river Ouse, and ou the road from Huntingdon to Lynn. It was anciently called “Slepe,” and appears under that name in Domesday Book, but acquired its present name from Iva or Ivo, a Persian bishop, who, it is said, travelled through England preaching, and at last came here, where he died, about the sixth century. It is fifty-nine miles from London, five east from Huntingdon, fourteen north-east from St. Neots (or “snouts,” as the porters call it) in the northern division of the county. The Midland, Great Eastern, and Great Northern Railways have a joint station here, and a line from Ely, viâ Haddenham and Sutton (Cambridgeshire), to St. Ives, was constructed and opened for traffic in 1878 by the Great Eastern Railway Company. Every Monday there is a market for cattle, sheep, and pigs. The markets belong to the Corporation. Two well-frequented fairs are held annually, one on Whit-Monday, and one on the 11th of October, and at these fairs (which were granted by charter), great numbers of cattle, sheep, and quantities of general wares are disposed of.

FLOODS.—Floods are very much against angling operations, more or less, all through the winter, and anglers should never go down on the “off” chance; but obtain good and reliable information about the state of the water, &c., and so prevent disappointment. The present weather is bad for it. The lower parts of the town, being built directly on the Ouse banks, have been frequently overflowed. This was more especially the case in November, 1823, when a very high flood occurred in which a considerable quantity of property was destroyed. Destructive floods also occurred in 1875 and during the following six years, which have been very detrimental to the trade of the town. Over the river is a stone bridge of six arches, said to have been erected by the abbots of Ramsey; two of the arches were rebuilt in 1716, by William, Duke of Manchester, and history says the same individual widened the Wharfe in 1724. Near the centre over one of the piers is an ancient building, the *lower* part of which, a very long time ago, was a chapel (I do not know what sect), but is now used as a dwelling-house. Adjoining the bridge on the south side is a brick causeway on arches, which was erected in 1822, reaching a considerable distance, the arches affording a free passage for the water during the overflowings of the river. Slepe Hall, once the residence of Oliver Cromwell, has been taken down, and a number of houses built on the site. The same fate will overtake St. Paul's one of these days, I expect. A great part of the town was destroyed by fire, on the 30th April, 1680. It crossed the sheep market, consumed everything in its way down to the waterside; laid in ashes houses belonging to one hundred and twenty-two families, besides goods, corn, malt, &c., amounting to upwards of £13,000 in value. One of the most ancient and interesting specimens of domestic architecture in this most interesting old town is the residence of Mr. John Wadsworth, close to the river and bridge. It contains some very fine oak panelling, and with its numerous gables presents a most picturesque appearance.

The Ouse from Bedford “right away” down to Earith, probably, contains the finest chub and bream to be seen in any river in England; and in the neighbourhood of the charming village of Hemingford, near St. Ives, during the past three or four years, some fine catches of chub have been made with the fly. Hemingford is a favourite spot of some Cambridge anglers; and, as a rule, fly-fishing in the main stream must be done from a boat, as the high sedge prevents bank fishing. Some good cases of chub are to be seen in Cambridge, that were taken in this locality.

SEDGE.—Some five or six years ago, several persons used to cut the rushes and sedge, and this was stacked, dried, and sent all over the country, for basket and chair work; but cane has supplanted this material, and the rushes have been left to grow, or only cut in places to clear certain swims or likely haunts for fish—hence the necessity of having a boat to fish the river properly.

A good hook knife or billet is a capital thing to screw in the landing-net handle to clear a place, and an opening for two or three rods can soon be made. Of course there are several places between St. Ives and Earith where the river can be fished from the bank: notably Friend's Corner; Ducker's Hole; between the railway bridge and Holywell; the two bank swims just above old Swavesey drain; the field above Over Staunch, and the field below the railway bridge near the quaint, quiet old-fashioned village of Earith; but one can command and fish even these swims with more comfort and far better by the aid of a boat, and more especially where weeds are growing near the side.

GENTLES.—Gentles are used by some of the very old-fashioned fishermen when fly-fishing. Now, it appears to me this is a very unnatural proceeding, and I should think that a tiny piece of white kid or wash-leather, so arranged to hide some of the hook in very bright water, and thus give a little more weight to the fly, more especially in windy weather, would be more to the purpose.

If such immense trouble is taken to imitate the natural fly, why spoil such a perfect imitation by sticking a fat, caddy-looking twirling liver gentle on the hook to be used in a bright gin-fine water? One would think that these fish would take the gentles better if used separately. If the fish are taking (say the Bluebottle fly), where is the utility of sticking a liver gentle on the hook?

If tipping a hook with a gentle makes the fly look more attractive, and induces the fish to “go” for the fly, then further comment is really unnecessary; but, as both roach and rudd, &c., may be captured when adopting this method, then I presume that it is the gentle that is the attraction, and not the fly. I say presume, because I have no positive proof whether the gentle makes the fly more attractive, or the fly the gentle. If gentle makes fly more attractive, why not carry it out all through the piece?

FAVOURITE LOCALITIES.—HEMINGFORD MILL.—To get to the mill, I passed the remarkably short, fat, rotund, broad-backed, full-featured, red-faced, jovial old toll-keeper, at the foot of the bridge, a perfect picture of peace and contentment, who had been in the same line of business ever since he could walk (well, very nearly), and who “could not give it up.” The tales he told me about his experiences at Hounslow made my blood boil. I say, passing this remarkable specimen of a bygone age, over the bridge with the quaint-looking dwelling, and turning to the left, I immediately came to a path that led into the most magnificent meadow I ever saw in all my life. This meadow must be nearly a mile in length, broad, and level as a die, and runs up to the Ouse at the farther end, a short distance above the railway viaduct, with a singular bit of rural scenery (spinney, &c.), on a slight elevation to the left, and called, I believe, “Jerusalem.” Follow the path across this meadow, cross the railway on the left near the end, and a short distance down the lane leading to the village of Hemingford Grey, is a pathway to the delightful, tree-sheltered, charming old mill and pool.

It is no use, Mr. Editor; I can plainly see that these notes, like Tennyson's brook, will flow on for ever. This rigmarole must cease, and, with your kind permission, cease it shall in my next.

(To be continued.)

HOW WOMEN MANAGE TO MAKE GOOD BASKETS WHEN FISHING FOR TROUT.

THE science of fly-fishing is not acquired lightly. Let not the eager and sanguine novice, who buys a second-hand rod for ten shillings, think he has done all that can be required of him, and that a few hours by a stream will suffice to make him master of its contents. Old hands and white heads will tell him that it takes a lifetime first to learn what to do and how to do it; then another lifetime to forget it all and learn the other thing.

Methods of a few years ago, put aside as useless, are again patronised; for fish—in all waters—occasionally assert themselves, and make it very plain that they are weary of the one uniform practice adopted at various times by all devotees of the rod. Therefore, to make a good basket is no easy matter.

Now, when women are concerned, the questio must be looked at from quite another point o view. It is not that the difficulties are less; o the contrary, for besides the usual ones, other are added of quite another character.

The gentler sex is, of course, never expecte to be bound by rules, and if they cannot fill thei baskets in one way, they will try another, b which they show their very good sense. Then a woman loves change too much herself to withhol that luxury from the creatures she intends t slay, aud as she has to contend against many disadvantages, it is quite natural that a certai license should be taken by her when possible.

If these disadvantages are numerous, they ar also unavoidable. For example, though no on dares dispute her right to wed, it is generall admitted that she is unable to wade with eithe comfort or dignity. Then she cannot possibl wield as heavy a weapon, nor throw as long a lin as her brother sportsmen. Again, her powers, o inclination to sustain Nature by sundry draught not strictly drawn from the river are limited; s that, thus alone and unaided, she is soone exhausted, and cannot long do battle against th onslaught of sun, wind, and rain. No wonder therefore, if she has recourse to her mother wits and thus succeeds to fill her basket to her own and everybody's satisfaction. The followin account of how it is done may prove useful, and we hope, not too surprising.

Our heroine, fully equipped, has gone fishin with several friends of the male persuasion—w shall soon find that, what there is of persuasio is mostly on her side.

After a few hours of ineffectual whipping, he arms naturally begin to ache, also her back, an gloomy thoughts probably fill her mind, when u comes one of the friends. His step is brisk an buoyant. He hails her cheerfully. These ar good signs, which she is quick to note. He stops glad of an excuse for a chat and a few moments rest. A little judicious questioning soon brings ou the fact that he has three fine trout in his basket which he is easily persuaded to exhibit with pardonable alacrity. They are duly admired, and when Adam says: “But what have you done?” then Eve knows that her opportunity has come and she answers:—

“Not much—yet.” Then very sweetly, “I you like, I will carry one of your fish for you. I you go on at this rate you will not know what to do with them.”

Adam: “Oh! will you? You, are very kind.” She is a brick—he thinks. “Are you sure it will not be too heavy for you?”

Eve: “Not at all. Just leave it there on the grass; I'll take it up presently.”

It would spoil everything to appear too eager to secure the prize.

Adam: “But you have not shown me what you have caught.”

Eve: “Oh! it is not worth showing”—strictly true; then suddenly—“See that rise over there? I'll have him.” The professional attitude is assumed at once, and Adam—all sympathy, and totally unaware of the fact that he has been given another apple to eat, retires stealthily, not to endanger the prospective capture. And as he disappears, Eve fishes on, smiling to herself.

Presently another brother saunters up.

Adam II.: “Have you caught anything this morning?”

Eve: “Not much; and you?”

Adam II.'s pride in his skill is not proof against the temptation, and out comes a fine brace of trout. The most gratifying admiration is bestowed on the fish. Then Adam perceives the trout lying on the grass—“Halloa! is that yours? What a fine fish! Where did you catch it? It is a beauty!” &c., &c.

After Eve's unbounded praise of his sport he cannot say less, and she allows his flow of complimentary phrases to run smoothly on. A victor's silence is counted as modesty, so she merely says—

“Yes, it is rather fine, is it not?”

Adam II. (with a sudden burst of generosity): “Here, have one of mine, to make up a brace.”

Eve: “Certainly not. I could not think of such a thing; but it is very kind of you.”

Adam naturally insists, and Eve is, at last, persuaded to accept, still protesting:—

“It is not fair, really; but if you will have it so.”

This time the two trout are at once snugly and fely laid within the sheltering folds of the bag, hich is slung on her back. It would be un-acious to treat a gift carelessly.

Then, Adam II., with unspoken admiration ining in his eyes: "Are you sure it is not too eavy for you?"

Eve: "Oh, no, certainly not. And besides I ave fished enough for to-day. I think I'll go ome now."

"It looks uncommonly well," says Adam II., ishing to say something complimentary, and not nowing exactly how to do it. As Eve does not now whether he is alluding to her bag or her ack, she vouchsafes no answer; and he goes his ay, feeling quite pleased with himself and his enerosity, and consequently with her also, and ying, half aloud: "A clever little girl! Fancy tching that big fish all alone. I wonder how e managed to land it."

He overtakes Adam I. "Seen that large trout e has caught?" he asks.

Adam I.: "No. Has she really? How big it?"

Adam II.: "A real good 'un—about two pounds, should say."

Adam I. (with a touch of jealousy): "Did you nd it for her?"

Adam II.: "No; did it all herself. I say, old llow, she is coming on; we must look to our urels."

Meantime, Eve is walking towards home, but ill following the river, whose waters she is in-ntly watching. Presently, at a likely place, she es a fish quietly feeding under a large tree. She ay not throw a very long line nor be able to fish p-stream against the wind, but she is very clever fishing down-stream without being seen by the sh; and now she lets her fly drop lightly about yard above the feeding trout. It floats down st over its nose, and—yes, he has taken it. hen follows the usual floundering and rushing p and down peculiar of smaller fish, and Eve ns up and down too, not thinking of the tree, d she does not see that her line is round one of s branches. How she succeeds in getting the sh into her net is a mystery; but there it is, rtainly. As soon, however, as the net and the sh are out of the water, and the double strain on e branch overhead is relaxed, it straightens itself p, and lo! the trout is lifted up high into the air d dangles and twirls between sky and water. his is a most humiliating position to be in—for e angler; but a furtive look around brings some mfort, for no one is in sight—these little acci-ents are best unwitnessed.

What is to be done? The tackle is strong, and ve thinks that, in future, she will always trust om to choose tackle for her. But if the fish is t of water, it is out of reach, too. How ridi-lous it looks up there, hanging on the tree! ve actually laughs aloud as she once more turns her faithless net. With its help the branch is ught and lowered, and the trout re-captured. *looks* the right length, but, alas! subsequent easuring proves beyond a doubt that it must be stored to its element, and it is soon swimming way, seemingly none the worse for its flight, hile Eve is not sorry to be spared the unplea-nt necessity of killing it.

When all is over, and order restored, a keeper seen approaching. He comes nearer, he salutes d passes on. Eve's bag shows unmistakable gns of sport, which, no doubt, his keen eyes see, t, thank heaven, the keeper who could stop d ask a woman to show him the contents of her g, is not yet born; and if so, he would soon *die.*

But virtue is often more than its own reward, d soon Eve catches another trout, a good one-ounder this time, and it is with profound satis-ction she places a third fish into her basket.

Who will wonder, therefore, if her skill and roitness are bruited far and near, and her fame great along many streams?

Thus it is that Eve goes on merrily fishing, nowing full well she is only a woman, but—with sh in her bag, and a smile on her face.—M. D.

WE have much pleasure in stating that Mr. J. P. heeldon has kindly consented to give a lecture the Serapis Angling Society, Nevill-road, Stoke ewington, on Wednesday, Nov. 11, entitled, "The cience of Angling," on which occasion Mr. A. G. rdine will take the chair at 8.30 p.m., after hich there will be a smoking concert.

Waltoniana

THAT accomplished North Country grayling fisher, Max Walbran, is to fish the Test this week, and be introduced to fish three or four times as large as those in his native streams. It will be interesting to see if the flies of the North, fished wet, prove as killing as the dry fly, to which the fish are accustomed. Mr. Walbran is one of the most enthusiastic fishermen in the world, and I hope he will enjoy the sport his enthusiasm and skill deserve.

MOST wonderful fishing has been enjoyed on the Tweed during the closing days of the season, but I must leave the river reporter to tell his tale in his own intelligent way. Still, when one rod alone kills over fifty large salmon in a week, such fishing calls for more than passing comment. For weeks and weeks, flood succeeded flood, and little or no fishing could be done. The pools were not flogged, and the river became about as full as a river could possibly be of fish which had been let alone, and knew little or nothing of fly, prawn, or minnow. But when the water did clear, never were such days seen on the Tweed before. It is no exaggeration to say that anglers must have fairly killed some thousands of fish.

NEVER, within living memory, has the jack fishing at Henley-on-Thames been so good as recently. In fact, the old palmy days, when Henley was one of the very best places on the Thames, would almost seem to have returned. It is certain that there are many more pike in the Thames than was generally believed, and that the non-success of anglers has been simply owing to the ever-growing cunning of the fish. But anglers have their chances occasionally, and the clearing of the river after recent floods was one of them. The fish were simply ravenous, and a child might have caught them. The river reports will no doubt give details. It is sufficient for me to say that in one week more than sixty jack, the largest over 1lb., were taken between Henley Bridge and Marsh Lock.

THE veteran fisherman, Parrott, saw a very exciting incident in the course of a day's attendance on a pike-fisher. A jack of about 4lb. had been hooked, and was being played, when suddenly a monster fish, weighing at least 20lb., made a swoop at the jack, seized it, and bore it off willy-nilly. Anyone who wants to catch a specimen cannot do better than put themselves into Parrott's hands, and fish for that big pike. I would commend this extraordinary pike-fishing at Henley to the notice of those who think that fish preservation on the Thames has not been productive of great results. For two or three years I have noticed that the pike were steadily increasing at Henley. Large fish were not being taken in any considerable quantities, certainly; but parts of the river were simply swarming with small fish. On one occasion, when paternostering for perch, I landed no less than a dozen small jack in less than two hours. Small fish will, of course, grow, and I am not at all surprised to find, from recent events, that the Thames at Henley is now really well stocked. Of course there will be a general run to Henley on the news getting known; but I fear many anglers will arrive too late, for the water is fining down very rapidly. By the way, I wonder how many anglers will recognise the good work done by the Henley Fishery Preservation Society, and will send subscriptions to the hon. collector, Mr. Hobbs, of 30, Hart-street, Henley-on-Thames?

PERCH fishing in the Thames should now be particularly good. The best way to fish a large river, at the present time, is to row some distance up-stream in a boat, and then drop down from eddy to eddy, using the paternoster with skill and discretion. Care should be taken not to disturb the water before fishing it, and if the angler and his attendant keep their seats in the boat, they will catch more fish than if they stand up and show the perch who has come to visit them. Very few professional fishermen on the Thames are sufficiently particular about approaching a swim. Many of them seem to think that it matters little what is done until after the ground-bait is thrown in. After the punt is fixed, how often does one see the anglers and their attendants walking up and down, changing places, moving the chairs, &c. "Oh, it's all right, sir," says Bill Dumps, "I ain't chucked no ground-bait in. The fish ain't here yet."

A FRIEND of mine once said that Thames punt fishing consisted in first frightening the fish away, and then collecting them together again. There is some truth in that. But to return to my perch fishing, the boat should, as I have said, be dropped down from eddy to eddy. If the spots containing the perch are small, the boat should be kept well away from them. No rypeck should be put in, it being quite sufficient for the fishermen to hold on to a branch, or to the bank, with a boathook. Perhaps only two or three perch will be caught, and then you are swept rapidly down-stream to the next place to pick up another brace or so.

IF the water is much coloured, one of the hooks of the paternoster should be placed close to the lead. Two hooks will be found ample. I have recommended a boat, simply because the stream is a little too strong for one to take a heavy punt any distance; but even if a punt is used, it is as well to keep a few minnows in a bait-can, from which they can be taken with a small aquarium-net, which saves wetting the hands every time a bait is required. If the fish are biting very shyly, a very small triangle should be tried, instead of a single hook, one hook of the triangle being placed through the lip of the minnow. Sometimes float-tackle will be found more killing than the paternoster, but that is not often the case at this time of year. If every now and again you find that some fish has bitten your minnow in two, do not abuse a little jack. It will be the throat teeth of a chub which has worked the damage.

TEMPLAR.

ANGLING AND ITS TRADE BENEFITS.—If the wholesale and retail tackle-makers and sellers, whose advertisements appear in *F. G.* year in year out, were to give the gross receipt for rods and lines, hooks, flies, and the many patented lures bought by anglers, the amount would be enormous. And if to this were tabulated the very many persons engaged in tackle-making and the retailing thereof, and who get a good living thereby, the statistics would be very interesting. The physical benefits derivable from following the "gentle art" are doubtless enshrined indirectly in the various returns to the Registrar-General, while the moral good might be judged in part from the vast membership of anglers in the London and provincial angling clubs. The spur applied by this journal was speedily felt as a purely fishing paper: and not only English inn-keepers and the railways, but most of the canny Scotch hotel-keepers beside river and locks, quickly found the benefit of advertising in the *Gazette.* No doubt the great love of angling has arisen from the force of example, and partly from the general tendency towards athletics and out-door sports. Mr. Ruskin, on one occasion, induced a number of Oxford undergraduates to accompany him to South Hinksey, to do a bit of amateur road-making. The lesson might have been useful if only from its novelty. But anglers, instead of depriving labourers of work, largely encourage highly-paid male and female labour up to artistic and very delicate manipulation. This is not the least of the benefits accruing from angling for the lordly salmon down to the coarse fish in our ordinary rivers. Every sport largely benefitted trade—the workers and the sellers—be it saddlers and makers of "pink" coats; horse-breeders and dealers, corn merchants and provender-growers, worm-seekers and wire-makers, and feathers of some rare birds and fowls, to say nothing of the taxidermists. Dark be the day when idleness or effeminacy shall wean any Englishman from the exercise of the manly sports—of the grand sport beside loch and river and stream, or from partaking of the "sport of heroes and kings"—stag and fox-hunting; and from keeping up the *prestige* of Britons everywhere beside—in the cricket and football fields. Manly sport is the greatest foe of pessimism, and the humblest life might be illumined by loyalty and patriotism, and many sons of toil will in the future have greater leisure for enjoyment of the branch of sport most compatible with their several means and tastes.—*W. F.*

ESK & LIDDEL (DUMFRIESSHIRE.)

The "Esk and Liddel Fisheries Association" has by judicious conservation made these rivers among the best in Scotland for all-round angling—salmon, grilse, sea trout, yellow trout, herling.

The excellent paraphrase of the "Eskdale Temperance Hotel Visitors' Guide and Anglers' Note Book," by "Gilnockie," in *F. G.* of the 25th July last, gives a fairly vivid idea of the surroundings of the two streams—prices of fishings, tickets, &c. Let us supplement by a few notes, the *localé* of the best casts, hooks, &c.

Langholm is the best centre from which to fish these waters—the "upper." Eight miles below the town the two streams become one, and forming two of the best pools in the river—the "Cauldron" and the "Willow"—are known as the "Double Water." They can be commanded by ticket-holders (£4 4s.) from both the English and Scotch sides of the river—best from the English or left bank. Good at all times, they are the special resort when the waters aro low and clear.

THE ESK, DUMFRIESSHIRE.—THE TODHOLES SALMON CAST.

Proceeding up the Esk, we find two miles of water, to Canonbie Bridge, a chain of stream and pool, almost as good as tho two pools previously mentioned. Wilson's Stream, Red Lynn, Rice, Round Pool, Long Pool, Dead Neuk, Priorslynn Pool, Turnbull's Hole—all good holding ground, and fishable every yard, flowing through grazing lands—"Canonbie Lea," with few obstacles.

Above Canonbie Bridge we get into the "Canonbie Parish" Water, where we find the "Hollow's Dub," "Tommy's Pool," "Grey Stane," stream and eddy alono yielding a good day's sport. Here we must leave the river and take to the road for a mile or so, a twenty minutes' walk 'mid nature's finest grandeur—wood and water, mead and stream. The road (the fine old mail-coach road between Carlisle and Edinburgh) follows the windings of the river, and lands us, almost at the water's edge, at the "Todholes," the lower eud of the Langholm Water, which extends from this point to Langholm, two miles up-stream. Our illustration of the "Todholes" shows pretty clearly its character. Headed by a long wash, which tumbles into a rock-bound pool, it tails off with a long, boulder-strewn, deep-stream, holding ground for every size of fish, from the lordly thirty-pounder to the half-pound herling, at all times.

Of the two miles to Langholm, more anon.

For salmon, the red and grey turkey wing are the most killing, varied by silver, gold, or brown bodies, according to colour of water. For sea trout and herling, stick to the "Teal," "the Blue Dun," the red turkey, and keep always in mind that sea fish rise at a brighter-bodied hook than the native.

X.

ODDS AND ENDS OF PIKE-SPINNING WITH THE NATURAL BAIT, &c.

By A. C. H.

If one had to instruct a beginner in fishing, one would surely get him to first accomplish the simplest movements—but the right ones—the principal essentials, and only those necessary, and leave secondary *finesse* and dodges to a futuro time. Thus, in fly-fishing, one would teach the bold back-throw, the wait, and the throw forwards; that learnt and appreciated would be a great deal. The "scholar" might then do nothing further for the time being than hold the rod up till another throw. All angling manipulations may be analysed into the main essential actions, and additional skilful secondary movements of art—playing the bait, &c.—the first teachable, the second depending rather upon the individual's own genius. These facts are well illustrated in spinning. A beginner should at first accomplish the main movements simply. The fact is, the throwing and working-in of bait is difficult enough; but it goes far when *done*, though simply. One fancies that one fault of unsuccessful anglers is to fail in the simple essential movements, fixing the attention on various *finesse*—"beginning at the wrong end of the stick," in short.

I don't know how others spin for jack, but this is the way I do it (dead-bait on flight of hooks Starting with a lot of loose line off the reel, catc hold of the line or rod with right hand (as afte wards described) and swing the rod to the le perhaps once or twice to get the right distance swing and *momentum*, the length of bait from ro top depends on its weight, quality of tackle, ho working, &c., then at the throw a strongish in pulse as it were from the wrist, at the very *fir* of the urge forwards, to make the most of th *momentum*, aud let the bait run. If it goes too f to the right, and not enough across the water, th impulse may be too strong, or it may be the wir *with* the bait, but with the wind against, th stronger urge is required. If bank fishing and bushes, the swing is straight behind, &c.; young trees, bushes not too high, the bait may thrown up above them, though it is harder baing it out over the water afterwards. Wh the bait has reached the water, and there is an loose extra line out, catch hold of the line by th first ring with left hand quickly. If the full lin is used, then, holding the rod in right han secure the line against it by a crook round of th right middle finger, and givo tho bait an ur through the water with the *rod;* then draw length of line through ring with left hand, lettir right finger grasp go if you like, return the ha a bit and gather up a loop of line with finger an thumb—*which hold*—then urge the rod to the le again. So that the idea is, there is a doub movement, giving variety to the bait—of whic one, that of the rod generally, is the greater, or may be worked *vice versâ*, but the principle soug is that the direct rod movemeut gives the mo agile and natural effect to the bait, and th right-hand control of line secures a direct ho and strike of fish if he comes at bait. The doub working is more tiring than the simple left-han drawing, but my idea is it "pays more." beginner should be taught to get the bait out we and bring it in in easy, simplest instalments—an *moderate* as to pace, as all jack spinners know.

Now, as to dodges. If there is no boat, of cours fishing from bank one can only partially and in

and then go
the City -
Campbell was at
laying out

have to
lunch with
Spencer of Messrs
Tony and th
ld al

particular way reach the deeper water in front, even though the side, rush or reed-fringed, is good too; to reach the deepest water across is desirable. Though there may be jack near, there are others farther out. Therefore, the dodge is, to make the most of the extreme length of throw; don't be in a hurry to begin drawing in; but be rather slow for the beginning; let the bait sink well, and let the first urge be a little one, just to start it. This making the most of bait dwelling in deepest part may give a deep-lying pike chance to see, run in, and take it. This happened twice the other day. Then, for the rest of the spin, do as a recent writer in the *Fishing Gazette* has admirably said (in referring to something else): "Fish hard—that is, do all you can or know," or words to that effect, especially when you come, later, to see the stroke of spin through the water. Here, by tuning your faculties to the sight of it, you may make the bait swoop through, turn, and stay in the water, as you please. Remember, also, that although, of course, you cannot let it go to the bottom and stick there (!), yet the farther you dare wait for it to sink between the pulls, the more you make of the spin. In fact, any spinner knows that, though a sharp spin may be successful, the jack being characteristically a startling, hungry grabber, yet that, on the top of that, the lengthened spin gives absolutely certain additional chances. And don't forget the first sink and little draw. *Finesse* may be suggested, but whether learnt second-hand appears doubtful. If a touch of the jack has failed, and you are still out in the water, *go on* spinning, and when hold strike in a line with everything, without loosening. If something tells you there's something wrong in the hold, be gentle; don't haul in or hold on sharp. Careless usage may lose a pike. A trout fisher is more careful, and may win; but the roughness of the jack is the thing to combat. If it is deep water, and an attempt has failed, whether circumstances lead you to rightly give an immediate telling spin, or show him the bait to take, depends on genius. Similarly an extraordinary concatenation of circumstances—an ambiguity—may inform you rightly to strike sharp. If the jack makes an attempt at the very edge of the bring-in and misses, *don't* try and show him the bait, but whip out, wait, and go over him again. If you even almost land a pike, and lose him, give him a long rest, and try again for same fish; and, of course (to a beginner), be aware of the simple rule that where there's been one pike there's no doubt another. In the whole business, try all you can, and know what you are doing.

It may be fancy, but I think that a warm, yellow, or bronze-coloured bait is a better colour twining about the water than an entire silver—more alluring, natural. This may be the explanation of favouring the gudgeon as a bait. There is no more beautiful colour of fish play than the red-gold gleam of a perch turning in a stream in the sunlight (*au naturel*, I mean), and I mean to try, with opportunity, spinning the eel front—the thing like a cross between a barbel and an eel—of a good brown, and especially the small rock cod, which is mostly favoured with a brilliant gold bronze coat. I can't imagine it failing. I have been lately using for spinning bait, the sea "podley" (young coal fish), preserved in spirits of wine, with entire success as far as the jack are concerned, except that podleys are softer in the skin of upper part of belly than trout are—this finally giving way with protusion of stomach. Some agent might be found of hardening in a great degree the stomach skin, as the compactness of fish's natural build, fulfilled by the stomach's presence, alone preserves its strength. If the stomach should be gone (if you are short of bait), and head drops on body, carrying movable lip-hook with it, pull it up, and fire a shot below bend of lip-hook.

ON Saturday last the members of the Edinburgh Angling Club, on the Caddonlee and Fairnielee fishing of the Tweed, held their annual competition for the medal presented by the president, Mr. Charles Morton, U.S. The water was very clear, with a bright sun, rendering it not good for fishing. The only salmon caught fell to Mr. W. Scott Dalglish.

THE RENTING & PRESERVATION OF FISHERIES FOR CLUB ANGLERS—MR. R. MURPHY.

BY EDGAR S. SHRUBSOLE.

WHEN it is taken into consideration that on all sides unmistakable signs are not wanting of the gradual depletion of the fisheries available to the ordinary club angler, it is simply astounding that more interest is not centred in the efforts of the few to preserve that which they have and acquire as much more as they can while it is yet possible.

The suicidal policy of many London clubs is truly deplorable. They exist simply to organise matches; and week after week their members assist in the taking of fish from waters that they never dream of helping others (financially or otherwise) to preserve and re-stock. It is only when one contemplates the fact that the annual income of the London angling clubs is not less than seven thousand pounds (I am quite within the mark), and that less than one thousand pounds is expended upon the renting and preservation of waters, that the fact becomes truly appalling, and is exposed in all its hideous truth. One thousand pounds to preserve fish and fishings and so provide sport, and six thousand pounds for copper kettles and sets of jugs!

MR. R. MURPHY,
CHAIRMAN OF THE RENTING AND PRESERVATION COMMITTEE OF THE ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION.

Taken *individually*, some of the clubs show to even worse advantage than they do collectively. What a common thing it is to listen to the club angler who "Thank's God that he is not as other anglers are," the cause of his assertion being that the club that he is a member of, which probably has an income of over thirty pounds, is actually alive to the claims of preservation, and with an assumption of virtue utterly unwarranted, hands over to the Thames Angling Preservation Society the enormous sum of —— 10s. 6d. annually! Great Scott! This "dem'd insignificant sum," as M. Matalini would have termed it, warrants about forty anglers in asserting that they "support preservation," and actually induces them to look down upon their brothers of the rod who subscribe nothing.

So much from the income point of view, but this question assumes a worse aspect still when the enormous amount of money subscribed annually as "private prizes" is taken into consideration. Roughly speaking, there are about two hundred clubs in London, at most of them the private prize list would average £30, in many it would mount up to £50, and in several it would reach £100. The sum thus handed over to the grim and ever-hungry monster, "Prize List" is, as Dick Swiveller would have said, "a staggerer;" at a moderate calculation it would be six thousand pounds! Fancy what this sum *annually* would do if it were devoted to the renting and preservation of waters!

I have seen £90 subscribed in one night at an angling club towards the prize list, and even in working-men's clubs it is no uncommon thing for £20 or £30 to be offered in private prizes upon the occasion of the annual supper. The man who will *willingly* give £5 5s., for a prize, or prizes, thinks 10s. 6d. quite enough to subscribe to a preservation society. The working man who annually gives a prize in his club of 10s. 6d., would flatly refuse to give our worthy friend, Mr Brougham, 2s. 6d. towards the preservation of the Thames! When the Christmas prizes are being offered, it is no trouble to get members to say, "Put me down for 5s.;" or "I'll be a bottle of whisky" (by this latter expression it is to be understood that they do not intend to transform themselves into a bottle of Scotch, but that they will be willing to defray the expense of one as a prize), but those same individuals will put 2d. or 3d. into the T.A.P.S. box, and even then consider they have done well.

Without funds the proper preservation of our fisheries cannot take place. If only some of these thousands of pounds that are annually squandered upon prizes could be devoted to renting and preservation purposes, the effect would be magical, for it is a well-known fact that the Thames, Lea, and other fisheries frequented by London anglers are wonderfully prolific. Of course, the increase in the standard of fish weighable at clubs, which is being so heartily taken up all along the line—and in this connection I would remind my readers that a meeting will shortly be held at the Swallow Assembly Rooms, Piccadilly, W., to promote this excellent movement—will considerably assist in keeping up the stock of fish, but this is only one portion of the structure so many of us are eager to erect; and renting and preservation are of far more importance. I would like here to refer to the remarks that fell from Mr. T. Crumplen when he read that valuable paper upon "The Apparent Diminution of Fish in the River Thames" before the members of the Gresham Angling Society (which he was largely instrumental in founding) some years back.

"I take it for granted," he said, that fish *are* gradually diminishing in numbers; if it be not so, then is there no need for fence months and other protective measures now so properly resorted to. Bear in mind, therefore, two important facts. Fish were formerly abundant in that part of the river running through the metropolis—there are still fish there; but for the most part they may be said to have disappeared. In the upper waters of the same river they are not so numerous as they used to be, in some cases not so large, and are being gradually overtaken by the fate which befel their metropolitan *confrères* some two generations ago. Now I venture to affirm that the very conditions that have practically exterminated the fish in the London waters are, in a degree, precisely those now operating in the more sylvan portions of the river. What I may call the fisheries of old London succumbed only as docks, factories, and gasworks multiplied, the noxious refuse from which was turned into the Thames, there to commingle with the sewage of a great city, the whole being stirred up, and battered by the iron or copper-bottomed steamboats, which at the same time appeared upon the scene. Moreover, nets were in constant operation, and the baser sort of the population probably but too ready to make use of them. What wonder, then, that fish disappeared from such a water—or will disappear from any water where such conditions prevail? I put it, therefore, that these or similar causes are now in operation in a minor degree in the non-tidal waters of the Thames, and just in proportion as these causes increase, so will our stock of fish inevitably diminish. It has been repeatedly stated that the vast increase of late years in the number of anglers is sufficient alone to account for the diminution of fish; but I venture to assert that if our river be properly cared for, its quantity of fish would never be seriously affected by any fair rod-and-line angling. It is my strong belief that the preservation and conservation of the spawn and fry would do more than anything else to improve our fisheries. I feel sure if we provide proper harbours for fish, and give Nature a chance, she will stock the river. The increase in the number of anglers can do no possible harm, *so long as they do not take small fish*—[the italics are mine.—E. S. S.]—and I trust the day is not far distant when *all* the London clubs will abolish gross-weight competitions as they now exist. I know the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and other preservation societies are doing good service; and in treating this subject, let us follow as much as possible in the footsteps of Nature; let us impose no needless artificial barriers to the stream; let us keep our river free from pollution; let our preservation societies *combine*, and take, not merely a police, but a scientific view of their duties; let the angling clubs of London forego the capture of small fish, and act like men in the true Waltonian spirit; then is there yet time to arrest the destruction going on, and to restore a strong and healthy progeny to dear old Father Thames."

Events that have occurred since Mr. Crumplen read that paper—now ten years ago—only confirm the opinions he then expressed, and if there is not so much netting carried on, other causes produce the same effect. Anglers are still increasing in number and the quantity of fish decreasing, and if not properly preserved, the Thames will soon be "fished out;" or, to speak more truthfully, become utterly useless as an angling resort simply through neglect. What will be the good of the thousands of pounds' worth of kettles and jugs then? I may be told that anglers *do* support preservation more than they used to; and to this I reply, perhaps they do, but ample proof can be given that they do *not* support it as they should. As I have said, preservation cannot be thoroughly carried out without ample funds, while our preservation societies, *it is well known*, are crippled for want of funds—the sinews of war are devoted to a baser object. When will London anglers discontinue to shut their eyes to this undeniable fact?

It is often asserted, it cannot be expected that club anglers are going to pay for preserving water anyone can fish; but, outside the selfishness exhibited in such an assertion, I rather fancy friend Brougham could put a very different aspect on the case. I believe the greatest support for the T.A.P.S. (financially and otherwise) comes from those who fish the Thames the least; and the munificent donations the society receives—without which it would be utterly impossible to do any work—come from individuals who never put a foot inside an angling club in their whole life! But if London anglers will not subscribe towards the preservation of public fisheries, then why not support the *renting* of waters more heartily?

It is indeed a relief to turn from the consideration of this matter, in the manner I have had to in this article so far, to the more pleasant and encouraging programme laid down by the Renting and Preservation Committee of the Anglers' Association, of which Mr. R. Murphy (whose portrait appears in the *F. G.* this week) is the chairman. Look at the good this committee has done with an outlay of less than £250 per year, and then think of what could be done if the movement were more general. Even in this case, no doubt, a few hundred pounds spent in stocking would be beneficial to the waters rented by the association.

In addition to the waters held entirely by this committee, they pay for water-bailiffs, and appoint from among their members hon. bailiffs, to watch the various fisheries they have under their control. The cost of drawing the water in the various pens is also a considerable item in the expenditure, and grants are made to the T.A.P.S. and other deserving preservation societies; in fact, in every way possible it does what it can to promote the renting and preservation of waters for the use of members of angling clubs; but there is not the slightest doubt about one thing—ample use could be found for £2,500 per year, instead of £250, and there is no reason why this sum should not be raised if club anglers would forego such an enormous number of prizes, and devote the money to this far worthier object.

Mr. R. Murphy was born in Somerset, and his grandfather, who died about fifty years ago, was a fly-fisherman of some considerable repute in Bath. The angling passion descended with full force upon the grandson, and many are the pleasant recollections Mr. Murphy has of delightful rambles with his grandfather by the side of the lovely West Country streams, rod in hand. Early morn was a favourite opportunity, and time and often would the two break their fast with some toothsome trout that only an hour or so back had been in full possession of vigorous life, but which had to succumb to the skill of the elder and younger Murphys. I think most of us look back upon our boyhood's days through a medium of roseate hue, and I have often thought of the young Murphy by the river-side at early morn, when I have watched the now silvered Murphy being harassed, questioned, and sometimes annoyed by the absurd controversies indulged in at times by delegates to the Anglers' Association meetings; and I have been tempted to whisper a few words in the veteran's ear, and watch the magical effect as the sylvan scenery of Somerset and the recollection of days long past would crowd into his brain, and in thought take him hundreds of miles away from Tom, who has been weighing in fish that he "hadn't ought to!"

Not that I for one minute would suggest the delegates are uncourteous to the officials of the association; on the contrary, I have noticed that a great amount of respect is shown to those placed in positions of power. But don't some of those delegates like to air their little grievances, utterly regardless of the waste of time, and the annoyance caused to the chairman and the rest of the delegates!

Well, the time came when young Murphy had to seek his livelihood, and the powers that be decreed that this should be done in the great Metropolis; so we next find him located in London, industriously pursuing his trade,—cabinet making—and gradually forming a wide circle of friends; for I may here remark that from the time he first came to London until the present hour, he has always been able to "make friends," and even those who differ from his opinions willingly acknowledge his honest integrity. Of course, fishing and fishermen occupied his hours of relaxation principally; and at first the change in style of fishing and character of water were to him somewhat confusing. The light taper trout rod had to be replaced with the orthodox long Lea pole, and the delicately-winged lure had to make way for gentles, paste, and worms; nevertheless the enthusiast, with characteristic determination, soon became a master of the art of coarse fishing, as practised by the Metropolitan anglers; although I rather fancy Mr. Murphy has always had a sneaking regard for his boyhood's style, and even now at times plies his old art, with some considerable success, among the chub and dace.

Mr. Murphy soon became a member of an angling club, the Good Intent, and in a very short time his *confrères*, recognising the suitability of the man, promoted him to the post of secretary, a position he has held ever since; and that he may continue to do so, notwithstanding his advanced years, is the sincere wish of the whole of the members, I am sure. Possessed of exceptional organising ability, and assisted by staunch and true supporters, he has built up one of the largest and soundest angling clubs in London. A working man himself, he has shown what can be done by sincere determination and honesty of purpose, and without flattery he is one of those London anglers whose light shines bright and clear and sheds a lustre over the darker phases of club life.

Any movement, having for its object the advancement of the sport he loves so well, and the well-being of those he is always so pleased to associate with that has been promoted during the time he has lived in London, has always had his hearty support; and his record of good work among anglers is equalled by few, and excelled by none. His herculean efforts on behalf of the Anglers' Benevolent Society are well known; his work in connection with the Renting and Preservation Committee is never done, and his general usefulness as a prominent member of the Anglers' Association is acknowledged by all.

Such a thing as "having his hands full" he never dreams of, and, in addition to the numerous duties entailed upon him now, he has lent his valuable assistance to the recent movement for promoting the reading of papers among angling clubs, being firmly convinced it is one which will prove of permanent value to anglers generally.

Only those who work hard among the clubs can imagine the miles he must travel, and the hours he must spend in encouraging the efforts of those eager to promote the welfare of club men; he "turns up" at all sorts of out-of-the-way meeting houses, and that he may long continue to have the health and strength to "trot round the town" is my sincere wish. His face is ever welcome, and his kindly advice and good fellowship appreciated by all.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. Pritt.

TROUT AND GRAYLING AND SALT WATER.

Dear Sir,—A friend has called my attention to the items under the heading "Waltoniana," in your issue of October 10. There "Templar" mentions a small experiment I made in attempting to accustom Loch Leven trout and grayling to a life in salt water. It is always a pity when people rush into print having only a slight understanding of the subject they are treating. If "Templar" had a rudimentary knowledge of natural science, he would have understood what I meant by the expression "propagate their species;" he would also have known that if the environment of an animal is entirely changed, the animal must either die or adapt itself to circumstances. If it is able to do the latter, it *must* reproduce its species, otherwise it is not wholly adapted to its new surroundings.

No doubt "Templar" is right when he implies that if you place the eggs of a fresh-water fish in salt water they will die. Probably he has tried; I haven't, and don't intend to. But when he says that properly acclimatised fishes' eggs will die, or, to use his own beautifully flowing expression, that "deposition, fertilization, and incubation of ova" under changed conditions is impossible, he is only exposing his own ignorance.

Surely I need not give examples to prove the truth of what I say. Let "Templar" enlarge his own knowledge by reading an excellent book called "The Origin of Species," by a man named Darwin, or an equally powerful book, called "Darwinism," by a man named Wallace. But please do not let him try the art of throwing the boomerang; it has a nasty way of jumping back and striking the thrower. In any case it's a depressing instrument to exhibit with.—Yours truly,

W. J. Calderwood,
Director, Marine Biological Association.

Plymouth.

THE JARDINE SNAP.

Sir,—Would your contributor, Mr. Jardine, kindly inform me about how many seconds would he give after the float had finally *disappeared* before sending the hooks home when using his snap tackle? Supposing he *knew* that the water he was fishing contained jack, say not over 4lb., would he give said jack more time if he were using a 4oz. or 5oz. *roach*, than if he were using a bleak or small dace?—I am, &c., Mark.

P.S.—No other bait to be had. If he would give more time, will he kindly say how much more?

A SPECIAL HOOK FOR GRAYLING.

Dear Sir,—Find enclosed a few hooks to gut, knowing you are open to notice any notion for the benefit of the angling public. You will see they are flattened in the bend, and are designed to obviate the frequent disappointment to anglers losing fish after having hooked them. This hook, from its form, does not tear through the delicate cartilage of a grayling's lips, like the time-honoured round wire. They have received a fair trial, and are found to be a useful hook. They offer no impediment to the baiting. The "idea" has been carried out by Messrs. Guise and Sons, Redditch, who tell me they are in a position to supply wholesale trade only. They intend making them in all shapes, both for fly and worm.—Yours, &c.,

John C. Perfect.

204 and 205, Station-street, Burton-on-Trent.

[This idea strikes us as being a good one; but only actual trial would prove if the flat bend tore-less than the round. A grayling turns and twists about so, that it would often be pulling against the edges of the flattened bend, and that would cut more than the round wire, we imagine. Mr. Walbran should see these hooks.—ED.]

FISH SCALES WANTED.

SIR,—I shall be much obliged for a few scales off any kind of *Salmonidæ*, especially from any fish whose age is known. I should like them taken from close to medial line, directly above middle of pectoral fin, when fin is laid close to side. Wrap scales in screw of paper; label name of fish, length, and, if possible, age and weight. A few scales off large grayling of any age are much wanted.

I shall be very glad to hear from anyone who has by him a collection of scales off any kind of *Salmonidæ* whose ages were known and recorded. —Yours, &c., O. GREIG.

Thuboro House, Sutcombe, Holsworthy.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

SIR,—The Havelock Angling Society, late of the Havelock, West-street, Hackney, will in future be held at Mr. W. Stewart's, Royal Oak, Whiston-street, Haggerston, where all business will be carried on. Secretaries of other societies will please address all correspondence to the new clubhouse.

Meeting nights: Tuesdays, for general business; Sundays, for weighing in, as usual.

We shall be pleased to see some of our old members that have stayed away from the old house.—Yours, &c., T. THOMPSON,
Secretary.

THE OPEN ROVING ANGLING CONTEST AT PULBOROUGH.

SIR,—I beg to inform you that, owing to the recent heavy floods in Sussex, as in other places, the great fishing competition promoted by me, and which was to have taken place on the 25th ult., on the river Arun, has been postponed until the 29th inst., on which day the London, Brighton, and South Coast Railway have kindly consented to run a special train to Pulborough and Amberley, starting from London Bridge at eight a.m., and calling at Peckham Rye at 8.5 a.m.

I should be glad if other intending competitors would make an early application for tickets at my establishment (late Clout's), 21, Goswell-road.

Entries will close on the evening of the 28th inst.—Yours truly, A. A. ELDRIDGE.

THE FLYFISHERS' CLUB.

THE Annual Dinner has been fixed for Wednesday, December 9th, in the Venetian Chamber of the Holborn Restaurant, at half-past six for seven p.m. Basil Field, Esq., has kindly consented to preside. The committee will again have the assistance of a number of well-known artistes, who have kindly consented to give the club the benefit of their services.

A Smoking Concert has been arranged for Tuesday, the 17th of November, in the Club Rooms, at 19 and 20, Arundel-street, Victoria Embankment, W.C. A number of well-known artistes have kindly consented to assist, and the committee hope to see a large muster of members and their friends.

FISH CULTURE AT LAKE VYRNWY.—Since the close of the fishing season, special attention has been paid to the breeding ponds, which are now becoming a valuable adjunct to the estate. Next spring several thousand fine trout (of different breeds), ranging from a half to a pound in weight, will be ready to be transferred to the lakes, there to await their final fate. The yearlings look healthy and are making rapid growth. Close to the ponds a suitable spawning race has been made, which the fish seem to like very well; here may be seen fine specimens of Loch Levens, from one to three pounds each. Several fish have already gone up the streams to spawn, but the majority will not run until a flood occurs—the water at present being rather low to admit of large fish passing. Strict watch will be kept on the rivers until the trout return to the lake. Preparations are being made for "stripping," and soon the hatchery will again be in full working order.—LONG DRIFT.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

A COMMITTEE meeting of the Birmingham Anglers' Benevolent Society was held on Friday evening last, October 30, at the headquarters of the association. Mr. T. Coles presided, and Mr. C. White occupied the vice-chair. The meeting was fairly attended, and letters of apology for non-attendance were received from Messrs. King and Gumbley, who were detained through pressure of business. The minutes of the previous meeting, held on October 2, were read and confirmed, when the secretary gave in a report of the financial position of the society, which went to show that the funds in hand exceeded £50, and that the profits on the late contest amounted to £5 15s. The numerical strength of the society was about five hundred, but out of this number only two hundred were entitled to benefit. The report was accepted as satisfactory. A vote of thanks was accorded to the two referees, who had given their services free. The chairman of the divisional committees had no report to give in, when Mr. Pratt, of the Deritend Society, called the attention of the committee to the importance of each one present bringing the objects of the society before his particular friends in order that the strength of the society might be increased. This suggestion will, I hope, be acted upon, as much good may be done if the whole of the committee follow out this valuable suggestion. Several of the committee advocated the desirability of holding a smoking concert on behalf of the funds of the society, during the winter months, when the vice-chairman gave a report of an interview with one of the managers of one of the Birmingham music-halls, who had generously placed at Mr. White's disposal the free use of the hall for an extraordinary small sum for the purpose of holding a concert on behalf of the funds of the society. The report was adopted, and Mr. White was requested to obtain full details of this grand offer, and to bring in a report at the next monthly meeting of the committee. This concluded the business of the meeting, when a vote of thanks was accorded to the following donors of prizes to the late contest, with a request from the committee that their names be published in the *Fishing Gazette*—namely, Messrs. Hands, Chambers, King (Bird-in-Hand Club); Mr. Hall, Mr. Slim (West End); Birmingham Heath, Hearts of Oak, Sparkbrook; Mr. Bowler, St. Paul's; Bee Hive, Queen's Arms; Mr. Wingfield, Brothers Well Met; Birmingham Association (two prizes), Mr. Bushell, Mr. Thurston, Mr. Perks, Mr. White (two prizes), Rose and Crown, Bellbarn, and Mr. Tanks. To these gentlemen and the clubs, I also beg to personally thank them, as it was chiefly through their generosity that the contest turned out such a decided success.

I AM pleased to say that since the forwarding of my last Notes, the weather has taken a decided turn for the best. There has been little or no rain for the last four days, and the whole of the Midland rivers have reached their winter level, and are in excellent order for all kinds of fishing; the late floods have cleared the rivers and opened up numerous places, which were before the heavy rains unfishable. The cold frosty nights have sent the roach into the deep water. The Trent is reported to be in fine fishing order, and the members of the Birmingham clubs who rent that portion of the river near to Birmingham should lose no time in taking advantage of the present satisfactory state of the water. The Severn has gone down a great deal since last week, and is now in beautiful condition; and some few anglers who live on the banks of the river have not been slow to make the best use of their time since the fine weather has set in to make up for the lack of sport during the bad weather. Some very decent takes of nearly all kinds of fish have been had near to Stourport, Lincombe Lock, and up to Arley and Hampton Lode. Several fair-sized pike have been seen on the feed at Lincombe Lock, near to the mouth of the old river; and from what I hear, some of the Brums are planning the transportation of these fish to Birmingham. On the Avon, the fishermen have been busy with the pike during the week, and several have been taken in the Stratford district, but none above 7lb. This seems to be the standard weight of the pike in this portion of the Avon, as it is a rare occurrence to hear of any being taken over this size; but as you get on down towards Tewkesbury the pike run larger; and of all places on the Avon I consider the last-mentioned place the best, and any one paying a visit to Tewkesbury during the present weather will not be disappointed in coming home water beat. The roach on the Avon have gone off the malt and wheat, and the small red worm is now the most killing bait. Perch are running well at the minnow.

THE long-pending fishing match between T. Foley, of the Old Green Man Club, and W. Kimberley, of the Brothers Well Met Club, came off on Saturday last. The choice of the water fell to Foley, who took his opponent to the Oxford Canal, seven miles from Coventry. The allotted length of the contest ground was 500yds. with the stipulation that the parties were not to fish within 15yds. of each other. Roach only to count. The contest was of two hours' duration, at the end of which time Foley succeeded in capturing one hundred roach and one perch, whilst Kimberley only succeeded in taking thirty-five fish, all roach. The winner during the first twenty minutes took two fish per minute. The weather was very cold, and towards the latter portion the contestants were almost unable to hold their rods. The winner beat the record, which has been held for years by Mr. G. Paste, who succeeded in capturing upon one occasion, in a match, ninety-nine roach in two hours. The veteran, Mr. Clem Wainwright, acted as referee, and the match passed off in a very agreeable manner.

A GENERAL meeting of the Provincial Angling Association will be held this (Saturday) evening, Nov. 7, at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield, Birmingham, for the election of officers for the ensuing year, and to transact other important business, a report of which will appear in these columns next week.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Shortness of Breath, Coughs, and Colds.—Thousands of testimonials can be produced to prove the power possessed by these corrective remedies in cases of asthma, incipient consumption, and all disorders of the chest and lungs. The Ointment, well rubbed upon the chest and back, penetrating the skin, is absorbed and carried directly to the lungs, where, in immediate contact with the whole mass of circulating blood, it neutralises or expels those impurities, which are the foundation of consumption, asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, and similar complaints. On the appearance of the first consumptive symptoms the back and chest of the patient should be fomented with warm brine, dried with a coarse cloth, and Holloway's Ointment then well rubbed in. Its absorption will subdue advancing symptoms, and baffle this formidable foe.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

THE fine cold weather of the past week has certainly, to a great extent, improved our local fishing, and those whose health is robust enough to warrant exposure to the severe east wind, have profited by the same, in the good sport falling to their skill. The condition of our waters generally is improved, and to this state of things two factors—viz., the absence of rain and the night frosts, have largely contributed, the former to the condition of the water, and the latter in a great degree removing the abundance of food upon which the fish have been extensively feeding. Roach, perch, bream, and even tench, have been taken freely, the weights being calculated by pounds, where ounces have sufficed for months. Pike seems to be receiving great attention, and are repaying the trouble of carrying the usual luggage, by the numerous fish reported as killed.

AMONGST the individual catches of our locals, Mr. Gregson, of Blackburn, is credited with a fine salmon of 18lb.; while several others fell to Lancashire rods, of 10lb. to 15lb.; one angler (unknown) was seen to kill a 30lb. fish; all the foregoing taken from the Ribble and Lune. Pike from 4lb. to 10lb. have also been taken. Local rods visiting Lincolnshire appear to be well satisfied with their visit, especially with respect to the pike fishing. Poynton Pool has again contributed to the list, with a good fish of 26½lb., whilst fish of a smaller weight are being taken daily.

NOW that trout-fishing is closed, the coarser kinds of fish are receiving more attention in the Cheshire meres and streams, and no diminution in the number of rods out on these waters is as yet noticeable. Lancashire anglers, especially from Manchester and districts, frequent these waters. The Dane, its tributaries, such as the Crannage Brook and others, together with the Weaver throughout and the Flashes in particular, seem to have had above the ordinary quantity of visitors, and judging from the many reports to hand, are likely to do, for good sport is the unanimous verdict, unless we have some syndicate amongst us, formed for perpetuating the reputation of all anglers now wrongfully awarded us by our enemies.

A PARTY of Oldham anglers have been finishing up the season with a return visit to Scotland, but their experience is only of the ordinary kind—no sensational catches. Perhaps if they had sent some ladies, Scotch gallantry would kindly have magnified the fish, so that our ears may be tickled; but as the Oldham man is a plain truth-speaking man, the report must still be, "Nothing extraordinary."

CLUB items are of a very uninteresting character, being mostly confined to taking a retrospect of the year's undertakings. We regret to hear that a leading club in Hulme is likely to be broken up. Good clubs are always to be admired, and it is with regret we hear that another is likely to follow the example of the Charles Cotton. Rumour is busy out Openshaw way, and if report is true, Mr. Chadwick, the president, together with his lieutenant, Mr. Starkie, intend giving way to younger hands. Openshaw owns a large club, and its executive must needs be efficient.

A PARTY of Ardwick anglers recently fishing in private waters in the neighbourhood of Stockport, obtained really good sport amongst chub and other coarse fish. The average catch was 7lb. per rod, but when we take in consideration the fact that Messrs. Brooks and Kershaw, jun., were counted in the number, it is no wonder that the all-round result was excellent. In a party (all experts), who shall take first place is a knotty point, and we abstain from deciding.

MR. GEO. YATES is still to the front as regards enthusasm; his successes in club contests during the last four months must be very gratifying to himself and his club. Mr. F. Bibby is another fine specimen of our local angler, and his prizes obtained during the late contest period are a really valuable collection.

A SUGGESTION is likely to be made at the next meeting of the Manchester District, to the effect that the specimens in the possession of the various clubs and individual anglers of the district be collectively exhibited for a short period in some place easy of access to the whole of the Lancashire anglers.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

WATER is in good condition, but very little has been done either in bottom or pike fishing, very few anglers having been out. On the Yare on Friday, four pike from 4lb. to 7lb. were taken at Buckenham (spinning). On Saturday, one boat had forty roach in Buckenham Reach. Opposite Rockland Dyke, two rods had a fair catch of roach; and in Cantley Reach another boat took some roach and bream. On the Bure, on Thursday, a gentleman took six nice pike and five very good perch (spinning) near Salhouse. On the 1st inst., a catch of about one stone of bream was made at Ranworth. On Monday six good pike and a few perch were taken by one rod, spinning between Horning Ferry and the Church. On Wednesday a good bag of a dozen pike of 4lb. to 6lb. was made at Wroxham with artificial bait.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

PIKE anglers have been favoured with very fine weather for sport, and I should say that every length of the Trent in our district has been fished during the past week or ten days. The run on the tackle shops for bait has been unprecedented, and on Tuesday I question whether a good strong dace could be obtained in Nottingham. Whilst the river remained tinged with colour, the bait catchers fared well, but as soon as the fining-down process began in earnest, the fish—dace, I mean—bit very tardily indeed. On Oct. 29 the upper section of the Weston Subscription Water was alive with pike experts; but, although the weather was all that could be desired, *Esox lucius* was found to run anything but freely. The rods did not average a fish each, although in the King's Mills section Mr. W. Dupe succeeded in taking five very choice specimens. The greatest fun was enjoyed in the Thrumpton private water below the weir. Two of the subscribers, Mr. Carter and Mr. W. F. Bromley, landed thirteen, including one of 12lb. Four only were retained, and, in placing the others back, the anglers acted with true sportsmanlike instinct. It is pitiable to witness the hauling ashore of miserable specimens for home consumption. Some people—they cannot be dubbed anglers—will take fish of half-a-pound weight, and if by chance they bag one of a couple of pounds, the whole village has to see it. On Monday I was returning from a chubbing excursion from one of the lower waters, when a fellow passenger, who had been pikeing, produced from a cloth three fish, which he confessed he was almost ashamed to take home. But he added, "You see they have been hooked badly, and, if I had put them back, they would not have lived. I had some *better* than these last Saturday." I trust he had. Those he produced would perhaps average a pound each—glorious specimens, truly, to show to fellow travellers, and, as it happened, all anglers. I could have shown him, if I had been disposed, seven chub that would have opened his eyes. Seven better fish have not been seen in our district this winter season. I caught them with greaves, in swims that were most difficult to fish owing to the prevalence of a violent "up-gate" wind. But as regards pike-fishing, in the Thrumpton Water, on Monday, Mr. Carter was again to the fore with ten fish, half of which were returned, those retained averaging between 5lb. and 6lb. apiece. Several very good ones came from the private back-water of Hon. E. W. Curzon's Fishery on the Soar; and at Barton no angler has enjoyed so much sport as Mr. H. Stafford, of Nottingham. He has also excelled as a roachist, getting, in two days, 22lb. of fish with the maggot, and using for ground-bait a mixture of soaked bread and bran. A perch of 1lb. 5oz. has, I hear, been weighed in at the Victoria Angling Society, at Beeston, and the successful angler caught, in addition, sundry remarkably fine roach, the whole coming out of the Weston Fishery. Here, on Thursday week, Mr. W. Stevenson, of the Nottingham Wellington Angling Association, took, in my presence, a grand bream of 3lb. 12oz., besides several good roach; and in the same length, on Saturday, roach were secured by Mr. A. Fewkes and Mr. J. Theaker, Nottingham. Another gentleman had a bream of nearly 3lb. At Wilford, before the river got so low, some rare catches of dace were effected with the maggot by Mr. J. Boyd, of Nottingham, and Mr. W. Kennedy, of the Avenue Hotel, Hyson Green; and, near the old village church, on Saturday, Mr. H. Briggs, of Radford, bagged a very choice quantity of roach. On Wednesday, Mr. Hammerton, of West Bridgford, landed, in the Colnick Fishery, six pike, and others came to hand from Kelham, near Newark.

THE annual dinner and presentation of prizes, in connection with the Notts Piscatorial Society, took place on the evening of the 29th Oct., at the house of the popular Mordecai Sherwin (Notts County wicket-keeper), the Alexandra Inn, Carrington-street, Nottingham. The society is an off-shoot of the Nottingham Wellington Association, and was started with a rare flourish of trumpets. There are, I understand, upwards of thirty members, and at the dinner, or rather after it, Mr. Chas. Jackson presided, with Mr. H. Beardsley doing the honours of vice-chairman. The secretary submitted the prize list, and read out the winners as follows: Barbel, 1st, Mr. Langley. Roach, 1st, Mr. T. Leak; 2nd, Mr. James. Dace, 1st, Mr. A. W. Mee; 2nd, Mr. E. Smith. Bream, 1st, Mr. E. Robinson. Other prizes are said to have been awarded, and a good promise of support accorded for the winter season, now, of course, in full swing. After the awards the proceedings were devoted to conviviality, and not the least of the diversion was caused by Mr. Sherwin and his promising son and vocalist, Mr. Willie Sherwin.

THE half-yearly dinner of the Nottingham Wellington Society, was held at the Wellington Hotel, Station-street, on Thursday, and was followed by a musical evening. I will, however, do more justice to the gathering in my next batch of Notes. Needless to say, the society still keeps in a most flourishing state.

THE Nottingham Shoulder of Mutton Association (Host R. Higginson's, Smithy-row) continues to make rapid progress, and the members seem determined to make the most of the long winter evenings. The first smoking concert of the season, held the other night, was a great success. Mr. F. A. Dabell, one of the vice-presidents, presided, having as his colleague in the vice-chair Mr. Brotherton. A choice programme had been arranged, and those heard to advantage were Mr. C. Heald (hon. sec.), Mr. J. Bell, Mr. O. Jowett, Mr. P. Jones, Mr. T. Bamford, Mr. A. Smith, and Mr. A. Knight. During the evening Mr. C. Jackson delivered an interesting lecture on "The Habits of Fish." Mr. H. S. Wright, M.P., would have joined the company but for indisposition; and Mr. Councillor Sam Brittle (vice-president) excused himself on the ground of previous engagements.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

ANGLING in this locality has been this week characteristic of the weather—decidedly dull—and no reports of noteworthy catches came to hand. The river, however, is in good condition, and roach, perch, or pike fishing will be found a profitable pursuit, though the water is somewhat too fine for the latter.

THERE were some grand catches of pike made in the neighbourhood of Shrewsbury last week, and while it is satisfactory to note that a few anglers have been playing havoc among these destructive fish, it is a fact to be regretted that the fresh-water shark appears to be increasing in numbers very considerably. By the unalterable laws of Nature it is always the weakest that goes to the wall, and undoubtedly the large number of pike in the river must very materially diminish the trout, which, notwithstanding the re-stocking operations of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society, are anything but abundant. Some steps should be taken during this winter by this institution to thin the number of pike in the river in the locality of the town, and to this end it would be well if the society were to organise a few pike fishing excursions among its members. These outings might be made very pleasant gatherings, and it would lend additional interest to them if prizes were offered. Thus a double purpose would be served, the members of the society would benefit by the arrangement of these excursions, and at the same time the number of pike, which (to say the least) is assuming alarming proportions, might be appreciably lessened.

SEVERAL of the members of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society agree as to the practicability and advisability of some such methods as those suggested in these Notes last week, to increase the popularity of this valuable institution by organising fishing excursions in the neighbourhood of the town, and more especially by promoting social gatherings. I suggested last week that the members should be brought more into touch with each other, and that a generous feeling of good fellowship should be brought about among the brotherhood by means of social gatherings as well as prize-fishing contests and frequent excursions; but I am met with the suggestion that all these things would mean a drain upon the finances of the institution that its purse would not stand. I cannot, however, think that such would be the case. The prize contests and excursions need not be such expensive affairs as the principal outings held during the summer. They might be organised with little difficulty, and might be held within a mile of the town, so that not only would every member have an opportunity of taking part, but the cost would be trifling. For instance, a prize pike fishing contest might be held on a Saturday afternoon at Monkmoor, Uffington, or Preston Boats, or even nearer to the town. Pleasant social gatherings, too, might be easily arranged, and (say four or six) during the winter months might do a great deal to promote the interests of the society, and prove profitable as well as entertaining to its members by the reading of papers, illustrated lectures, &c. The idea was, I believe, once mooted that the possession of a club-room, to which members could resort at any time to peruse the angling papers or otherwise spend a pleasant hour, would do much to promote the welfare of the society. The expense might be covered by the amount that is now paid for the Shrawardine Weir, which, to say the least, has proved a doubtful acquisition. The experiment of renting this weir was made with every good intention, but now that it has been found a failure, it should be at once given up, and the money devoted to a more profitable undertaking. A better use for it than using it to maintain a club-room could not be imagined, and it is sincerely to be hoped that, at the next annual meeting of the society, the unprofitable weir will be dropped, and a club-room maintained in its stead.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

UPON the whole, the Yorkshire streams have this week been in "good trim" in the direction of angling. On the Yore, at Hawes, grayling and pike fishing has been fairly good, the best flies at allurement being said to have been Silver Dun and Bradshaw's Fancy, which latter, it may be added, has been in considerable favour this season. The weather is not as yet quite sharp enough for worm fishing, and the grayling only takes that lure moderately well at present. On the Yidd, at Pateley Bridge, fish have risen pretty freely, but have been just on the contrary in the Derwent, at Hackness, inasmuch as anglers have remarked on the short rising of grayling to the fly, although the river has been in good order. In the Swale at Richmond angling matters have also been on the improvement.

THE decision of the West Riding County Council, last July, in reference to the polluted condition of the river Aire, to enforce the provisions of the Rivers Pollution (Prevention) Act, 1876, without the appointment of a joint committee, under a section of the Local Government Act, 1888, is likely to be productive of some good results. Local anglers, through the reports which have from time to time appeared in the columns of the *Fishing Gazette*, will be well acquainted with the general bearings of the question, but the present aspect of the matter will be more interesting. The two chief points upon which the County Council, on the one hand, and the Leeds and Bradford Corporations, on the other were unable to agree were (1) As to whether the proposed Conservancy Board should be a joint board for the Aire and Calder; and (2) as to the basis of representation. Hence the practical resolution of the West Riding County Council to proceed, without Leeds and Bradford, with the work of purifying the Aire and other rivers in the West Riding. This decision was communicated to the Leeds and Bradford Corporations, who disapproved of the step taken, and who subsequently sought and obtained an interview with Mr. Ritchie, President of the Local Government Board, as to the constitution of a Conservancy Board for the Aire only. After that interview the West Riding County Council received a letter from the Local Government Board, asking them to reconsider their decision with regard to acting alone in the matter of river purification. It was then felt by the sanitary committee of the West Riding authority that the joint deputation from Leeds and Bradford had evidently impressed Mr. Ritchie with some of their arguments, and consequently they themselves decided to wait upon the President of the Local Government Board, and put before him their views on the matter. The conference between the right hon. gentleman and the deputation of the West Riding County Council was fixed to take place yesterday (Friday), at the offices of the Local Government Board, Whitehall. The chief among the numerous matters to be discussed will be as to whether a Conservancy Board shall be established or not. To that question the County Council say "No," but behind that point is a very important question, into which the deputation will not go unless invited to do so by Mr. Ritchie—viz., "If a Conservancy Board is established, shall it be for the Aire, without the Calder, or for both rivers?" The County Council prefer a joint board for the two rivers, but then there is the question, "What shall be the basis of representation if a Conservancy Board (whether for one or both rivers) is formed?" Leeds and Bradford have contended that the basis of representation should be the drainage area, but the County Council say that they will not be parties to any proposal to split up the West Riding into sections, and that if they be represented on the board they must have a representation of the whole of their county. The deputation will also ask for a commission to be appointed to inquire into the best practicable and available method of purifying manufacturing effluents. The Rivers Pollution (Prevention) Act does not, I am informed, specify any standard of purity below which manufacturing liquids may not be passed into the river, and it is with the object of supplying this omission in the Act, as well as of assisting both sanitary authorities and manufacturers, that the commission is applied for. The sanitary committee propose to hold, at an early date, a conference with the representatives of riparian authorities within the watershed of the Aire and its tributaries (excepting the Calder), upon lines similar to those had with the sanitary authorities within the watershed of the Calder, to consider the best mode of arranging for the purification of the river and its tributaries.

_ **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

NOTES FROM EAST TYRONE.

THE Blackwater has fallen down to its ordinary level. In the closing days of the season pike spinning was fairly good. Salmon are in all the pools, waiting for freshets to push farther up stream.

FISHING for salmon, white trout and brown trout, have ceased on the Doraville, Broughderg, and other mountain tarns on the 31st ult. These streams are very small, but in certain parts of the year they swell into respectable rivers, but from their remoteness and difficulty of access they are not much frequented by anglers.

THE Kildress stream has not yet fallen down to its usual level. The past three weeks on it were very poor, the only sport to be had being spinning for pike. Salmon are running up well, but I hear that poaching is very prevalent, the river being unprotected. The Kildress is well stocked with brown trout, with which excellent sport was enjoyed all season. Trouting has closed for the next four months.

ON the other streams in East Tyrone—Kingsmill, Littlebridge, Moneymore, Newmills, Rock, &c.—trouting has ceased for the season, which altogether was a very good one. Perch fishing on the lakes of Roan, Carnteel, Moy, Stewartstown, Esknagh, Farlough, &c., is bad but pike fishing is reviving slightly. Since the frosts came, spinning is much easier by the weeds being killed in both lake and stream. There is no close season for pike, but, notwithstanding this, numbers are increasing. In the Blackwater and Coalisland Canal bream are feeding well, and excellent sport has been had by local anglers.

LAST Friday a veteran Tyrone angler—Mr. John Nesbitt—went quietly to rest, having almost accomplished the lease of life given by the Royal psalmist. Mr. Nesbitt was an enthusiastic and skilled angler, and lived on the banks of the Ballinderry, holding large tracts of land along the river. As a riparian proprietor, he never interfered with the public fishing his lands, but gave free permission to all comers. His funeral, on Monday last, amply testified to his extreme popularity with all classes, and now his remains lie but a few perches from the stream he loved so well. Mr. Nesbitt died worth about £6,000.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE READING OF PAPERS AT ANGLING CLUBS.

UNDER the chairmanship of Mr. J. H. Tibbatts, a meeting of this society was held on Friday night, at the Citizen, Houndsditch, when several matters of importance were discussed. Mr. Francis M. Walbran's lecture on "Two Yorkshire Rivers," was fixed to take place in the Foresters' (Lower) Hall, on Dec. 10, and the arrangements in connection with the hiring of the hall were left in the hands of Messrs. Ghurney and Murphy. Mr. Shrubsole announced that a large gathering might be anticipated on the occasion. The chair will be taken by Mr. R. B. Marston, editor of the *Fishing Gazette*.

Several applications were personally made for papers to be read at certain clubs. The following is the latest list arranged for: Nov. 26, New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road, paper by Mr. Taylor; Nov. 30, St. John's Angling Society, Skinner's Arms, Clerkenwell, paper by Mr. Howard; Dec. 7, Epsom Angling Society, paper by Mr. Simms; December 10, Foresters' Hall, Mr. F. M. Walbran's lecture; Dec. 15, North London Angling Society, Tap House, Holloway-road, paper by Mr. Simms.

Mr. J. H. Tibbatts was elected permanent chairman of the society, and Mr. Arthur Matthews assistant hon. sec.

Mr. Murphy moved, Mr. Rich (Amicable Excelsior) seconded, and it was unanimously resolved that the society should for the future meet on the first and third Fridays in each month.

Mr. E. S. Shrubsole spoke of the presentation of gold, silver, and bronze medals to *bona-fide* working-men anglers who read a paper of their own composition before the members of their own club. He suggested that the jury should be elected from the members of this society, and that they should be empowered to say which was the best three papers. He thought they could easily raise the necessary funds for the purchase of the medals, because they could get the requisite sum by voluntary subscriptions. He thought the medals would be a splendid idea, and he should certainly like to see the matter carried into effect. The main feature of the society was to promote the reading of papers on piscatorial topics amongst the working-men angling clubs. They wanted to encourage a more enlightened feeling in that direction, and he believed that if they were to introduce the medals, and present them at the annual meeting of the clubs, it would be a great inducement for working men to strive on their own hook to write a paper and read it before their brother members. (Hear, hear.)

Eventually, owing to the lateness of the hour, the matter was ordered to stand over until the society's next meeting.

The proceedings then closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding.

The club-room of the Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea, was crowded on Wednesday evening last, upon the occasion of a paper being read by Mr. Arthur Matthews, entitled "Some of My Angling Experiences." The proceedings were held under the auspices of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers amongst Angling Clubs, and the chair was occupied by Mr. E. S. Shrubsole. Anglers were present from Kilburn, Clapham, Battersea, Camberwell, the City, Old Kent-road, Bermondsey, Blackfriars, &c., the attendance including Messrs. Smith, Howard, G. E. Simms, Rich, Jones, Parker (vice-chairman), Curtice, Evans, A. Conn (secretary, Bermondsey Brothers and South London United Visiting List), &c.

Mr. Matthew's paper, which occupied close on an hour, was well received. He spoke of his experiences on the Eastwood and Nottingham Canal, the river Erewash, the Trent, and the Norfolk Broads and Rivers, and he exhibited the rod and tackle he used when a boy. His reminiscences were altogether of an entertaining and instructive character, and upon the conclusion of the paper he was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks.

The subsequent speakers included the chairman, Mr. Howard, Mr. Smith, and Mr. G. E. Simms, and a very pleasant evening was passed. The musical part of the programme was ably sustained by Messrs. Curtice (who accompanied on the piano), Lovett, Raymond, Parker, &c., and with a vote of thanks to the chairman the proceedings, which had been of a most successful character, were brought to a termination.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association.—Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly meeting of the Renting and Preservation Committee will take place on Monday evening next, November 9, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, secretary.

Anglers' Association.—NO. 1 EASTERN DISTRICT.—The next return visit will be to the Stepney Angling Society, the Beehive, Rhodswell-road, Stepney, on Wednesday next, November 11, chair will be taken at 8.30 p.m. I hope to see a good muster.—G. M.

Anglers' Association. — VISITING LIST, EASTERN DISTRICT NO. 2.—The next return visit on this list will take place at the North London A.S., held at the Highbury Brewery Tap House, Highbury Station, on Monday next, Nov, the 9th. This is a young society, but one of the right sort; they are to be seen at every return visit in this district and many out of it: ann as this is their first return, I hope the compliment will be returned, the chair will be occupied by the president. Mr. G. Koyle, and the vice by Mr. Stretch, jun., these two names should be sufficient attraction to fill the room.—F. THORLING, visiting officer.

Anglers' Association.—SOUTHERN DISTRICT VISITING LIST.—A return visit on the above list took place on Tuesday, October 27, at the Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. On the roll being called the following seven clubs answered: Amicable Excelsior, Battersea .Friendly, Bermondsey Brothers, Clapham Junction, Rodney, Walworth Waltonians, Lady of the Lake. The next visit will take place at the Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitts Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey, on the 17th inst., where I hope to see a good muster of brother anglers.—G. M. ARMSTRONG, District Officer.

Anglers' Association. — WESTERN DISTRICT. — A successful visit was paid to the Allason United, on the 29th ult., upon the roll being called thirteen clubs responded; the A.B. box was opened, and found to contain 24s. The next visit will be paid to the Allason Piscatorials, at the Golborne Liberal Club, Portobello-road, Notting-hill, on Tuesday next, Nov. 10th, when I hope to see a good muster.—J. JENNINGS.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of £1 8s. from the Hearts of Oak and £1 4s. from Allason United Brothers Angling Societies, the contents of their donation boxes. The next meeting of the committee will take place on Friday evening, Nov. 13, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

THE LONDON UNITED ANGLERS' SOCIETIES' FOURTH ANNUAL ANGLING COMPETITION, in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—On Friday, the 13th, the usual meeting will take place, when I hope to see the whole of the committee present. In my last report I made an error in stating that Mr. Cuthbert would give another prize. He has informed me that he meant that he would give a donation of 10s. 6d. to the Anglers' Benevolent Society. A pair of boots to measure, value 12s. 6d., has been promised by the Original Alexandra.—S. MALBY, sec.

Allason Piscatorial Society, Golborne Liberal Club, Portobello-road, Notting Hill, W.—The next return visit goes to this club, when we shall be very pleased to see as many clubs represented as possible. A few of our members were out on the 1st inst., and weighed in barbel and roach from the Thames. N.B.—Nearest station Notting-hill and Ladbroke-road.—W. MILLER, sec.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting Hill-gate, W.—The first visit of the Western District was paid to the above club, and which proved most successful. When the roll was called thirteen clubs were represented, including our esteemed and worthy friend, Mr. R. Ghurney, which the anglers present greeted him immensely. After which Mr. Ghurney gave a short speech on the growth of the Anglers' Benevolent and the Anglers' Association finances, which was listened to with the greatest interest. Our Benevolent box was opened, and it contained the sum of £1 4s, considering this club being only lately started, we must congratulate ourselves at the grand sum arrived when the box was opened. E. Merritt saved us from a blank, with a jack, from the Langley Water, on the 1st inst. Our match will continue on the 8th inst., when four prizes will be fished for. Hoping members will show up with some fish (jack and eels are barred).—B. ABRAHAMS, JUN., sec.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—On the 1st., J. Windsor weighed in roach, from the Thames. On the 3rd. inst. our secretary weighed in 5lb. 8oz. of roach, dace, and perch, best dace 10oz. I wish to remind members that we fish a pegged-down match at Windsor, for seven prizes, jack barred, one rod only, leave off fishing at four o'clock.—J. PAILES, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—The reading which was so kindly and so grandly delivered at the above club on Wednesday last, November 4, was a great success. We hope to see Mr. Matthews in our club-room again. The chair was occupied by Mr. Shrubsole. Our next outing will take place at Windsor on November 8; tow path only; jack barred. All to start from Clapham Junction at 8.30 a.m.—J. RICH, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—Several of our members were out on the 1st instant, but owing to the flooded state of the water, only the following gentlemen weighed in: Mr. Wright, roach; Mr. Hake, dace; Mr. Nunn, jun., roach; Mr. G. Merry, roach and dace; W. Embleton, roach and jack. On Monday evening, the 2nd inst., the return visit on the Central Association, took place at the above, and was a grand success; on the roll being called, thirty-three clubs answered, thus beating all previous records. We beg to return our thanks to those clubs who attended, and a notice from any club will find us represented. I wish to call attention of members to the visit of No. 2 Eastern to the North London Angling Society, Tap House, near Highbury Station, on Monday, Nov. 9. The next visit on the Central goes to the Anchor and Hope. —G. MERRY.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday night with a good attendance. Mr. F. Davis weighed in a specimen dace on the 1st inst. from the Cam, 12¼oz. It was carried that we hold the visit on the Central Association List, on Monday, November 16. Notice of the same will be sent to each society in the usual way. I trust we shall have the pleasure of a good muster from our friends.—A. G. SMITH.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—On the 1st inst. our trays were well filled with some capital roach, contributed by the following members; H. Patman, J. Warman, P. Allum, J. Smith, and J. Pocock; total gross weight 51lb. 9oz., the best fish being six roach, by Mr. Warman, 5lb. 8oz.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—There were only a few of our members out on the 1st, and but one weighed in, Mr. J. Barker, dace. On Nov. 30, Mr. Crumplen, of the Piscatorial Society, who passes under the *nom de plume* of "Old Izaak" in *The People*, will read a paper at this society entitled, "Curiosities of Fish Life." A large number is expected to be present.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the 1st inst. the following members weighed in: Mr. H. Davis, jack, and Mr. C. Davis, roach. Members will not forget the pegged-down at Ware on the 8th inst. None to start before the morning of the match. On the 4th inst., Mr. J. Clark, jun., was elected a working member of the above society.—D. WARREN.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On the 4th inst. Messrs. Cowper, J. Hall, and myself brought up some nice shows of roach. A competition will take place at Bourne End on the 8th inst. A special meeting has been called for next Wednesday; a very important matter has to be gone through. Members will please attend the club as early as possible.—H. ROACH, secretary.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—We go out on the 8th inst. for prizes. Members to sign on Saturday, the 7th. We had a nice show of roach on Nov. 1. Mr. D. Flint weighed in 6lb. 14½oz. roach and one dace, 5oz.; Mr. Pape, perch, 14¾oz. I hope to see a good muster show up.—J. PETRIE, sec.

Burton Piscatorials, Globe, Derby-street, King's-cross.—Several of our members weighed in a few fish on the 25th ult. November 1 proved more successful, our trays being well patronised by the few that ventured out. C. Roberts, 8lb. 13oz.; W. Hill, 4lb. 10oz.; Messrs. Brierley, Sturman, Jones, and Richards, also contributing to a very creditable and pretty show, consisting of jack, roach, perch, and dace. I hope members will not forget Nov. 29, when we hope to see every member compete.—C. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 1st inst. we had a nice show of fish on our trays: Mr. Boxall, five jack; Mr. C. Chapman, two jack; Mr. A. Chapman, jack; Mr. J. Boxall, jun., jack; Mr. King, roach; Mr. Langton, roach. Members are reminded that Wednesday next is clearing-night, per Rule 4.—E. T. WHITE, sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—Mr. Harry Dunn presided at the meeting of this society on Monday last, November 2. The attendance was fairly good, and included representatives from the Gresham, Earlsfield, Rodney, and Kenningtonians. Mr. J. Deplidge's reading of Sir Samuel Baker's "Fishing Experience in Abyssinia," was well received, and the expressions of approval indicated that the Causton had again "hit the right nail on the head," by instituting weekly readings from standard authors appertaining to angling. On Monday next, Mr. Harry Dunn, will read from the Rev. Charles Kingsley's letters, published in 1883, "Canon Kingsley (author of 'Westward Ho!' &c.) as an angler." With regard to sport, Mr. Tom Keeble, and Mr. Fred Smidt, fishing off Ramsgate, caught in two days, 300lb. weight of codling and whiting. By permission of H.R.H. Prince Christian, Messrs. A. Thorn, Tom Keeble, and J. Deplidge, fished Virginia Water, on Monday last, but although they had some grand runs, Mr. Thorn was the only one who succeeded in punting a fish, a jack, 3½lb.—JOHN SMITH, hon. sec.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—On the 1st inst. the following members weighed in fish: Mr. T. Jameson, chub, 2lb. 14oz., and Mr. Moore, one dace, 5½oz. On the 8th inst., twenty members fish a friendly match for a supper, ten each side; Chertsey Bridge to Penton Hook Lock, towpath only; two rods allowed; jack, bleak, and minnows barred. All to leave Clapham Junction by 8.30 for Staines. I hope to see a good muster of members on Tuesday evening, 10th inst., at the Battersea Friendly Anglers to listen to Mr. Shrubsole's lecture on "Fishing Baskets," &c.; and as Christmas is near, I hope we shall have an outing for Christmas prizes. —A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clerkenwell and District United.—The annual delegate meeting of the above will be on Thursday next, Nov. 12, when some important alterations of the rules will be proposed, and the next outing will be taken into consideration. To meet at the Middlesex Arms, Clerkenwell-green, at 9.30 sharp. Each club on the list can send two delegates.—F. CASTELL, hon. sec.

Cliftonville Angling Society, Cliftonville Hotel, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey.—Several of our members fished at Burnt Mill, but only one was successful in getting fish. Mr. W. Ibbs weighed some nice roach, winning second prize. Members will oblige by showing up in full force next Wednesday to arrange about concert.—P. GARDNER, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We had a fair show of fish on the 1st. inst., weighed in by the following members; Messrs. G. Percival, roach and bream, 11lb.; E. Baxter, roach amongst which was a fine specimen, 1lb. 9¾oz.; E. Baker, chub, 2½lb.; F. Nunney, roach; W. Parbury, with dace. The match takes place Nov. 8, at Bourne End, under conditions already announced in this paper. Members must make themselves eligible to fish.—A. SMITH, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 1st inst., we fished a boundary match for six prizes in the Lea. Result: Mr. Killick, first; Mr. C. Bobinson, second; Mr. Wright, third; Mr. Freeman, fourth. The two prizes remaining will be competed for in the Lee from St. Margaret's Bridge to Ware Bride on the 8th. Members to go down by the eight o'clock train, and the 9.10 from Liverpool-street, boundary tow path only.—S. MALBY, sec.

Epsom Angling Society.—The first monthly meeting of the above was held at the Wellington, High-street, on Monday evening last. The election of a vice-president was proceeded with, when one of the most popular gentlemen in the district was elected. It was unanimously agreed to accept the kind offer of a gentleman well known in the angling world, and his friends, to pay us a visit on our next monthly meeting, and read a paper on some subject, interesting to anglers, when I hope we shall have a good attendance. Several new members were enrolled, making a total of forty members, which, considering our society has not been in existence a month, is very good progress. Great credit is due to our secretary for our success, it being almost entirely owing to his energy and enthusiasm. Our worthy treasurer and host (Mr. W. Dix) has given a nice useful prize for the largest pike taken from any water, before New Year's Day. Two of our members who had been on the Thames at Twickenham, with J. Spong, showed a splendid tray of roach and dace, weighing over 16lb. We are endeavouring to obtain some private water in the neighbourhood, which, if we succeed, will be a great boon to our society.—G. M.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road. —On the 1st inst. Mr. F. Vanhegan weighed in a nice show of roach. I hope members will not forget the Benevolent competition on Nov. 15, and Mr. A. Eldridge's at Pulborough on Nov. 29, when I trust to see as many as possible.—J. W. BIGGS, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had a moderate show of fish on the 1st inst., nearly 10lb. of roach and dace, taken by Messrs. Slade, Coborn, Stebbings, and Payne. Other members out but not successful.—A. PAYNE, sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road, W.—On the 1st instant Mr. Ellins weighed in 16lb. of roach, dace, and chub from the Kennet; Mr. Y. Roach, 2lb. of roach; Mr. J. Green, roach, from the Thames. We fish a Christmas sweepstake from Boulter, Lock to Cookham Ferry on Dec. 6.—F. FISH, sec.

Good Intent Angling Society, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch.—Forty-six of our members fished at Cheshunt on the 1st inst. All the joints for Christmas was taken in the following order: F. Grey, 1st; Haines, 2nd; Whitmore, 3rd; Hunt, 4th; Hewett. 5th; Sampson, 6th; Snook, 7th; Kemp, 8th; How, 9th; Huggett, 10th; Maddams, 11th. Ten more to be fished for on the 8th, the members to go where they choose. On Tuesday we voted £1 1s. to the prize list of Anglers' competition. —R. MURPHY, sec.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Robin Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville.—The following members weighed in some nice roach from the Thames on the 1st inst.: F. Watling, 25lb. 9oz.; J. A. Fitch, 14lb. 12oz.; C. Watling, jun., 5lb. 8oz.; H. Watling, 4lb. 7oz. From other waters: W. Parkin, roach, 6lb. 15oz.; H. Proehl, one jack, 1lb. 10oz.; and H. Wright, jack, 3lb. 7oz.; total, 65lb. 4oz. A late member showed 16lb. of good roach from the Thames.—J. A. FITCH, sec.

Greenwich Angling Society, Prince Albert, Royal-hill, Greenwich.—We had a capital meeting on Wednesday last, and some important business was transacted, and two new members were enrolled. Fresh water fishing having been almost out of the question lately, several members had turned their attention to the briny deep, and gave interesting reports of excursions to Deal and Southend on Sea; where there efforts had been rewarded with good bags of whiting, codling, dabs, flounders, &c. Members are reminded that Mr. Giffard Hooper, will read a paper on Wednesday next, the 11th inst., entitled, "The Mimicry of Nature." I trust they will make a special effort to attend what I am sure will be an interesting reading, and bring a friend with them. We shall be pleased to welcome any brothers of the angle who would care to come. G. J. TOYNBEE, hon. sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting was held last Tuesday, presided over by T. R. Sachs, Esq., a hon. member. A splendid show of fish was sent in by Mr. W. F. Grimmot. who is fishing in Hampshire. It contained a pike of 8lb. 5oz., and eighteen roach, varying in weight from 1lb. 9½oz. down to three-quarters of a pound, the eighteen weighing 22lb. 14oz. A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Grimmett for his contribution. Some further arrangements for the sea fishing competition at Southend, next Saturday, were made. A train will leave Fenchurch-street, at 9.5 a.m. The competition from punts at Windsor, will take place next Tuesday. Members will leave Waterloo at 8 a.m., and those intending to be present are requested to communicate with Mr. T. Gilbert, 52, Lynhurst Grove, Camberwell. A very excellent and interesting paper was read by Mr. F. R. O'Lilson, giving the result of some fishing experiences in Devonshire during a month's holiday, lately, for which he was cordially thanked. A new member was proposed. Mr. C. S. Bentley will read a paper next Tuesday, the 10th, and a Smoking Concert will be given on Tuesday, the 17th.—JAMES TAYLER, sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 1st inst. several of our members were out, the following being successful: Holmes, with dace, roach, and perch; Bagshaw, jun., chub; A. Fish, roach; Braham, roach; Rider, perch; and Saalfield, perch. On the 8th inst., a pegged-down match will take place for prizes, and no doubt many will go to compete for them.—W. FENNER, sec,

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—There has been some good shows at this now-flourishing society during the past few weeks. Mr. Shaw had a handsome take of jack from the Hampshire Avon, weighing, total, 58lb., in two days, largest fish 13lb. 2oz., second heaviest, 10lb. 9oz. These have been sent to Cooper's; also some fine roach on the 1st inst. (largest, 1lb. 4oz.), by Messrs. Giles, Rutherford, Ball, and friend (in all about 16lb.). Mr. Monty, from the Thames, 8lb. of roach and dace.—J. T. GRIFFITHS, sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—The members will fish for the Christmas prizes, on November 8, in the river Lea, from St. Margaret's Bridge to Ratty's Lock; to leave London on the morning by the train from Liverpool-street, 9.8. a.m.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Islington Angling Society, Jubilee House, Hornsey Rise, N.—The usual fortnightly meeting was held on Monday last, Mr. C. S. Bentley in the chair. A long discussion on piscatorial matters took place, and some formal business transacted. The next meeting will be on Monday, November 16.—C. DOWNING, sec.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—We fish a roving match at Cookham, on November 8, for several prizes; all to go by the morning train from Paddington. Several of our members were out on the 1st inst., when the following weighed in: Mr. Willshire, 13lb. 3oz., roach and perch; Mr. Leach, 8lb. 13oz., roach and dace; Mr. Holder, 3lb. 13oz., roach and dace; Mr. Croker, 2lb. 5oz., roach; Mr. Budd, roach; Mr. Herbert, roach. We have room for a few more members. The next visit on the Clerkenwell United Visiting List, will take place at the above on Monday, November 16, when the company of any angler or friend will be esteemed a favour.—J. H. HERBERT.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—As announced last week the members will compete for seven special Christmas prizes, on the 8th inst., between the lock at Rattys Weir, and the Cattle Bridge above St. Margarets. The members will also compete for six Christmas prizes, on Wednesday, the 18th inst., between Burnt Mill and Harlow. Members competing for the above prizes must fish from the towing path only. The half-yearly distribution of special prizes will take place on Wednesday, the 18th inst., on which occasion the members will have a supper. Messrs. C. Layton, and A. Furlong, had trays of roach, on the 1st inst.; Mr. J. Poolo, weighed in perch on the same day. Mr. C. Hayward had a take of nice roach, on Wednesday, the 4th inst.—H.B

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 1st inst. several members were out, some good fish being taken: Mr. Webster, a nice show of roach, one fish, 1lb. 2¼oz.; Mr. Johnson, roach; Messrs. White, Belton, and Watling, roach and dace; Mr. Wallis and Mr. Porter, jack. On Wednesday, the 4th inst., Mr. Beesley, a nice show of fish—roach, chub, and dace.—W. WATLING, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association, Bee Hotel, 5, Queen's-square, and 18, St. John's-lane.—There was a very fair muster at the meeting on the 29th ult., when several of the members who had been fishing in the river Vyrnwy turned up, and gave an account of their outing, from which it appeared that they had had, from the weather point, a splendid day, and been fairly successful in their fishing. For grayling, Mr. Gass was first; and for other fish Mr. Bleasdale, first, Mr. R. Wilson, second, and Mr. Roberts, third. Some very fine grayling were had with the fly, and, taken altogether, it may be put down as a red-letter day. Another party are off to the same river this morning (4th), and as they are intending to stop for two or three days, good sport may be confidently looked for, although the wind is in the east. We have now arrived at dreary, foggy November, and many of our members are laying aside their rods and tackle for four or five months, but those who care to brave it out are sure of successful sport in the river Vyrnwy.—RD. WOOLFALL.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 1st inst. our members were at Bourne End for our competition for five prizes, when we had some good shows of roach by Messrs. Milburn, Taylor, A. Clark, Sansom and Barnard, winning the prizes in the order named; also Messrs. Bartlett, Pearce, Penfold and Gray having roach, some over 1lb. in weight.—W. F. PEARCE.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—A splendid show of jack and roach was sent up to the club on the 5th instant, by Mr. W. F. Grimmett. The largest jack was 11lb. 1oz.; thirty-five of the roach weighed 49lb. 1¾oz.; six best, 10lb. 7oz. He took first prize in our roach competition; Mr. Newbury being second; and Mr. Shonfeld, third. Mr. La Feuillade (vice-chairman) presided at the meeting.—A. E. BALDWIN, sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 108, Westminster Bridge-road.—None of our members were out on the 1st inst. All members in arrears are suspended from weighing in until such are paid. The question of Christmas prizes will be discussed at next meeting.—F. WALLIS, sec.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway-road.—The next return visit on the Anglers' Association, No. 2 Eastern District, will take place at the above on Monday, Nov. 9, when I hope that the anglers of the district will rally round us on this occasion, when they will be heartily welcomed. Our president, Mr. George Hoyle, in the chair; vice, Mr. W. Stretch, jun. We had two candidates proposed for membership, and they will be elected next meeting night by ballot. On the 1st inst. Mr. Hoyle weighed in perch.—H. STRETCH, sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland-park, N.W.—On the 1st inst., Messrs. Pritchard, weighed in dace; Holman, jack; Billings, a grand show of roach 22½lb.; and Weaver, roach and some nice dace. Thursday, November 12, is half-yearly night, when the favour of as many of our members that can make it convenient to attend will greatly oblige, as there is important and interesting business to be brought forward and settled.—G. S.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—On the 1st inst., we had a good show of fish at our headquarters, brough in by the following members: Messrs. Forster, perch and roach; Bygrave sen., roach; Harrison, perch, dace, and roach; Hiscox, jack and roach; Neville, jack and perch; and Bygrave, jack. We are still open for a few more eligible working members.—J. CUTHBERT, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Messrs. Daniels and Fautley weighed in a nice show of roach and dace on the 1st inst. Members are respectfully asked not to forget the anniversary supper takes place on Monday next, November 9.—E. A. FAUTLEY, sec.

Prince Albert Angling Society, Prince Albert, Lincoln-street, Bow-road.—Our members were out on the 1st inst., to fish for the silver cup. The result was, Mr. Fitt winning it, at Dagenham Gulf, honestly and fairly.—W. FITT.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—Several members were out on the 1st instant, but nothing worthy of note was taken. I beg to remind members that if they wish to have a ticket for the Rye House competition they must attend on Wednesday next; and I hope to meet a good muster of anglers at the Allason Piscatorials return visit on Tuesday next.—J. W. HARRIS, secretary.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—On the 1st inst., Mr. Comley saved the club from a blank. At our meeting on Monday last, it was proposed and carried, that our late secretary be expelled from the club, Mr. Bradley being elected secretary in his place. A complimentary concert will be held at the above house, on the 18th inst.—F. BRADLEY, sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—Our outing at Pangbourne was a failure on October 25. The following members weighed in on the 1st inst., for the four prizes left over as follows: Messrs. E. Pyne, first, roach, 5lb. 8¼oz.; T. Lines, second, roach, bream, and dace, 2lb. 10¼oz.,; W. Lamberton, roach, 1lb. 11½oz., divided third and fourth prize with H. Mitchell, roach, 1lb. 11½oz.; best roach and dace, 1lb. 4½oz.; J. Wigley, roach, 1lb. 1oz.; F. Lamberton, roach; F. T. Lamberton, roach; P. Martin, perch; Searle, roach. The next visit on the S. L. U. V. L. comes to this society on the 17th inst., when I hope to see a good muster. The supper takes place on Wednesday evening, the 11th inst., at 9.30 for ten o'clock. Members wishing to partake will give their names in by the 8th inst.—F. T. LAMBERTON, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, Queen's Arms, Bateman-street, Soho-square, W.—On the 1st inst. several of our members were out, but only Mr. Gibbons weighed in, thus saving us from a blank. On Wednesday, the 11th, we have a smoking concert, when the presence of all members, both fishing and honorary, will be esteemed. We fish our next outing at Marlow, from Marlow Bridge to Temple Lock; tow-path only; jack barred; first train from Paddington; leave off fishing at five o'clock. The delegates gave in their report from the Central Association, which was favourably received.—F. C. LONGLAND.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Coborn Arms, Coborn-road, Bow, E.—On Tuesday, October 27, Mr. Parsley weighed in jack and perch. On the 1st inst., several of our members ventured out in the hope of getting some sport, but the only members who returned with fish, were Messrs. A. Barclay, with 8lb. 3oz., good class roach from the Lea; Parsley, roach; G. Barclay, jack; J. Yeo, jack and roach. I hope members will attend on Tuesday, November 10, as there is some important business to be settled.—A. BARCLAY, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—We had a very good meeting on the 3rd instant; twenty-two clubs were represented, and the harmony, both vocal and instrumental, was very good, and highly appreciated by all present. I thank the members and friends of the various clubs who supported me on that occasion. We fish for ten prizes on the 8th inst., roving between Staines Bridge and the locks at Egham. Go by the first train from Waterloo, and leave off fishing at four p.m. Members wishing to stay later must show their fish to another member by four p.m., or will be disqualified for the prizes. I trust the members will show up in full force, and that all the prizes will be taken.—J. WRIGHT, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 1st inst. several members were on the war-path, and returned with the following result: Messrs. J. Petrie, roach; E. Wright, roach; W. North, roach and dace, 5lb. 2oz.; H. Raine, roach and dace, 3lb. 15oz. On Tuesday we had a few more members up than we have been having lately, when several matters were brought forward. I beg to inform the committee that a meeting will take place on Monday next *re* rules, &c. On Nov. 15 we fish a match at Bourne End for four prizes. All to go by the first train from Paddington on the morning of the match. Fishing between Bourne End Bridge and Marlow.—S. E. CANE, sec.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.—On the 1st inst., although many of our members were out, only Messrs. Clark and Geale weighed in, having between 6lb. and 7lb. of roach and perch from the Thames. I should like to remind members that we are supposed to meet on Tuesday evenings by nine p.m.—PELICAN.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard row, E.—The members showed up better on the 1st inst. the following members weighing in fish: D. Marks, roach; M. Marks, roach; C. Pleydell, roach; J. Riggs, roach; and R. Spenceley, dace.—R. S., sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—A delegate meeting of the clubs enrolled on the above list was held at the Pitt's Head, Grange-road, on Friday, Oct. 30, when it was arranged that a friendly competition for a series of money prizes should take place at Windsor on January 24, 1892; conditions, roving, between Windsor Bridge and Linley Hall. It was also decided that the Cliftonville Angling Society having shown good cause why they were not represented at the visit to the Amicable Excelsior (as per Rule 2 at bottom of list) they shall receive a visit after the Rodney A. S., instead of waiting for their next turn in rotation. On Tuesday, the 3rd, a most successful visit was paid to the Second Surrey, twenty clubs (out of a possible twenty-three) on the list being represented, the absent ones being Walworth Waltonians, Grange, and Earlsfield. There was also one club not on the list represented (the South Belgravia), making a total of twenty-one clubs present. The next visit will be to the Rodney A. S., on Tuesday, 17th.—A. CONN, hon. sec.

St. Albans and Excelsior United.—The improvement in the weather of the past few days and condition of the Thames enabled our members to exhibit a better show of fish on the trays on the 1st inst. than we have had for some time past. Mr. Shaylor produced three jack from Weybridge scaling 7lb.; Mr. Sherman had roach from Pangbourne, one fish, a very handsome specimen, weighing 1½lb. (this was presented to our host, Mr. C. Dick, and has been forwarded to Mr. Cooper for preservation); Mr. Fordree, a good take from Goring, all roach weighing 5lb. Messrs. H. Jones and J. Leighton visited Egham, and weighed in barbel and dace, the former member unluckily losing a heavy fish through a defective gut trace. Several other members were out, but did not meet with any success worth recording. I hope to send you a still better report for next week.—FRAS. J. DALE, hon. sec.

St. John's Angling Society.—Our competition at Great Marlow on the 1st inst., was not a success, as only three prizes were taken, and those with small takes, the winners were: Mr. J. Rapley, Mr. G. Jeffreys, and Mr. A. Catanack. I beg to remind secretaries and angling friends generally, that on Monday, November 30, we have a grand concert and a paper to be read; the full particulars I will give next week, but I mention the date to prevent clashing with any other meeting.—F. THORLING, soc.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—The members of the above clud having a series of prizes to fish for, have decided to go out on the 8th inst., and fish at St. Albans, a roving match. Few of the members went out on the 1st inst., but had poor sport owing to the bad weather.—G. MORTON, sec.

Stepney Angling Society, Beehive, Rhodeswell-road, Stepney.—Since my last report, Messrs. West and Woodford have had shows of jack and perch. On the 1st inst., Mr. West saved a blank with some bream and roach. Our return visit takes place on Wednesday next, Nov. 11, when I hope to see a good many old and new faces. We shall do our very best to amuse.—E. N. P., hon. sec.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—Mr. G. Boreham was the only member who weighed in on the 1st inst. We had a full meeting on Tuesday. Two new members were made. A punt competition is arranged to take place at Staines, on Nov. 22. Members intending to take part in it will oblige by giving in their names as early as possible.—H. R.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above fished a pegged down match on the 1st inst. in the Thames; for several money prizes and their given prizes. Mr. W. Windred, first, with roach; H. Fordham, second, with roach; G. Bull, third, with chub and roach; R. Lawes, fourth, with dace; J. Turner, fifth, with roach. Members are allowed to fish for the remainder of the given prizes on the 8th inst.—H. TYLER, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—In spite of the floods one or two of our members were out on the 1st inst., and got a few fish, nothing worth speaking of. I wish to remind members that there is another prize on for this month. Members wishing to compete in our next match are requested to clear the books and be in attendance on Tuesday next. Those who require tickets for the Rye House Competition, can have them by applying of the secretary. Your attendance is wanted here for Tuesday next.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walham Green and Fulham Angling Society, Albany-street, Regent's Park.—The members of the above held their usual weekly meeting at the Stamford Arms, Fulham-road. Mr. Templeman presided, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and general business transacted; the delegates to the Central Association then gave a lengthy report of the business transacted at their monthly meeting. On the first instant, Mr. Templeman weighed in a nice show of roach, from the tidal waters—8lb. in all. I have to remind members that, on the 8th instant, the first Supper Match of the season will take place (between Penton Hook and Bell Weir, Staines), and all members are requested to attend.—E. SUTCHALL, sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—On Wednesday last, we had a good muster, Mr. H. Bayley in the chair. It was decided to have our next outing on the 8th inst.; to be open punt or bank. First prize, Mr. Craddock, cash, £1 1s.; second prize, R. Bailey, silk umbrella, value 10s. 6d., and two lapsed prizes. Mr. Hibble weighed in from the Avon, twenty-three roach over 12oz. each, one specimen roach 2lb.; gross weight, 30lb. 5oz. (two days' take). Our first smoking concert of the season takes place, on Wednesday next, ladies are cordially invited. Admission by programme which we shall charge a nominal price for, and the proceeds will be given to the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—C. HIBBLE, sec.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 1st inst., the monthly competition took place, with the following result: Mr. W. Gordon, first; Mr. T. Jenkins, second; Mr. W. Turnbull, third; Mr. W. Bryant, fourth; Mr. F. Hailey, fifth; Mr. A. G. Gamble. sixth; the following also weighed in: Mr. F. Barnes, Mr. Boyd, F. Field, E. Enwell, P. Marten, A. Amos, and W. Wilson, the first prize being won with 6lb. 1oz., and the lowest weight boing 2lb. 12oz.—R. J. DARTNALL, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—Our members fished a roving match on the 1st inst., the results being a nice show of fish by the following gentlemen: Mr. Parslow, first; Mr. Mercer, second; Mr. Casey Wedmer, third; also weighed in, Messrs. Blyth, Kertland, Harden, Frances, Fullbrook, Maples, and Anderson. I hope all members will attend on the next meeting night, to arrange for our outing for Christmas prizes.—W. M.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 1st instant, and the following weighed in fish: Mr. J. Newton, 5lb. 13oz. of roach and dace; Mr. R. Lowther, 2lb. 8½oz. of roach. I wish to remind our members that it is our monthly meeting on Wednesday next, November 11, hoping to have a good attendance.—R. LOWTHER, sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—This season's third club match proved a great success, as several members went out for the competition, resulting in the first prize of one guinea, with Mr. Elsmore's presentation guinea, being taken by Mr. J. J. Hunter, with bream and roach, scaling 11lb. 3oz.; Mr. E. Hunter taking the second prize with bream and roach, 10lb. 3oz.; and Mr. H. Lidgard the third prize, with a jack and roach, 6lb. 3oz. Messrs. Mallinson, Rogers, and Cox also weighed in. Myself and brother, out with Job Brain, of Richmond, on the 1st, had 22lb. of bream, roach and dace.—J. J. HUNTER, hon. sec.

Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, the Earl Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday, 4th inst., Mr. Hesse in the chair. Mr. Rayner, fishing at Ware, on Monday, 2nd inst., had good sport with the jack and perch.—H. RICHARDSON, hon. sec.

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A few vacant dates open, for which early applications should be made.

CLUB FIXTURES.

Nov. 9.—Supper at Peckham Brothers, Prince Arthur, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Eastern District, No. 2, Anglers' Association visit to North London Club, Tap House, Holloway-road.

Nov. 10.—Paper by Mr. E. S. Shrubsole, at Battersea Friendly, Queen's Hotel, St. Philip's-street, Battersea Park Town. Subject: "Fishing Baskets, Bags, and Creels." Exhibition of upwards of one hundred baskets, bags, and creels. Chairman, R. B. Marston, Esq.—Concert at Brunswick Brothers, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E., in aid of Mr. R. Buffham's benefit fund.—Mr. S. Bentley will read a paper at the Gresham Angling Society, Mason's Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street.

Nov. 11.—Paper by Mr. J. P. Wheeldon, at the Serapis, Neville Arms, Neville-road, Stoke Newington. Subject: "The Science of Angling."—Smoking concert at Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.

Nov. 15.—Competition at Rye House, in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear Best quality only —EAST LONDON RUBBER Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1891.

SCOTCH FISHERY BOARD REPORT.

THE FRESH-WATER FISHERIES.

THE salmon fishing during the year 1890 did not come up to the standard of late years. A table showing the number of boxes of salmon sent to the Billingsgate Market from Scotland in each year, from 1834 to 1890, given in the report, at once indicates the variable and fluctuating nature of this branch of commerce. The number of boxes sent forward in 1890 was 18,931; and, looking into the number for the last fifty-six years, it will be seen that only on sixteen years was the number below 20,000. For eleven years it was over 30,000, reaching as high as 42,000 in 1835, and 39,417 in 1842. Taking the two periods of twenty-eight years previous to 1890, these being from 1834 to 1861, and from 1862 to 1890, it will be seen that the number of boxes for the latter period exceeded the number for the former by 56,852. At the same time it will be observed that during the former period the number for each year was much more variable; in 1835 it was as high as 42,320; while in 1851 it was as low as 11,593. The results on the whole during the latter period, as will be seen, were much more satisfactory and steady; but then it must be remembered that there has been a far greater amount of netting, together with increased numbers of fixed engines, that operations have been more systematic and constant all round, and that the methods of capture with the appliances for such have been vastly perfected.

The value of salmon during the fishing season is estimated at £5 10s. per box. This gives a round sum of £104,120. Now if this amount is doubled, it is calculated to cover the value of all the fish consumed and sent to the other markets within the United Kingdom, including London. This certainly is a fairly modest estimate.

The report goes on to say that the improvements on the Tay recommended by the board have been given effect to. There is a further recommendation that the falls of the Tummel should be opened up, on the hypothesis that if such were done, and thus fifty miles of river and twenty thousand acres of lochs be made accessible to salmon, the fishing would be proportionately improved. This is extremely doubtful. In the first place, the same number of salmon would be scattered over a much greater extent of water, thus diminishing the number per area on the whole. That they would increase in number in proportion is open to grave doubt. Secondly, such opening up of small streams as would necessarily follow, would admit salmon to out-of-the-way regions, where it would be impossible to protect them from the depredations of poachers, except at extraordinary expense. Moreover, to such an experiment, quite a host of other objections, not easily rebutted, might be urged. We would advise careful examination of the nature of the waters, and a thorough experiment on a small scale before attempting a gigantic undertaking such as is advised for the salmonising of the waters inland from the Tummel Falls.

The illicit traffic in salmon from the different parts of Scotland, more especially the Tay, shows no signs of diminution. The steps to put a stop to this traffic recommended in the seventh annual report are certainly very necessary. That extending of powers of search and seizure to officers of district boards, river watchers, and police officers, would in a great measure mitigate the evil is beyond doubt. That these powers which are given with regard to game by the Poaching Prevention Act of 1862 should be withheld from salmon is unreasonable. We think, however, that the most effectual means would be the "Prohibition of sale, offering for sale, or having in possession for the purpose of the sale, of salmon during the extension of the time for rod-fishing." If these suggestions were embodied in a measure, and became law, the principal means by which poachers get rid of their salmon would be pretty effectually thwarted.

Good results have been obtained by the Loch Awe Fisheries Improvement Association in ridding the loch of pike, and stocking it with Loch Leven trout. This has tended greatly to counteract the stock-diminishing effects of over-fishing. By this association 1,600 pike have been killed during the past five years; and 150,000 ova of trout been deposited into the burns during the last two years. Mr. Hartly, the late secretary, to whose energy a great deal of the work of this association is due, thinks that the fishing is improving, and that it will be better for the next few years than it has hitherto been. He believes that during the earlier part of the season the loch is very much over-fished.

The Esk (Midlothian) Association has given a very satisfactory report. From the accounts kept by the water-bailiffs a table has been compiled which shows the number of fish and their weights killed during the past four years. From this table it appears that the annual take is on the increase, and that the average weight of trout is about ½lb.

It is a commendable idea that all the hotel-keepers having salmon and trout fishing in connection with their hotels, should keep a regular account of the number and weight of fish caught. This would give most valuable statistics as to the actual increase and decrease, and thus accurate and most useful information to indicate in what position the fishing stands would be obtained with comparatively little trouble or outlay.

The report refers to the Inch-na-Damph Hatchery, which has been carried on for some time with good success. Here both salmon and trout are reared. Mr. Fleischman, of the Invergloy Hotel, Loch Lochy, is, we are glad to learn, proposing to start a hatchery. The number of experiments tried with this artificial means of maintenance have been so successful nearly all over, that it is a great wonder that hotel-keepers, who are otherwise so enterprising, have not more universally gone in for assisting Nature in the plenishing of their waters. The expenditure would be small compared with the great advantages derived in the shape of increased patronage by anglers during the fishing season.

There is a complaint from the Upper Don proprietors that the number of salmon is decreasing in their waters every year. The cruives and dykes on the lower part of the river must be one of the principal causes contributing to the decrease. The mills at Muggiemoss and Pirie's dykes drain most of the water through their mill lades, and in the close season salmon are to be seen in immense numbers in the pools immediately below, the salmon passes being completely dry. Another cause is the pollution of the water through the mill refuse being run directly into the river. And, again, the destruction of smolts is so great that they are described as being seen in thousands, dead and broken in bits, at the tail of the lades. They go down the lades, and are killed by the turbine wheels. The mill-owners should certainly be compelled to put on smolt hecks along where the lades break off from the main river during the season, as recommended by the Board. It is only possible for salmon to get up past these obstructions easily during a spate, or the twenty-four hours of Sunday, when the water is not utilised. On account of this the upper proprietors do not derive the full benefit of the weekly close time, and the fish lying thick in the pools, not being able to get up, are clipped and dragged in immense numbers. A petition has been got up and sent to the Secretary of State by the proprietors on the upper reaches anent the contraventions of the Salmon Fisheries Act of 1862, committed on the lower reaches at the cruives and dykes, more particularly at the dyke near Gordon's Mill. The manufacturers could certainly do a great deal by providing efficient passes to assist the passage of salmon when running. Last year 560 fish were taken out from below the pool at Muggiemoss dam in boxes, and placed above the obstruction, besides 400 that were taken out with landing-nets, they having fallen back in the futile attempt to force a passage; during the previous year 660 required similar assistance.

The Aberdeenshire Dee fishing yield is on the increase. On this river the months of March, July, and October, are the most productive, the former for salmon to the nets and rods, the second for grilse similarly, and the latter for angling. The report says that the heaviest fish taken by the rod weighed 27lb. This is a mistake, as a large number, exceeding 30lb. in weight, were got. In December there were a few diseased fish in the river. There is a further statement that the chief run of grilse is in May. But this information, wherever obtained, is certainly very far from correct, as every year the strength of the grilse run is during the period lasting from the middle of June to the end of July. In no Scotch waters was ever the chief run of grilse heard of in the month of May.

It appears that there is no increase in the number of fish taken on the Ness; in fact a considerable decrease is recorded. But the fluctuations of the Ness net fishings are largely due to the nature of the weather in the early months of the year. When very open weather prevails during this period, the greater bulk of the very strong head of fish native to the Oich and Garry, have pushed inland beyond all the netting stations on the Ness, before the season for netting commences, and the opposite, should conditions be different.

The want of an annual close time for trout is being felt more and more every year in Scotland. Re-stocking the rivers with artificially reared trout, will, it is obvious, not alone keep up the high standard of the fishing that has hitherto been obtained all over. The reason of this falling-off is undoubtedly the great increase of anglers, owing principally to the easy facilities for travelling which modern times afford, making easy of access parts which were some years ago totally beyond the reach of the numbers that to-day go in for trout fishing—numbers that are increasing to an incredible extent annually. Owing to this, there is every reason to believe that, unless more active steps are taken, the trouting in a few years will be far below its present-day standard. That an annual close time is a favoured and practical remedy can be seen from the answers given to queries anent this subject, sent by Mr. Young to the principal hotel-keepers having trout fishing in connection with their hotels. To these queries thirty-two answers were returned, and of these twenty-four were favourable, three were against, and five were neutral. As to the time, we think, that from 30th September to the 15th March, would certainly be the best for most waters.

The fishing on the Spey we are glad to see has not fallen off; it is reported to be much the same as in the previous year.

The by-laws with regard to hecks and fish passes, and regulating the annual and weekly close times, are not infringed upon to any noticeable extent. Tables showing the number and dates of the first appearance of salmon on the redds, the number of redds and the fish counted on them, on the river and its tributaries, are given. These tables are arranged by the superintendent from information acquired by careful observation on the part of himself and the water-bailiffs on the different parts of the river; they are far and away the most perfect of their kind that we have seen. As most interesting and valuable information could be obtained if the officials on the other large rivers in Scotland would arrange similar tables, we would highly recommend them to do so. Fungoid disease was not so prevalent as during the previous season. Between 1st of December, 1889, and 9th of January, 1890, sixty-four dead fungoid diseased salmon were taken out of the Fiddich, by the water-bailiffs, and one hundred and thirty-four on the previous season during the same period. Disease is generally confined to male fish, and it makes its appearance about December.

A hatchery has been set up by the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, at Speybridge, near Garmouth. A suggestion has been made by Mr. James Grant, of Glengrant, to the effect that it should have been erected much farther up the river. His reason is that "late fish produce late fish," and as none other than autumn fish are taken in the gravid condition out of the lower waters, the hatchery will be stocked entirely with ova, which will produce autumn-running fish, and *these only*. This theory that the offspring of fish are of like habits to their parents in all stages of their existence is not, however, borne out by facts. If we assume that spring fish breed spring fish, and autumn fish breed autumn fish exclusively, we are at once confronted with the question, Where do grilse come from? Grilse run in summer so to prove this theory there would require to be three distinct breeds of fish—autumn salmon, spring salmon, and grilse respectively. But to class grilse as a distinct species from salmon is an idea long since exploded by actual experiment. We see that the grilse at the very first chance it has of showing its hereditary instinct, at once goes directly contrary to it by running, not in the spring or autumn, but in the summer. Thus the theory that the offspring inherits the instinct of its parents at all periods of its existence is at once knocked on the head. Another strong argument against this theory is that in the spring thousands of fish seek up the larger rivers, such as the North Esk, Don, Spey, Deveron, and others. Of these only one or two per thousand succeed in escaping the nets and poachers, &c. It is extremely improbable that these few—in view of the immense destruction of the ova deposited in the natural way, the loss of parr and smolts from various causes in the rivers, and the great havoc committed amongst the young fish by their enemies in the sea—could be the parents of the many thousands of salmon that are found in, or in connection with, the several rivers named in the spring of the year. Further, it has been abundantly demonstrated that autumn salmon, on account of their greater uniform size, contain more ova than spring fish, and are much more profitable to breed from, on account of the thirty to forty greater percentage of their ova that hatches out. These are proved facts; so if we admit that the few couples of spring fish that manage to spawn are the progenitors of the many thousands that are netted in spring, we have to face and answer the question: Why are not the same rivers filled *solid* with the progeny of their many thousands of autumn-running fish? Our opinion is that the early-running fish are those that, whether grilse or salmon, were not spawners in the preceding year, but wintered in the sea; that the salmon of summer are those that were the first descended spawners of the preceeding season; that the grilse which seek inland in summer or even in autumn are those—the portion of them—that will be spawners the same year, as proved by their ova and milt; and that the autumn salmon are the fish that were latest in spawning and descending the season before, and for this reason are the last in returning to the coast for the purpose of again making their way to the fresh water, with the object of reproduction. Believing what we say, we heartily commend the policy of His Grace the Duke of Richmond in taking from large healthy autumn-run fish the ova with which the Garmouth Hatchery is stocked.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea.	Add	55 min. for Kew.
	40 ,, ,, Putney.		75 ,, ,, Richmond.
	45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.		80 ,, ,, Twickenham.
	50 ,, ,, Barnes.		85 ,, ,, Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Nov. 7	4.49	5. 9
Sunday,	,, 8	5.33	5.59
Monday,	,, 9	6.28	7. 1
Tuesday,	,, 10	7.40	8.22
Wednesday	,, 11	9. 6	9.50
Thursday,	,, 12	10.28	11. 3
Friday,	,, 13	11.34	—

English and Welsh Reports.

The Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—The continuance of last week's bright and cheerful weather, apart from some of the early local fogs, had a wonderful effect in reducing the height and improving the condition of the water, but it left something to do for the officials of the T.A.P.S., inasmuch as the flood covering the meadows drove the fish from the natural stream to other pastures "fresh and green," and then there was the getting of them home again. In the neighbourhood of Chertsey the honorary river-keeper, Mr. A. E. Armstreng, has been again in activity, and by the use of nets has been in search of any stray fish and restored them to the river. The paid officials have been on the move at other points and it is to be hoped there has been a good recovery. The stream ran down at a very rapid rate, and if the fish went with it there is every probability the bulk of fish would follow. It will appear from the brief reports that have come to hand, the anglers have been at work, and there is a successful capture of perch at Sunbury with the presence of some very good fish. I have known after a similar flood in October directly the water was in anything like condition there has been some very good captures of jack; and one thing is certain, if the river is not depleted of those fish, and I do not for one moment believe it is, only let the jack fishers go out in some of the likely spots, they will be sure to find them. The late flood must have been attended with regretful consequences in the Sunbury rearing stream, and whatever fish there were in it must either have got away or perished. I remember years ago in one of those floods though of longer continuance the stream got filled up with washed-in gravel. It was reported to me the river in the Tideway was largely attended by the bank anglers on their only available day, but with very meagre results, and the T.A.P.S. river-keepers were continually on the watch against the retention of any unsizeable fish.—B.

RICHMOND.—Job Brain, in four days, 32lb. weight, of roach and dace; Henry Mansell, in five days, 75lb., one of the roach weighing 1½lb.; and in addition one bream of 4¾lb., the successful angler being Captain A. Graham Schuzler.

TWICKENHAM.—John Spong, in two days, 20lb. weight of roach and dace, and another day with Mr. Dicks, of Epsom, twenty dozen of roach and dace; Richard Meffatt, in one day, nine dozen of roach and dace, and one brace of perch; and F. Wiggins, in two days, 14lb. of roach and dace.

TEDDINGTON.—Charles Baldwin, in one day, three dozen of roach and dace.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, in four days, eighteen dozen of roach and dace, five bream, and one brace of jack. N. Bolton, in three days, fifteen dozen of roach and dace; and J. Knight, during the week, sixteen dozen of roach and dace, two bream, three chub, and one barbel.

SUNBURY.—Mr. Edward Clarke, in one day, thirty perch, eighteen of them weighing from 1lb. to 1½lb. Mr. Stroud, in one day, four dozen of fine roach. J. Jeck, in one day, three dozen of roach and dace, and R. Batt, in one day, one and-a-half dozen of roach and dace,

Upper Thames.—The flood in the Upper Thames is a thing of the past, and possibly not likely to recur again in the nineteenth century, for it is hardly likely such another continuously wet season as that of 1891 will be experienced for many many years. The river has again got into bounds, the weir's tackle is being gradually shut down, the weeds have gone to that bourne whence no such objectionable travellers ever return, the water is in superb angling colour and condition, and fish are back in their old haunts, and eager for the fray and the fry. In the Henley district, in two days, some 200cwt. of jack have been taken with the rod and line, George Arlett, with patrons, accounting for 75lb. At Hurley, Scott has been busy amid the jack; and Wood, of Temple, in two days, had four jack, going respectively 7lb., 7½lb., 8lb., and 18lb. In the Marlow district, Mr. Bennett has had a pretty jack of 8lb.; and patrons of the Coster Brothers done well. A jack of 19lb. was scaled the other evening at the Marlow Railway Station, but who was the fortunate captor could not be gleaned by MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Monkey Island).—Water going down very fast, and should it continue, there ought to be some good all-round fishing by the end of the week.—R. PLUMMER, senior.

Thames (Staines).—The water here is just the colour for angling, but the stream is still very wild and strong, and swims are most difficult to fish. To-night (Thursday, November 5), the wind is dead north-east, and it looks very much like snow. Bitter weather was experienced in the course of the day, and it put the fish completely off the feed, both bank and punt anglers securing but poor baskets. The jack and chub can be seen right under the banks and "boughs," but cannot be got at. The roach seem to have vanished altogether.—GOOSEQUILL.

Thames (Windsor).—The river here is now in bounds, though a deal of water is outlying, and as a consequence quantities of fish would have to perish, were it not for the Windsor and Eton Angling Preservation Society, who intend as soon as practicable, netting them and returning the proceeds to the river. Some very good roach have been taken lately, but the jack do not appear to be on feed, as many anglers have tried them without any result. When water is lower and clearer they may come, especially if some lively 4in. dace on a single salmon gut paternoster are brought before their notice. A rather unusual capture was made here, a few days back, by Mr. Dennett, jun., of Windsor, who in midday whilst bottom fishing, hooked and eventually landed a fine eel which scaled 2¼lb. —B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—We have as yet had no frost, and autumn flowers are still in full bloom. As a result of this mildness, pike have not begun to feed so early as usual. Waters are fining down nicely, and will be in good condition during the coming week. It is very pleasant now, but though the season has been comparatively wet we have quite escaped the heavy floods which have prevailed in southern and western shires. Catches have been light during the week, but are improving a little now.—T. FORD,

Arun (Pulborough and Amberley).—The floods have at last commenced to subside. They have been the most severe experienced for many years, and have caused the farmers heavy losses. As for the Arun, it has received a thorough scouring, and the water will soon be in good trim again. It is thick now, and not what one would consider in roaching condition, or yet favourable to jack fishing; but, nevertheless, I hear that on the 1st inst. several fair baskets of bream and roach were made, some of the roach being of a choice description. The water should be greatly improved by the 8th inst. An enthusiastic angler took a 2lb. roach, fishing from a punt in one of the flooded meadows at Pulborough. I should recommend anglers to try a shrimp the next time they go out; I have taken several good roach and perch with it in the Arun, and once a fine eel—of the order very far above the "shoestring" species. Mr. Eldridge's competition amongst the London club anglers at Pulborough, postponed on account of the floods, has been fixed to take place there on Nov. 29. —GOOSEQUILL.

Brighton.—SEA ANGLING.—The sea has been very calm this week, and boat anglers have been off again. What little wind there is, is off the land, and at time of writing (Nov. 5), the sea is as calm as a lake.—H.

Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, and Suffolk Rivers—Since my report last week, our rivers, broads, and streams, have very much improved, and the fishing is again good. I have, during the last few days, visited most of the principal fishing stations and found the roach well on, especially in the Ouse at Littleport, Ely, Hilgay, and Denner. Pike are also well on in most all fen rivers. I had half-a-day on Wednesday, at Mildenhall, up to Worlington, and took a splendid lot of chub, the largest weighing 4¼lb. and the smallest 3¼lb.—a most beautiful lot. The river Lark, all the way, is now in good order for angling, and up to the present time the weather is very fine. Anglers should have a turn at the Brandon river. Since the flood last week all the rotten weeds and deposit have washed away, and the swims are in fine condition. Send a wire to Mr. Ralph, Ram Hotel, before starting. The Yare is now in fine order for big roach, perch, and pike—not too high, nor yet too much coloured.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—Seldom have we had a better season than that which closed on the 31st. Bad as to weather from a tourist point, but good for angling. Sea fishing still continues very fair.—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—We have now splendid weather and a decent water, plenty of grayling on the feed but no fishermen. Mr. W. Bullock is the only angler we have heard of being out, and his bag was six brace; these were taken with the fly. — D. AND W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourne.

Eden (Carlisle).—Weather and water being favourable, good sport was had at the end of last week. The river is now getting very fine, and sport will fall off unless we get rain, of which there is no sign at present. A fish of 12lb. was killed a few days ago, near Appleby, by Mr. Hamilton. This is higher up than I have ever known a salmon caught with the rod.—SILVER GREY.

Esk (Whitby, Yorkshire).—The angling season for salmon and salmon trout on this river is now at an end. The closing day was on Saturday last; but for several days before that the bulk of the local anglers had suspended operations. Since our last report, Mr. Calvert, of Lealholm, landed three salmon, the aggregate weight of which was over 60lb.; while Mr. J. Moore caught one of 8½lb. Several other anglers brought to land some good fish. The season which has just closed has been the most successful on record; and all being well, the next cannot fail to be a brilliant one, as there is abundance of fish left for spawning.—J. J. JACKSON.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—Pike-fishing is now the kind of sport receiving most attention in the fen districts, but the disturbance the water sustained a fortnight ago has taken a good deal of settling. Pike are best caught in the drains when the stream is slow, and it has only been within the last few days that this state of things obtained. Doubtless, by the end of the week some good fish will be handled; but as yet the captures, so far as I know, are unimportant. The frosty nights are stirring up both pike and eels, and good samples of the latter have been shown. Roach and perch are biting fairly; but on the whole it has been a bad season for roach.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—The colder weather is all the better for grayling fishing, but as a rule it is deterring many of the ordinary run of bottom fishers, such for instance as those who seek roach and dace. The river has run into nice trim for grayling, and those who know how to use the gentle or brandling worm for them will do very well. The fish doubtless will be found in the deeper slacks and at the tails of streams, where the water runs over the gravel; and it is well to try very close to the bottom, for as a rule the fish will probably be seeking their food among the bottom accumulations. If the weather becomes drier and colder flies would be worth trying.—L.

Lake District.—Salmon fishing continues good in the north, and anglers are regretting the near approach of close time, though there still remains another full week in the Kent, Leven, and Duddon district. The weather is all that could be desired in "chill November," being bright and comparatively warm during the day, with just a suggestion of frost nightly. Takes are reported as satisfactory from nearly all quarters, and the fish captured are bright and in good condition. Spawning will be later than usual. In the Keswick district a few nice fish have been obtained. Lord Leconfield was successful in grassing a good fish of 23lb. from the Derwent, with fly; but this was topped by Mr. J. Byers and Mr. J. Stephenson (Greysonthen), each of whom landed a thirty-five-pounder.—WESTMERIA.

Lea and Stort.—The rivers are now in the best possible condition, both as regards colour and height, and some very good sport has been had, principally amongst the pike. There has not been much roach fishing since the flood; but now that the water has cleared nicely, I should strongly advise all brother fishermen, who thoroughly understand the difficult art of roach fishing, to be up and stirring, as there cannot be a shadow of doubt that now is their chance. Thanks to the flood and the frosty nights we have had, most of the weeds are cleared away, and there are plenty of available swims to be found at all the fishing stations. At Waltham Abbey some good sport has been had, but no less than three anglers have had their tackle smashed up with veritable monsters. Harry Avis, of the King's Arms, can supply fishermen with all they require, from baits up to bedrooms. At the Ferrie Boat, Tottenham, a few good pike have been taken during the past week. Anglers will do well to supply themselves with live baits, as they are somewhat difficult to get at some places.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—Fishing has been exceptionally good for a week or so. Frequently in the autumn there are weeks when Leicestershire anglers obtain very heavy catches, and this week has been one of those satisfactory periods that piscators hope for. There has not been an over large number out, but, all round, the takes have been far in advance of the average. Doubtless the waters just getting to a nice height and colour after the storms of last month have had a lot to do with the recent success at the Leicester Society's waters, which run from Aylestone to Leicester. The new basin near the Twelve Bridge yielded a splendid lot of fish, the most conspicuous takes being those of Messrs. F. Towe and J. Hobbs, who on Saturday took eleven pike, the lot weighing 40lb. Mr. Towe took three brace, and Mr. Hobbs two and a-half. In addition to the pike, a lot of perch were taken from this spot, one captured by Mr. Hobbs scaling 1lb. 11¼oz. Roach fishermen have also been very successful along the canal, fish up to 1lb. 5oz. being among the sport. At the higher reaches at Aylestone capital sport was had among the chub. A fair amount of fishing has been done at the Wreake, Blaby, and Narborough, and success of no mean order has been met with.

Loddon (Earley). — A week of fine weather has brought anglers out again, and several fair baskets of fish have been taken. I hear of a gentleman roach fishing and taking a very nice trout of 2lb., which was returned, which is very rare in this part of the river. Mr. Wilson had one dozen of chub, the largest 3lb. A few jack have been taken from 3lb. up to 5lb. No doubt, got the wind out of the East, it will improve sport. River in capital condition.—J. R. GOULD.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these noted grayling streams are running clear, and have lowered, and in order for grayling fishing. The nights have been cold and frosty, with fine days, and grayling have been moving better than they have for some weeks. Fishing is best between eleven and three o'clock, when good sport should be had.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—A week's fine weather has brought these rivers once more into angling trim. Some sport has been had bottom fishing, and by the time these lines are in print the fly may be used. Mid Blue, Whirling, Willows, Red Tag, Blue Gnat, Green Insect, and Red Palmer, are all good, but the weather must be the guide as to which are best.

Medway (Maidstone).—The river is now in good condition for all-round fishing. A good run and good colour to the water, and anglers ought to obtain good sport with the rod. Roach and bream are well on the feed. The worm for bait. An angler took some good roach near the bridge, Maidstone. At Farleigh anglers were again busy on the 1st. I have not heard of any pike of any note being taken since my last, but the water for pike is now grand, and good sport ought to be obtained.—W. SHRUBSOLE.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—The river being in flood this last fortnight, I had nothing important to report, but at the time of writing it has gone down, and is in prime condition, and jack are feeding well, but the north-east winds are not at all pleasant. The local rods are out and doing well with some good fish. Anyone wishing for sport should not miss this opportunity after the flood, which is a good prospect. —H. ROUT.

Ouse (Offord)—On Monday, the 2nd, Mr. Adams took a very fine jack, weighing 9½lb., in the Mill Pool, with live bait, the Rev. T. G. Thompson took a very fine one in the back waters on the same day; when writing water in good condition. Gentlemen wishing for good sport should not miss the present opportunity, for if the weather holds fine I have no doubt but that there will be some very good sport for several days, as they appear to be well on the feed.— H. COLLINS.

Scarborough.—(SEA FISHING).—Sport from the piers and from boats in the bays, has not been so good during the past week, due perhaps to the calm sea and clear state of the water.—H.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—We have had some good angling weather of late, and bottom fishers have been successful, but few anglers have been out. Pike fishing continues fairly good, but the water is rather too fine for heavy takes. —PISCATOR.

Sussex Rivers and Chichester Canal. — With a cessation of rain future angling prospects are more hopeful but with the saturated soil and springs from the hills breaking and adding their quota to the general overflow, it will yet be some time before the rivers will resume their wonted placed course. The only takes I can vouch for are from Chichester Canal, with the water bright and low, but the Lavant, dry up to a week since is now pouring a great body of water into the basin. Perch fishing off the Calverts is generally successful with the stream running, and the small roach and bream fry, called here shiners are the most successful lure. A few roach and bream have been taken, but the water except at the basin, is too bright for sport. Sea fishing from piers and boats is good on the coast, quantities of whiting, small cod, conger, and plaice have been taken. Anglers should take advantage of the present calm weather.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this district has now cleared and lowered, and is now in capital order for either fly or bottom fishing. The weather has been suitable for grayling fishing, with the cold frosty nights and foggy mornings, and the grayling have been more on the move.— S. LUDLOW.

Torridge (Torrington).—River in prime order for fishing. Many salmon and peal have been taken since last week's report. Next Saturday week is the last day this season for fishing in North Devon.—PRACTICAL ANGLER.

Wimbledon Park Fishery—The water in the lake is in good colour for jack and bottom fishing, Mr. Hursent, Lavender-hill, five jack, largest 7lb.; Mr. Wood, Putney, two jack, largest 5lb.—W. BUCKETT, keeper.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—Very varied luck has attended operations on this water, and whilst some have done pretty well, others have come away almost empty-handed. One reason which accounts for this is the fact that strong stream and blustering wind requires much heavier tackle than calm and slow-going water. Those who still persisted in bringing light summer tackle stood no chance with those putting on the heavier, and this is a fact worth remembering when the river is inclined to be floody. On the subsidence of the flood the rule is fish bite well, and therefore the bottom fishers have done pretty well this week, but anglers deem it a trifle too cold to pursue this sport for many hours together. Trolling for pike is indulged in by most fishermen, but the big fish are yet sluggish. Some rather nice fish are reported from the lower district, but the best are but 5lb. or 6lb.; plenty not half these weights.—LUCI.

Yare (Norwich). — Pike fishing still continues very good on this river, both trailing and also live baiting, the former on the stream, and the latter on the broads, being the modes most adopted. Several catches of six to twelve jack are reported, during the past week; and yesterday two rods landed seven nice fish; and on the Bure, at Wroxham, good luck attended two gentlemen, they caught fifteen jack, three were returned as undersized, and twelve were taken home. The weather is now in fine order for pike, and the sport this season has been exceptionally good up to the present. At Oulton Broad, I hear, they are doing well, whilst at Yarmouth a gentleman fishing for cod off the jetty, hooked a seal which he unfortunately lost.—ROBERT MOLL.

East and West Cleddau (Pembrokeshire).—Our rivers were so high during the closing week of the salmon (rod) season, that we had no sport whatever.—H.

Tenby (South Wales).—SEA FISHING.—A few cod and conger have been caught. No bass; plaice and silver whiting are becoming scarce.—H.

Towy (Llandilo, Carmarthenshire).—We had good sport during the closing week of our salmon (rod) season, which the following will show. Mr. Tressler, of Dynevor, landed two, 9lb. and 10lb., on the Dynevor Water, and Mr. Joseph Lockyer, two, 6lb. and 9lb.; Mr. John F. Common, of Cardiff, six, 20lb., 14½lb. 10lb., 5lb., 5lb., and 3lb.; Mr. J. Savil, on the Trigib Water, two salmon, 7lb. and 8lb., and two sewin, about 2½lb. each; Mr. James Fuller, on our club water, two salmon, 8½lb. and 9½lb.; Mr. Thomas Lewis, of Dryslwyn, during one afternoon on the Monkey Pool, Golden Grove Water, five fish, 12lb., 14lb., 16lb., 16lb., and 19lb.; Mr. William Lewis, of Llandilo, on the club water, one sewin, 4lb., and three salmon, 2½lb., 4½lb., and 6½lb.; and a youthful angler, Master Willie Thomas, of Carglase, landed a nice 10lb. fish on the fly, his first, after loosing a good one by letting his rod drop during an early rush.—H.

Scotch Reports.

Border Esk.—The weather was fine up to the close of the season, and the river daily became clearer and smaller in volume, although the catches were not quite so numerous as during flood time, some good sport was witnessed. The quantity of salmon still in the river is enormous, and the "oldest inhabitant" does nothing but *ferlie* at the circumstance. Space does not permit of a complete list of the most recent catches up to the 31st, but the following may be selected, commencing with the Broomholm reserved water, where Mr. W. A. Connell had a prolonged struggle lasting two hours, with a lively fish weighing 18lb., which he ultimately landed; Lord George Scott and Lord Henry Scott had also good sport in the Irvine House Water, below Broomholm. In the Byreburr Foot Water, Mr. D. Hutton, Canonbie, had two salmon of 21lb. each; Dr. Macnaughten, Blackpool, staying at the Eskdale Temperance Hotel, had a beautiful summer of 25lb. in the Canonbie Water; Mr. Glazier, a salmon 16lb., in the Broomholm Water. Sport has been rather tame in the Double Water; Mr. Walter Scott, Holmfoot, a fish of 22lb.; Mr. John Graham, Rowanburn, a nice salmon of 20lb.; Mr. John Davidson, Langholm, a fine salmon; Dr. Macnaughten had another salmon of 19lb., in the Canonbie Water. I now come to the Metal Bridge division of the river, which shows a good record. Among the most recent catches are the following: Mr. Mason, Rockliffe, a salmon of 23lb.; Dr. Birrell, one of 24lb.; Mr. J. Bell, Longtown, one, 24lb.; Mr. Kirkpatrick, staying at Metal Bridge Hotel, two, 22lb. and 16lb.; Mr. Kerr, at the same hotel, one, 17lb.; Captain Gandy, one, 24lb.; Mr. S. Walton, one, 24lb.; Mr. W. Walton, one, 18lb.; Mr. Tweddle, one, 19lb.; Mr. Watson, Shennan Moffat, staying at Metal Bridge, one, 8lb.; and Mr. Lamorbie, one, 17lb. In the Netherby Water, Miss Graham, Arthuret Rectory, had two salmon, 28lb. and 20lb.; and Mr. I. Graham, had two, 18lb. and 11lb. In the previous week, Miss Graham had four salmon; Mr. Malise Graham had five, Mr. Johnson (keeper) had four, Mr. Millican had one, Mr. Matthew Brown (of Scaur Bank), one, 27lb.; and the Rev. Malise Graham, landed three salmon, all in the Netherby Water. I hope to return shortly to the subject of the Metal Bridge Water, when I trust my remarks will interest those who may be chiefly concerned in their tenour.

Dee (Aberdeenshire).—The season closed on Saturday. The back-end has yielded most magnificent returns as far as the lower reaches were concerned, while the middle reaches, although not coming quite up to the anticipations owing to the excessive floods, have yet yielded a good average. The quality of the fish has, as a general rule, been excellent all over, and the weights unusually heavy, although no extraordinary fish have been got, the heaviest on the Dee being two of 37lb., and, on the Don, one of 40lb. During the past week the closing sport was well maintained, and especially on the last day of the season, when some splendid baskets were got. On the Invercauld Arms Water, at Braemar, Sir Algernon Borthwick, M.P., Mr. Oliver Borthwick, and Miss Borthwick had a splendid spring season during their visit, when sixty-four fish were got in some six days' fishing. Very little effort has been made during the autumn to angle these waters, although the pools were literally teeming with fish. A splendid season has been enjoyed all through on the Balmoral, Birkhall, Dr. Profeit having made a capital record for the year. On McGregor's Invercauld Arms Water, Ballater, seven hundred and thirty fish were landed for the season. The most successful month was April, with one hundred and eighty-seven fish, May yielding one hundred and eighty-one. On the Monaltrie Water Mr. J. F. Heaven landed his first fish, a beauty of 18lb., on Thurs-closing the score on this water at one hundred and forty, the best month being May, with forty-nine. On the Cambus O'May Water one hundred and ninety fish were got between the 1st April and 4th June, while Mr. Gaskell and others have since then added greatly to this fine score. On Mr. Keiller's Craigendarroch Water thirty-one fish were got. The heaviest fish got on these waters was one of 28lb., by Mr. Upcher, jun., Mr. Upcher, sen., having one of 25½lb., and Mr. Yarrow one of 24lb. On the Forest of Glentana Waters Sir William C. Brooks, Bart., M.P., and guests have participated in the magnificent run of the spring migration to a great extent, and some exceptionally fine sport was got, while the season's record is close on a thousand fish. The autumn season has been very prolific. On the Aboyne Waters, Mr. Digby Cayley landed, during the closing week, from three to five fish daily, scaling from 8lb. to 20lb. On the closing day he had five of 11lb., 11lb., 17lb., 20lb., and 29lb. The season has been a very fair one all through on these waters, Mr. Allan, Mr. Milne, and others having a good record. On the Huntly Lodge Water, Mr. Pickering's party have had twenty-nine fish for the autumn, seven of which were to Mrs. Pickering's own rod. On the Upper Dess Water, the closing day was the best of the season, when Captain Brooke, of Her Majesty's Guard of Honour, made his best single day's record on the Dee, landing, in three hours, no less than six splendid fish, scaling respectively, 24lb., 23lb., 19lb., 18lb., 17lb., and 8lb. On the same water, Mr. Burnett Ramsay, landed the heaviest fish got hereabouts, on the day previous, which scaled 34lb.; while Mr. Wilson had one of 14lb., and one of 23½lb., on the Lower Dess. On the Carlogie Water, during the closing days, Captain Campbell landed one of 10lb., two of 20lb., and one of 23lb.; while Mr. Archie Campbell had two of 18lb. and 29lb., one, 25lb., and one of 18lb., on the closing day, after a desperate struggle, being foul-hooked. In all some sixty-four fish have been got on this section since the 15th of September. On the Kincardine Lodge water, Mr. William Lamond landed one of 23½lb., completing a good average fishing all through. On the Borrowstone water, Admiral Fane landed five on Friday of 12½lb., 17½lb., 19½lb., 20lb. and 26lb., and six on Saturday of 10lb., 25lb., 18lb., 20lb., 19lb. and 21lb., while on the same water on the closing day, Col. C. L. Hay had three of 16lb., 17lb., and 19lb.; making a score of fifty-seven for the autumn on this section. On the slime water, W. G. L. Chambers, landed three of 16lb., 16lb., and 12lb.: and Mr. G. M. Mackay, one of 8lb., making some twenty fish for the last two months. On the Ballogie and Commonty waters, fairly good sport has been had, and more particularly so on the former, by Mr. W. E. Nicol and party. On the Woodend water, Mr. Wm. Farnell Watson had ten of 23½lb., 22lb., 21lb., 19lb., 18lb., 18lb., 16lb., 15lb., and 9lb. On Monday last, three of 21lb., 17lb., and 15lb., two of 18lb. and 15½lb., three of 33lb., 19lb., and 19lb., and one of 28lb. on the following days, while Mrs. Farnell Watson had one of 21lb.; making ninety-five fish for the autumn, and a total of one hundred and sixty, three for the season. On the Cairnton, Mr. T. Turner, Farley, has a good record, having killed two heavy fish in the closing days, scaling 35lb. and 37lb. On the Blackhall Castle Water, Mr. G. T. Hay, landed during the week six, of 16lb., 16½lb., 18lb., 18½lb., 19lb., and 20lb, four from 16lb. to 19lb., two of 10lb. and 17lb. two of 12lb., and 27lb., and six on the closing day, scaling from 14lb. to 24lb. The season has been a very good average, from twenty to thirty fish having been got weekly. On the Inchmarlo Water, Mr. Duncan Davidson and party have had several fish every day almost, and a good record has been run up. On the Crathes, General Keene, and Lower Crathes, Mr. J. C. Wordie, have enjoyed fair sport. On the Durris water some three hundred fish have been grassed during the season. On the Park Water Mr. Davidson, of Wellwood, and Sir Charles Turner and friends have landed over two hundred fish, closing the season with four to his own rod, of 28lb., 25lb., 14lb., and 14lb. On the Drum Water Mr. F. H. Irvine has had some exceptionally good sport, having got upwards of one hundred fish to himself and two friends. On the Kincausie Water, Miss Fortescue has the honour of having landed the heaviest fish but one of the season, being a beauty of 37lb., which she hooked, played, and landed by herself.

DON.—Since the 26th of August, the Don has been in capital trim. The improvements effected on the lower dam dykes, seems to have reopened a career for the upper waters, such as they used to enjoy in days gone by, as the sport obtained this season has been more prolific than for the past ten years. On the Kintore Burgh Water, which is let at one shilling and sixpence per rod, per day, was extensively taken up this autumn; and in the aggregate twelve to fifteen fish were landed daily. On Mr. Botts Water upwards of one hundred and fifty fish were landed, scaling from 8lb. and near 30lb. in weight. On the Grandholm Water, seven rods plied during the last two months, and made a total basket of nigh five hundred fish. Mr. Ellis, and Mr. Rooper, sen., London, were most successful on this section, having several fish over 30lb. and up to 35lb.; while Mr. Fred Rooper had the heaviest fish got to the rod this season, scaling 40lb. On the Cruives and lower waters (tidal), an excellent back-end has been had all through, the most successful anglers being Messrs. Williams, Walker, Gibb, Murray, and others.—DON.

Deveron (Banffshire).—Rod fishing closed for the season on the river Deveron, on Saturday last, and reports from all the sections indicate the large amount of sport anglers have had. It has been one of the most successful seasons for many years; and waters that fish scarcely ever reach, in the upper districts, until the spawning season begins, were early stocked. The frequent falls of rain kept the river in splendid fishing condition. It is not a large nor deep stream, and an occasional spate is necessary to enable the fish to shift from pool to pool, and to scour out the *debris* that is sure to accumulate, which, if it settles for any time, taints the water and disease is sure to spread. Fortunately, nothing of the kind has occurred this year, and it was only on the closing days that a few fish were landed with a tendency to disease. Sport somewhat diminished on the closing week, owing to the water getting low and clear. Since the month of July, fish have been very shy to take with the fly, and the worm has been the most successful bait.—H. W.

Earn.—CLOSE OF THE ROD FISHING.—One of the most successful rod fishing seasons that has been experienced for many years on the river Earn, closed on Saturday. The early floods at the end of August, brought up large numbers of strong fish, which were enabled to surmount all obstruction and reach the upper water much earlier than usual. A continual supply of salmon and grilse came up with every flood till the close. A good deal of time was lost waiting till the flood subsided, but Earn anglers do not object to this as the river goes down quickly, and it requires a flood every five or six days to keep it in order. On the closing days a large number of anglers were out, and many of them waited patiently for the desired ripple which did not come. Those who fished where there was a stream got fair sport. The lower beats have not done so well this season. Moncrieffe Water, Freeland, and Dunbarny have been under the average. Lower Dupplin Water has fished fairly well. On this beat the largest fish of the season was got by Mr. J. Irvine, and weighed 40lb. The Dupplin reserved water, fished by Mr. Brydges Willyams and friends, has been under the average. On the Upper Dupplin Water, however, Captain Murray has done well. Good sport has also been got on Invernary. Gask Water, fished by Mr. E. Moon and friends three days a week, and the alternate three days on Duncral Water, has fished well, about eighty fish having been killed. The other three days on Gask Water, fished by Miss Oliphant, have done well. Trinity Gask Water, fished by Mr. Thomas and Mr. Lewis, has done well, about one hundred and thirty fish having been killed. Mr. A Cox, Dundee, has done well on Camperdown Water, several fish, from 25lb. to 30lb., being killed. Strathallan and Innerpeffray have yielded good sport. The best take of the season was got on the Innerpeffray Water by J. S. Pagan, with eleven fish and one grilse, weighing 186lb. On Drummond Castle reserved water, Mr. Curr, the factor, has killed about sixty fish, his best day being nine. Drummond Castle ticket water, and the Pittasher Water opposite, called the Club Water, has done better than any other part of the river, between three hundred and four hundred fish having been killed. Strowan and Ochterlyre Waters have also done well. All the upper reaches and tributaries are well stocked, so that a good spawning season may be anticipated.

Liddel.—This river afforded capital sport up to the close of the season. During the ten days preceding the 31st Oct. the following among other takes are recorded: Mr. J. B. Balfour, Langholm, a salmon, 17lb.; Mr. D. Reid, Langholm, one, 13lb.; Mr. Geo. Cummings, Langholm, one, 9lb.; Mr. Jas. Anderson, Langholm, two, 20lb. and 11lb.; Mr. Jas. Elliot, Langholm, two, 19lb. and 11½lb.; and at another fishery Mr. Elliot landed two fine salmon; Mr. W. Keir, Commercial Hotel, Langholm, had three salmon at a fishery below Kershope Foot, a beautiful stretch of water; Mr. Wm. Elliot, Newcastleton, a salmon, 20lb.; Mr. Wm. Elliot, Hawick, three fine salmon; Mr. D. Ferguson, Newcastleton, had two in Clerk's leap; Mr. Jno. Crozier had three good fish; Mr. Wm. Nichol had three; and Mr. Arthur Little, Newcastleton, had two splendid salmon at a fishery. The past season has been an exceptionally good one, the frequent floods contributing to the sport in a great degree. The usual poaching raid was successfully brought off during the last week, and an extraordinary haul wasmade, but not of the poachers.—GILNOCKIE.

Thurso and Lochmore (Halkirk).—The river is almost at its lowest level. The salmon cannot get on to the redds to deposit their spawn. All the fish in Lochmore are, and will be, prisoners till a spate comes. Formerly the early fish in the loch were almost finished spawning on the upper reaches by the first week in November, whereas this year they have not yet commenced for want of sufficient water to admit of their ascending the upper reaches and on to their favourite spawning ground. A spate is much needed.—A. H.

Tweed.—Salmon anglers on this river are still enjoying good sport, notwithstanding that the river has now run pretty low, owing to a spell of fine dry weather, aided by slight frost during the evenings and early morning. The amount of fish caught, however, has been most satisfactory on nearly all waters, and Waltonians have had little to complain about. Only one water has been materially affected by the late floods, that of Ednam House, where the best cast on it—the Junction—has been entirely "sounded" up, so that there is no "lair" for the fish in this portion of the water. The Floors Castle upper and lower waters again yielded a large number of fish to the various anglers last week. The total number killed from Monday to Saturday, being close on to seventy fish. The biggest catch being got by the Hon. E. Majoribanks, M.P., who had fourteen fish on the 28th ult. On the lower water itself, during the present week, nineteeen salmon and grilse have been got on the Hendersyde Water. Since last week close on eighty fish have been killed. The Ednam House Water has given up about a dozen fish since last report. On the Teviot during the week, four fish have been killed, two grilse, one salmon, and a sea trout. The Messrs. Deakin, whose lease of the celebrated Makerstoun Waters on the Tweed, finished on Saturday last, ended their fishing there on Friday of last week, and their takes during Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday forenoon, amounted to fourteen fish, thus finishing up a most successful lease since the 8th ult. As things are at present we would be much the better if a slight rise in the rivers, which would both give us a fresh run of fish, put a little more colour into the water, and materially improve fishing all round.—MAXWELL.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—The river has fallen greatly since the floods. The last days of the season (which closed on the 31st ult.) were extremely fine, so that pike fishing ended well. On all the reaches of the river, which is some thirty odd miles in length, anglers were out, and great numbers of pike fell victims to their spoons. Devons, and Phantoms. Trout are on the redds, but the heaviest fish won't be till the end of this month. Salmon in numbers are lying below Coagh "carry" waiting for another flood to run further up, and it takes great watchfulness on part of the water-keepers to prevent poaching. Remnants of fires have been discovered along the banks of the river in sheltered spots, which indicate that poachers have been at work gaffing the fish.—J. A. B.

Lough Neagh.—The pollen fishing having ceased, the only important fishing now carried on is "night-lining' for eels, which is very good, and has been so since the season commenced in July last. Perch and pike-netting furnish limited employment for the fishers, as there is no close season for these fish, which swarm in the lake. Some of the heaviest pike in the United Kingdom are to be found in it. Instances—but very few—have been recorded, where pike up to 60lb. have been caught, and in summer, an old fisher informed me that during the "Crimea War," as he called it, a pike, which weighed 1cwt. (112lb.), and the weight of an empty flour-sack (2lb.), in all, 114lb., was caught off the Waslingbay shore. The one hundred and fifty odd square miles of water contained in the lake afford ample room for pike to thrive, and there is plenty of food for these rapacious fish.

Shannon and Lough Derg (Killaloe).—The angling season for salmon and trout on the Shannon and its tributaries closed on Oct. 31, and although the wild and rainy weather had presented sportsmen from fishing for many weeks, still, the number of fish--salmon and grilse—killed this year exceeds by two hundred the capture with rod and line of last season. Anglers have this much in their favour at this station, that, when the trout fishing is over, we have pike fishing to fall back upon. Very many big pike have been killed this week.—S. J. HURLEY.

Waterville (County Kerry). — SEA FISHING. — Sea fishing has been excellent for the past week. About a dozen boats have been out on the bay, and the average takes for each hand-line has been about one hundred whiting besides some gurnet and bream. Pollack also are very numerous, and have been caught in large numbers at Rumeen, and inside Scarriffe Island. The fish varied in weight from 3lb. to 14lb. Weather fine, but wind rather too hard occasionally.—THOMAS J. DENNEHY.

ARTIFICIAL FLIES FOR GRAYLING.

THOSE of our readers who are in the happy position of looking forward to a few days with the fly among the grayling before this season closes, should try the following six "first favourites" among the many good killers made by Messrs. W. H. Foster, of Ashbourne, who live in the midst of a fine grayling fishing district:—

The Silver Dun,
Cock-winged Dun,
Fiery Bumble,
Rough Bumble,
Light Bumble,
Red Tag.

The Mulberry Bumble we have also found very good for grayling. These flies of Messrs. Foster are all first-rate. If we remember rightly, Mr. Pritt, in his capital "Book of the Grayling," gives the post of honour to the Silver Dun and Light Dun, in his coloured plate of flies.

AT a meeting of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society, in York, on Tuesday morning last, a most interesting discussion took place with regard to the nature of certain fish in the museum. Dr. W. Rawdon, of the Hermitage, Malton-road, an expert fisher, had presented to the society a fish he had caught, and which he described as a hybrid between a grayling *(thymallus vulgaris)* and a carp *(cyprinus caprio)*. The fish had been stuffed by Mr. Allan, but before setting it amongst the large collection of fish the society boasts, the curator was desirous of being assured that it was really a hybrid as mentioned. I saw the fish myself, and it certainly looked, in almost every particular, to resemble a dace. Mr. Arthington Worsley, who had taken great interest in the subject, and prepared notes, produced fresh-caught specimens of the grayling and the carp, in order to detect the comparisons. He said there was no doubt about the possibility of hybrid between different fishes, but in this case there was great improbability, because the carp and the grayling were two separate and distinct genera. On a very close examination, he thought it bore some striking resemblance to the dace of our northern rivers. They varied from that of the south country—the Thames, for instance—in one or two noticeable particulars. The dace of the Thames was a comparatively small fish, and was very thin, with a bluish back and yellowish fins; while our dace was of very large and nearly cumbrous fish, with reddish fins, and varied slightly in the direction of the chub. He produced a dace which he had got from a tributary of the Rye, and the resemblance it had to the fish presented by Mr. Rawdon was singular. There was no doubt that the dace varied greatly in different streams, and it was rather difficult to say which was really a typical dace of our rivers. There had been a dispute on the point, dating back nearly a century, and they found well-known authorities contradicting each other on the subject. He had got a skelly from the river Eden, and there it was nearly a chub. The specific differences in the dace, carp, roach, and chub were in the number of rays of the fins; and if they examined the fish, which was supposed to be a hybrid between the carp and the grayling, they would find that it bore no similarity to the grayling in that respect. He should suggest, as a method of arriving at a conclusion as to its identity, that the curator should examine the similarity between the fish and the dace of our northern rivers, and report whether it was correct to call it a hybrid. The Chairman (the Rev. Canon Raine, D.C.L.) said he had basketed hundreds of both dace and grayling, and he should have put down the fish in question as a dace at once. The curator (Mr. H. M. Plantneur), said Dr. Rawdon, who had sent the fish, was a most experienced angler, and was well versed in matters relative to fishing, and he was most certain that it was a hybrid between the carp and the grayling. Then the circumstances under which he found the specimen were again remarkable. In his grounds the doctor had made an artificial pond, and stocked it with nothing but perch, grayling, trout, and carp. After a time, fish appeared in the water corresponding to the one mentioned, and this had greatly puzzled Mr. Rawdon. The Curator ultimately decided to procure a south country dace, and said he should get a paper from Dr. Rawdon on the subject, he having promised to prepare one.

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Communications relating to the Literary Department Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. Marston, the Editor of the Fishing Gazette, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

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— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH, 1891.

DEVERON AND TRIBUTARIES.

FREE FISHING.

By W. M.

In the course of the sixty miles' wandering which the waters of this delightfully diversified stream takes, the whole of the fishing is the property of large landed proprietors, excepting, in all, an extent of water measuring about a dozen miles.

An important proposal, it is understood, was made recently to His Grace the Duke of Fife by the owners of fishings on the upper and middle sections. For a considerable number of years complaints have been rife on these sections regarding the overfishing by nets on the part of the lessee of the Duke's extensive fishery on the lower waters. Further, a sore of long standing has been the existence of Cruive Dykes, two miles from the river's mouth, in passing which, fish experience the utmost difficulty, except during spates—and even with these in early spring, when the water is very cold, they do not succeed in getting over. The proposal made to the Duke, it is understood, was the offer to purchase his Grace's fishing in the sea and river, the bargain also concluding for the removal of the Cruive Dykes. By law, it should be mentioned, these Cruives have to suspend working, during the net-fishing season, from Saturday night to Monday morning, and of course they are not used at the close of the season. Proprietors of rod fishings on the upper and middle sections further complain of the chronic scarcity of fish in their waters during spring and summer, owing to the dykes and to over net-fishing; and negotiations are, we understand, still in progress, with the object in view we have stated.

The greater part of the free water is in Aberdeenshire, and is comprised in the parishes of Cabrach, Glass, Cairnie, and Huntly. There is a small extent of free water in the parish of Turriff; another at the river's mouth—the water below the Bridge of Banff—measuring in length about half-a-mile.

The first-mentioned area of water is by far the largest of all, extending as it does to about ten miles. The fishing in this section, however, is not important so far as salmon are concerned, although it is good for trout, and might well be excellent were matters different. It begins at the source of the river in the Cabrach, and with the exception of the Beldorney, Blairmore, and Cairnbarrow Waters, extends to the old Castle of Huntly.

The scenery through which the river here flows is mountainous, and more especially in the higher regions it has a rugged aspect, largely owing to the lack of wood. The lower part of the Cabrach is upon the transition series of rock, and the soil is generally of a fertile nature, so are the lower hill slopes, and if the lower wastes had been dried and planted along with some of the barren hill slopes, this district, like many others in the higher parts of the county, would have presented a different aspect from that which it now presents. The Duke of Richmond and Gordon, the proprietor, has a shooting lodge on the upper stretch of the valley—on the Blackwater. The inhabitants are known for their industrious habits and hospitality to strangers, but they do not value the angling privileges conceded to them by a generous proprietor, nor discourage poaching as they ought.

From the twin streams—at whose junction the water first takes the name of Deveron—where in the remote uplands of the Upper Cabrach it rises, the river shapes its course from west to east, and flows with a moderate velocity through a deep narrow vale, having a pretty regular line of hills on each side, rising two thousand feet or thereby above the level of the sea.

The private waters of Beldorney, Blairmore, Edinglassie, and Cairnbarrow, extending to over sixteen miles, are situated in the centre of the open water. The scenery on these estates is of a grand and picturesque appearance, especially about the mansion house of Beldorney, which is situate on the north side of the river. The mansion house recently erected by Mr. Geddes, of Blairmore, Glass, stands in a very prominent position, and has a fine appearance.

On the open waters of Cabrach and Glass the fishing for salmon is poor during the summer months, the water usually being too low, over and above not having many fish in it; but in the autumn, should there be copious falls of rain, numbers of salmon and grilse ascend to the uppermost reaches, when there is some good fishing, with plenty of water-burning and sniggering besides, the whole paraphernalia of poaching gear—to wit, creeper, clip, leister, sieve and crusie, all being liberally requisitioned.

There are no pools of note on the upper part of the water; but on the lower, from Cairnbarrow to Huntly, not a few occur. The pool of Terryhern is about a quarter of a mile from Cairnbarrow; then follow the pools of Cairnford, Peterkirk, and Inchtammack. Near Huntly is the Boat-hole Pool, a short distance above the bridge of Gibston; and the pools in the vicinity of the Mermaid and Buller rocks are considered the best on the open water. The proprietor, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, by his generosity has conferred a great boon on the inhabitants of Huntly and district in allowing angling without restriction; and it would look appreciative of this generosity if in Huntly, where there are so many keen anglers, an angling club was formed, having among its foremost objects the discouraging and preventing of poaching by every means in the power of the members.

After meandering from west to east for a score of miles through sylvan scenery of the most beautiful description, in the parishes of Rothiemay, Forgue, Marnoch, Inverkeithnie, and Forglen, the river abruptly changes its course at Turriff, and runs from south to north through the highly cultivated estates of Forglen, Dunlugas, Mountblairy, Alvah, and Duff House, a distance of over twelve miles, emptying itself into the Moray Firth, near the county town of Banff.

The piece of water at Turriff open to the public to fish is some 176yds. in extent. It is situated on a pretty bend of the river adjoining the policies of Forglen, and extending from the bridge to the burn of Turriff. It has no pools of any importance, yet a few salmon are taken out of it every year in the back-end. The water runs in an almost even course, and in April the fishing in it for trout is pretty good. The proprietors, who grant the right of fishing, are Provost George of Macduff, and his brother, Mr. Francis George, solicitor, Banff, who a few years ago acquired the lands around it from His Grace the Duke of Fife.

The fishing below the Bridge of Banff is entirely restricted to trout, and is regularly fished by followers of "Old Izaak" in the adjoining towns of Banff and Macduff. Very good baskets of sea trout and whitling are frequently got in the best seasons of the year for them.

The chief tributaries of the Deveron are the Isla, Bogie, burn of Auchintoul, burn of Inverkithnie, burn of Turriff, and burn of King Edward, all of which are open to the angler, except a few policies portions of them.

The Bogie, which is a capital trouting stream, containing first-rate trout of a good size, rises in the parish of Auchindoir, and winding its course of about fourteen miles, through the parishes of Rhynie and Gartly, unites with the Deveron a little below Huntly. The only portion that is reserved is that from Pirie's Mill down to the river, for Huntly Lodge. Lots of salmon, chiefly of small size, ascend in October.

The Isla is a fairly good trout stream. It rises in the parish of Botriphnie, runs through Keith and Grange, and enters the Deveron at Rothiemay. It is very sluggish, but it "grows" grand trout which, were it not over-fished and hurt by pollutions, would be got in numbers to make sport such as no reasonable angler could affect to despise.

The burn of King Edward joins the Deveron on the south bank, some seven miles from the source of the river, and is a noted angling stream. It is capital for brown trout with fly, from the middle of April to the middle of June, and is well fished during the back-end of the year. In the closing days of last fishing season baskets of forty to sixty trout—sea and yellow—were got. An occasional grilse is caught in the deeper water, known at the entrance to the stream as the "Craigs."

The burn of Turriff has a course of about a dozen miles, and many parts of it give good sport to anglers fishing with fly and worm during May and June. Here and there it is very rapid. Salmon and sea trout are not got in numbers worth mentioning. Of both there is a run in autumn, but it is questionable if many of them manage to survive the spawning season. Anglers usually put up at Turriff, or at farm-houses in the vicinity of Cuminestown, close past which the water runs.

For angling, especially for trout, the Deveron, in the character of its water, is an ideal stream. With runs going briskly for long distances over pebble and amid boulders; with beautiful shallow glides gently curled on the surface, and ending in spacious salmon pools or water-weed expansions; with many windings, here silent, slow, and deep, there sounding, swift and shallow, ever varying and ever gathering in volume as it pursues its way; it is a stream, in its several seasons, having many charms for the angler, be it in the glad spring-time, when the trees are "set with shoots of tender green"; in the gay summer's prime, when Nature most lavishly adorns wood, field, and "bonnie brae"; or in the ripe mellow autumn, when the gorgeous variety of woodland colouring is the herald of the approach of the winter of the year. A thousand pities, therefore, it is that a stream possessing magnificent scenic charms, and naturally so excellent for fish and fishing should be so punished by poachers, so harassed by netting, and so effectually closed against the ascent of the migratory *Salmonidæ* by the Cruive—very appropriately named the "Rack"—dyke.

Every year many of the best reaches are let for the whole or a part of the season to sportsmen.

DACE AND BLEAK: AND ANGLING FOR THEM.

BY ALFRED JARDINE.

(Continued from page 234.)

IN concluding my article on chub, and before describing the remaining members of the *Cyprinidæ* family, or throat-teeth fish, I would tell my readers that there is a mile of good fishing in the back-water which flows round Wargrave Marsh, on the Berkshire side of the Thames; it abounds with chub and dace, but though public water, the late owner of adjacent ground assumed the right to molest and drive away anglers. His arrogating exclusive title to a fine piece of river—which from time immemorial had always been fished without "let or hindrance"—was another instance, among many, where portions of the Thames had been filched from anglers. He also placed a chain across this channel, previously free for the navigation of boats and punts. Some few years ago, a gentleman well known as an angler, who is on the staff of the most potential paper of the daily press, wished to fish this back water, but his puntsman said: "You must excuse me going with you, sir; for, although I have angled there from boyhood, yet matters are altered now, and if I was seen there I should be summoned before the J.P., who is a friend of the landowner's, a fine would be inflicted, and my fisherman's licence cancelled." "Then," said the angler, "you had better get out of the punt, and I will go alone." He went a little way down this back-water, commenced fishing, and in a short while saw someone coming along the meadow, with several dogs following. The angler was hailed somewhat in this fashion: "Hullo, you sir, who gave you permission to fish?" The angler took no notice, so the question was repeated, with the information that it was a private fishery. The angler replied that no permission was required, inasmuch as it was part of the Thames, and had always been public navigable water. The *gentleman* owning the land turned his dogs into the river, threatened to send for the village constable, and give the angler into custody for trespass. Screwing the spear into his landing-net staff, the angler said he would stab any dog that came near the punt. The dogs were called off, and then he gave his address at the George and Dragon, Wargrave, where he was remaining till the next day, and should feel delighted if he was given into custody, and thus afforded an opportunity of contesting the right of the claimant to this back-water. I need scarcely say the angler was not troubled further in the matter; but plenty others have been turned off, who had not the courage to remain and fish.

Up to comparatively few years ago, I, in common with others, often fished this piece of the river, for, as steam launches never ventured there, and but few boats—a careful, quiet angler was almost certain of good sport. I have no doubt it is now as prolific in chub and dace as then; it also held nice jack and plenty of perch.

Since the above-mentioned *fracas*, the land has another owner, who places no impediments in the way of anglers, but he has erected notice-boards requesting them not to damage the banks, or leave broken bottles, paper, and *debris* of picnics or luncheons behind them, or in other ways injure his property. In the main river, near the lower end of the Marsh, opposite Bolney Court, are several small islands, with dense growths of rushes and spear-grass, round and about them; splendid "holts" for pike and perch. Below this is Marsh Pool, and Lock. It was near here ten or twelve days ago, that five or six anglers captured a large lot of pike. *Lloyd's Weekly News*, of November 1st, stated the aggregate weight of them was *half a ton*; and "Marlow Buzz," last week, said they weighed *ten times that*—viz., 200cwt.; but I have reliable information that the whole catch was a little over two hundred weight, and not bad at that. One punt in a few hours had 75lb. as its share, without moving away from the eddy of the angler's choice. The pike evidently were driven by stress of stream to congregate in the quiet lay-byes, and thus, those few fortunate fishermen, "Struck ile." A similar experience happened to the writer when the Thames was flooded in 1875—at Sonning, in one lucky hour, he caught six pike, the largest being 13½lb., 10lb., and 9lb., the total 46lb.*

Marsh Pool is a prime piece of the river, and should account for other large catches during the next few days—as Thames is still "running big." For choice, I would fish with live dace; they are silvery, and attractive on a paternoster," and, because of their liveliness and tenacity of life, work better and stronger on "Snap-tackle," searching through much more water than either roach, gudgeon, or small chub—consequently they find, or at any rate, induce more pike to feed, thus increasing the anglers' sport.

Leuciscus vulgaris—the silvery slender dace—may be considered a typical representative of the genus *Leucisci*; they are generally plentiful in most clear, rapid streams—but are not so, as a rule, in lakes and ponds. They seldom exceed three-quarters of a pound in weight—indeed, one of half-a-pound would be considered a good specimen; dace shorter than 6in. are not legal captures in the Thames, unless caught by a licensed fisherman, for use as baits for pike or trout.

Dace rise freely to an artificial fly; Small Red and Black Gnats, Palmer's, Yellow Duns, are all killing, especially in the autumn months; and during the May-fly rise, an imitation of that insect, or a natural May-fly, is generally taken greedily—the largest dace being captured at that season. The tackle must be *fine*—such as is used fly-fishing for trout on well-whipped waters, and two or three flies on the "collar" is sometimes an advantage—one at the fine end of the *taper* gut; another looped 2ft. above it, on 4in. of gut; and the third fly 2ft. higher; these last are called "droppers," and the flies may be varied. When fishing with "naturals"—such as a May-fly, Bluebottle, House-fly, &c., placed on No. 1 or No. 2. "Pennell-Sneck" hooks (with *shortish* shanks)—a long rod, not too whippy, and fine silk line are necessary. The angler stands with his back to the wind, which wafts his line and bait out across the stream—then, by lowering his rod-point, the fly drops on to the water—this is called "daping," and the largest fish are usually caught by this method.

In the Thames, on the shallows about Twickenham, some excellent autumn fly-fishing is to be had; it not being unusual for a proficient in the art—at a proper state of the tide—to catch five or six dozen dace during an afternoon and evening.

Bottom fishing for dace is at its best during October and the three following winter months; then they frequent deep streams, are in the primest condition, and take worms and gentles readily. Caddis are also capital baits; but, unlike roach, dace care little for paste baits of any kind. The tackle may be the same as used when roach fishing; and, if from a punt, the rod (made of light cane or lancewood) need not exceed 10ft. in length; when angling from the river's bank, a longer rod is required.

Other needs are: Porcupine, or ordinary quill-floats, some two-yard lengths of selected fine gut carefully shotted to the *calibre* of floats, and No. 0, No. 1, and No. 2 round-bend hooks, with rather short shanks; a bag of nicely-scoured red worms, and a box of gentles—not forgetting to take some ground-bait made of clay and bran, and *carrion* gentles, worked up into balls; and *of course* a flask of whisky—for choice give *me* that known as "Bush Mills," it being of the finest—and nothing is too good for true anglers Thus equipped, either in punt or on river's bank, with favourable wind and weather, the dace angler is sure of sport.

Dace are rather shy fish; in clear streams, it is well to use Nottingham tackle, and fish "fine and far-off," as described in a former article (page 233) on chub angling. A good plan to keep dace together and on the look-out for food, is to throw, now and then, a few of the baits into the water, well above the swim or punt, so that they may settle just at, or *in the right place*. Obviously it is useless for the ground-bait to settle a yard or two *beyond the swim*.

Dace frequently feed in mid-water, and large ones are often caught when chubbing with the tail of a lob-worm or with greaves; also, while legering for barbel, the finest of *Leuciscus* find their way to the angler's pannier. Dace spawn in April, afterwards remaining for some weeks in swift streams, to scour themselves on the gravels.

In the Kennet and Colne dace grow to a large size, but the largest the writer has caught was in the Test—a 16oz. fish, with artificial May-fly, June, 1884. The best specimens recorded in the 1883 International Fisheries catalogue are—W. Howlett, of Newmarket, a dace, 16oz.; A. C. Critchfield, London, one of 16oz.; R. Pugh, London, one, 14½oz.; the Friendly Anglers, London, one, 14½oz.; the Piscatorial Society, London, 16oz., 15oz., and 14oz.

Dace are in the best of condition just now, and will be for the next three months. They are fairly delicate food broiled in butter, and served up hot and dry: the fleshy fillet on the back is really toothsome eating; or baked in a deep dish, with layers of spice, bay-leaves, and vinegar; allowed to get cold, they make an excellent breakfast relish.

Another *Cyprinidæ* of the sub-order *Leuciscus*, and a species of dace, is the bleak. These pretty fish are common in most rivers producing roach and dace, and are so well known that they scarcely need description. Sprat-like in shape and covered with brilliant silvery scales, they make the best of baits for *large* trout, such as the Thames *fario*, whether for spinning or live baiting, but they are much too tender for pike fishing. A seven-inch bleak would be considered a fine specimen. Bleak spawn in May; then congregate in large numbers; they rise freely at a small fly; and, from a gastronomic point of view, when nicely fried, are dainty fare.

(To be continued.)

FISH HATCHERIES IN THE HIGHLANDS.—That the time has now arrived when highland proprietors and others should look after their own interests by the artificial rearing of fish or by procuring fresh stock from hatcheries in the south, is evident from this fact—trout angling on the northern lochs and streams is rapidly deteriorating. This is, no doubt, in a great measure due to over-fishing, combined with the practice adopted by too many anglers of retaining the tiniest sprats they land with a view of making numerically large baskets. That artificial stocking will become general is almost certain. Already several lochs and rivers have been replenished with Loch Leven trout, from the Howietoun Fisheries with beneficial results, and in a few cases hatcheries have been established. About a year ago the Conon Fishery Board had one constructed, after plans and specifications supplied by Mr. J. MacNicol, consulting piscicultural engineer, Highfield, Tain, who adopted a new pattern as an experiment. Instead of the usual glass grills, he substituted perforated zinc, over which a layer of gravel was placed which prevented the ova from coming in contact with the zinc—the water ascending through the perforations from below. Under the careful management of Mr. Nesbit, superintendent of the Conon District Fisheries, this method has turned out to be a complete success. Out of the 100,000 Tweed salmon ova deposited last year, fully 95,000 fry have this year been turned out.—*W. T. B.*

AN EXTRAORDINARY FISH STORY.—The fish in the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone, West Africa, are credited with some extraordinary behaviour. It is only a short time since that one of these marine wonders ran off with a small boat which was moored in Freelam Harbour, and a correspondent, writing from Sierra Leone, reports the drowning of a man by a huge fish which leaped into the canoe and knocked him overboard. The man, whose name was Stephen Pratt, was a fisherman, and along with a young man was fishing in a canoe at Cline Town Wharf. A fish of immense size leapt into the boat, striking Pratt severely in the face and body and rendering him unconscious. In this state he fell over the side of the canoe into the water. His lines were tied to his feet and partly to the canoe, and being thus entangled he ultimately sank. In the meantime the fish had wriggled and jumped about until it had got out of the boat again, and soon disappeared in the water. The young man who was with Pratt at once gave the alarm, and several persons were attracted to the spot. The fishing lines were hauled up, and at the end was found Pratt quite dead. The body was subsequently brought to land for interment. Pratt was a native of Kissey, a town near Freetown. The whole circumstances, although of so extraordinary a nature, are stated to be perfectly true, and were verified by the authorities. The strange affair happened on the morning of the 5th ult.—*Daily Chronicle.*

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* "Waterside Sketches," page 185.—"Redspinner."

Notes

Mr. E. Andrews writes as follows: "I wish to let you know of some fishing I had last week. Messrs. Edward Andrews and Joseph Brooks, of Maidenhead, fishing, in Thames style, with Messrs. E. Mundy and W. Lawson, in Norfolk, captured, in four days, as follows: Wednesday, in four hours, sixty-one pike, weighing 365lb. (largest 15lb.); sixteen perch, weighing 20lb. Thursday, in four hours, forty-one pike, 237lb. (largest 13lb.); three perch, weighing 2lb. Friday, in four hours, seventy-nine pike, 380lb. (largest 16lb.); sixteen perch, 22lb. Saturday, in two and a-half hours, eighteen pike, 95lb. All pike under 5lb. returned to the water, and not included in the above weights. Three rods and two boats were used."

All who knew him will hear with regret that Mr. Henry Dickinson, of Kingston-on-Thames, died on the 2nd inst., after an illness of more than two years' duration. Mr. Dickinson was vice-chairman of the Richmond Piscatorial Society, and the last time we had the pleasure of seeing him was at one of the annual dinners of that flourishing society. Mr. Dickinson interested himself greatly in the preservation of Thames angling, and at considerable personal expense, he at different times bought and placed into his favourite river many fine two-year-old trout. Mr. Dickinson was a valued member of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and up to the period of his illness took great interest in its work. We have asked his son, Mr. Harry Dickinson, if he can let us have a photograph of his father, to reproduce in our columns.

Anyone walking through Rye-lane, Peckham, on Friday evening, the 6th inst, might have observed a mild excitement at a tobacconist's shop, the cause of which was quite outside the mere vending of the fragrant weed. The genial and highly-respected proprietor, Mr. Arthur E. Harris, had just returned from an angling trip of two days' duration. He had been fortunate, for displayed upon one of his counters were close upon 70lb. weight of fish, consisting of about 25lb. of handsome roach, several of them reaching 1lb. in weight, and many weighing from ½lb. to ¾lb.; six jack, weighing about 20lb. in the aggregate; and, what was the feature of the show, a handsome pike of 19¼lb., which gave the captor a half hour's exciting work before it could be got into the net, the fish cutting itself with the line in two places in its mad rushes to escape. This feat is the more noticeable from the fact that Mr. Harris is comparatively a novice, and that snap tackle was used. The fish were taken in the neighbourhood of Pangbourne, and, almost needless to state, were taken from a punt. The pike is being preserved.

The collection of fishing baskets and bags, which Mr. Shrubsole exhibited last Tuesday evening, at the club-room of the Battersea Friendly Anglers, was an extremely interesting one; and the paper he gave was certainly one of the best and most practical we have ever heard, and gave universal satisfaction.

Last week, on the Tweed, the fishing—in consequence of the fine weather, and the too low state of the water—by no means kept up to the standard of the two previous weeks. All round, however, it was encouraging, and some heavy fish and good takes were got. The largest fish caught weighed 37lb. The more recent big takes in one day by a single rod were all got on the Floors Water, Mr. Majoribanks topping the list with fourteen, Mr. Barrington coming second with twelve, and His Grace the Duke of Roxburghe, third, with nine.

There has been a great stiffness in the letting of the Tay net fishings. Those belonging to the City of Perth were recently put up by auction, but competition was so bad that only three out of the eight exposed were let. For these, however, the prices obtained were higher than those of the previous year.

This is a good angling tit-bit, which we give as recorded by a fishing correspondent. "On a Border river last week an English gentleman had an exciting encounter with a *thirty-five-pound salmon* in a pool noted for harbouring heavy weights. After having been on for about an hour, this fish ran out quite one hundred yards of line, and passing through the adjoining stream got into the pool underneath the railway bridge. The angler gamely followed on, although wading up to the waist in water. The salmon then ran round one of the pillars of the bridge, and the line got foul in a seam of the masonry. A boat was brought into use to get it freed, but before this could be accomplished the salmon broke and escaped." It is rather a good idea to tell so accurately the weight of one's fish before it is caught.

So far as we have been able to find out, the "top-weight" fish caught in the several back-end rivers of the East Coast of Scotland this autumn are: Tweed (season not yet ended), 42lb. and 39lb.; Forth, 44lb.; Tay, 46lb. and 43lb.; Earn, 40lb.; South Esk, 35lb.; North Esk, 40lb. and 37lb.; Dee, 46lb. and two of 37lb.; Don, 40lb. and 39½lb.; Brora, 40lb.; Spey, 35lb. and 33lb.; Ythan, 33lb. and 30lb.; Deveron 34lb. and 32lb.

The Kingcausie Water of the Aberdeenshire Dee has yielded the two heaviest fish of the autumn season got on this river—namely, one of 46lb. to Mr. Fortescue, jun., of Kingcausie, and one of 37lb. to his sister Miss Fortescue.

A Montrose correspondent writes: "The rod fishing on the rivers North and South Esk, finished the other week. Since the middle of September excellent sport has been got. A continual stream of fish kept ascending the North Esk, and in some places, particularly the Knab Stream, Pantry, Kinnairdie, Hatton Pool, and the Sneck, they were sometimes to be seen lying in perfect layers. The best fishing on the South Esk was got on the Kinnaird Water, where from four to five hundred salmon were caught. The weight in both rivers averaged 17lb. No such sport has been had for many years."

During last week great numbers of small salmon were observed on the "redds" in rivers of Sutherlandshire, Ross-shire, and the upland tributaries of the Dee and Spey.

On the Floors Castle upper water of the Tweed, on Friday last, the Duchess of Roxburghe landed seven salmon, several of which were large and fresh-run. On the lower beat of the same fishery, on Saturday, General Cooke had ten fish; and Sir Richard Waldio Griffith, on Wednesday, had thirteen, the aggregate weight being 230lb.

About 300,000 ova taken solely from spring-run fish in the upper feeders of the Aberdeenshire Dee have been placed in the Durris Hatchery. This undoubtedly will save a great destruction of spawn, but the hatch-out will be nothing like so great as it would be from the same number of ova taken from sound autumn-run fish.

On Saturday last, Robison, a professional fisherman, on the river Annan, caught with fly, in the Craigdale Pool, a fine fish of 42lb. in weight. It was 41in. in length, and girthed round the shoulder 25 inches. About a month ago a fish of 43½lb. in weight was killed on the same river.

The rod fishing season on Annan, Urr, and Nith—the last to close of the Solway rivers—ends to-day.

On Dee and Don, gudgeon was the great bait during the late autumn fishing.

The boxes of Scotch salmon sent to the Billingsgate Market during the season of the present year numbered 25,889.

At Billingsgate 2,187 boxes of 112lb. a-piece, were received from the Aberdeen Harbour Commissioner's and Salmon Company's Fishings, and 1,762 boxes from the Tweed Sea and River Fishings at Berwick.

Erratum.—"Odds and Ends of Pike Fishing."—Page 291, line 67, for "eel front" read "eel-pout."

Notes and Queries

Pat's Fish Story.—The following story is related of one of the Kerry lakes: "An English gentleman out one day with one of the local professionals, began to enter into conversation with the latter on the subject of salmon generally. The breeze having died away and a dead calm having succeeded, the gentleman, to wile away the time, thought he would test Pat's ability for telling one of those wonderful yarns so common among the old race of Kerry anglers. 'Have you ever seen a salmon leap into a boat, Pat?' he asked, to begin with. 'No, yer honour,' said Pat, slowly enough; 'but,' continued he, scratching his head, and looking rather sly, 'Begorra, I have seen a quarer thing about a sammun.' 'What is that, Pat?' 'Well, yer honour, I was goin' to fish one day, and when I comes to the lake I saw it got too calm, yer honour—just like it is now. Says I, No use going out. So I stretched myself down on that bank yonder, and smoked my dudeen, just at the brink of the water.' 'Well, what then, Pat?' 'Begorra, yer honour, what do you think? but a sammun jumped up out of the water and landed between my legs; and I throttled him in a jiffey.' 'Ah! that was wonderful indeed, Pat.' 'Faith, yer honour did not hear the whole of it yet; because in that sammun's mouth I found my flies and casting *loin* that I lost four weeks before, when the fish broke away from me!' 'You should return that fish to the water, for his kindness in returning your line and flies, Pat.' 'I beg pardon yer honour,' said Pat; 'for it is not always that I can catch a sammun so aisy.'"—*T. J. D.*

Capture of a Seal.—The Aberdeen papers last week described the capture of a seal near Fraserburgh. Several boys observed the creature lying asleep on the rocks, and informing some men of the matter, they proceeded cautiously, it is said, to the spot, and dealt it a heavy blow on the head with a spade, and then belaboured it with sticks till it was dead. The seal was beautifully marked and apparently half-grown. The paragraph concludes: "The creature could easily have been caught alive, and much regret was expressed that it should have been killed in this unmerciful manner." There is no doubt the seal was sick or otherwise injured, else the captors (*sic*) could not have got within reach to kill it with a spade. The difficulty is to get within gunshot of them even, unless there is something wrong.

The Annual Poaching Raid in the Liddel.—"Burning the Water."—I recollect, in the *Fishing Gazette* of Oct. 26, 1889, sounding a note of alarm anent snatching and other forms of poaching in the Esk and Liddel, the result of which was that three noted Border anglers were caught "snatching" red-handed in the Damfoot Pool, in the Liddel, and their rods and other tackle taken from them. The mode of operation then was to watch the solitary bailiff and policeman out of sight, and then to the slaughter with vigour. It appears that the fish have been so plentiful this season, that many old ticket-holders did not take the trouble of procuring the usual pasteboard, but contented themselves by enjoying the sport without that necessary document. At times the fish were lying within a yard of the side of the water, and even women and boys cleeked them out with bits of sticks. It is said that fifty salmon were taken out in two days, in a very short stretch of water in the lower reaches. Not content, however, with the hauls made by day, "burning the water" was resorted to by a gang of men at night in the upper portion of the river close by Newcastleton. Whithaugh was the scene of operations, and about forty salmon were taken from the river. So plentiful were the salmon that they could be seen by people walking along the banks. Certainly the temptation was great, but "burning the water" is rather an audacious proceeding in these days of policemen, bailiffs, and watchers. As has been said before, two watchers are easily watched themselves; hence the ease with which the raid was successfully carried out. During the past week a large number of salmon have been removed illegally from several well-known Border rivers, and it is argued by some, that as salmon disease has made its appearance, probably many of the fish would have to be taken out by the water bailiffs later on and buried. Be that as it may, such a high-handed and daring mode of procedure as "burning" a supposed well-watched water with impunity sticks in my gizzard—more so, too, because I have been blamed by some busybodies for not reporting in the pages of the *F. G.* every baggie and beardie taken both from the Esk and Liddel; and this, too, forsooth ! at a time when forty salmon can be taken from a pool within a cockstride o' Cophaw, whose proper name, by the way, is Newcastleton. I say "Gil," auld man, ye're no havin' fair play, and in the words of the immortal Samuel, I must ask—"Is nobody going to be whopped for this?"—*Gilnockie.*

Prawn Fishing for Salmon.—"I am perfectly certain, from fifty years' experience as a salmon fisherman, that the use of a prawn or spinning minnow over a salmon pool destroys all the chance of a fly following it, for at least many hours, or until new fish are settled in the pool. In the Tweed in the autumn no bait fishing of any kind is allowed. I can positively assert that on the Dee and many other rivers, the use of minnow and prawn is entirely destructive of all the pleasure of fly-fishing; and, from its general use on some rivers where you cannot command both sides, in these degenerate fishing days, any gentleman sportsman is liable to have a prawn or minnow sent flying over the pool and splashing into the water: and he might just as well expect to catch a salmon on his own side, as if he threw his line over a ploughed field."—*J. C., in "The Field."*

"I am very pleased to give 'T. D.' any information I can on the above subject. Prawn fishing is generally supposed to be detrimental to fly-fishing; but to what extent would, I fancy, depend a good deal on the river. I am one of nine rods on the river Corrib—or that part of it running through the town of Galway—a short stretch of water about half-a-mile. Fishing with the prawn (or other lure than the artificial fly) is only allowed on a certain part of the river, and between the hours of nine a.m. and seven p.m. When the run of the salmon is well on in the spring, and the peal or grilse in June, fresh fish are constantly coming up from the sea, so prawn fishing is not so injurious as it might be in other rivers. I have hooked salmon with the fly, and more frequently grilse, after the prawn had been used for two or three hours, or more. Again, on the Shannon, which is a wide river, I have killed salmon and grilse casting with the fly, with a prawn trolling behind the boat. In a small river where salmon are apt to lie in one spot for some time, the continued use of the prawn would, I fancy, make them shy of rising at the fly."—*F. S. H., in "The Field."*

Capture of a Large Salmon in the Annan.—On Saturday, Mr. William Robison, fisherman for Messrs. Gardner's, the Distillery, killed a splendid salmon with fly while angling in Craigdalo Pool, near to Northfield House. The fish weighed 42lb., and its measurements were as follows: Length, 41in., girth round the shoulder 25in. This is the second largest salmon killed in the Annan this season, one of 43½lb. being killed in Hoddom Castle Water, about a month ago.—*Heatherbell.*

A Lochy-Spean angler sends us the following lines, composed by the "Doctor" on the capture of his first salmon:—

The Doctor came, on fishing bent,
And all his days by Spean spent.
"Ah, me," said he, "oh, don't I wish
A salmon rare, a monster fish,
Would take my fly or humble worm
While here I stand erect and firm."
Hardly the words outspoken were
When echoing far to Inverlair
The Doctor gave a shout of glee:
"My goodness gracious, only see
A great big fish has taken me!
What shall I do? where shall I run?
I only wish I had my gun,
And then I'd shoot him straight away,
And not lie floundering here all day."
The fish he rushed him up and down:
The Doctor turned both pale and brown;
He reeled him up, he let him run,
And said it was most glorious fun.
And when he got him on the bank
He fell upon his knees to thank
His blessed stars that now at last
He'd got a "fush" and held him fast.

Shark Caught with Hook and Line Off the Custom House, near to London Bridge.—"Considerable interest was recently excited in the City by the capture of a young shark in the Thames off the Custom House Wharf. Upon the arrival of a vessel described as a Dutch 'scoot,' named the *Daval*, on Monday, the master (who had his baby on board) stated that a shark had followed him since he put to sea from Rotterdam. He offered a reward of £1 for its capture. Several men were soon on the alert. Charles M'Kenna, describing himself as England's ex-champion weight-lifter, kept watch with a huge cod-hook, baited with beef. Upon two occasions the shark snapped at the bait. About two o'clock in the afternoon it swallowed the bait, and, the hook catching in its jaw, it was dragged to the surface, stunned, and ripped open. Upon being landed, the shark was found to measure 6ft. in length and weigh over 11cwt. Besides benefiting by the reward, the captor placed his trophy in a barrow and wheeled it about the streets, collecting the halfpence."—"*Lloyd's.*"

A MARVELLOUS SHILLINGSWORTH.

Messrs. A. and F. Pears write to us as follows:—

Dear Sir,—We have the pleasure to forward you herewith our first Christmas Annual, the artistic merits of which, in respect of the chromo-lithography and printing, and the quality of the paper, you will at once recognise, as well as the very full value of the whole. We should esteem it a favour if you will give this such notice as you may deem it worth in your publication, and oblige.

We certainly advise our readers to obtain a copy of this Annual and the three coloured pictures given with it. A large oleograph, entitled "A Good Joke," after the painting by Torrini, is in itself worth much more than a shilling. It is a picture calculated to purge "moping-melancholy," and cure a "fit of the blues;" indeed, the whole production will prove a charming and cheerful visitor in hundreds of thousands of homes.

Correspondence

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. Pritt.

THE JARDINE SNAP.

Sir,—In reply to "Mark," who asks a question in last week's *Fishing Gazette*, I would state that when fishing for pike with "Snap" tackle, I hold but very little slack line coiled in my hand—not more than two yards. When my float disappears I gather the line up, and allow about three seconds (for the pike to *turn* the bait into his mouth) before, to use "Mark's" own words, "driving the hooks home." I seldom *strike*, but tighten the line up smartly; then, *holding the pike firmly* for a second or two, he hooks himself. One day last December, when snap fishing, I "ran" eighteen fish, and by pursuing these tactics landed seventeen of them. A sharp strike often smashes the tackle, or rod, if the pike is a heavy one.

I should consider a five-ounce roach too big a bait to use where "I knew the pike did not exceed 4lb. weight." A three-ounce *dace* would be better, adopting the time and method recommended above.—I am, &c., A. Jardine.

PAPERS ON FISHING AND FISHING IMPLEMENTS READ AT ANGLING CLUBS.

Sir,—Through seeing the notice in your *Gazette* of last week that a paper would be read at a meeting of the Battersea Friendly Angling Society on Tuesday evening, by Mr. Shrubsole, on "Fishing Baskets, Bags, and Creels," I determined to journey up specially to be present, and glad I am that I went, notwithstanding the distance, more particularly the walk from Battersea Station in the rain to the society's rooms, with an equally unpleasant return. Mr. Shrubsole's paper was most enjoyable, and very instructive. I feel sure that everyone of his listeners in that crowded room of the Queen's Hotel must have learnt something, besides having an opportunity of seeing a picked collection of a hundred different fishing bags and baskets.

This paper, I understood, was read under the auspices of "The Society for the Promotion of Reading Papers at Angling Societies' Meetings," a society (with the happy and reasonable *alias*, "The Society with the Long Name") having you, sir, for its President. Many of the readers of the *Gazette* are doubtless unaware of this new effort, and therefore I take the liberty of drawing their attention to the value and great importance of the project, one fully worthy of all support.—Yours faithfully, W. Pugin Thornton.

Canterbury.

A GOOD TAKE OF SALMON.

Dear Sir,—On looking at the reports from salmon rivers in last week's *Fishing Gazette*, it occurred to me to ask you whether my catch for this season (from August 1 to October 31) is not about as large as any on record for an English river—viz., eighty salmon and grilse, seven bull-trout, thirteen sea trout; total, one hundred fish, 788lb.—Yours truly, C. T. Keighley.

Spring Hill House, Whitby.

[We have heard of nothing to approach this from an English river.—Ed.]

THAMES FISHING REPORTS.

Dear Sir,—I am glad Mr. B. was amused with my letter in the *Fishing Gazette* of Oct. 17, and hope the laugh did him good; but with all his enlightenment, I do not see what other interpretation he can put on it. In his Kingston report he says, "thirteen dozen of fine jack." Now, Mr. B., if I had sent a report that Mr. Jones had killed five dozen of trout and four salmon in one day, and someone else had killed thirteen dozen of fine salmon in four days, you would have thought the same as I did, as we are not all living on the banks of the Thames. I must thank Mr. B. for his kind reply.—Yours, &c., Liberia.

LOCH LEVEN TROUT.

Dear Sir,—I have read with much interest in the *F. G.* of Nov. 7, about Loch Leven trout gradually descending and disappearing when put into lochs with access to the sea, and the explanation therein given confirms the opinion I have had for some years, that they are nothing else than confined sea trout, and when they are at liberty to follow out their natural inclinations they in course of time become what they originally were.

If we take the surroundings of Loch Leven, leaving out of account the appearance, shape, and play of *Salmo Levenensis* proper, as there are two kinds of trout in Loch Leven (the other, which is coarser, and not so elegant a shaped fish), there is everything to make one believe that they are in reality confined sea trout. Loch Leven has its outlet to the east, at a place called the Sluices, from whence it flows into the river Leven. Many years ago this river was noted for its salmon and sea trout; but in course of time mills were erected on its banks, which poured into the river matter deleterious to these fish, with the natural consequence that they now know it no more. The sluices are so made that no trout of any size can pass through. When they were first put up I do not know, but it must be many years ago. What is more natural than that those fish when they could not get out, adapted themselves to their new circumstances? Nature is not obstinate: she adapts herself to circumstances in more wonderful ways than making a migratory trout into a non-migratory trout. We are seeing the same thing taking place in other parts; why, therefore, not in Loch Leven?

Granted that there is a slight difference between a Loch Leven trout proper and a sea trout, will the confinement, change of habit, and food, not account for this difference? Nature is not too lavish: she only gives what is necessary to make them fight the battle of life; and a confined trout can easily dispense with what might be absolutely essential if it migrated to the sea. We see the same principle in plants. If an uncultivated plant is placed in a garden, manured, cut, and tended, it changes materially. Leave it alone, and after a few years it gradually falls back to its original condition. Food and altered circumstances made the change; why, therefore, should the same principles not apply to *Salmo Levenensis*?—Yours faithfully, H. W. A.

Glasgow.

HE MARINE BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Sir,—May I ask if the letter of Nov. 7, signed L. Calderwood, Director Marino Biological ssociation," was actually written by that gentle-an, or whether it is only a rather ill-timed and tupid joke by someone who has used his name o parody and burlesque the style of answer sually adopted by scientific men when they wish o put right someone who is a little less better formed than themselves? I ask the question ecause I had some idea of contributing towards he funds of the Marine Biological Association, so hat I might from time to time ask for informa-ion concerning ichthyological questions which terest but perplex me. But if the letter referred o is really a specimen of the director's style of eply, I am afraid that my subscription would be hrown away; for I should never dare to expose yself to such withering sarcasm, nor should I are to have my ignorance on scientific matters ade public in terms of such crushing contempt. Templar" has had to submit to this, and will robably bear his chastisement in mind, and in uture will hesitate before offering his opinions on atters which only the learned director of a cientific institution can be expected to be profi-ient to deal with. But I, sir, would rather void such cutting comment, and so I ask you hether the letter does really come from the arine Biological Association?—I am, &c.,

A. M. Hiddon.

P.S.—"Templar" "rushing into print" is dis-inctly "precious."

[Mr. Calderwood's letter was genuine enough. He seemed to us to be writing under a feeling of aving been attacked by "Templar"; in fact, it ooked from the tone of his letter as if he were marting under the attack. We must say, in justice to Mr. Calderwood, that he asked us not to insert the letter, if we thought it would give offence. We did not think it would; and having published "Templar's" attack, we could not refuse to insert Mr. C.'s reply, especially as 'Templar" can take care of himself, as his letter this week shows.—Ed.]

TROUT *v.* GRAYLING IN SALT WATER.

A Reply from the Wicked Critic of the Marine Biological Association.

Dear Sir,—On Oct. 10, in "Waltoniana," I commented on an experiment carried out at the Marine Laboratory, Plymouth, in connection with placing trout and grayling in salt water, a not very novel proceeding so far as trout are concerned. The director's account of the matter ended with the words, "It will be interesting to watch their development, although we can scarcely hope that they will propagate their species." I pointed out, as to this, that if the hatching of trout eggs in salt water was suggested, the thing was impossible, but that the trout might possibly develop ova, which, if taken from them at the right time, could be hatched in fresh water.

There was nothing personal or offensive in my remarks on a subject which has long interested me. It would appear, however, to be a heinous offence to criticise anything done at the Laboratory or written by its officials, for in last Saturday's issue appeared a letter from the director, in which I am charged with having not even a rudimentary knowledge of natural science, and having only a slight knowledge of the subject I wrote about; the letter winding up with an invocation to Darwin and Wallace, and some wild talk about casting boomerangs and the Origin of Species.

From all this, I opine that Mr. Calderwood, the director aforesaid, is so annoyed at my very mild criticisms that he has forgotten to write in the dignified manner which we would expect to find in a communication to the Press from a person in his position.

The worst of it is, I am so stupid that, after reading his letter thrice, I have but a hazy idea of the grounds of his complaint. Perhaps he will tell us, in unmistakable language, what he really did mean by the term "propagate their species." If he only knew as much about the natural history of the *Salmonidæ* as he does about "the head kidney of teleostean fishes," on which important subject (the connection between which and the welfare of our sea fisheries is so evident) he contributes a paper to the May number of the *M.B.A. Journal*, he would know that brown trout are almost as much at home in salt water as the salmon, frequently leaving rivers where the food supply is insufficient for a residence in sea or estuary, but that, though the environment of the animal is changed, and the animal does not die, to reproduce its species it has to return to fresh water. Mr. Calderwood, who appears careful to express himself vaguely, seems to suggest that in the course of years brown trout might so adapt themselves to a salt-water environment as to breed in salt water. I say that is impossible, because, before any brown trout adapted itself to such an extent to salt water as to breed in it, it would die of old age, and that, as it could leave no offspring which could continue to develop the inherited instinct of a tendency to breed in salt water, no evolution of the kind suggested could take place; in other words, if all the trout in the world were kept in salt water for the duration of their lives, the race would die out.

We have in the sea trout a fish which has adapted itself to its salt water environment, but which has to go into fresh water to breed, its eggs being killed by immersion in salt water. The same may be said of the salmon. If Mr. Calderwood had studied Day's "British and Irish Salmonidæ," the writer of which was a greater authority on that subject than Darwin, he would hardly suggest the possibility of such a marvellous evolutionary feat as the breeding of trout in a salt-water aquarium. So far from my having exposed my ignorance by saying that the eggs of trout can never be hatched in salt water, I think I might well retort with a *tu quoque*. If the eggs of sea trout will not hatch in salt water, still less will the eggs of brown trout.

Mr. Calderwood has made a small mistake, and seeks to cover himself by calling his very friendly critic a fool. The study of the natural history of the *Salmonidæ* hardly comes within his province, so the mistake was excusable enough. In conclusion, let me assure Mr. Calderwood that, notwithstanding his rather offensive letter, he has no greater well-wisher than myself for the success of his work at the Laboratory, but that I, and many more, see with some misgivings a tendency to waste the labours of the officials and the funds of the association on subjects which can hardly tend to promote the welfare of our great sea fisheries, either directly or indirectly. Even this little experiment with the trout and grayling possessed practically nothing beyond a scientific interest, and not much of that, while not one of our sea fishermen is likely, either directly or indirectly, to be one farthing the better for inquiries into such subjects as the head kidneys of teleostean fishes. The association certainly was intended to have its purely scientific side; but so long as its funds are as limited as they are at present, I submit that scientific inquiries which are not likely to benefit the fisheries should hold a very secondary place. The existing income is certainly not more than enough to cover the costs of inquiries into those scientific subjects which are likely to bear fruit and be of practical value.

I think that, as a member of the public, I have a right to make these remarks, the association being supported by public money.—Truly yours,

Templar.

P.S.—It is a little startling to find that the only English paper which is solely devoted to fish and fish culture is not perused by the Director of the Marine Biological Association, and that references to the association are not seen and commented upon until a month after they appear.

PIKE FISHING IN SALMON RIVERS.

Dear Sir,—Would you kindly tell me, in your Answers to Correspondents, what is the practice as to fishing for pike in the close season, in rivers which also hold salmon and trout? By the "close season" I mean close for salmon and trout, as we have no close time in Ireland for pike. In several deep pools and stretches, in rivers here, there are many pike at present, many having run up from the Shannon with the late floods. Salmon and trout do not, as a rule, lie in the dead water, being on the spawning beds or shallows; and I do not see why I should not spin or live snap for the pike and take them when they are in best condition, and when they take most toll off the trout running up from the lake (Lough Derg). In fishing such deep water, I do not see how I could be held to be disturbing or interfering with salmon or trout spawning, and I do not know of any law to prevent me. What is the practice in your salmon and trout rivers in England where pike frequent them? Are they fished for in close time?—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

Ormonds.

[Unless specially prohibited by Boards of Conservators, pike fishing is carried on in all our salmon rivers, the Conservators as a rule being only too glad to get rid of them.—Ed.]

GLASS MINNOW TRAPS.

Sir,—Messrs. Alfred and Son, 20, Moorgate-street, keep them in stock; they are similar to those I saw in use at Besancon, in the south of France. Besancon is a military station, and most every soldier there fishes for gudgeons and minnows, for there are but few larger fish, as the river is so much netted to supply the wants of the officers and better-class of town's-people's tables.

Most of the soldiers, who could not afford to purchase the white glass minnow traps, brought common brandy-bottles, which had a hole knocked through the bottom, some bread-crumbs inserted, the neck well corked, and a long string attached to throw into the water some yards away. I saw some of these bottles hauled up, which were literally crammed with minnows. I have tried the same dodge with a brandy-bottle, at West Drayton, in the Colne, with success. I think, if several traps were used, the angler will be rewarded for his trouble. Gudgeons and fry of other fish I have trapped with the minnows.—Yours truly,

T. R. Sachs.

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

Sir,—In conversation with Mr. Laws, our representative on the T.A.P.S., he informed me that they had some collection boxes for fixing in club-rooms, and promised to send one to our club (the Sundial Angling Society, King-street, Hammersmith), and I promised to do all I could to forward the interests of this society by collecting all the money possible; but from experience I know that it is a very difficult task to extract pennies from the Thames angler's pockets, as he considers the river free, and continues fishing year after year without thought or care where the fish are to come from; and I believe ninety-five per cent. of the Thames anglers never subscribe one penny towards its support. After leaving Mr. Laws I thought of a method that may do something towards filling the box, but occupying the chair I was not in a position to move a proposition, so I simply explained my ideas to the meeting, and they unanimously agreed to pay a self-imposed tax upon "*fish*" (not on "*rods*") of not less than one farthing for each pound of fish taken from the Thames. This small sum in our society alone will amount to about four shillings a month, and if all the West-end societies, would try and do the same, I feel confident that the T.A.P.S. would be able to supply more men to look after the interests of the Thames anglers.—I am, sir, yours truly,

James Harwood,
"An Old Thames Angler."

47, Bradmore Park-road, Hammersmith.

[Any suggestion which will bring funds to the Thames Angling Preservation Society is welcome, and Mr. Harwood's seems a good one.—Ed.]

PRAWN FISHING FOR SALMON.

Sir,—I was very much pleased to see in your valuable paper, a letter from Mr. T. Dutton, on the question, "What effect has prawn fishing on salmon?" But what rejoiced me most of all was the downright, straightforward, sportsmanlike view the Editor of the *F. G.* took on this important matter. I endorse every word he says; and as regards the Conway, at least, after over forty years' experience, I feel sure that the unrestricted use of the prawn, or any other bait (the genteel way of poaching), would simply mean the ruin of the river, in a short time, for legitimate, fair fly-fishing. Shades of our ancestors on old Conway rise up in judgment against such desecration; the mountains of Snowdonia shroud their heads in mist with shame; and the glorious river murmurs her soft complaint against such practices when she is low, and rages against them when she is in spate. What are we coming to? We shall soon hear that the worm, the minnow, or anything else, may be used on the celebrated chalk streams of England, where now a consummate artist, with the dry fly, is quite satisfied with his brace or two of good fish. Or we shall hear that it is all right, and the proper thing, to shoot into the brown of a covey; if that can't be done, to blaze away over a fence into the midst of the birds on the stubble. "We pays our money and we takes our choice!" that seems to be the little game. It behoves all true anglers, all true sportsmen, to protest against it.

Mr. Dutton and myself are acting as the representatives of the majority—fly fishermen and true sportsmen. Mr. Dutton tells you he is not an old hand, but he is a good man with the salmon rod, and most energetic in everything he undertakes. I am a very old hand. I have a stake in the river as a landed proprietor on its banks; the old Conway is my first, my only love; and I am quite satisfied with the sport she gives to the fly. I simply wish her *fairly treated.*

In conclusion, I think I may be allowed to say that, in conjunction with Mr. Dutton, we have proposed a compromise, which wo trust may be agreed to and give satisfaction to all.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully, **John Blackwall.**

Hendre, Llanrwst.

Dear Sir,—Although a subscriber, I only happened to read last week's number last night, and saw the letter *re* "Prawn Fishing."

I am perfectly convinced that prawn, minnow, and worm do absolutely no harm to salmon water, and in no way scare the fish, unless the fisher cast his line in such a manner as to advertise his presence, and this can be, and is equally well done, by the fly-fisher. There are times when the minnow will kill better than fly, and the man who is so pig-headed as to stick to only one thing, whatever the weather, state of water, &c., may be, will certainly not kill fish so well as the man who makes a study of everything to do with the salmon; and fishes according to what experience has taught him. A few years ago, worm and minnow trout fishing was looked down upon as unsportsmanlike, and I have heard many men say that it was no sport to catch trout except with a fly. It is now fairly well understood that there is a time for the fly and a time for minnow, &c., with trout, and doubtless in a few years we shall begin to understand much the same for salmon.

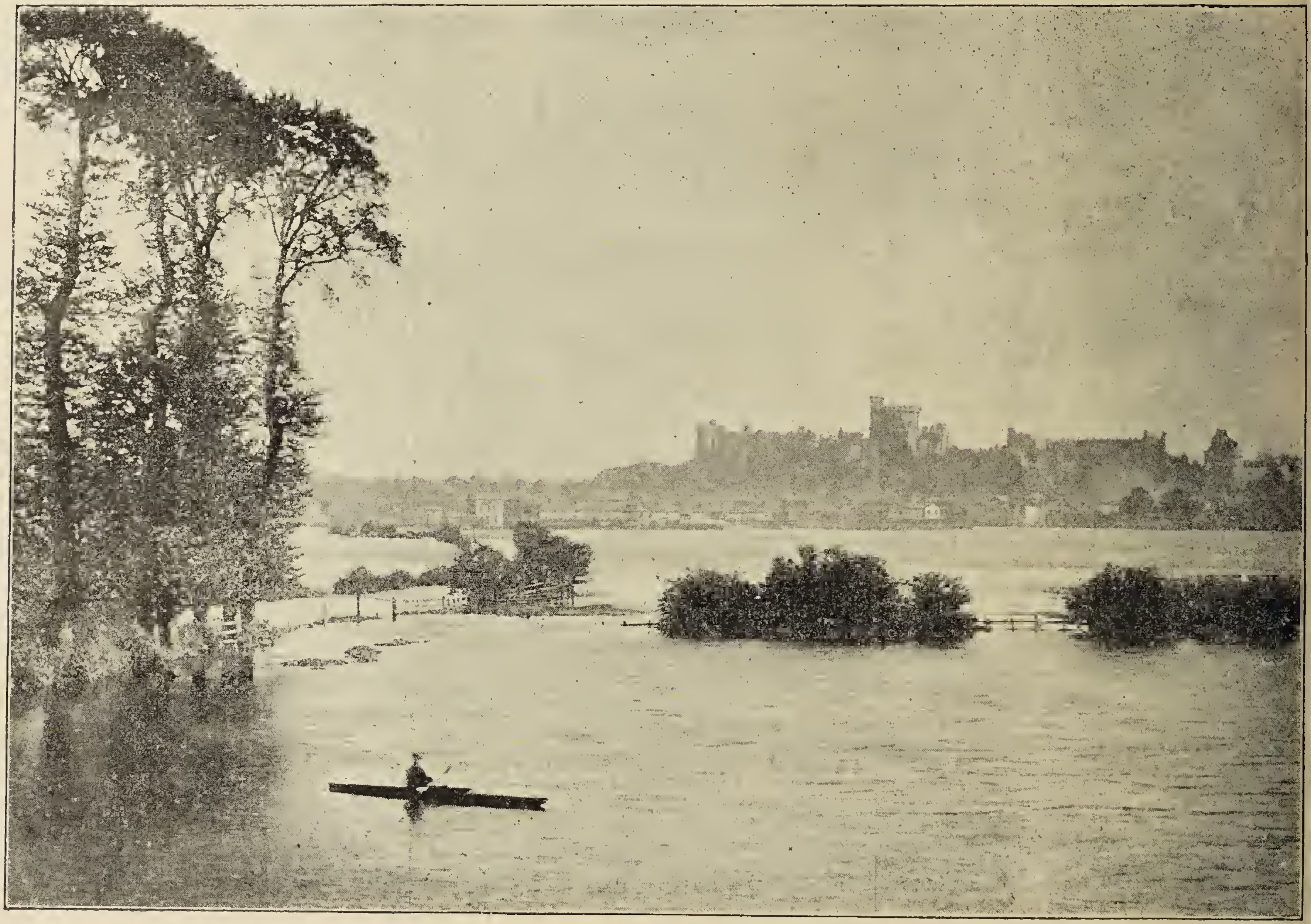
This season, on one pool of the Dee, two men started to fish, turn about, one with fly, one with minnow. Up to noon the minnow had taken three fish, 90lb., the fly nothing; but in the afternoon the fly took seven fish (I forget weight) and the minnow none. You will understand the minnow took its turn down the pool all the day, so that the fly did its work on a well-fished and minnowed pool. What applies to minnow will apply t prawn, as the latter does not make any more, if so much, splash, &c., in the water. Minnow, prawn, and spoon are not fishable with a fly-rod with any kind of comfort, and with many men I have met I am certain the trouble of fishing anything but fly is their true aversion to the use of other baits. When you meet men like Ramsbottom (of Liverpool), Francis (of Liverpool), and Malloch (of Perth) all agreeing that it does no harm to salmon water, there is no doubt the subject is one that is not understood by us comparative novices in salmon fishing when we say fly is the only sportsmanlike way of taking salmon.

I sincerely hope you will have this matter well thrashed out, subjects of the kind being well worthy of a large share of your valuable paper, which will become more valuable if it educates us in the noble sport of salmon fishing by showing up a few facts to refute the many fallacies at present in existence.—Yours truly, C. S. S.

P.S.—By the way, the Conway is a river on which a great many men fish, and of course it is annoying to see a man taking fish with prawn when fly won't do it for you. But there will be days when the fly will lick the prawn hollow even on the Conway, which is getting, like the Welsh river Dee, to be a very slow-rising river, why is not quite certain.

WINDSOR CASTLE DURING TH RECENT FLOODS.

As but few of our readers have seen Winds Castle during a Thames flood, we have repr duced a photograph, by Macdonald, of Eto kindly sent by our old correspondent for this d trict (Mr. Bambridge, of Eton), who we noti in the foreground in a Rob Roy canoe. We shou have preferred giving the view as seen from t top of the higher, or what is best known as t "round" tower, the photograph before us givi but a faint idea of the immense area under wat when the Thames is in flood. From the latt coign of vantage, as far as the eye can reach, is vast expanse of water, relieved only by the tre and the higher hedge-rows. It is nine years sin a flood swept down the Thames valley; and ma doubted if, with the modern appliances at t weirs, and a smart set of men (as a rule old na men) which constitutes the body of lock-keepe such an occurrence as a Thames flood would eve occur again; but there can be no doubt that ha it not been for the modern improvements an vigilance of the lock-keepers one of the mos disastrous floods ever known would have been th consequence. Our correspondent informs us tha large quantities of fish are left in the hollows an ditches; and already the Sunday morning loafe has been scooping out what would have formed handsome basket for the true sportsman. Th local society, we are still further told, inten netting all such places as soon as they can be go at; and we shall watch with interest the result o such netting, though we understand this societ is very poorly supported by those who fish th Windsor waters most, and it is just possible tha ere long it will give up its useful work for wan of funds, when, as a consequence, poaching wil again be rampant, and the thousands of fis which might have been rescued, left to the tende mercies of the river-side shark.



WINDSOR CASTLE AND THE RECENT THAMES FLOOD.

HOW TO BREED AND REAR TROUT.

BY T. ANDREWS, GUILDFORD.

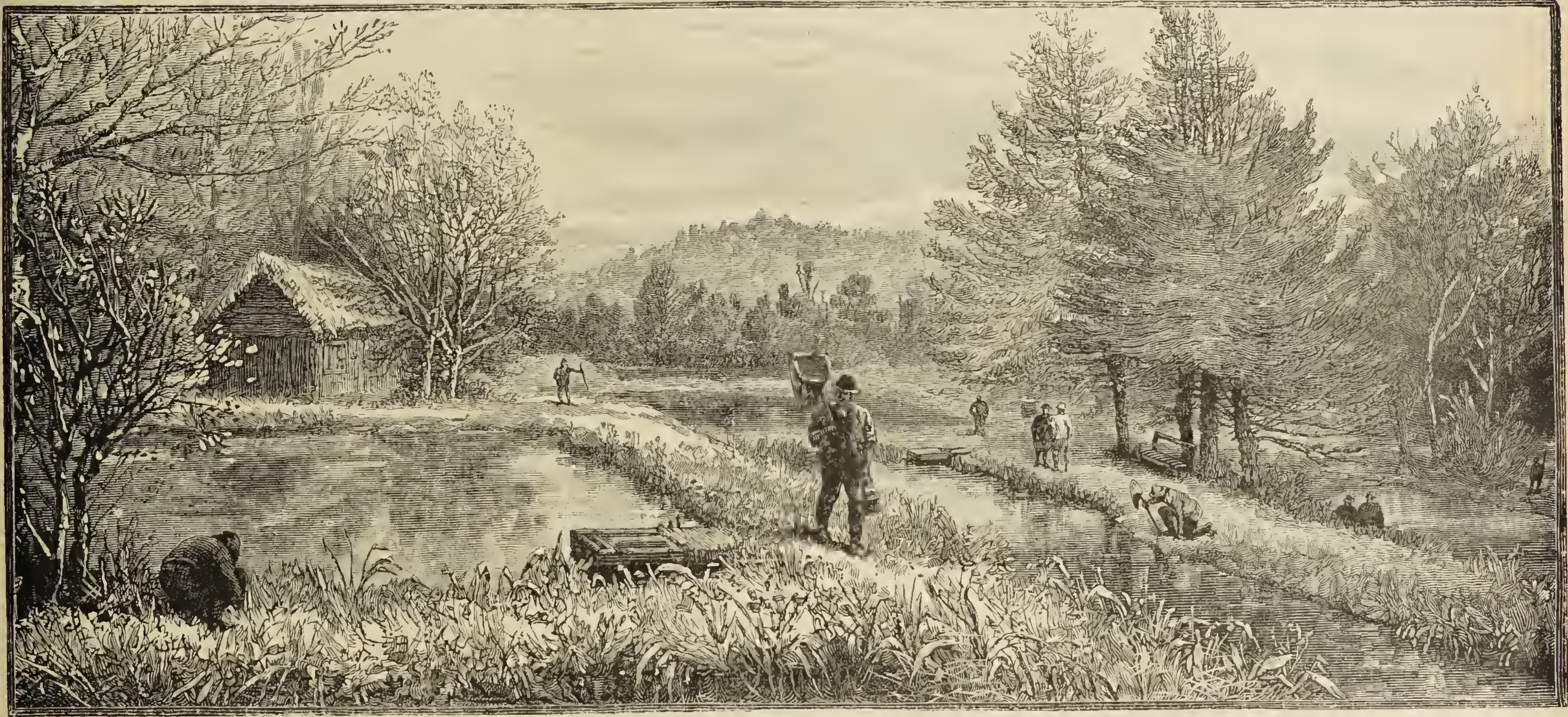
FIRST PAPER.

AMONGST a great many questions I am asked on matters connected with trout-breeding, the following frequently occurs: "May I ask what induced you to take to fish-culture in this serious manner?" My answer, showing what may eventually spring from nothing more than a hobby at the outset, will be found embodied in the next few lines. Previous to the year 1864, when my father died, it was usual for us to receive regularly every season invitations to come and fish on many of best trout streams in the home counties, and we could always reckon on getting a few days now and then at our favourite sport, at which my father was an adept, and I, a boy, in my teens, not altogether a novice. On some of the most beautiful parts of Test, Itchen, Kennet, Lambourne, Wey, Loddon, &c., I well remember the grand fishing we often had. There was in those days—for us, at least, who had the privilege of fishing on private water—no need to dry the fly before each cast; although I recollect an occasional dainty fish, who refused the wet fly, alight it never so lightly; but if we gave our line an extra twist or so in the air, partially drying the fly, the chances were that the fish *came*. We used not to have to stalk fish, and wait for half-an-hour or more at a time, until we saw one rise, although they were not so unsophisticated as to come and help themselves out of our fly-books! But we went steadily on as long as there appeared half a chance, throwing into every little narrow alley between the weeds, or under a bush, or into a corner where we knew there *ought* to be a fish. "Fishing the wide world," or "chuck and chance it," it is called, I think; and I find as much amusement, and certainly more constant employment in flogging every likely foot of a stream, as the dry-fly man does in his own way. Of course, when we did see a fish well on the rise, I need scarcely say we paid special attention to him; but I think I am right in saying that there was but very little "dry-fly fishing" in those days; yet I do remember seeing it practised, especially on the Itchen, at Bishopstoke, where I have also had some splendid fishing, with no attempt to dry the fly. What a typical south country trout stream is this Itchen! notwithstanding occasional stretches where a good deal of mud has accumulated. Rising a few hundred yards above the Alresford pond, and receiving two considerable tributaries, about two miles below Alresford, there is scarcely a yard (except the pond at Alresford, which supplies the river with pike) which is not *trouty!* It has been my good fortune to fish the Itchen from its source to the tidal pool at Swathling; there is scarcely a meadow which I have not at one time or another been privileged to fish. The "Claimant" put in evidence—or proposed to do so—his knowledge of the way to catch those big fish just below Alresford. Whether it was his own experience, or whether he was put up to it by some of his would-be Alresford friends, I know not; but I do know that many years ago I have taken some of the biggest trout at night with a huge *Black Palmer;* and I remember that when we used to stop at a little farmhouse close to where the new railway now crosses the river, I often went out in the small hours, less than completely dressed, and seldom failed to bring in a brace of good fish, as well as plenty of stinging-nettle marks! This must be forty years ago; but I recollect the old keeper's story of how he relinquished his former occupation to become one of the best river-keepers I ever saw. I believe that being frequently caught poaching, he was asked by the late Lord A. how much he made by it, and on his replying that he generally made "so much," he was asked if, in the event of his being engaged as keeper at that sum, he would do his best for the river. His answer being considered satisfactory, he was taken on, and, I think, remained there till his death, at a very great age; and being up to all sorts of poaching artifices, he was able to frustrate all such little games, on the principle of "set a thief to catch a thief," and he certainly had some splendid fish.

If I digress in this my introduction, I may be excused on account of my being an enthusiastic trout fisher, and perhaps my knowledge gained in former years of the habits of trout may have proved of some advantage to me in fish culture, for it is certain that a tolerably close observer of nature will bring something away with him wherever he goes, which will serve him in after years. My experience has always been that the most killing moment is that at which the fly falls on the water, and I still hold that, wet or dry, if the fly falls *well* at a fish, the probability is that he takes it at the first introduction if he means feeding. Nowadays there is no doubt that the fish are extremely well educated, and although I fancy the modern imitations of most aquatic insects are far better made than they were thirty years ago, and a great many men can and do throw a wonderfully light and true fly, I think the fish have become somewhat more suspicious of the glistening piece of gut sailing down near them, which to their sharp eyes must look something like a transparent ship's cable. In dry, fly-fishing, the gut frequently floats as well as the fly; but for all this I have heard it urged, and found it to be a fact myself, that on some hard-fished waters there is no chance of a fish coming unless the fly floats down by them in the manner most nearly resembling the passing of a natural fly.

Again, the frequent appearance of a flashing rod over the water, and perhaps the knowledge that it is held by the trout's mortal enemy, may teach a fish to defer the remainder of his meal until the dreaded upright form is out of sight (and this is often an angler's difficulty) when he may consider it safe to resume. Trout will continue to feed unalarmed while ducks are splashing and swimming all round them, and I have often observed that they will take no notice of a horse or a cow walking along the bank, or even stepping into the water; but so soon as a man or a rod is caught sight of, they have good reason to fear that there is mischief brewing, and promptly quit the feeding spot for the hiding-place, and small blame to them for that! Livingston Stone says that trout are not naturally averse to man in their primitive wildness, before they have learned to fear him. It will not, I think, be doubted for a moment that trout—at all events in many of our small English rivers—were getting very scarce indeed until fish culture came to be practised on a large scale, and was carried farther than formerly. Thirty years ago a few fry were hatched and turned into the streams with, of course, but poor results, as it is well known that fish of five or six inches, as well as the larger fish, *went for them* wholesale; and such is their cannibalistic propensity that scarcely a dozen yearlings were to be seen in the water the next season. In course of time the stock of mature fish had dwindled so much that the common complaint was that there were hardly any fish in the river. The more effectual system of drainage may have had something to do with it, as owing to the rapidity with which the water falls off, many good spawning-grounds—which are also generally good rearing-grounds—run absolutely dry. Then it will be generally admitted that the average rainfall is less than it used to be, particularly at the time of year when the springs would be filled. These two partially natural causes, and the fact that many more men require trout fishing, will go far to account for the falling-off in the *yield* of many of our best trout streams, and doubtless the first-named is an important cause of the continually-decreasing average yield of our salmon rivers also, though, of course, "education" cannot have had much effect on the migratory *Salmonidæ just fresh* up from the sea.

In view of these, some artificial means must be found whereby the stock of fish can be increased, and with the knowledge we now have of fish culture, and the trifling loss which should occur



GENERAL VIEW OF MR. ANDREWS' TROUT PONDS AT CRICHMERE, NEAR HASLEMERE (PONDS 4, 5, 6, 9, 10).

in the transportation of live fish, any river within a reasonable distance can be re-stocked with fish of a size practically able to take care of themselves—viz., good yearlings, running four or five inches, or, better still, two-year-olds, and persons who require fish for stocking purposes are getting alive to the fact that their money is far better spent on yearlings than on the same amount of money's worth in fry. I long to see the effect that I think would be produced on salmon rivers by the hatching and rearing of *Salmo salar* on lines similar to those adopted in well-regulated trout farms, but until a complete farm is established, with ponds to confine the mature fish previous to the spawning season, and ponds to rear the fry into yearlings and perhaps two-year-old fish, I cannot see any chance of success; also the operations should be conducted on a very large scale. Comparatively very little salmon breeding has been done beyond hatching and bringing to feeding point, and when we remember that all young salmon must go down to the sea (I am not speaking of a land-locked variety) and we attempt to realise the dangers to which the little fish are subject in the salt water, it seems a marvel that any survive to revisit the rivers, where nine hundred and ninety-nine out of every thousand are captured, let alone enough to provide sport for a few, and marketable food for the many.

It may be argued that Nature provides amply for loss, but have we not been taxing to the utmost for many years past every river in this little country, aye, and in America too, in order to supply large towns made easily accessible by the modern "iron road" with fresh and tinned salmon? What was the use of skinning a river sixty years ago, when there was comparatively no market for the fish, and the only way of making use of them was to dry them for winter use, or to feed servants and apprentices on. I have stood on a stone in the Spey, where my gillie assured me he had gaffed a hundred salmon at a stand. No doubt a great number of salmon thus stored up were "kelts," and then no wonder that tradition says there was a clause inserted in apprentices' indentures that they were not to be fed on salmon *oftener than twice a week.* Is any such indenture forthcoming? I cannot find one; all that I can elicit with regard to it is that someone's great grandfather said his aunt told him that her father's lawyer had several of them.

An occasional wet autumn like the present (1891) will no doubt encourage many more spawning fish to ascend to the extreme limit of the spawning grounds, and, with proper protection during the winter, there will be millions of eggs naturally deposited. But what becomes of them? A dry, frosty January and February, and the greater part are destroyed by being left high and dry long before the hatching time arrives. Should the ova have been deposited in a part of the river which retains some water during the "incubation" period, salmon and sea trout kelts have a gay time of it, and we scarcely know whether there is more destruction on account of cannibalism in the river than in the sea. This is exactly what "fish culture," properly conducted, provides against—viz., by the construction of many ponds for the fish in the various stages, thus minimising cannibalism, and by the retention of mature fish, which can be easily caught at the spawning season, thereby securing a great number of eggs. I said that the attempts to breed salmon artificially in this country had not been carried far enough. What may have been done in America I cannot say, but I fancy the results have lately proved more encouraging. When we think of the enormous value of the salmon as a sporting fish, to say nothing of its value as an article of food, it is strange that the experiments in breeding should stop short at the point where I think the greatest dangers in modern fish culture are past.

(To be continued.)

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Indisputable Remedies.—In the use of these medicaments there need be no hesitation or doubt of their cooling, healing, and purifying properties. The Ointment stands unrivalled for the facility it displays in relieving, healing, and thoroughly curing the most inveterate sores and ulcers, and in cases of bad legs and bad breasts they act as a charm. The Pills are the most effectual remedy ever discovered for the cure of liver complaints, diseases most disastrous in their effects, deranging all the proper functions of the organs affected, inducing restlessness, melancholy, weariness, inability to sleep, and pain in the side, until the whole system is exhausted. These wonderful Pills, if taken according to the printed directions accompanying each box, strike at the root of the malady, stimulate the stomach and liver into a healthy action, and effect a complete cure.

Waltoniana

A strong protest ought to be made to the Thames Conservancy on the subject of the by-law which allows little jack only 18in. in length, to be caught in the Thames. Several hundreds of little fish about that size have been taken recently, and the loss of this young stock to the river is very serious. I should imagine that the persons who are responsible for the length which was fixed had no idea of the weight of jack of that size. I carefully weighed a little jack of exactly 18in., the other day, and found it even lighter than I expected, not turning the scale at 1lb. 3oz. A 16in. trout weighs a great deal more than an 18in. pike, more than double as much if it is in decent condition. In fact, I heard of one trout weighing almost 3lb., which had to be returned, being under 16in. in length. To allow pike under a pound and a quarter to be killed, while trout of between 2lb. and 3lb. have to be returned is obviously ridiculous, if pike are to be preserved at all.

The great sea-serpent is sure to crop up in some form or another during the silly season, and this time it appears to have been responsible for the death of a bishop. As many readers of newspapers are doubtless aware, foreign telegrams to English news agencies are sent in as few words as possible, and are amplified by clever Press men. It seems that Dalziel's news agency received the following telegram from a correspondent: "Influenza extensively prevalent Wales Victoria numerous deaths Bishop Adelaide found dead sea serpent sixty feet Coffin Bay"; and the clever person who amplified that telegram let it go out to the world that the Bishop of Adelaide was dead, which was incorrect, and now the news agency can only assume that the Bishop of Adelaide, or possibly a Mr. Bishop, of Adelaide, found something in Coffin Bay which their correspondent described as a dead sea-serpent.

I am quite sure that the good old maxim respecting a wind from the south blowing the bait into the fish's mouth is good old nonsense. For three days, while the wind was nearly due north, I was taking perch every day. Then the wind suddenly changed to the south, and not a perch could I get. The conclusion I am coming to is that fish like settled weather, and that unsettled weather unsettles them and puts them off the feed. For winter perch fishing commend me to a fine, calm, hazy November day after a frosty night. Unless the water is very very clear, the perch nearly always bite well at such times, and then those who fish finest will catch most. I have lately been using large crystal hooks for perch, and have never landed a larger proportion of fish to bites. There is no better hook for roach than those of the crystal bend, and I am seriously thinking of having some triangles made with that bend of hook, and experimenting with them on jack.

I have frequently marvelled why the great majority of men use such strong tackle for perch, a fish which in the Thames averages something under half a pound. I never use for this purpose anything stouter than the finest undrawn gut. Sometimes, indeed, I have found that by using very fine drawn gut I could take perch when they appeared untakeable by the ordinary methods. I well remember one sunny, calm day, on Lough Derg, when fishing of any kind (rudd fishing, perhaps, excepted) seemed out of the question, making a very fair basket of perch by using fine roach tackle and casting it out as far as I could from me. Fine as my paternoster was the fish would not look at it (or perhaps they did *look* at it); but on the roach tackle I had no difficulty in taking them. The bait, by the way, was perch fry, the only live-bait obtainable in those parts except yearling trout, which I considered it immoral to use.

As a matter of fact, I expect little perch are taken by almost any of the fish-eating fish. I have frequently found them in the stomachs of pike, and only this year I took a Thames trout of between 4lb. and 5lb., which shortly after being landed brought to my notice a perch of about 2½in. in length. A perch is by no means a bad bait for a pike in some waters. Not a baby perch, but one of half-a-pound or more. There is not the least advantage in cutting off the back fin, as has, I believe, been recommended by some writers, for in headforemost passage of the perch down the throat of the pike, the fin does not get int he way, but rather assists progress than otherwise.

Templar.

GRAYLING FISHING EXTRAORDINARY.

One of the recent regulations in connection with the Houghton Club permits of the use of the minnow, worm, or other bait of that kind, in certain hatch-holes. No great results have been recorded from this privilege until last week, when Mr. F. M. Walbran, of Leeds, went down into Hampshire for three days' fishing. The river has been higher than has been known for many years during recent floods, and even on Thursday morning last was running over the path leading from the mill to the Sheep Bridge. The mill-tail at Houghton was in heavy volume—very strong, but clear. The body of water was so great, that one or two of the hatches had to be shut off before it was possible to fish.

Mr. Walbran, who had been asked to see what he could do with his favourite Yorkshire method of swimming the worm, commenced operations with a few small cockspur worms, which a boy collected for him in a neighbouring garden. He fished with a very small roach-hook, on fine, undrawn gut—so fine as to deserve the name of "gossamer," which is indiscriminately applied to this kind of gear. At about the second swim he hooked and was fighting with a 2½lb. trout, which was landed, and found to be in perfect condition. This being returned to the water, the little float was sent again on its journey, and then a good grayling was taken. This was the beginning of a day of sustained sport. Mr. Halford was present during the day, and gave invaluable assistance to the angler in landing the fish which he took. The result of the day's fishing was a dozen grayling killed, weighing 22lb.; eight trout landed, and returned to the water; two or three small grayling, returned, as not being of the regulation size; and three or four breakages from heavy fish. That all these large grayling were landed in strong water, with such fine tackle, marks the angler to be one of the very first stamp. The grayling meanwhile refused to take the fly in the main river, either dry or wet; and Friday produced no results worth speaking about. On Saturday, Mr. Walbran, at half-past nine in the morning, before passing up-stream, determined to have one more trial with the worm, and in a few minutes was fast in what was evidently a very large fish. A swirling mass of weeds fouling the line nearly ruined the transaction; but after fifteen minutes' tough fight, Mr. F. M. Halford, lying on his stomach on the wall, managed to net out the grayling as it was still running. It was weighed by the spring-balance there and then, and registered at 3½lb.; but in London, at night, Mr. Wm. Senior weighed the fish on more accurate scales, and found that it was then fully 3lb. 9oz. The fish when measured presented the following figures: Extreme length from snout to last scale at the tail, 19¼in.; girth, forward of dorsal fin, 11in.; at the hindermost ray of ditto, 9¼in.; at root of tail, 4in.; the dorsal fin was 4¾in. long at the base; and its posterior ray was 4¼in. long.

On Saturday afternoon, Mr. Halford, with hare's ear and gold twist (fished dry), above Boot Island, killed a very shapely grayling of 3lb.; but this laid by the side of the bigger fish seemed comparatively small. A measurement of the fish, however, showed that the disproportion was only apparent. It was 17⅝in. long, and the respective girths were 10⅜in., 8⅞in., and 3⅞in. Such grayling are seldom seen in Yorkshire, and Mr. Walbran accordingly has sent the two bigger fish to be set up in separate cases, and three of the largest of Thursday's takes to be artistically presented in another case by Mr. Cooper, of Radnor-street, St. Luke's. It is not often that the angler who travels some hundreds of miles, in the hope of getting specimen fish, is so fortunate as Mr. Walbran has been, and we heartily congratulate him upon his sport.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear Best quality only —East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

A GENERAL meeting of the Provincial Angling Association was held on Saturday evening last, at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield, Birmingham. Previous to the meeting the delegates who came from a distance and the committee of the association were entertained at tea by the Birmingham Association, after which the committee took in hand several private matters in connection with the association, and at 6.15 the general meeting commenced. Mr. T. Coles, Birmingham, presided, and Mr. J. W. Cundall, Bristol, occupied the vice-chair. Delegates were present from Worcester, Bristol, Gloucester, Kidderminster, Cardiff, West Bromwich, Dudley, and nearly the whole of the district clubs; letters of apology for non-attendance were read from the Liverpool and Malvern Association. The president opened the proceedings by welcoming the delegates from the various clubs, and explained the nature of the chief business to be discussed, and also the important matter of electing the officers, so that it would facilitate the secretary in getting the new travelling cards printed, and then the clubs would be in possession of them by the beginning of the New Year. The minutes of the committee meeting held at the Bush Inn, St. John's, Worcester, were read (the chief portion of which were relating to the late Tewkesbury contest for the Marston Challenge Cup) and confirmed. The minutes of the committee meeting held at the Drawbridge Hotel, Bristol, on July 4 last, were also confirmed, together with the auditors' report and balance-sheet, which went to show that, after all the liabilities had been disbursed, the amount of £50 remained in hand. The minutes of the committee meeting held at the Globe Hotel, Cardiff, together with the report of the deputation who were appointed to wait on the London and North Western Railway authorities, with a view of obtaining the concession to travel at the reduced fare were adopted, and the chief officers were asked to continue their labours in order to induce the company to follow the example of the other companies. This dispensed with the first part of the business, when the election of the officers and committee for the ensuing year was proceeded with. Mr. Thomas Coles, of Birmingham, was again elected president, being unopposed. Messrs. J. W. Cundall, of Bristol, and R. Wingfield, of Worcester, were unanimously elected vice-presidents; Mr. Cundall was also elected to again fulfil the office of treasurer. A vacancy occurred through the resignation of Mr. A. Bass, one of the trustees, when Mr. J. Dance was elected to fill the vacancy. Mr. C. White was elected without opposition as secretary. The election of the working committee resulted as follows: Mr. W. Luker, Gloucester; Mr. W. F. Harris, Cardiff; Mr. R. D. Frost, Bristol; Mr. T. Wright, Kidderminster; Mr. Turton, West Bromwich; and Messrs. Dance, Gumbley, Atwood, Holding, Hughes, Hall, and Keeling, of Birmingham. This finished the chief business of the meeting, when Mr. Cundall moved, and Mr. Harris seconded, "That the visitors express their best thanks to the Birmingham Association for the kind and hearty welcome accorded to them, and for the generous manner in which they had been entertained." This was responded to by the president on behalf of the Birmingham Association. The usual votes of thanks to the chief officers of the Provincial Association, (which were ably responded to), brought the fourth annual meeting of this successful and flourishing association to a close.

I AM sorry to inform my readers that an extraordinary large quantity of fish have been poisoned in the river Penk, at Penkridge, during the past week. Some hundredweights of splendid roach and pike, some of them weighing over 20lb., have been seen dead floating on the water. The cause of this sad destruction of fish is at present unknown, but it is supposed to be either the work of poachers who infest this neighbourhood and who have recently been prosecuted for netting the water a time back, or, that it is through some offensive matter coming from a large manufactory about a mile distant from the river, but is situated on the banks of a small brook which empties itself into the Penk at the part where the fish were first observed to be thrown up. Anyway, the matter is under investigation, and the Lord of the Manor, Lord Atherstone, has instituted a searching inquiry to be made, which I hope will be the means of discovering the cause of this wholesale destruction of fish. The cause, as far as I can ascertain, is pollution from this brook; as the water above, which is rented by the Birmingham Hearts of Oak Society, has not suffered in the least. This I am pleased to note, and at the same time I beg to caution anglers in this district to give Penkridge a wide berth for a time, and also to warn them against being imposed upon by the proprietor of the Lyttleton Arms Hotel. This gentleman rents the fishing from Lord Atherstone, and has been in the habit of charging so much per day for the privilege to fish the water. On Saturday last a few of my friends visited the water, and were charged just the same as if the river had not been interfered with, but they were soon confronted with the fact that something was wrong by seeing the fish on the water. They returned to the Hotel, and wanted the return of their money, but they were told "that they only advertised the water, and not the fishing," and refused a return of the money.

THE ordinary monthly meeting of the committee of the Birmingham Angling Association was held on Thursday evening week, November 5. The chief business transacted was to consider the application of the Highland Laddie, Spring Hill, and Belmont Societies, who ask to remove their clubs to more suitable quarters. The Spring Hill and Belmont Clubs were allowed to make temporary removals, but in the case of the other club, the removal was allowed to stand over pending the sanction of the St. Paul's Society.

ALL our Midland rivers and streams have considerably subsided, but nothing of any note has been done worth recording except on the Severn, where some of our members have had some decent catches of roach, the chief of which have been had from Arley and Stourport, the fishing at the former place being reported to be first-rate.

A GENERAL MEETING of the Birmingham Association for the election of officers, will be held on Thursday evening next, November 19. Chair taken at 8.15 prompt.

⁂ **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

THE prevailing fine weather has again contributed to good all-round sport. Most of our local streams have been in excellent condition, and although some kinds of fish have been off the feed, others have been correspondingly running well, and good baskets are generally reported.

THE event of the week in Manchester—viz., the lecture given by the Rev. O. R. Roberts, under the auspices of the Northern Anglers' Association, was a marked success. Knowledge of the various fish and their habits is always being sought after by every true angler, and, judging by the many members of the N.A.A. in the surrounding towns who have applied for permission to attend, shows the feeling of interest in all things relating to our sport, which must be very gratifying to the promoters. We hope to give a detailed account next week.

MR. G. SCALES, of the Townsend Arms Angling Society, has replied to the sceptics who have hinted that the report relating to the good sport obtained in the Flashes with pike is overdrawn in a most conclusive manner. He produced unanswerable evidence of the fish taken, and this coming from one in authority on the spot must be accepted as final.

THE Levenshulme Club held their annual meeting on Wednesday. Mr. Pendrigh, in his report of a very interesting season's work, stated that, after renting and stocking their waters, a balance was still in hand. An entrance fee of ten shillings will in future have to be paid for admission to this excellent organisation. The following officers were duly elected: president, Mr. T. Sheldon; vice-president, Mr. R. C. Ramshaw; secretary, Mr. J. Pendrigh; treasurer, Mr. C. H. Robinson; committee, Messrs. Bird, Breakall, Makin, Mycock, Marsland, and Taylor.

MR. J. ANDERTON writes to corroborate the accounts lately published of the excellent sport to be had in the Hob Hole and Trader's Drains, both near to Sibsey. His own experiences of the waters in question were in every way satisfactory. Mr. Dyson, of Manchester, is reported as having had capital sport in the Ribble. The Flashes have received great attention from Mr. Scott, of Longsight, Mr. Rigby, of Oldham, and Mr. Lees, of Northwich, together with many others. Really good fish were taken, and a visit to these waters will repay the pike hunter. Perhaps the fishing of this district may be just now termed a "pike crusade," for nothing is being done but pike fishing and fishing for pike bait. The absence of grayling fishing within easy reach is much felt, and perhaps contributes to the energy developed lately in the pursuit of pike; at any rate pike fishing is extensively indulged in, and the scarcity of bait is very much felt. Gudgeon are particularly difficult to get hold of.

MANCHESTER anglers are reminded of the annual district meeting, to be held on Thursday, the 19th, at Blackley. Business of vital importance is down for consideration.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

PIKE fishermen are now having a very good time of it all over our rivers and broads, none (if any) of the many anglers out during the past week returning home with empty baskets. Lots of small fish have been caught and returned to the water, not many of our local anglers killing jack of 3lb. and under; but some fair fish have been taken, as well as seen, by the following: On Thursday week eight pike were killed by two rods at Surlingham, on the Yare; and on Friday, six fell to the lot of one rod near the Yare Hotel, at Brundall.

A MEMBER of the Gresham Angling Club had two good days on Thursday and Friday, killing, on the first-named day, eight fish of 5lb. to 6lb.; and on the Friday, seven fish of similar size. On Nov. 8 Rockland Broad was alive with anglers, all getting some pike. One rod had eight nice fish, some of them 6lb. to 7lb.; and another rod had one of 9½lb. On Monday two rods had six fish of fair size.

ON the Bure some good pike have been taken. From Salhouse to Wroxham Broad one boat took twelve pike, spinning, on Thursday; and on Friday another party took ten very nice fish, spinning, between the Ferry and the church at Horning.

ON Nov. 8 two rods took about one stone of roach near Horning village, some of the fish being 1¼lb. in weight.

ON Monday Mr. W. Miles, the president of the Bordesley Waltonians, Birmingham, secured a very pretty pike of 14½lb., with live-bait on snap-tackle, near the entrance of Salhouse Broad. This fish had been seen feeding for several days before, and had been tried after by two or three anglers without effect. The Thurne river has also been productive of good fish, several pike of 8lb. to 15lb. each having been taken since Thursday, at Potter Heigham and Heigham Sounds.

THE water, which on Tuesday was in splendid condition for spinning, is now fast losing its clearness, and will be some days before it is in a fit state for pike fishing again, especially if this weather lasts. To-day (Wednesday), at Brundall, one could scarcely keep one's feet, much less venture out on the river.

STRAY CASTS.—If the season on the Dee and Don did not actually close in a blaze of glory from an angler's point of view, yet some exceptionally fine work was witnessed, on the last two days at least. On the Borrowstone Water on the Dee, Admiral Fane had five and six fish respectively on Friday and Saturday, making a total basket of 203½lb. On the Upper Dess Water, on the closing day, Captain Brooke, 79th Highlanders (Her Majesty's Guard of Honour), landed six magnificent fish in three hours' fishing, giving a total of 109lb. This is the best basket he ever made in one day on the Dee. On the Invercauld Arms Water, Dr. Mitchell, Ballater, had to dance attendance on an 11lb. fish which he foul-hooked for the space of sixty minutes almost, and ultimately landed it, after having perforce to survey the costs of several small islets by the way, which block the bed of the stream some two and a-half miles from where it was hooked. Good sport for the size of the game. On the Carlogie Section, Mr. Archd. Campbell had a somewhat similar experience with an eighteen-pounder, though having to obey orders for over a mile of his water on the closing day before he could bring him to the gaff. It was a capital wind-up to the season.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

PIKE and chub anglers have certainly much cause for congratulation. November, so far, has been crisp and bright, and with the Trent running at low summer level and scarcely any tinge of colour in the water, every inducement has been held out to fishermen to patronise the various backwaters. My experience tells me that as yet the pike have not ascended very far up them. The fish still prefer the mouths, or the edge of the streams, and it is in these places that the majority have succumbed. At King's Mills, on the 5th inst., Mr. Wood, the lessee, caught a handsome fellow of 8½lb., and two or three fine specimens have, I hear, been met with in the celebrated Wig's Pool above King's Mills Weirs. Many rods have been at work on the backwater below Weston Cliff, and one good fish of 10½lb. has been followed by a bigger of 12½lb. A punt would be useful here, but the privilege of using one was withdrawn some two years ago. The water at Shardlow has not been far fished of late, and only meagre items of news reaches me. A thorough trial with an attractive spinning bait—to wit, a bleak—ought to well repay any of the subscribers with any pretensions to trolling. Good fish are said to have been caught in the Sawley private length, and a leviathan of 20lb. has been killed in one of the numerous ponds in the immediate vicinity of Trent Station. In Mr. Bembridge's (Long Eaton) extensive lake, Mr. Bembridge, jun., captured a grandly-proportioned fish of 9½lb. on Monday, by the aid of a lively gudgeon; and in the same water, on Tuesday, Mr. Henry Turner, of West Bridgford, landed one of about 6lb. Most of the backwaters on the Trent below Nottingham have been extensively fished with varying success, Mr. F. Baker, of the Nottingham Wellington Angling Association, securing a couple at Kelham of 10lb. odd. Mr. Baker was broken whilst trolling with one estimated at 15lb. Coarse fish angling has fallen off considerably owing to the low and clear state of the river. Pike bait fishermen are complaining of a dearth of sport; and when these hard-working fellows cannot catch dace, the ordinary angler cannot hope to meet with much sport. Many valuable lessons may be learned from the bait catchers, who are down to every move on the piscatorial board, especially in the winter season. Chubbists do not seem as yet, to have thoroughly settled down, the attractions of pikeing have been too great to resist; but ere long the sport is certain to begin in earnest. For my own part I am more attached to a day's chub fishing with bullock's pith and brains than to any other branch of angling, and already I have made some fair bags, although the fish killed have not run large.

LAST week I briefly mentioned that the Nottingham Wellington Angling Society had celebrated, on the previous Thursday night, its half-yearly dinner, at the headquarters, the Wellington Hotel, in Station-street. I have now to add that the proceedings were of a highly successful character. Host Sam Bestow, who was looking as blooming as ever, excelled, with his amiable hostess, in the catering department, and after the removal of the cloths, Mr. W. Gaskell, the president, proceeded with the business. The health of Her Majesty having been drunk in true angling spirit, the chairman said that to give the toast, "Success to the Society," savoured very much of drinking their own healths. The society had been accustomed to hold two dinners during the year, and generally they had been honoured by the presence of several of the leading men of the district. Owing to certain alterations in the constitution of the society, it had been thought advisable to hold their present dinner that night, and to have the banquet some time in April. They had only one angling season—from March 15 to March 15, but it had been felt by the committee that they ought at least to meet together twice a year. He was pleased, therefore, to welcome them on that occasion, and to tell them that the society was still in a most flourishing condition. They were making new members every month, and already they possessed a member-roll of close upon a hundred. (Applause.) But they intended to go on, and as their sphere of usefulness extended, they hoped all connected would take greater interest in the doings of the club. He regretted the weekly meeting nights were not better attended. Members should certainly turn out a little better than at present. They had a hard-working committee, and a most valuable honorary secretary, Mr. Harry Spray. That gentleman was unquestionably the right man in the right place, and not a little of the prosperity of the society and its increase of membership was due to his untiring efforts. (Applause.) He was prohibited, in his capacity as president, from making any disclosures with regard to the class and weight of fish weighed in. The "Mystery Box" contained papers giving the weights in the several classes, and occasionally, as president, he had a peep inside. (Laughter.) Without divulging secrets, he might say they still held their own as the premier society in the Midland Counties; and before the angling season terminated, he trusted that every member would be represented by a fish of some kind in the box in question. The facilities they possessed for killing fish were amply known, and their records made the society the envy of all others. Mr. H. Spray, whose name was linked with the toast, briefly acknowledged the compliment. His work was a labour of love, but he hoped members would show up better at the weekly meetings. The society had a room to themselves, and every night they had the comforts of a splendid fire. Besides, they could see the *Fishing Gazette* and other angling papers. Singing and music were indulged in until a late hour, the principal vocalists being Mr. George Essex (who presided at the piano), Mr. Tom Essex, Mr. Joseph Baker, Mr. Herbert Baker (vice-chairman), Mr. Fred Baker, Mr. Armistead, Mr. Honey, Mr. C. J. Whiteball, the president, and others.

CHUB fishing during the winter season is an art in itself, and to ensure success the golden rule of fishing fine and far off must be strictly followed. Chub are bold feeders, and always bite better in frosty weather. We had a severe frost on Saturday night, and this was cordially welcomed by the chub anglers. Last Saturday I performed a feat in the river which I am not likely, I think, to repeat. Whilst chub fishing with chandler's greaves, I hooked what at first I looked upon as an aldermanic chub. The fish, on being struck some distance below me, dashed into mid-stream, and sulked after the fashion of a heavy chub. Using very light tackle, my line being nothing else than bobbin silk, I played it more carefully than usual, and gradually brought it nearer the bank. Then it dashed forward, and coming to the surface showed its sides. I then saw that it was a barbel. I landed it in safety, and was much struck by its lean and lanky appearance. It weighed a trifle over 3lb., or at least 1½lb. less than it would have weighed had it been taken in summer. I have known rare instances of barbel being caught in January and February with the worm, when the weather remained open, but the fish in question is the first I have ever known to be taken with the rod in the Trent during the month of November. If any of my numerous readers are aware of any other instance I hope they will not fail to place the capture on record. There is nothing extraordinary in killing the fish, pure and simple, and I have only called attention to the subject because from a very long experience I am unaware of any previous record. The fish was seen by several gentlemen, who, like myself, were agreeably surprised at its peculiar shape and general appearance.

A SMALL fine has been inflicted by the Derbyshire County magistrates on an angler named Thomas Tunnicliffe, for unlawfully fishing in the private waters of Sir Vamcey Crewe, at Sinfin, near Swarkestone, on the 18th October. Defendant was caught by one of the keepers fishing in the canal. He had no right there, and notice-boards were fixed up as a caution. Defendant said he did not see these, but the justices thought he did, and imposed a fine of two shillings and sixpence, with twelve shillings costs. Oh, these costs, especially in county magistrates' courts!

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

ANOTHER week of damp, dreary weather has caused the angler to lay by his rod and pursue a more congenial avocation, until a more suitable time. Angling has been almost at a stand-still, but the river is in good trim, and those who brave the weather will probably be rewarded.

AT their quarterly meeting, on Saturday, the members of the Shropshire Council were unanimous in adopting the report of the Executive and Rivers Pollution Committee, which contained the following paragraph: "Your committee have given the question of the supply of salmon in the Severn and its tributaries in this county, which was referred to them from the last council, their careful consideration, and they have instructed the clerk to write to the Shropshire members of the Severn Board of Conservators, to point out how unsatisfactory the state of the upper waters is with regard to the supply of salmon, and to urge them to use every effort to improve it." Thus the hands of the upper water representatives have been strengthened by the support of another important body, and it is to be hoped that they will leave no stone unturned to accomplish the object for which they have been so long struggling.

A VERY encouraging letter has been received by Mr. J. Williams, the hon. sec. of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society, from the gentleman who wields the pen in the interests of that popular little institution, the Ironbridge Severn Angling Society. This letter signifies the intention of the Ironbridge anglers to forward any surplus they may have to the Shrewsbury Society to assist in their endeavours to re-stock and preserve the river. The secretary expresses regret that owing to the bad season the societies have not been able to bring off the much-talked-of fishing contest, but hope to do so next season. The letter is full of good wishes, and proves how thoroughly in touch with each other in feeling are the two societies, and how greatly the Ironbridge brotherhood appreciate the work which the anglers of the county town have been doing for so many years.

NOTES FROM WORCESTER AND DISTRICT.

THE Severn and Teme are in excellent condition for angling, are now down to their ordinary level again, and sport much improved since the late floods; and the weather during the past week just what anglers like—slight frosts at night, with a little fog, and bright in the middle of the day. The grayling in the Teme have been going well, and some grand baskets taken with the gentle and red worm, but they are not taking the fly at all well as yet, but a few have been taken with the Red Tag, Green Insect, and Whirling Blue.

IN the Severn the roach have been well on the feed, and some grand catches have been made with the maggot and red worm, one angler taking over 16lb. of fine fish, many of them over 1lb. weight. The chub are also going well at the pith and brains, one angler taking seven fish, weighing 11lb. 12oz.

SINCE the late floods the pike have been going well, and anglers have been very successful with the live baits and the spoon baits, though none of any great weight have been taken, the heaviest I have heard of being 8¼lb., the majority running from 2½lb. to 4lb. each. There are, unfortunately, too many of this variety in both Severn and Teme at the present time, and it behoves anglers—members of the various angling societies in particular—to use all their skill, and every opportunity, in reducing their number.

THE members of the Izaak Walton Angling Society had their last prize competition of the season at Knightwick, on the Teme, on Thursday week; the weather was grand, and the fish came well, all the contestants, with one exception, taking nice baskets of dace and grayling, mostly the latter, Webb being first with a grand lot, about 12oz. each; W. Smith being close up for second; Cooper, a good third. All thoroughly enjoyed the sport, and did full justice to an excellent supper on their return to the club-house, which had been provided for them by Host Beckley in his usual good style.

NOTES FROM TYRONE.

LATTERLY there has been some talk about reviving the once famous "Ballinderry Angling Association," which had its headquarters in the pleasant little hamlet of Cough, on the banks of the Ballinderry, or the "Big Water," as it is locally termed. The revival of this club would do much to forward the interests of sport in the eastern section of Co. Tyrone. The club preserved some half dozen miles of water, I am informed—it was not in my reporting days—and paid half-a-dozen extra keepers for watching the river. Something must be done in the interests of angling. 'Tis rather bad that thirty miles of as good a trout stream as is in Ulster should be left over to the half-dozen bailiffs allowed by the Coleraine Board of Conservators, and who find enough to do in protecting the lower six or seven miles that lie between the village of Ardtrea and the Barmouth, where the river enters Lough Neagh. Trout are on the principal redds, and apparently "spawn gatherers" are giving much trouble to the fish. I have never seen a better run of salmon than has taken place this season, and the best of it is yet to come.

THE Blackwater is down to its usual level. Pike lining is very good I hear. Salmon are to be seen in the pools in great numbers. Bream are feeding well in this river, and its branches, the Cullean and Conali, while Coalisland Canal yields an occasional good basket.

GOOD reports reach me as to the spawning season on the network of rivers in North Tyrone, that ultimately form the noble Fayle. There is the Strule, Mourne, Castlederg, Castlefinn, Broaghderg, Doraville, and a dozen other rivers and streams, which hold the best spawning grounds in Irish water, and which I am glad to say are properly preserved.

MANY and strange are the ways in which the poacher prosecutes his nefarious work, but in Tyrone—and some of the adjoining counties, these gentry have a weapon which is unknown to their English and Scotch congeners—flax water. The *modus operandi* is simple—a stretch of river, generally a mountain stream, is netted across at certain intervals. The flax water is allowed to flow into the stream, and in a few moments the trout turn up sick, and are shovelled out in baskets, nets, and other instruments. The fish cannot escape, and the operation is repeated till perhaps a mile of a river is plundered of its inhabitants. Of course this cannot be done except at a particular time of the year; but the flax water will retain its killing properties for months after the flax is taken out of it, and for this purpose the fluid is retained in the pools till the downfalls of rain purify it, and render it harmless.

NEW PATENTS.

THE following is a weekly list of New Piscatorial Patents, specially complied for the *F. G.* by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Patent Agents and Engineers, 76, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., authorised Attorneys for the procuration of English and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks:—

17,494.—Frederick John Williams, of 10, Great Queen-street, for "Improvements in detachable leads for angling or fishing purposes."

17,501.—John Brown Moscrop, of London, for "Improvements in fishing-reels."

19,001.—A. C. MacLeod, of 116, Ivydale-road, Nunhead, Surrey, for "Improvements in fishing winches or reels."

19,148.—J. W. Chaplin, of London, for "Improvements in artificial flies for angling."

ANNUAL SUPPER OF THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

IT is the custom of this venerable society to have an annual supper, commemorative of the foundation of the club; in this advanced age the menu partakes more of the character of a splendid dinner, and as keeping up its originality. On the occasion this year, on Friday evening in last week, it took place in the Queen's Salon at the Holborn Restaurant. Mr. R. S. Fennings, the respected treasurer, occupied the chair; and the well-known angler, Mr. Edward Foreman, in the vice-chair. There was a muster of sixty members and friends, including Messrs. D. Wilson, R. E. Booker, E. J. Walker, R. C. Blundell, W. H. Brougham, T. R. Sachs, W. T. Galloway (hon. sec.), A. Galloway, W. B. Adlington, Thomas Crumplen, T. N. Harrisson, E. Bennett, Dr. Coates, W. Fennings, B. Fennings, E. H. Dixon, W. Fenn, and James Tayler (Gresham). The name card was a device of coloured fish in various specimens, made of thin wood, and the menu having on it a representation of fish gave the tables a very fishy appearance. The formal list of toasts was altogether dispensed with, and the one toast of the evening was "Success to the Piscatorial Society," which was briefly proposed by the chairman, who stated the society was in a very flourishing condition, and any idea to the contrary would be negatived by the splendid attendance that evening. The toast was drank with great enthusiasm, and the remainder of the evening, with the exception of two complimentary toasts, "The Chairman" and "The Vice-Chairman," was spent in the enjoyment of some excellent harmony contributed by members and friends. Mr. W. T. Galloway, as honorary secretary, was most energetic in carrying out the arrangements.

CAPTURE OF A SUN FISH AT WHITBY.—A few days ago some persons standing near the sandy beach of Whitby observed what at first sight appeared to be, from its rolling and turning motion in the water, a porpoise, not far from and coming towards the beach opposite the West Cliff Saloon, a few hundred yards north of the piers. When it had got into sufficiently shallow water, a lad waded in and seized hold of one of its fins, and, with the assistance of some youths who were playing at football on the sand, soon hauled it clear of the sea. The creature proved to be a large sun fish of the following dimensions, for which I am indebted to Mr. T. Stephenson, curator of the Whitby Museum: depth from tip to tip of fins, 6ft.; length of body, from snout to outer edge of caudal fin, 4ft. 5in.; length of dorsal fin, 1ft. 10½in.; width of dorsal fin, 1ft.; length of anal fin, 1ft. 6in.; width of anal fin, 10in.; length of pectoral fin, 7in.; width of pectoral fin, 7in.; width of caudal fin from body to outer edge, 10½in.; circumference of body at thickest part, 6ft. 4in.; depth of mouth, 2in.; width of mouth, 3½in. Two large powerful teeth in the front of the upper and lower jaws, with small elongated teeth, like bone, behind. The liver consisted of two large lobes or flaps, weighing about 28lb., and were of a chrome yellow colour. From the description given by Narrell, a doubt exists as to whether this is the oblong sun fish, or a very large specimen of the short sun fish, the caudal fin of this specimen differing much from that of the *Orthagoriscus* mold, captured at Whitby on the 22nd September, 1887, and now in the museum. But the pectoral fins of both closely resemble each other in shape and formation. The weight of the fish has not been exactly ascertained, but approximately it may be put down as at least 5cwt. The skin of the fish appears to be devoid of scales, and is hard and rough, similar to that of the shark, but rough both ways. The flesh is hard, firm, and tough, white in colour, and in general appearance resembles the kernel of the cocoanut. It had no stomach or bag, but one large gut, or tube, about 18ft. long, which contained nothing but a brown, slimy mucous. If it be an oblong sun fish, it is the first that has been seen on the Whitby coast since 1867, when one measuring 5ft. from tip to tip of fins, and 5ft. in length from snout to tail, was captured near the same place.—JNO. J. JACKSON.

REVIEW OF THE PAST SEASON'S ANGLING ON THE SHIN.

THE sport obtained with the rod during the past season exceeded that of the previous three seasons put together. Although the favourable state of weather and water had a good deal to do with it, there is no doubt but that the abolition of the netting at Invershin is the primary cause of the great improvement in sport. These net fishings were abolished by His Grace the Duke of Sutherland two or three years ago, and the effect on rod fishing is now beginning to tell. During February and March this year twenty-eight salmon, aggregating 302lb., were landed, as compared with sixteen salmon, 172lb., in the corresponding period of 1890. During the month of April, Mr. Lake and party secured sixty-eight salmon, 839½lb., while the same month last year only yielded seventeen salmon, 205lb. Sir J. Ferguson Davie and party fished the river in May, and got sixty-nine salmon and one grilse, aggregating 865½lb., against twelve salmon, 121lb., in May, 1890. During the month of June, Mr. Buxton and party grassed thirty-five salmon, 444½lb., and twenty-three grilse, 121½lb., while June last year only yielded twelve salmon, 151lb., and two grilse, 11lb. In July, during which three spates occurred—the river being too high to allow fish over the fall—Lord Braybrook landed fourteen salmon, 128lb.; and twenty-nine grilse, 129lb.; and Captain Greenwood, on the upper water, had ten salmon, 125lb., which made a total for the month of fifty-three fish, 412lb., as compared with twenty fish, 189lb. in July, 1890. In August, Mr. Lewis D. Hall and party grassed nine salmon, 95lb., and sixteen grilse, 101lb. Last year the take was nine salmon, 108lb., and four grilse, 27lb. During September, Mr. Hall fished to the 14th, and got five salmon, 73lb., and six grilse, 35lb.; from the 19th to the 30th, Mr. Blanco White and Mr. Dickinson grassed nine salmon, 126lb., and one grilse, 6lb.; which made a total for the month of twenty-one fish, 240lb., as compared with thirteen fish, 162lb., in the corresponding month of last year.

The following tabulated statement will show at a glance the great increase in sport:—

1888..	72 salmon,	894½lb...	25 grilse,	132½lb. ..	total,	1,027 lb.
1889..	72 ,,	949½lb...	3 ,,	14 lb. ..	,,	963½lb.
1890..	85 ,,	999 lb...	20 ,,	129 lb. ..	,,	1,028 lb.
1891..	247 ,,	2,993 lb.	76 ,,	428 lb. ..	,,	3,421 lb.

The average weights do not fluctuate very much in 1888—salmon averaged 12½lb., and grilse 5¼lb. In 1889 salmon reached an average of 13lb. 3oz., and grilse only 4¾lb. In 1890 salmon made 11¾lb. and grilse 6½lb. In 1891 salmon 12lb. 2oz., and grilse 5½lb. This year a number of salmon, ranging from 20lb. to 31lb., were landed. Amongst the best baskets for individual days were six salmon, ranging from 9lb. to 28lb., on 13th April. On the 23rd of that month six salmon, aggregating 77lb., were landed. In May seven salmon, 81lb., were grassed on the 15th; six salmon 59½lb., on the 16th; six salmon, 80lb., on the 19th; five salmon, 63lb., on the 20th; and six salmon, 82lb., on the 26th. The best day in June was on the 13th, when five salmon, 67½lb., and three grilse, 13½lb., were landed. McB.

ANGLING AT WATERVILLE.

CLOSE OF THE SEASON.

THE angling season closed here on October 15. On the whole, it was rather poor, although, as far as salmon are concerned, it showed an improvement on the season of 1890. The season opened on February 1. Fair sport was had during the opening week, but the remainder of the month turned out very unfavourable, and sport was only of a middling kind. March was little better than February, and the number of salmon taken was very small; this was principally due to harsh, unfavourable winds and occasional heavy rainstorms. Towards the end of March, however, brown trout began to take freely, the heaviest of them being got by the natural minnow. April was an average month, and a few anglers met with pretty fair sport at salmon. The best killers during this month were the local pattern flies. Sport would be better at this time if the waters were not so low; indeed, at the beginning of April, the lake was far below its ordinary summer level. Peal began to appear during the last week of April, and white trout put in an appearance about the same time. The spring salmon were heavier this year than usual: they averaged about 15lb., showing an increase of 2lb. on former recorded averages. The first run of white trout were also heavier than those of past seasons, but all subsequent runs were very small, only about herring size. May was far from favourable, and sport was very slack. June, July, and August were fair enough, and sport at white trout was about up to the average. The remaining time of the season was rainy and wild for the most part, and the returns of sport showed a great falling-off when compared with past years.

The following Table will show the number of salmon, &c., taken this year (by rods only), and also the number for 1890:—

MONTH.	SALMON.		WHITE TROUT.		BROWN TROUT.	
	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.
February..	18	30	—	—	150	109
March	22	32	—	—	199	150
April......	28	45	—	6	250	181
May	24	27	15	8	605	545
June	12	18	194	170	800	795
July	4	10	1215	1209	884	901
August ..	6	12	1042	991	730	590
September	10	8	590	485	501	601
Oct. (to 15)	2	4	201	98	245	87
Totals..	126	186	3257	2967	4364	3962

The heaviest salmon (18lb.) was caught by a local professional, Denis Currane; the heaviest peal (7¼lb.) by Mr. A. R. Brook-Leeds, Ryde, Isle of Wight; the heaviest white trout (4½lb.) by Captain C. Bromley, R.N., London; and the heaviest brown trout by E. Dennehy, a local angler and fly-tier. This fish was a splendid specimen of its kind, and weighed 9¼lb. It was in the pink of condition, and was taken on a small white trout fly.

On the Inny river, the season has been below the average in the number of white and brown trout killed, but it has yielded sixty salmon, as against fifty-five in 1890. This is a late river, and is rarely fished for salmon before the middle of July. I think it would be only reasonable to extend the season on this river to the middle of November.

THOS. J. DENNEHY.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* Fishing Gazette, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* Club Report *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association.—Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly delegate meeting will take place on Monday evening next, Nov. 16, at 8.30.—Further Railway Concession.—The Great Eastern Railway Company, with their usual liberality, have consented for the accommodation of anglers residing in the locality to issue anglers' tickets from Lower Edmonton Station, on the new branch line to Cheshunt, to all stations available by the privilege tickets, on the Hertford, Buntingford, and Cambridge lines.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Anglers' Association. — Visiting List, Eastern District No. 2.—The visit paid to the North London A.S. on the 9th, was one of the right sort; the talent was good and plenty of it, the room was packed, and nineteen societies represented. The next visit on this list will take place at the St. John's A.S., on Monday, November 30, when Mr. Howard will read his paper, the name of and full particulars I will give next week.—F. Thorling.

Anglers' Association.—Southern District Visiting List.—In consequence of extensive alterations in the club-house of the Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey, the visit on the above list will be postponed from the 17th instant to the 24th, when I hope to see a good muster of brother anglers.—G. W. Armstrong, district officer.

Anglers' Association. — Western District. — A successful visit was paid to the Allason Piscatorials on the 10th instant. Upon the roll being called twelve clubs responded. The A. B. Box was opened, and found to contain nine shillings. The next visit will be paid to my own club, the Bostonians, at the Dalby Tavern, Dalby-street, Prince of Wales-road, Kentish Town, on Monday week, Nov. 23, when I hope to have the pleasure of welcoming many old angling friends.—J. Jennings.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of £1 6s. from the donation box of the Dalston Angling Society.—R. Ghurney, sec.

The London United Anglers' Societies' Fourth Annual Angling Competition, in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—I have much pleasure in announcing that I have forty-one prizes for the competition, Mr. Carter, of the Railway Inn, St. Margaret's, giving a prize. Winners will have their choice in rotation. The date of the distribution will be duly announced. Received with thanks P.O. from the Beaufoy, Barbican, Globe, Original North Lambeth, and Wellington. Tickets can be obtained of the secretary on the morning.—S. Malby, sec.

Allason Piscatorial Society, Golborne Liberal Club, Portobello-road, Notting Hill, W.—The second visit of the western district was paid to the above club, and which proved most successful, considering the state of the weather. When the roll was called twelve clubs were represented, and a jovial night was spent. On the 8th inst., Mr. Miller and Mr. Hammans gave us an eye-opener with a show of roach and dace from Richmond, to the tune of 36lb., as nice a lot as anyone wished to see. They were out with F. Brown, of Richmond, and it seems as though they were in it. Mr. Severn was also out, and had a show of roach and dace. A match takes place on Nov. 22 at Cookham, in the cutting, all to start by the first train from Westbourne Park. Hoping all members will show up in full force on that day.—W. Miller, sec.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—On the 8th we fished a pegged-down match Windsor for seven prizes. Very poor sport was had, only five prizes being taken, in the following order: W. Thornett, Sid Cutbush, J. Fairbairn, T. Smith, and J. Whiston, the two remaining prizes being left over to the next outing. Mr. H. Bray and his brother showed a splendid tray of roach and dace from the Thames, weighing over 18lb. On the 10th we elected Mr. W. Birt as an honorary member.—J. Pailes, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our seventh match this season came off on the 8th inst., at Windsor, when only two prizes out of the three that were fished for were taken, as none of us could reach the required weight to take the first prize, which is a handsome silver cup. Mr. Roberts was the nearest to approach it, with 2lb. ¾oz. of fish, comprising chub and a very nice perch of 1lb., taking second prize; and Mr. Jones took third prize with 1lb. 8oz. of roach and dace; and several others had fish. On arriving at Clapham Junction, someone handed out somebody else's fishing-box in a mistake. If the owner will call at the above club and give full description of same, we shall be very proud to hand it over.—J. Rich, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—Several of our members were out on the 8th inst., with the result that we had a very nice show of fish weighed in by the following gentlemen: Messrs. Nunn, sen., roach; Hake, roach; Wright, roach; Becks, roach; and G. Merry, dace. Our next outing for a series of five half guineas and silver-mounted walking-stick will take place on the 15th inst., from Windsor Bridge to Surly Hall. Members are reminded of the next visit on C.A.D.U. Visiting List, which takes place next Monday at the Islington Brothers, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The result of the fishing for November series of prizes is as follows: Mr. Bowling, first; and Mr. D. Davis, second; leaving one still open to be fished for. Mr. Eldridge's competition will be held on 29th November, at Pulborough. Train leaves London Bridge at eight o'clock, Peckham Rye 8.5. Please note the date of our visit should be Monday, 23rd, not 16th, as per my last report; trusting we shall have a good muster. P.S.—A visit will be paid to the Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road, on Tuesday, 17th November, when I hope to see some of the members.—A. G. Smith, sec.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, Great Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—Several of our members were out on the 8th inst,, the trays being well filled by the following: Mr. Scutt, roach and dace; M'Tucker, roach, dace, and perch, the largest perch 1lb. 3½oz.; Mr Warman, roach and dace: Mr. Savage, roach and dace. I do hope the members will not forget the South London visit to the Rodney, on Tuesday next, Nov. 17, and give them a good bumper.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday evening last, and the occasion was a red-letter day in the annals of the society. Mr. Edgar S. Shrubsole, who takes such a great interest in the welfare of this club, delivered a lecture on "Fishing Baskets, Bags, and Creels" before one of the biggest and most representative meetings ever held in the South of London. Notwithstanding the unpropitious state of the weather, anglers came from near and far to listen to him, and the hearty way in which he was thanked for his efforts to entertain them was a proof of the satisfactory manner in which he had succeeded in doing so. His lecture was listened to with wrapt attention by all present, and the universal opinion was that it was one of the best ever delivered to the members of an angling club. Mr. R. B. Marston occupied the chair, and the hearty manner in which he was received testified to the keen appreciation London anglers have for that gentleman's efforts on their behalf. The lecture was illustrated with an exhibition of baskets and bags, the like of which has never been seen in this country before, and these were carefully examined by those present with much interest. A full report of the proceedings will be found in another column, but the members wish to make use of the space allotted to them here to record their sincere thanks for the excellent lecture delivered by Mr. Shrubsole and the genial manner in which Mr. Marston came into their midst.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—On the 8th inst. our trays were again well filled with some capital roach, contributed by the following members: James Smith, J. Warman, D. Dodson, H. Patman, and Hamp; total weight, 49lb. 15oz. On the 22nd inst., the members will fish a competition for their November series of prizes; place and conditions to be decided at the meeting on the 20th inst. The next visit on the Anglers' Association List (Southern Division) will be to this society on Tuesday, the 24th inst.—A. Conn, sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the 8th inst., we fished our match at Ware, when the following weighed in: Mr. Gill, first, with perch: Mr. C. Davis, second, with perch, heaviest perch, 1lb. ½oz.; Mr. Warren, third, with perch. Mr. Newton has won Mr. Clark's prize for the heaviest roach taken in the match. Messrs. H. Davis, T. Davis, and A. Stewart, also weighed in.—D. Warren.

Bostonian Angling Society.—On Wednesday, the 4th, the members took part in a friendly supper, in celebration of the wedding of one of our oldest and most respected members—namely, Mr. Jamieson, who was presented, during the course of the evening, with a handsome set of carvers, in case, suitably engraved, to mark the respect the members have for him. The testimonial was presented, in appropriate terms, by Mr. Jennings, the chairman, and feelingly acknowledged by Mr. Jamieson. The rest of the evening was spent in harmony. We have had some grand shows of fish during the past week by the following members: Mr. Brown, perch and roach; Mr. Jennings, dace and roach; Mr. Chapman, jack, heaviest over 8lb.; Mr. Halsell, roach; Mr. Taylor, roach; Mr. Lawson, roach; Mr. Hoare, roach; Mr. Clark, roach, heaviest 1lb. 3oz. Our return visit will take place on Monday, November 23, when all brother anglers will be welcome.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—The competition, which took place at Bourne End, on the 8th inst., for five prizes, turned out a success this time. Eighteen competitors went down, and everyone weighed in. The successful members were as follows: Mr. Robson, first; Mr. E. Briggs, second; Mr. F. Briggs, third; Mr. Brooker, fourth; and Mr. Brown, fifth. A competition for the prizes given by our brewers (Messrs. Matthews and Canning) and several other prizes, given by the members, will take place at Cookham on the 29th inst. This evening (Wednesday) I saved a blank with a few nice roach. On the 8th inst., two of our honorary members brought up four jack, weighing over 25lb., the heaviest fish turning the scales at 13lb.—H. Roach, sen.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—We had a very small show of fish on the 8th instant: Mr. D. Flint, a nice jack of 5lb. 11oz.; Mr. Gurney, 1lb. 6oz. of perch. Some of our members were out for prizes, of which three were won: Mr. Andrews, first, one chub, 7oz.; Mr. Pert, second, one roach, 2½oz.; Mr. Pether, third, one roach, 2½oz.—J. Pether, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 8st inst. we had a good show of fish on our trays: Mr. King, roach and perch; Mr. Langton, roach; Mr. C. Chapman, jack; Mr. Marshall, dace; Mr. Critcher, perch; Mr. Sartain, roach. I should like to see members show up a little better on Wednesday nights.—E. T. White.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—On Monday last, Mr. Harry Dunn's reading, "Canon Kingsley as an Angler," was crowded out by a surprise entertainment provided by Host Tom Keeble, to celebrate the Prince of Wales' jubilee. Mr. Dunn will therefore read next Monday. "Fly-fishing for Carp and Dace," by Mr. Edgar S. Shrubsole, is the subject for this month's lecture, and will be delivered by him on Monday, Nov. 23, under the auspices of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers Among Angling Clubs. Mr. H. J. Tibbatts will preside on that occasion.—J. Smith, hon. sec.

Central Visiting List.—The next return visit on this list will be to the Anchor and Hope A.S., held at the William IV., Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road, on Monday, November 23. Secretaries who are about arranging dates of visits, readings, &c., are requested to note this fixture. Anglers and friends are cordially invited.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—Since my last the following have weighed in: Mr. Mackerel, roach, 11lb.; Mr. Robinson, ditto, 7lb.; Mr. A. Bowater, ditto, 3lb. 10oz.; Mr. A. Painter, jack, 3lb. 4½oz.; Mr. Turner, roach, 1lb. 14½oz.; Mr. T. Jameson, roach, 1lb. 11½oz. Our match which was announced to take place on the 8th inst., has been postponed till the 15th inst., on which I hope to see a good attendance. On Tuesday last several members and myself journeyed to the Battersea Friendly Angling Society's club-house, to listen to the lecture by Mr. Shrubsole, on "Baskets," &c., and must say it far exceeded our anticipations.—A. Trowbridge, sec.

Clerkenwell and District United.—The next return visit on the above will be to the Islington Brothers Angling Society, held at the Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road, on Monday evening next, Nov. 16. A pleasant evening's amusement is in store for any brother angler or friend who will favour them with their company.—F. Castell, hon. sec.

Cliftonville Angling Society, Cliftonville Hotel, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey. — Several members were out on the 8th inst,, but only two weighed in: Mr. A. Payne, and Mr. W. Emberson, roach and dace, from the Thames. Members are requested to bear in mind the visit to the Rodney takes place on the 17th inst., and it is most important we should be represented as our own comes next.—P. Gardner, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We fished a match at Bourne End, on the 8th inst., for twelve private prizes, which were all taken with a moderate amount of fish, the winners were as follows:—Messrs. J. Hicks, roach, 2lb. 1oz.; E. Baxter, roach, 1lb. 3oz.; F. Nunney, roach; A. Tucker, boatman; T. Twyman, T. Marsh, J. Owen, G. Perham, F. Boccius, W. Hill, A. Smith, all with roach.—A. Smith, sec.

Crown and Buckland Uuited Piscatorial Society, Middlesex Arms, 34, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.—I am sorry to say that we had a very poor show of fish on the 8th inst., there being only three members weighing in fish — G. Walters, 11lb. 8½oz., roach; G. Norris, 6lb. 5½oz., roach; H. Long, 2lb. 4½oz., roach and dace. I wish to remind the members and friends that our half-yearly supper will take place at the club-house on Wednesday evening, Nov. 25, at 8.30. —G. Rogers, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 8th inst. twenty-four of our members competed for the two prizes left over from the 1st. Result, Mr. Wild, 1st; W. Midson and W. Edwards, a tie; Mr. Webber, 4th. On Nov. 22 we fish for ten prizes, value ten shillings each, in the Thames; full particulars at the club-house. Members please attend on Tuesday next, as there is some very important business to be brought forward. Members, don't forget Rye House.—S. Malby, sec.

Eagle Angling Society, Chesnut-road, Tottenham.—Our members have been very busy lately. That indefatigable fisherman, Mr. Hazlewood, since my last report, captured a pike weighing 11½lb., in our private water at Tottenham, not very far from the same spot where he captured, last March, one weighing 22lb., and he says "there are plenty more like 'em." Mr. Bennett, and Mr. Dwyer had arranged to fish a match at Staines on Nov. 2,; but Mr. Bennett failed to put in an appearance, and as a consolation to Mr. Dwyer, I have much pleasure in stating that he is the successful competitor for Dr. Hall's prize of £1 1s., with 9½lb. roach and dace, Mr. Ashmore coming in second, and Mr. Hazelwood third. Another match for a dinner for six was fished for on Tuesday last at Staines, between Mr. Dwyer and Mr. Pettipierre, the former having Keene, jun., as puntsman, and the latter Hone. Mr. Dwyer was again successful, with 15½lb. of roach and chub, although he was run very close by his opponent, who had the largest chub, which scaled a little over 3lb. The next members' meeting is on Nov. 17.—T. F. B., hon. sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road. — On the 8th inst. we had a fair show of roach and dace by Messrs. F. Vanhegan and Biggs. Mr. A. A. Eldridge's competition will take place at Pulborough, on November 29; special train from London Bridge at eight o'clock.—J. W. Biggs, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had but a small show of fish on the 8th inst.—about 8lb. of roach and dace, taken by Messrs. Slade, Caborn, Stebbings, and F. Lawrence. Other members out, but not successful.—A. Payne, sec.

Grange Angling Society, the Earl Derby, Grange-road, S.E.—On Saturday last, Mr. T. Sandilands took from the Thames a brace of barbel, scaling 8lb. 3oz., some roach, and chub. On Tuesday, Messrs. J. H. Rich, Ryder, Woolland, and Croker weighed in 7½lb. roach between them. Mr. Rich's scaled 3lb. 13oz. Members are requested to attend the meeting on Thursday, the 19th inst.—W. K.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—Since my last report, Mr. W. Carr weighed on October 25th, a splendid perch, 2lb. 1oz.; Mr. F. Bates also weighed some roach on the 1st. The same gentlemen weighed a nice brace of jack, nearly 12lb., besides roach. On the 8th, Mr. J. Grande saved a blank with roach.—G. F. Weaver, sec.

Great Northern Brothers Angling Society, Robin Hood, Southampton-street, Pentonville.—On the 5th inst., Messrs. C. Watling, jun., and J. A. Fitch, had a splendid show of roach from the Thames—viz., 62lb. 12oz.; the respective weights being 33lb., and 29lb. 12oz. On the 8th inst., the following members weighed fish: Messrs. C. Large, 6lb. 4oz.; A. Bambridge, 6lb. 4oz.; J. Cooper, 8lb. 5oz.; A. Proehl, 2lb. 14oz.; J. K. Fitch, 11lb. 11oz.; W. Parkins, 7lb. 9lb.; C. Watling, jun., 15lb. 14oz.; F. Watling, 10lb. 3lb.; J. A. Fitch, 14lb. 12lb.: W. Barnes, 1lb. 8oz.; J. Hewitt, 1lb. 6oz.; total 86lb. 10oz.; all the above takes consisted of roach and were taken from the bank.—J. A. Fitch, sec.

Greenwich Angling Society, Prince Albert, Royal-hill, Greenwich.—Notwithstanding the inclement weather on Wednesday evening last, we had a very good muster of members and friends, Mr. G. H. Dowsett in the chair, and Mr. Dryden in the vice-chair. The usual routine business having been gone through, the attention of those present was drawn to a paper read by Mr. Giffard Hooper, entitled "The Mimicry of Nature." Although not strictly a piscatorial subject, it was listened to attentively from start to finish, and was of an interesting and instructive nature, and a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Hooper for so kindly reading same. The thanks of the members were also given Mr. W. Marshall for his present to the society of a perch in case caught in the Lea at Hertford in October, and weighing exactly 2lb.—G. J. Toynbee, hon. secretary.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, with Mr. E. H. Bramley in the chair. Mr. Fosbrooke reported on the competition of Rods *v.* Handlines, held at Leigh, last Saturday, which resulted in favour of rods. Seven members fished on each side, and as the rods won, the members who took the best five fish, second best, and third best, on that side, won the three prizes. They were Messrs. Allen, Dippie, and Norman, in the order named. The total weight of fish caught was 207lb., chiefly flounders and dabs. A vote of thanks to Messrs. Norman and Fosbrooke, for having made the arrangements for the match, was agreed to. Mr. Gilbert reported on the competition which had taken place that day (Tuesday), at Windsor. Mr. J. W. Hearn took the first prize with a roach of 1lb. 1oz., and Mr. Gilbert a prize offered by himself, which he generously re-offered for a future occasion. A large quantity of small roach were taken and returned. Mr. C. Bently presented the society with a black-board and easel for the use of lecturers. Mr. Allen reported having taken sixteen roach at Caversham; Mr. Gilbert, 10lb. of roach from the Ouse; Mr. Young, six codling at Deal; and the Rev. E. Meyer, roach at Brundall. Two new members were proposed. Mr. C. S. Bentley then read an excellent paper on "Fish as a Symbol," illustrated by drawings, and discoursed most learnedly on his subject, which was highly appreciated by a large meeting. It was proposed by the Rev. E. Meyer and seconded by Dr. Brunton, that the paper be printed, which was carried. A smoking concert will be held next Tuesday, the 17th inst., at eight o'clock, when it is hoped there will be a good attendance of members and friends.—JAMES TAYLER, sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 8th inst. several of our members were out for a pegged-down at Chelmsford, for five prizes, but only two were taken—viz., Messrs. Hunter and Rider, with perch, one singular coincidence being that both fish were exactly the same weight. Mr. Saalfield also had a nice show of roach and dace.—W. FENNER, sec.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—We have had a good show again. Our members were well on the war-path this week. Mr. Glover, with a good show of roach, 6lb., and a good show of chub, heaviest roach, 1lb. 5½oz.; also Mr. Gehrling, some handsome jack; and on the 8th inst., under most unfavourable weather, sixteen of our number fished for four prizes at Pangbourne, the first being taken by Mr. Shaw; second by Mr. Rutherford; third by Mr. Dash; and fourth by Mr. Giles; Messrs. Burton, Wymer, and Ball also weighing in.—J. T. GRIFFITHS, sec.

Hounsfield Otters.—The present season, I regret to say, has not hitherto proved very successful, and our amended scale of sizes, of course, operates somewhat against gross weights. Nevertheless, on the 1st inst., Mr. Henry Liddle had a pretty little jack of 6lb. 9¼oz., and another over 21in. (this is our limit), from Flander's Weir; and J. Bullworthy, one, from the Rye House. On the 8th, however, Mr. J. Hales quite eclipsed these with one of 9lb. 4¾oz. from the first-named water, and this fish has, I understand, been entrusted to Mr. Cooper for preservation by Mr. Green, the landlord of the Pike and Anchor, Ponder's End; so, doubtless, ere long it will be on view again, as it was on Nov. 8 at that well-known fishing resort. On the same date, Mr. W. Jones weighed in a jack a trifle over 3lb.; while Mr. S. Smith had three roach of 2lb. 12oz.; Mr. W. F. Liddle, roach and dace; Mr. F. Ashmore, roach; and Mr. C. Lane, roach. On Tuesday last, Mr. Pettipierre showed about 6½lb. from the Thames, amongst them being a chub of 2lb. 13oz., and a roach of 1lb. 3oz. I have much pleasure in announcing that our annual smoking (programme) concert, in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Society, will take place at our club-house, the King's Head, Lower Edmonton, on Wednesday, the 2nd December, when anglers and friends will be cordially welcomed. We are promised support from a host of talent, and hope to make the affair a grand success.—F. S. T.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—The members fished for thirteen Christmas prizes at the Rye House, on the 8th, eight only being won, all with perch. The quarterly general meeting will take place on Tuesday evening next, Nov. 17, roll-call at nine o'clock sharp. Members will oblige by their attendance on business of importance.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 21, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—On the 1st instant, Messrs. Pain and Pope weighed in roach, dace, and gudgeon. On the 5th instant, Messrs. Hansford and Gray were elected working members of this society. On the 8th instant, Mr. Pope weighed in roach—just saving us from a blank; several others were out but had no luck. I wish to inform members that on Thursday last, Mr. Edward Watkins brought up two silver-plated cups under glass shades as prizes from himself and wife, as a substitute for the money prizes promised by them. The best thanks of the society are due to them for their handsome contribution, which we all appreciate. They will be given for the best and second best roach, taken from the Thames; bank only. One member not allowed to take both.—SNAP.

Islington Angling Society, Jubilee House, Hornsey-road, N.—There will be a microscopical evening on Tuesday next at eight o'clock, when Mr. C. S. Bentley will exhibit various subjects.—C. DOWNING, sec.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—The match at Cookham was a success; six prizes out of seven were taken. The following weighed in: Mr. Croker, first, 7lb. 9½oz.; Mr. Blackman, second, 5lb. 5oz.; Mr. Holder, third, 4lb. 15½oz.; Mr. Leach, fourth, 1lb. 15½oz.; Mr. Wilsher, fifth, 4lb. 5¾oz.; Mr. J. H. Herbert, sixth, 9oz.; Messrs. Herbert and W. Stretch; all with roach and dace.—J. H. HERBERT, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The half-yearly distribution of special prizes will take place on Wednesday evening next, the 18th inst., on which occasion the members will have a supper. Those members who intend being present at the supper will please send in their names not later than the 15th inst. The supper will be served at 8.30 precisely. The members competed for a series of Christmas prizes on the 8th inst., only two members succeeded in taking the required weight (Messrs. H. Butt and T. Harris being the successful ones). The remainder are to be fished for on Dec. 20; competitors may choose their own fishing waters. Messrs. Henry, Harry and Daniel Auburns, weighed in perch. There are also a series of Christmas prizes to be fished for on Wednesday next, 18th inst., between Burnt Mill and Harlow; towing-path only. If not taken on the day named, to be fished for again on the Wednesday previous to Christmas Day. Mr. J. McDermott was unanimously elected to serve on the committee of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs.—H. B.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—The committee have arranged the following competition—namely, for the heaviest gross weight of fish weighed in from the 1st November until the 6th January, 1892, first prize value £3 3s; second heaviest ditto, value £1 1s.; third heaviest ditto, £1 1s.; all fish to be weighed in at the club-house. A pegged-down competition to take place on the 22nd, first prize, £1 1s.; second prize, 10s. 6d.; for further particulars apply to the secretary. The following members have weighed in during the week: Messrs. Master, roach and dace, 22lb. 7oz.; Hollyman, roach and dace, 7lb. 12oz.; Delevante, roach and dace, 5lb. 8oz.; Carter, roach, 3lb. 2oz.; T. Salter, roach, 2lb. 13oz.; H. Salter, roach and dace, 1lb. 15oz.; Newcombe, roach and dace, 2lb. 14oz.—T. SALTER, hon. sec.

Leeds Golden Fleece Angling Society.—On Wednesday evening, Nov. 11, Mr. Francis M. Walbran delivered a lecture, entitled "The Four Seasons of Angling," before the members of the above society. Although the night was very wet and stormy, about fifty of the members and their friends attended. The chair was occupied by the president, Mr. Leah. Mr. Morgan proposed, and Mr. Wright seconded, the proposition that a vote of thanks be given to the lecturer, which was carried out with musical honours. Mr. Walbran briefly responded, and the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony.—T. HUNTER, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 8th inst. several members were out, and some good fish were shown by the following: Messrs. Johnson, Belton, Nelson, Watling, Stanton, Webster, J. White, and W. White, roach and dace. I hope to see a good muster at our next meeting, to arrange our Christmas outing.—W. WATLING, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association, Bee Hotel, 5, Queen's-square, and 18, St. John's-lane.—Our first social for the winter last week was well attended, and a pleasant and enjoyable evening was passed. Mr. A. H. Mason occupied the chair. Our next social, on December 3, already bids fair to be a great success, members and friends on all sides promising their assistance and to be present. At the ordinary weekly meeting on the 5th inst., one new member was duly elected, and an instruction passed that a notice will be put up in the hut at Knowsley prohibiting members from using the tackle of others without express permission.—RD. WOOLFALL.

Liverpool East End Friendly Angling Association, 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool.—We were saved from a blank on the 1st instant by Mr. T. C. Segar, weighing in roach, taking first prize. I hope all members will be present at our next meeting, on the 24th, to decide about a supper. It being the first year of this society it is to be hoped it will be a success.—T. C. SEGAR, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 8th inst. our members were at various stations on the Thames. Mr. Milburn weighing in 10lb. 2oz. of fine roach; Messrs. A. Clark, W. Pearce, Samson, Penfold, Gray, and Bartlett having some nice shows of roach, some of them weighing over 1lb.—W. F. PEARCE.

New Albion Piscatorials, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road.—The next competition—an open one—will take place at Windsor, on Thursday, November 19; bank or punt; no one to go down on the morning in question before the 7.35 a.m. train.—A. E. BALDWIN, sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 108, Westminster Bridge-road.—A few of our members were out on the 8th inst., and we were saved from a blank by one member weighing in jack. The Christmas prizes will be finally decided on November 29. Election of delegates will take place on the 15th inst.—F. WALLIS, sec.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway.—We took our return visit on the No. 2 Eastern District last Monday, and I am happy to say that it was a success, our room being crowded, so that we had to make use of our spare room. On the roll being called nineteen clubs responded, to whom, on behalf of the North London, I return my sincere thanks; also that we shall return the compliment. The harmony was good, and plenty of it, being kept going until our worthy host called time. On Nov. 8 we had a few fish weighed in. The next visit will be to the St. John's, of which Mr. Thorling is secretary, and I hope that he will be well supported on the occasion.—H. STRETCH, hon. sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland-park, N.W.—We have had our trays well filled by the following members: On Nov. 5, Mr. Billings weighed in 20lb. of roach; Mr. Schultz, jun., 22¼lb. of roach, also chub and perch; and again on Nov. 8, Mr. Billings, chub and roach, 9lb. 13oz.; Mr. Schultz, jun., roach; Mr. W. Ward, roach; Mr. Pritchard, roach; Mr. Goodman, roach; and Mr. Harris, three jack; being a grand show of fish, considering the weather. Last Thursday, Nov. 12, was half-yearly night; all members not having been heard from will receive notice, as per Rule 7.—G. S.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—On the 8th inst., we had a very respectable show of fish put on our trays by the following members of our club—viz.: the Messrs. Forster, roach and perch; Neville, perch; Harrison, perch; Bygrave, sen., roach and dace; and Bygrave, jun., jack; altogether upwards of 21lb.—J. CUTHBERT, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham.—Our anniversary supper turned out a splendid success, forty sitting down to the supper, which was provided for by our worthy host, Mr. Reed, who also took the chair. After the supper a very nice concert took place. Members will please not to forget that an open match takes place on November 15.—E. A. FAUTLEY, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—On the 1st inst. Mr. Robbins credited us with a nice show of roach, weighing 10lb. 13½oz.; Messrs. Clist and Hayden also having fish. On the 8th inst., Mr. Porter, roach, 9lb. 6oz.; Messrs. Hayden, Brett, Robbins, F. Reed, and Ivermee, having fish. I have received tickets for the competition at Rye House, on the 15th inst., and shall be at the station to supply members with the same.—W. BOWYER, sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The next on S.L.U.V. List comes to us on Tuesday, the 17th inst., when I hope to see a roomful. Secretaries that have not received notice will take this as such. Our supper on the 11th was a success. About thirty sat down, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. The following members weighed in on the 8th inst.: Messrs. T. Lines, roach, dace, and gudgeon; P. Martin, roach, dace, and gudgeon; J. Wigley, roach; Tidmarsh, roach; F. T. Lamberton, roach; and W. Lamberton, roach.—F. T. LAMBERTON, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, Queen's Arms, Bateman-street, Soho-square, W.—We fished our outing on the 8th inst. at Marlow with very good results, Messrs. Trotter, Hughes, Holder, Webber, Longland, Flegg, and Cavers being the successful competitors in the order named. Our next outing will be for the Christmas prizes, when full particulars will be duly announced. Our smoking concert took place on Wednesday, the 18th inst., and proved a decided success, thanks to our worthy host and brother (Mr. Galloway).—F. C. LONGLAND.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—Result of the fishing competition at Staines on the 8th inst.: Mr. J. T. Wright, first; Mr. Walls, second; no other prize taken. The remaining eight prizes will be fished for on the 22nd inst., at Chelmsford, roving from the Pontoon to the Old Mill at Barham. Go by the first train from Liverpool-street, and return by the 7.10 train from Chelmsford. We hope to have better sport than we had at Staines.—J. WRIGHT, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—Only a few members were out on the 8th inst., when the following were successful: Messrs. J. Petrie, roach, 13lb. 15¼oz., one fish, 1lb. 3oz.; G. Sander, roach, 4lb. 15¾oz.; E. Wright, roach, 1lb. 14½oz. On November 15, four prize will be fished for at Bourne End; all members to go from Paddington only on the morning; two rods allowed; members to fish between Bourne End railway bridge and Marlow Lock; and all to return from Bourne End only. Members are requested to attend on Tuesday next.—S. E. CANE, sec.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—A competition has been fixed for the 29th inst., to take place between Temple Lock and Cookham from bank or punt. Members intending to compete are requested to send their names to the secretary at an early date. Mr. Josiffe weighed in a well-conditioned jack of 6lb. 6oz. from the Thames. It being the first time he has ever fished, he was congratulated by the members present on his success; 3lb. 12oz. of roach and dace have been credited to the President's account. I am pleased to report the continual increase of members.—C. B.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.—On the 8th inst., although a great many of our members were out the sport was indifferent, only the following weighing in: Messrs. O'Callaghan, jack; Smales, roach; Frank Griffin, and Williams, dace; the largest dace weighing 8oz. being taken by Mr. Williams.—PELICAN.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—The only members weighing in on the 8th inst. were Mr. T. Jones, jack; Mr. H. Spenceley, dace. Notice to members, we fish Teddington on the 22nd November; members can go by any train same morning; show fish at the lock at five o'clock.—R. SPENCELEY, sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on the above list will be to the Rodney Angling Society, held at the Rising Sun Tavern, Harper-street, New Kent-road, on Tuesday, the 17th inst., and as this society is always well represented at every visit in the South of London, and also at several visits in other parts of London, I trust they will be as well supported as they deserve.—A. CONN, hon. sec.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members were out on the 8th inst. for the remainder of the given prizes, Mr. W. Tyler being the only successful member, taking the sixth prize with roach. The following members weighed in who did not fish in the match: Mr. W. Windred, roach; Mr. H. Freame, roach; Messrs. Cockerton, Marshall, and Drage weighed in roach. The members of the above will fish a jack and perch match in the Medway, on Nov. 22, for several money prizes.—H. TYLER, sec.

Walham Green and Fulham Angling Society, the Stamford Arms, Fulham-road.—Mr. Power was duly elected a member at the last meeting. On the 8th inst. our members fished at Staines for a tripe supper, and the same will take place on Wednesday, the 25th inst., when all members who would like to be present are requested to send in their names by Wednesday. We shall be pleased to see any member of any other club. Tickets two shillings each.—E. SUTCHALL, sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—Result of last competition: Mr. Smith weighed in roach, taking first prize; no other prize taken. It was carried that our next outing be on Wednesday, Nov. 18; open punt or bank. Our first smoking concert of the season came off on Wednesday last, and was a great success, our old esteemed friend (Mr. H. Charik) in the chair, and Mr. W. J. Crisp in the vice-chair; pianist, Mr. H. A. Sutch; Mr. Lovegrove and pupil, mandolinist and banjoist; Mr. J. Martin, violinist; Mr. Smith, reciter.—R. B.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 8th inst., Mr. F. Barnes weighed in roach and perch, the largest roach, 1lb. 3oz.; largest perch, 1lb. 8½oz.; Mr. P. Marten, jack and roach; Mr. W. Gordon, roach and dace, 5lb.; Mr. Cooper, barbel. Mr. A. D. Kidd has given an oil painting for largest jack during the season, and another oil painting to be decided by members how it shall be fished for.—R. J. DARTNALL, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—We had a few fish on the 8th inst. by the following members: Messrs. Frances, bream and roach; Smith, roach; and Anderson, roach. I hope members will attend, as we have several prizes to fish for.—W. M., sec.

Western Piscatorials, Bear and Rummer Tavern Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square, W.—On the 8th inst., several of our members were out, and good takes of jack, dace, and roach was the result. Mr. Schmidt alone weighed in 21lb. of jack; and Mr. Garrod's dace is the largest of the present season up to date. We hold a smoking concert next Wednesday, 18th, commencing at 8.30 sharp, and we trust members will attend with their friends in good force.—T. W. EVANS, sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 8th, and I am sorry to say we have to return a blank. I wish to inform our members that it has been decided at our meeting to have a pegged-down match at Whitham, on November 29, for five prizes.—R. LOWTHER, sec.

Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, the Earl Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday, the 11th instant, Mr. Munro, in the chair, when it was resolved to hold a special meeting on Wednesday, the 25th instant, at nine o'clock sharp, to consider urgent and very important business, and all members are earnestly requested to attend, in the interests of the society.—H. RICHARDSON, hon. secretary.

CLUB FIXTURES.

Nov. 15.—Competition at Rye House, in aid of the Anglers Benevolent Society.

Nov. 16.—Central Association visit to Anchor and Hope, Canal-bridge, Old Kent-road.—Clerkenwell District visit to Islington Brothers, Myddleton Arms, Canonbury-road.

Nov. 17.—Anglers' Association, Southern District visit to Bermondsey Brothers, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—Smoking Concert at Gresham, Mason's Hall Tavern, Basinghall-street.—South London United visit to Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.

Nov. 18.—Distribution of Prizes at Izaak Walton, Old King John's Head, Mansfield-street, Kingsland-road.

Nov. 20.—Meeting of Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Clubs, The Citizen, 70, Houndsditch.

Nov. 23.—Paper at Causton, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City, by E. S. Shrubsole. Subject: "Fly Fishing for Chub and Dace." Chairman, H. J. Tibbatts.

Nov. 26.—Paper at New Albion, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road, by J. Tayler. Subject: "The Humane Angler." Chairman, W. F. Grimmett.

Nov. 30.—Paper by G. H. Howard, at St. John's, Skinners' Arms, Coburg-street, Clerkenwell. Subject: "An Amateur's Experiences." Chairman, H. J. Tibbatts.

Dec. 1.—Paper by E. S. Shrubsole, at Good Intent, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch. Chairman, H. J. Tibbatts.

Dec. 7.—Paper by G. E. Simms, at Epsom, Wellington, High-street, Epsom. Chairman, E. S. Shrubsole.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1891.

FISHING BASKETS, BAGS, AND CREELS.

In spite of the unpropitious weather, the large hall at the Queen's Hotel, Battersea Park Town, was crowded on Tuesday night by London anglers to hear Mr. E. S. Shrubsole's lecture on "Fishing Baskets, Bags, and Creels." As president of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers among Angling Clubs, Mr. R. B. Marston (Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*) took the chair, and anglers were present, not only from north, south, east, and west London, but from Eton, Canterbury, Kingston, Redditch, and Brighton. Those supporting the chairman included: Mr. T. R. Sachs, Piscatorial Society; Mr. T. Crumplen, Piscatorial Society; Mr. R. Holt, Flyfishers' Club; Mr. Thornton, of Canterbury; Mr. Cyril .E Hodgson, *Rod and Gun;* Mr. B. R. Bambridge, of Eton; Mr. E. S. Browne, Mr. T. Keeble, Causton Angling Society; Mr. A. Meyer, of Redditch; Mr. J. P. Conellan, Clapton; Mr. E. Holbron, Mr. W. Burkitt, Earlsfield; and Mr. G. Mumford, secretary of the Battersea Friendly Angling Society, who had kindly placed their capacious club-room at the disposal of the S.P.R.P.A.C., under whose auspices the meeting was held. Several letters were received from other well-known anglers regretting their inability to be present. To illustrate his lecture Mr. Shrubsole had an exhibition of upwards of one hundred fishing baskets, bags, &c., that have been lent to him by anglers from all parts of the United Kingdom, and these were displayed at one end of the room on a large stand. It may be safely said that never in the history of the angling world had such a collection of baskets and creels been brought together, and intense interest was manifested in the "show." The collection was as remarkable for its varieties in shape as it was for the different materials of which the bags, creels, and baskets were made, the exhibits comprising specimens of the above-mentioned articles in tin, wood, wicker, and waterproof-cloth. Additional interest was added to the collection by the fact that several of the creels had been in use for half a century. There was the favourite creel of "Dickey" Routledge, a once famous Cumberland fly-fisherman, and Mr. E. M. Tod's creel was also to be seen on the stand. As may be imagined, the audience spent a considerable time in the inspection of the exhibition, and "Routledge's creel," upon which the scales of fish were still discernible, was passed reverently from hand to hand. The lecturer, who met with a very hearty reception, dealt with his subject in a most exhaustive and practical manner. His description of the various exhibits and the happy vein in which he delivered the lecture held his audience interested to the end. Although we noticed that several tackle makers were present, we are somewhat surprised that they were not there in greater numbers, because there is no doubt that not only was the collection of considerable interest from a trade point of view, but must have been of great value to those interested in the manufacture of tackle. We shall be surprised, however, if, on future occasions, the fishing-tackle manufacturers do not attend in larger numbers.

The proceedings opened with an excellently played pianoforte solo by Mr. Curtis, after which

The Chairman, who was received with cheers, addressed the meeting. He said they had been called there under the auspices of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs. He believed that Mr. Shrubsole, who was to lecture to them that evening, had done a great deal towards organising that society and towards promoting the reading of papers on angling topics—(hear, hear)—and he (the chairman) thought that Mr. Shrubsole's work had been recognised in the clubs as being a work that had done a large amount of good. (Hear hear.) The fact that the society had received promises from many gentlemen to read papers on numerous subjects appertaining to angling proved, he thought, that the society was being supported in the right way. (Hear, hear.) He thought the society's papers would result in a great deal of good being done, especially in the winter time when anglers had no evening fishing to engage their attention. He was glad to notice that both Mr. Walbran and Mr. Cummings had promised to deliver lectures for the society. (Hear, hear.) With respect to Mr. Cummings, he was a great salmon and trout fisherman. He had lately been fishing in Norway, and he felt sure that his lecture would prove highly entertaining. Mr. Walbran, in his opinion, was certainly one of the best trout and grayling fishermen in the North. As recently as last week, when fishing a Hampshire stream, he, although the river was in flood, killed fourteen grayling weighing 28lb., and in addition a grand fish 3lb. 9oz. (Cheers.) The grayling was taken on fine roach tackle and a very small roach hook. Coming to the creels and baskets collected by Mr. Shrubsole, he (the chairman) could assure them that such an exhibition had never been brought together before in this country. He was quite astonished with the variety of the articles, and he felt sure what the lecturer would have to say about them would be most interesting. (Hear, hear.) The chairman then passed on to congratulate the Battersea Friendly Angling Society upon the fact that they were one of the first clubs to raise the standard of fish, and said he was sorry that it was still the practice of many of the clubs to take small fish. He believed, however, that in time it would become the general thing amongst the clubs to have a recognised standard (and a good one) for taking fish, so that the small fish could be put back to grow larger. (Hear, hear.) He also expressed the hope that the London anglers would afford better support to the Preservation Society, and in conclusion he begged to introduce Mr. Shrubsole to the meeting. (Cheers.)

On rising to deliver his lecture, Mr. Shrubsole was very cordially received. He opened by remarking that the subject, upon first thought, might very excusably be considered a dry one, for—

A basket's a basket
And a creel's a creel,
You may depend on 't;
And a bag's a bag,
And you cannot make it more,
And there's an end on 't.

But he had every confidence in being able to convince his audience, before the conclusion of his lecture, that, after all, there was a great deal in it and in conjunction with the exhibition of baskets, &c., which had been so kindly lent him by friends from all parts of the United Kingdom, he hoped that his lecture would prove very interesting and instructive. Mr. Shrubsole proceeded to draw attention to the fact that it had been said that his exhibition of bags and baskets and lecture were only a big trade advertisement. He flatly contradicted that assertion—(hear, hear)—and he protested against the accusation, as it was as false as it was unkind. (Cheers.) The lecturer then, in a very happy vein, drew attention to the fact that during the past few years immense strides had been made in improving the means of carrying an angler's impedimenta and fish, but at the same time he found fault with the shape of the latter-day creels, giving as his cause for so doing the development of internal arrangements. He called attention to a creel over sixty years old, that had been made in Nottingham. This, the lecturer explained, was, in his opinion, a perfect creel, for it was so constructed as to cling to the angler's side. He spoke at some length upon the variety of materials used in the manufacture of creels, and although favouring a wicker creel himself, he acknowledged the many advantages of creels made of tin, wood, leather, &c., and he especially remarked on the advantages they possessed in keeping fish fresh. He mentioned the fact that the Cumberland fishermen swore by the wooden creel, whilst the Yorkshire fishermen thought as highly of a creel made of tin. Where so many high authorities had their own particular fad in the matter, he thought probably that each individual angler had a right to his opinion as well. (Hear, hear.) He certainly plumped for Mr. Tod's wicker creel, with an india-rubber lining, and he expressed his intention of putting his own wicker creel in the same style on the first opportunity. Mr. Shrubsole very exhaustively described the exhibits, and amongst several hints that he gave of material assistance to anglers, was a capital idea of carrying a creel, bag, or basket knapsack fashion, utilising the webbing-strap attached in the ordinary manner. In dealing with the improvement in bags, Mr. Shrubsole particularly praised the latter-day idea of having a fishing bag made, as a mere matter of fact, with two separate and independent receptacle detachable at will—one to carry fish, and in the other for tackles, lunch, and that indispensable article to anglers—the flask. (Laughter.) After some more excellent remarks, the lecturer concluded amid loud and hearty cheers.

In this necessarily brief report of the lecture we cannot do justice to the exhaustive manner in which the reader treated his subject, but as in all probability the lecture will appear in the *Fishing Gazette, in extenso* later on, sufficient has been said for the present purpose.

The Chairman, in proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Shrubsole, he was sure they would all agree with him respecting the extremely interesting paper on the bags and creels, and the manner in which anglers carried their fish in various parts of the country. Mr. Shrubsole had said that he (the chairman) was strongly in favour of a wooden creel, as doing so much toward preserving the fish, and so he was. But at the same time he thought his friend Mr. Tod's big black creel was the best pattern the fly fisherman could take out with him. He had had one like it for some years, and owing to its being lined with india-rubber, no smell came from the fish whatever. Undoubtedly the wooden creel kept the fish much better than the plain wicker creel, and so did a leather creel, and he experienced that in about the only fishing match he had ever engaged in. It arose through a Yorkshireman declaring that he could take more trout with hair than he could with gut. He used a creel like that of Mr. Shrubsole's; the Yorkshireman's creel was made of leather—and he was sorry he did not see one amongst that night's collection—which kept his fish perfectly fresh. In the course of five or six hours he turned out his fish—he had three times as many trout as the Yorkshireman—but owing to the warm day and the open wicker creel some had rather a dried-up appearance. On the other hand the Yorkshireman's trout were perfectly fresh, but he went home saying that he had taken his fish down with him in order that he (the chairman) could beat him with gut against hair ("oh!" and laughter). Speaking of "Dickey" Routledge's wooden creel he said the Eden fishermen certainly turned out their fish much fresher than the wicker creels did, and the roach in the London anglers' boxes also proved brighter and better looking at the end of the day's sport. As regarded bags he (the chairman) very seldom carried one. He once did in Devonshire when he was lost on Exmoor, but as he had several falls over rocks the 10lb. of trout he had caught were almost converted into a jelly. (Laughter.) Therefore, he hardly thought a bag was the article for a trout fisherman. The Chairman, referring to Mr. Shrubsole's statement that salmon could be carried in a bag, said, that one day when fishing last spring in the Highlands, he killed six splendid fresh-run salmon. As each fish averaged 10lb. or 12lb. a-piece, as they had no bag or gillie, and as they were some distance from home it was a tough job to get them home. However, they slung them over a stick and carried them like the Israelites did the grapes in Canaan—(laughter)—hanging down between them. In conclusion he spoke favourably of a rush-basket like a workman carried his tools in, and said 60lb. of fish could be placed in it, as recommended by Mr. G. M. Kelson.

Mr. C. Earl Hodgson, Editor of *Rod and Gun*, seconded the vote of thanks, and said he had no idea that in all the range of angling such an interesting collection of the almost least necessary implement of their sport could be made. At first he thought the lecture would be somewhat dry, but he confessed that he had been most agreeably disappointed. Those who had read Mr. Shrubsole's articles in the *Fishing Gazette* knew that he had been at some pains to impress upon the London anglers the necessity of contributing more liberally towards the preservation of the rivers from which they hoped to fill the creels, and he trusted they would act on such good advice. (Cheers.) He was, he repeated, greatly surprised at the treat Mr. Shrubsole had given them that evening. (Renewed cheers.)

Mr. Crumplen said Mr. Shrubsole had in the course of his lecture given them many little valuable hints which, he was sure, would be very serviceable to them when they again went fishing. He thought his method of slinging the basket knapsack fashion was an admirable idea.

Mr. W. P. Thornton (of Canterbury), speaking with respect to keeping fish in good condition, said that an angler he knew (Capt. Austin, he was understood to say) wrapped each fish up in a piece of paper as he caught it; which kept them perfectly fresh.

Mr. Sachs advocated a creel without a hole in the lid, as it prevented railway porters from digging their hands into the creel and upsetting its contents when he was seeing an angler into the train. (Laughter.) He further favoured little wooden supports about half an inch thick to the bottom of a creel to protect it from getting damp. He warmly thanked Mr. Shrubsole for the intellectual *conversazione* he had given them that evening. (Cheers.)

The resolution was unanimously carried, and

Mr. Shrubsole, in acknowledging the vote, was received with musical honours. He said that that meeting went a long way to prove that the London anglers would come and listen to a paper being read in their midst. (Cheers.) He had been told that if he endeavoured to promote the reading of papers he should be simply wasting his time; his efforts would not be appreciated; but the enthusiasm and the large audience on the occasion of his friend Mr. Matthews's paper a few days ago at the Amicable Excelsior Club, whose members were working men, showed that the London anglers would attend and were interested in a meeting like the one he had addressed that evening. (Cheers.) He felt sure that the movement was required—(hear, hear)—and he believed that the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs would go on and flourish for many years to come. (Cheers.) Its main object was to promote the reading of papers, and the committee had decided at its last meeting to institute a medal which was to be presented to the member of a club who read a paper. (Cheers) In the matter of reading the papers, he could assure them that the committee would do all in their power to avoid clashing with the visits. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion, he announced that they had papers to go on with for the next three months, and he was sure that the movement was one which was much wanted in their midst. He heartily thanked them for the kind manner in which they had received his lecture. (Cheers.)

On the proposition of Mr. Cyril E. Hodgson, a hearty vote of thanks was also passed to Mr. R. B. Marston for presiding.

During the evening, Mr, Curtis ably accompanied on the pianoforte, and many excellent songs and recitations were given by Messrs. Bradshaw, J. Parker, Johnson, E. S. Shrubsole, G. E. Simms, Bentley, Austin, and Cooper.

Mr. Shrubsole is to repeat his lecture during the winter at several of the London angling clubs.

FISH CULTURE.

THE HOWIETOUN FISHERY COMPANY.—SEASON 1891-92.

[*Extracts from the Report.*]

THE HOWIETOUN FISHERY COMPANY has the honour to report that the number of trout raised last season was largely in excess of any former year. The demand, however, for two-year-olds and yearlings more than kept pace with the increased production.

Two railway vans have been built specially for our traffic, which will considerably facilitate the despatch of large orders.

Three new yearling Loch Leven ponds, estimated to yield forty-five thousand sizeable yearlings annually, have been constructed, also two well-shaded and of extra depth are nearly complete, and estimated to yield about twenty-five thousand fontinalis yearlings annually; and three of the large Experimental Ponds, Nos. 6, 7, and 8, are being altered to rear fifteen thousand additional two-year-olds, which will enable the fishery to dispose of about fifty thousand annually of this favourite size. Next winter some forty-thousand two-year-olds can be delivered. Of these fifteen thousand are already booked, and it will therefore be necessary, to prevent disappointment, to order early, especially as in recent years the demand for these fish has always exceeded the supply.

The important question—What to stock any particular pond of water with, is constantly asked, and difficult to answer in the short space available in a price list. A new edition of the pamphlet on stocking will be issued in December.

A river, lake, or pond, may be stocked successfully, *but in different places*, either by means of ova sown in redds, or by fry, yearlings, or two-year-olds. The difficulty is to judge how the best return can be got for the cost.

If there is any depth of water, by two-year-olds there will always be the safest and the speediest mode of stocking, but in many lakes, and some rivers, the quantity of fish required is so large that, in the interest of due economy, time must be sacrificed, and some mode of stocking cheaper than by two-year-olds resorted to. If there are many small gravelly streams suitable for young fry from alevinage to six months old, and clear water in abundance, then ova sown in redds is undoubtedly the best method; if there are small streams feeding the water to be stocked, but not sufficiently clear to ensure the success of ova sown in redds, then three-month-olds fry are to be recommended; but our experience is that there is no half-way house between *ova* sown in redds and *three-month-olds* fry. Younger fry are too risky; they *may* do, but only where ova would do as well and at half the cost.

Ova will be forwarded to suit the convenience of purchasers in any stage after the eye spots are visible. It is recommended that generally, and especially for redds, ova be forwarded on the point of hatching.

Fry are forwarded three months after hatching—in April and May.

Yearlings vary from two and a-half to five inches from November to June; they are always forwarded over three inches, with perhaps the exception of a very small percentage. The earliest orders obtain the best fish, since the most advanced ponds are dispatched first. It is therefore a mistake to order in May, as, even if there then be surplus yearlings on hand (which is very uncertain), they are the *latest* and not the *largest* fish. If fish are required late in the season, order early and have them reserved.

Two-year-olds run from five to nine inches from November to June; they are always forwarded over five and a-half inches, and are recommended when sport in the shortest possible time is required.

The special price list (which can be had on application) contains our quotations delivered at our cost and risk at any railway station in England or Scotland. The date o delivery to be at option of Fishery, and also the date of re-delivery in case of loss.

The ordinary price list contains the prices on rail at Stirling—for quantities *not less* than those quoted—all further expenses of delivery being charged in addition. This arrangement offers the fullest advantages to customers of any reduction in the estimated cost of delivery, due either to largeness of order, diminution of distance, and favourable weather.

Yearlings are, *par excellence*, the size for general purposes. They are strong enough to find their own food, thus avoiding the principal cause of mortality among fry, namely, starvation; they are easily carried, and stand the journey well; they accommodate themselves with the greatest facility to new water; and they thrive so fast in ponds that they will be found a very profitable investment.

The fishery reserves to itself the right to decline any order.

The difficulty of conveying trout increases with the number of hours occupied in the journey. Intending purchasers are requested to state *their nearest railway station, and the exact distance from it to their water.* From the experience of previous years, it has been found that although there is no difficulty in carrying trout in iced water for any journey not exceeding twenty hours, unless the water which is to be stocked is of a similar temperature, some loss will arise from inflammation of the gills. Trout will therefore only be forwarded in cold weather. The fish are sent by express passenger trains in tanks of two sizes: Forty gallons, weighing between 5 cwt. and 6 cwt.; and eighteen gallons, weighing about 1½ cwt. It is particularly requested that a lorry or other suitable cart be sent to meet the fish on arrival.

Eyed ova are ready in December. The earliest eggs hatch about Christmas. Ova cannot be delivered after the first week in March. Early fry are ready in March. These are the fry of the oldest breeders, and are the best for English waters. May fry are the most suitable for Highland water. Yearlings should be sent to England in January and February; later than this the carriage is much heavier, as a large quantity of water must be carried. Two-year-olds are ready by the middle of November, and can be safely transported after the first fall of snow at the Fishery.

All communications to be addressed—

J. R. GUY, *Secretary,*
Howietoun Fishery, Stirling.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea.	Add	55 min. for Kew.
	40 ,, ,, Putney.		75 ,, ,, Richmond.
	45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.		80 ,, ,, Twickenham.
	50 ,, ,, Barnes.		85 ,, ,, Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Nov. 14	—	0.23
Sunday,	,, 15	0.45	1. 8
Monday,	,, 16	1.32	1.53
Tuesday,	,, 17	2.11	2.36
Wednesday	,, 18	2.57	3.19
Thursday,	,, 19	3.40	4. 3
Friday,	,, 20	4.21	4.46

English and Welsh Reports.

Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—The grand old river has been once more in condition, and the anglers have been well in amongst the jack and roach, the latter if not taken in very large quantities have been distinguished for their size and quality. The great regard which of late years has been paid to the return of small fish has without doubt tended to this result; and this was found to be the case when action was first taken about a quarter of a century ago to prevent "the slaughter of the innocents," each year afterwards the fish considerably improved in size and afforded better sport for the anglers. On this question the late Mr. Francis Francis at that period gave it as his opinion, the taking of larger and better fish had resulted from the systematic examination of takes, and the return of unsizeable fish, which he so frequently had suggested in the columns of *The Field*. It is far better to take six dozen of fine roach, than a mixture of three times that quantity, with the great bulk under the Thames standard. In this week's returns there are several takes of the number stated and in each instance described as "fine roach," many being three-quarters of a pound to over one pound each. There can be no question of doubt as to the river in all portions being well and amply supplied with roach and dace; and for general angling, those fish are the most popular in the requirements of the great body of anglers for sport, and as such ought to be the best protected and preserved. The silvery dace of the Thames which my old friend Mr. T. R. Sachs and myself took to the Southport Aquarium years ago, were regarded by the visitors unacquainted with that specie as silver herrings; and in the clear ponds in the Home Park, I have heard them put down as herrings by the holiday folk frequenting Hampton Court Palace. Each season of late years in speaking of their size, the fishermen compare them to the size of herrings. I am glad to find the great run of water has brought up the lamperns again to Teddington Weir, as it is a long time since the fishermen have had a really good harvest with them. As regards the jack it will be seen in the angling results some fair sport has been obtained, and the fish of a good size in capital condition. It is to be hoped the boisterous weather of Wednesday will not be of long duration.—B.

RICHMOND.—Job Brain, in four days, 70lb. of roach and dace, and Henry Mansell, in three and a half days 40lb. of roach and dace, and a couple of bream.

TWICKENHAM.—C. Brown in three and a-half days, 36lb. of roach and dace, and two bream; Samuel Cole in two days, thirteen dozen of roach and dace. Richard Coxen in three days, 47lb. of roach and dace, three bream and one barbel. John Coxen, sen., has been making an average of seven dozen of roach and dace each day. George Coxen in three and a-half days, 52lb. of roach and dace; John Frost in four days, 56lb. of roach and dace and four bream; Pert Hammerton in two days, 44lb. of roach and dace, four bream, and a carp of 3¾lb.; W. Holder in one day, four dozen of roach and dace; Richard Meffatt in three and a-half days, 42lb. of roach and dace and three bream; John Spong in six days, 123lb. of roach and dace, and seventeen bream; and F. Wiggins in three days, 30lb. of roach and dace.

TEDDINGTON.—W. McBride in two days, four brace of jack, the largest fish 8¾lb.

KINGSTON.—John Knight in two days, twelve dozen of roach and dace, and four chub. N. Bolton in two days, ten dozen of roach and dace; John Johnson in three days, eighteen dozen of roach and dace.

HAMPTON COURT.—William Milbourne reports: "Fishing with Mr. Leary and friend, one day six dozen of very fine roach, some of them three quarters of a pound each another day with Mr. Fisher, three jack, the largest 6lb.: James Hedger in four days, 20lb. of roach and dace; Thomas Milbourne in two days, ten dozen of roach and dace. A gentleman, fishing in his own punt during the week, twenty dozen of roach and some fine perch. The tank anglers on Tagg's Island have been making some fine shows of roach. After the heavy flood it has brought a great quantity of roach into Hampden Deep, you can see them priming in the evening from one end to the other."

SUNBURY.—Edward Clarke in his takes during the week has found eighteen brace of good perch; A. King in two days thirteen dozen of roach and dace.

SHEPPERTON.—George Rosewell has been out two days; the first day with Mr. G. W. Ellis, seven jack weighing 31lb, the largest 9¼lb., and the second day with Mr. J. Pike, four jack weighing 17½lb.

CHERTSEY.—John Poulter in one day, eight dozen of roach and dace; L. Hackett in one day, four and a-half dozen of roach and dace and one jack; and R. Gonse in one day four dozen of roach.

STAINES.—John Keene, jun., has been out four days; the first day with Mr. Dyer, five dozen of roach, the largest weighing 1lb., the second day with Mr. Mackrell six dozen of good roach; the third day with Mr. Newbury, four dozen of roach and six chub; and the fourth day with Mr. Gambler and friend, six dozen of fine roach, several of the roach weighing over 1lb. each.

Upper Thames.—The river—which had got into splendid winter angling trim—has again been seriously disturbed by the heavy rain storms of Tuesday and Wednesday, and has risen some 12in. in the last twenty-four hours. The land is so saturated, and the ditches so full, that the slightest rainfall has an immediate effect upon the condition and height of the river. Jack have lately been in the ascendant with a vengeance, some 2cwt. in two days having been had in the Henley district, and over 1cwt. in the Marlow Waters, two best fish in the latter place going 14lb. and 18lb., taken by Mr. Dimmock and Mr. Wood, and a reputed nineteen and a-half pounder by an unknown angler. Weather this (Thursday) morning fine and frosty, and if such continues the river should again be in good order for next week.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Windsor).—Just as water here was in capital condition, heavy rains have fallen, and at time of writing it is again much discoloured, and good only for worm fishing. Prospects for the jack fisher were very good, one angler, Mr. Bentley, of Windsor, had in a very short time three good fish, each weighing over 5lb., 8lb., and 9lb.; Mr. Short, of Spital, Windsor, also had a nicely-shaped fish of 5lb. 10oz. Many barbel have been caught, as many as twenty being had by bank anglers last Saturday from the Windsor Weir stream. The veteran angler, Carey, of Windsor, had during the week ten barbel, besides a number of roach. The Windsor and Eton Angling Preservation Society will net the outlying waters on or about the 13th inst.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—Visitors, like the swallows, have departed, and fishing is confined to hardy locals. A few small pike were taken on Monday and Tuesday in the upper waters, but thus far the big fish have not yet begun to feed. The water is well stocked, but it is in contemplation to add a king carp this season.—THOMAS FORD.

Arun (Pulborough and Amberley).—Angling on this river has been rather quiet lately, but a few good baskets of roach and bream have been had. The water at the beginning of the week was in prime order for roaching, but it is feared that Wednesday's heavy rain will interfere with it. I hope to hear of some pike being got soon.—GOOSEQUILL.

Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, and Suffolk Rivers—Splendid weather; water excellent colour, and everything in favour of the angler. I had a good turn at Brandon, on Friday, in company with Host Rolph and friend Carter (both very good fisherman). We fished hard until two o'clock and caught thirteen fish only; suddenly they came on, and for an hour we pulled them out as fast as possible (really good fish), bagging over 14lbs. They went off just as sudden as they came on, and not another fish did we get. The next day we both took about 15lb. Roach are well on at Littleport. Adelaid Bridge on the Ouse, about four miles below Ely, is also a good place now for roach all the way along the branch. Where the river Lark runs into the Ouse excellent swims all the way from the Yare, at and below Norwich in the deep water, fish are feeding well.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—Since writing my last letter a marked change has taken place in the condition of the rivers. The floods have subsided, and the water is again within the banks, and in good condition. After this clearance fish should feed well, and anglers take advantage of the change. Some good roach are reported as taken from the Arun, in the Pulborough district; also from the Rother, near Fittleworth. The Adur has been patronised with success, several good roach and dace, and a few flat-fish have been taken. Chub are said to be numerous in the Isfield district of the Ouse, and a few fish up to 2¾lb., also a few good roach. Pike are not feeding well at present. A severe storm swept over the south on Tuesday night—a gale of wind with a perfect deluge of rain. The tide of Wednesday morning was exceptionally high at Chichester harbour, sweeping over the banks in the Birdham district. The canal at Chichester is in excellent order. A few good bream have been taken, and roach up to ¾lb.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—As the river season is over, most of our local anglers are turning their attention to the allotment of the numerous and valuable prizes, numbering some fifteen, which in every instance have been presented. Some of them are gems, particularly two pictures, one presented by Mr. Colquhoun (vice-president), and the other by Mr. W. H. Claus, of Manchester. Sea fishing is very fair. Pollack and coal-fish still afford the amateur plenty of good sport, and have improved in size. Best baits: Mussel and worm, when at anchor; rag-worm when whiffing.—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—Had good fishing weather up to the night of the storm, and some good bags have been made; notably one by Mr. T. Holmes, of Braelsford, who fished the Dove just below Rochester. River is fining down fast, and will be in good trim by to-morrow (Friday).—D. AND W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourne.

Eden (Carlisle).—Within the last seven days about one hundred and eighty salmon are known to have been killed with the rod. I question whether such sport has ever been experienced in the Eden before, and the fish have been extra good in quality. Among those anglers who have had more than one in a day are Colonel Sharp, Messrs. Catherall, T. Beck, Sayers, Widdar, R. Bone, Eustace Hills, W. Robinson, Henderson, Shearer, J. W. Hills, MacInnes, D. Ellwood, Sandeman, Borwick, Mackenzie, T. Bird, T. H. Hodgson, T. Robinson, Bridges, Hathest, J. Brown, S. Wright, Maude, Barlow, D. Ellwood, J. Fox, and Davidson. The heaviest fish 44lb. was killed in the Cargo Water, by Robert Bone; and the greatest number in one day was reached by Mr. Henderson and Mr. T. H. Hodgson, who each landed five. The river is to-day (Wednesday) in flood, and if there is any more rain it is doubtful whether it will be in order again before Saturday, on which day the season closes. I hope the Watching Committee of the Eden Conservancy Board will rise to the occasion and not hesitate to put on such extra bailiffs as are necessary for the protection of the immense number of spawning salmon in the different rivers.—SILVER-GREY.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—The gale has prevented anything like decent angling since Monday, but the weather has again moderated, and by the end of the week the waters should be in good trim again. Last week was very favourable for bottom fishers, but it was decidedly too mild for good pike to be banked. A few fairly good ones were taken, but majority was only small. Perch were pretty easily taken in some of the drains last week, and there were a number of tench taken; but roach are difficult to get hold of in most places. The Fortyfoot, near Donington Bridge is still a good place for bottom fishing. The bait taking best at this season is probably brandling worm, but gentles are still all right for roach and dace.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—The weather has been too stormy for anglers to try the grayling waters this week, but, from what I hear, they may be pretty easily taken when conditions are favourable if anglers will only try for them. I should imagine the present the best time of the whole year for them. Last year at this time the frost had become severe, and fishing was about over. This year the month is mild, with the nights getting cold, and the fish will doubtless be bottom feeding, consequently they should be got with brandling or cockspur worm floated near the bottom. Chub may be got out of some of the holes in the same lengths in the same way. But for the gale, roach fishing might have progressed as usual; last week some of the locals did middling, but most of these experts are going lower down the river for pike, which, however, run small.—L.

Lake District.—Without rain for the past fortnight the waters in the district have again run low, though to-day (Wednesday) rain has fallen continuously and made the prospect for the closing week a bright one. The takes reported are generally good.—WESTMERIA.

Lea.—To-day (Thursday) there is an immense volume of water pouring down the main stream, whilst the marshes are covered for miles. This will preclude angling in the old Lea for a few days, but the water soon runs down, and this, the second flood of this season, will have a most beneficial effect in clearing away all obstructions in the shape of weeds and rubbish, more especially as the late frosty nights have killed the former. I fully expect that sport will greatly improve as soon as the river regains its normal condition. I am, of course, only speaking about the objectionable state of the water in connection with the old river, for the navigation canal is in very fair fishing condition, and is likely to continue so, so that the great angling competition at Rye House, which is to take place on the 15th, is not at all likely to suffer through the water being out of condition. I hear of a pike of about 9lb. having been taken from the association water at Flanders Weir; this is good news, as captures of heavy fish from this part have been few and far between lately. At Cook's Ferry, four jack and a few roach have been taken. At Game's Fishery, Higham Hill, several nice jack have been brought to bank. At the Ferrie Boat, Tottenham, but few anglers have been out lately, but some decent sport has been had: Mr. H. T. Haslewood has had three jack, from 3½lb. to 6¼lb., and tells me that he is on the track of a monster, the whereabouts of which he has ascertained. Thursday evening.—Weather more settled, and water rapidly falling.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—Fishing at Leicester continued good untill the storms of Wednesday, which had the effect of greatly disturbing the waters. On Thursday the floods were out again above the town, and the rivers and streams were of heavy colour. Previous to the heavy gale many of the professional anglers were putting in full time bait catching, there being a demand for baits at the present time. At the latter end of last week and during the early part of this, roach and perch were caught freely at the home waters. Messrs. W. Pinnock, G. Iliffe, G. Thompson, J. Hobbs, R. Rylott, and T. Condon, being possessors of the finest baskets that were brought under notice. At Foxton, Mr. J. Billson secured a few decent pike, but items from the surrounding district are, as a rule, not very plentiful, or of very high quality.

Loddon (Earley).—Since my last report anglers have had good sport, several nice baskets of roach have been taken; also jack have been feeding, and some very fair fish have been got, one gentleman getting seven, the heaviest, 8lb.; Mr. Ameing, a few good chub. Just as the water got in good condition, we have had another downpour which will want another day or two to get right again for angling.—J. R. GOULD.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these grayling streams were running in fine fishing order up to Wednesday, but rain fell in the district, and has stopped fishing for a short time. Before the rain the fish were taking well.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—On Friday, Saturday and Monday last fair baskets were made on some reaches, but speaking generally sport was disappointing. Heavy storms on Monday night caused the rivers to rise very rapidly; till last evening they were nearly bank full, but are now sinking rather fast. There can be no fishing before the middle of the coming week, even should fair weather prevail, which at present (Thursday evening) appears very doubtful. Wind (strong), S.E.; clouds low, heavy and threatening.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—The heavy rains we have been having will, I am afraid, again interfere with the colour of the water, to the detriment of the angler. I have not heard of much being done amongst the anglers during the past week. It was reported that a 25lb. pike was taken between here and Yalding, but I cannot get it authenticated. At present the water seems right for the angler.—W. SHRUBSOLE.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—The river is in fair trim for general fishing, and anglers can reckon on fair sport. Roach and bream are both feeding well, the roach particularly in the early morning. The worm is the most useful bait. Local anglers generally have, with few exceptions, returned home with good creels. Eels are well on the bite, and some large ones have been captured.—NENEBANK.

Ouse (Huntingdon).—The water has come down very rapid, and caused another flood, which renders it unfishable for a week or more, so it will be no use anyone coming until I report again.—H. ROUT.

Ouse (St. Ives).—There has been some capital sport here with pike this week, the two largest fish being 10lb. 5oz. and 9lb. 14oz. Rain, however, has again discoloured the water, and it will not be fit for fishing for a day or two.—SYDNEY JARMAN.

Plymouth.—SEA FISHING.—This month we look out for the herrings, and they come in the bay in great numbers. They are taken by drift-nets, which are made of fine cotton, with a suitable mesh, and from eight to twelve score meshes deep, and from ten to one hundred and twenty fathoms long. They are fixed to a head-line, which is corked to keep it floating, and the bottom of the net has a fine line running its entire length, just to keep it steady. Some people put light leads at intervals, but the majority of fishermen object to them. The nets are payed out in one continuous line, having one end fastened to the boat. By this means they hang from the surface of the water down straight, like a wall or barrier, and the fish in their movements in trying to get through this barrier get caught by their gills. It is no uncommon thing for a boat to catch enough herrings to pay for her net in one night. The pouting also in this month are in best condition, and are taken in December, and on through the winter months, and in the spring they are full of roe. Pilchards occasionally make their visit to our shores in November, and and the young school pollack about 8in., long are taken in shoals, or on whiffing lines, six or eight at a haul. The list of fish that are in season for this month are the anchovy, twaite, shad, herring, sprat, pilchard, wrasses generally, tub piper, gurnard, sole, flounder, dab, plaice, mary-sole, halibut, turbot, brill, dory, surmiller, coal-fish, hake, whiting, cod, haddock, pouting, ling, smelt, skate, Homelyn ray, sharp-nosed ray, oysters, and shell-fish in general.—WILLIAM HEARDER.

Severn and Lower Teme (Worcester).—Both streams now down to their winter level, and are in excellent condition for angling, and some grand baskets of roach have been taken in the Severn with the maggot and red worm, many of them over 1lb. each. The pike have been well on the feed after the late floods, and a goodly number have been taken with the live minnow and the spoon-bait.—R. WINGFIELD.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—Some good pike were captured early in the week, but the river became high and discoloured on Thursday, and rendered angling impracticable. A well-known professional named Frast, has had some capital sport near Burr's Ferry, and has there captured several heavy fish. A Whitchurch angler had a splendid take of perch near Atcham, at the beginning of the week, filling a creel with fish averaging 1½lb. each.—PISCATOR.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this district has been running in capital order for either fly or maggot fishing. have been clear and a nice level. On Wednesday rain fell in this part, and the water rose quickly and coloured, and has now stopped fishing for a few days.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this part the water is running high and coloured, and fishing is again stopped. – WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).—A more rapid rise of the waters of the Trent was probably never before witnessed than the result of yesterday's general rain, and at time of writing (Thursday evening), probabilities of angling are very remote, for a flood is almost certain. Not much can be recorded of the general sport of the past week, for though several pike have succumbed to the live-bait in the Muskham Waters, none of heavy dimensions are mentioned. Chub have been taken with worms in moderate quantities, and on two occasions, Mr. W. Holmes bagged some good roach from the Rolleston length, with white-bread paste; but, as a rule, anglers have fought shy of the Trent banks.—TRENTSIDER.

Wharfe, Yore, Swale, Nidd, &c.—Slight freshes resulted from the heavy rains of Monday and Wednesday last, but the water is running down into nice order for grayling fishing, the worm is now the best bait to depend on, but some fairly good catches have also been made with fly, Bradshaw's Fancy, Apple Green Dun, Silver Dun, and Green Insect, proving the best killers.—F. M. WALBRAN.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—Up to Monday the water in both the Witham and the Fossdyke was in fine condition for angling, either bottom fishing for roach, perch, tench, &c., or trolling for pike. Bottom fishers were using cockspurs or ripe lob worms for perch, tench, and roach, and some excellent fish were banked whilst the weather allowed of it. Of late there have been complaints about perch being scarce in some of the leading streams of the county, but this is scarcely so with the Witham and its tributaries. This is particularly the case with the Barlings, where I hear they may be taken in large numbers. Several good pike were taken last week on the Witham, and possibly more would have come to hand had more care been taken. Very often the heavier fish are now lying by the banks, and anglers who do not realise this throw over them as a rule, and thus frighten them. If they would throw pretty short at first, and then proceed to cover the water further out, they would have better luck. At least, that is an opinion given to me.—LUCI.

Yare (Norwich).—This river is full of promise for pike fishermen, as I am told on the very highest authority that this has been, up to the present, the best season for years past, as good jack up to 10lb. and 12lb. have been taken in the river, trailling, and in numbers not known for seasons past. I attribute this, more or less, to the severe season of last winter, which, of course, gave a perfect rest to the jack, as far as catching goes, and also gave the fish a fair old time for feeding, without getting hooks in their jaws. I think I may fairly say that if the weather keeps open we are in for a good pike time, and that if size do not run up to usual we must remember what we have caught in past times, and they cannot all grow large at once.—ROBERT MOLL.

Scotch Reports.

Deveron (Banffsire).—Since the close of the rod fishing on the river Deveron the weather has been exceedingly dry and frosty. The water in the river was getting very low, when, fortunately, on Wednesday of this week rain fell heavily, which had a marked effect, the water becoming somewhat spaty towards evening. The fish on the spawning-beds are very numerous, and the disease, which was making its appearance, will be somewhat obviated by the rising of the river. On the upper sections spawning is almost over, but in the middle it is only beginning, and in the lower sections it will be some time before it commences.—H. W.

North of Scotland.—A mistake occurred in last report which I should like to correct. It was Capt. Pierrepont Brooke, 79th Highlanders, and Adjutant to the Deeside Highlanders, who killed the six fish in three hours on the Upper Dess Water on the closing day of the season, and not the officer of the Queen's Guard, as reported. Spawning on the upper redds has been going on for several weeks back, and by another week the redds in the main river and middle reaches will be fully covered. A more plentiful stock of fish has not been seen in the river within the memory of the oldest fisherman. The water is in capital size, being small enough to keep the fish from the more exposed shallows, but the temperature has been low, ten degrees of frost being a common reading every other morning. The Durris Hatchery, under the charge of Inspector Duncan, of the Dee Fishery Board, has been stocked with two consignments of ova from the upper waters, estimated at three hundred thousand eggs. These were placed on the grills last week.

South of Scotland.—Last week end the rivers that still remain open for angling in the South of Scotland district were unusually low for the season, and with the clear waters, smaller flies than those used for the previous three weeks had to be resorted to. Notwithstanding that both weather and water were against the angler, some splendid salmon were killed on some of the waters. In the Mount Annan portion of the Annan, where extraordinary sport has been had this back end a number of heavy fish have been killed. Since the 4th inst. to the 10th, Mr. John Bell-Irving, Mount Annan, and his keeper, have landed eighteen salmon, eighteen of which weighed 354lb. Next week I purpose giving the readers of the *Fishing Gazette* the exact number of salmon killed by this gentleman, and the total weights of his fish. At the fore part of this week Mr. Irving and his keeper had killed over half a ton of salmon since the 25th September. Mr. Dirom, of Mount Annan, and his fisherman have also had magnificent sport in this part of the Annan. On Tuesday Mr. Andrew Bell killed two good salmon, one out of Brydekirk stream, which weighed 16lb., and the other weighing 29lb., from the water below Brydekirk Canal. On the same day in the Flat Water, Mr. James Bell landed one of over 20lb.; Mr. Andrew Bell-Irving, Bankside, killed two good heavy fish, and Mr. F. Joynson, Wyseby, had also one in the same water. In the lower waters, near the town of Annan, Mr. Arthur Nicholson, St. Asaph, landed a very handsome salmon of 24½lb., out of the Brewery Pool; and on the evening of the same day (Friday) Mr. Harry Hudson, Oldham, killed one of 29lb. out of the same pool. This fish showed grand sport, and it took Mr. Hudson exactly an hour and a-half before he could reduce his fish to the gaff. A large number of salmon were hooked on Saturday and lost. Mr. James Bonner had one big fish on for half-an-hour when the hook came away. One angler landed six on Friday, and five on Saturday. Mr. W. Robison landed one of 42lb.; and Mr. W. Park one of 24½lb., out of Galabank Pool. On Monday the river was in flood, and on Tuesday fish were rising somewhat short. Mr. D. C. London killed one out of Galabank (Northfield Water), of 8lb. The Hoddom Castle Water has been affording capital sport all along. The keeper, Thomas Reed, has been killing some big fish, he had one the other day of 23lb., and another of 18lb. The Rev. James Morrilaws, of Middlebie, Manse, and the Rev. John C. Thomson, of Greenknowe, killed one each of 17lb. and 18lb.

NITH.—The Nith has been doing fairly well, and some good sport has been had on Blackwood, Elisland, and Dalswinton Waters. Mr. James Laing, jun., Speddoch, killed one of 13½lb., the other day; and I hear of a number of fish having been landed on other portions. In the lower waters a good number of weighty salmon have been taken out of the river in the neighbourhood of the canal at the town. There is a rumour that a quantity of fish have been snatched in some of the waters. The pools in the different stretches are well stocked with big fish. Heavy rains have fallen. and both the Annan and Nith have been in flood since Wednesday morning. To-day the waters are fining down, and some brilliant sport is anticipated to-morrow and Saturday, the closing days of the season.—HEATHERBELL.

Thurso (Halkirk).—The river is dead low, not a drop of rain having fallen since my report last week. The salmon are actually compelled to spawn in the shallow pools, where there is but little current. Lochmore is dead low, and no fish can get out of it to the redds on the upper reaches. There are hundreds of gravied salmon (fine large fish) still in the bay at the river-mouth, waiting a spate.—A. H.

Tweed, &c.—Salmon anglers ein the Kelso district of the Tweed, as well as those fishing the higher and lower stretches of the river, have had a most successful week, notwithstanding the fact that both water and weather have been somewhat against them. The long spell of fine weather which has been experienced for a month back—and which is something phenominal at this season of the year—had caused the river to run in very low, and many of the casts on all the fastnesses were getting nearly unfishable for want of volume of water; while the absence of a good wind made the deep-holding pools worthless. On many occasions the river has been like a sheet of glass, so clear indeed that the fish could plainly be seen lying at the bottom of the stream in many places. Luckily, however, this state of matters has now taken a turn. A falling barometer for some days past betokened a change in the weather prospects, and this (Wednesday) morning rain began to fall heavily at an early hour; and although the river was not in the slightest degree touched by the pluvial descent at 1.30 this afternoon, it began to rise shortly after, and by four o'clock the Tweedometer at Kelso Bridge marked a rise of five feet, and, with a good strong westerly breeze blowing, it was then still rising. This opportune flood has just come in the nick of time, as it will give us a fresh run of fish from the sea-coast and the lower stretches; and although there was by no means a paucity of salmon and grilse in the river, still, this much-needed rise will be of the greatest benefit to all the salmon angling waters, by further restocking them; giving tone and colour to the water, and clearing away any dirt and refuse that may have accumulated in the bed of the stream during the recent fine weather. Should the weather settle soon again, excellent sport is once more anticipated; and Waltonians are eagerly looking forward to an early commencement of their favourite pastime. To-night, however, the glass is exceedingly low, and the storm has in nowise, as yet, abated—the wind having increased very much since darkness set in. The takes got since last report are summarised below, and give a good idea of the sport that has been got. On the Pavilion (Melrose) Water since Oct. 28 to Nov. 6, eighteen fish have been got; and on the Upper Water, Mr. Baggot had nine fish, the heaviest being 23lb. The Ravenswood Water has been let to Mr. Ellis for the closing month, and last week he had two fish on it. On the Floors Castle Upper Water last week, Her Grace the Duchess of Roxburghe (who fished part of four days) had twenty-three fish to her own rod, the heaviest of which scaled 27lb. No other rods were on this water during the week. On the Lower Water (which has been leased for November by Mr. Hadden and General Cooke), excellent sport has been had by these gentlemen, they having killed forty-four fish between them from the 4th up to the 18th. (Mr. Hadden, twenty-five, and General Cooke, nineteen: the General, however, did not fish on Friday last.) The heaviest fish were 25lb. and 26lb., but the general run of the fish would he from 16lb. to 20lb. Eighteen fish have been got on the Hendersyde Water by Sir Richard J. Waldie-Griffith, Bart., and some of his friends. On the Birgham Water (Lord Home's), that nobleman and his friends have had nearly forty fish, the heaviest being 25lb., the greater portion of the fish, however, weighing from 17lb. to 20lb. On Lennel Haugh Fishery, between thirty and forty fish were also got, the heaviest being one of 24lb. Nearly a score of fish were killed on the Rutherford Water from Oct. 29 to Nov. 3, and from Nov. 2 to Nov. 7, over forty salmon and grilse were killed by various anglers. On the Makerstown Water, on Saturday last, Sir Richard Waldie Griffith killed four salmon and four grilse; but no fishing has taken place since, as the water has been let for the remainder of the season to Mr. Whitehead and Mr. G. S. Palmer, Yorkshire, who take possession to-morrow (Thursday). On the Boldsyde and Dryburgh Water, fairly good sport has also been had during the week, I am told. No fish have been killed on the Teviot since last Notes, but those who hold tickets for this river are pretty certain to have a few kills when the floods abate.—MAXWHEEL.

Irish Reports.

Lough Neagh.—The only industry now carried on is the eel fishing, and even that is declining. This is a very remunerative business in the better parts of the season, some of the fishers engaged making from thirty shillings to forty shillings per night while out. Pike and perch netting is about the average. The close season for pollen, which has just commenced, extends, according to the provisions of Irish Pollen Fishery (Ireland) Act, 1881, from November 1 to January 30 following.—J. A. B.

Suir and Tributaries (Clonmel).—The present spawning season promises to be the best we have had for many years, so far as number of fish is concerned. The river everywhere, both on the tidal and fresh waters to the uppermost reaches, is swarming with salmon which are only waiting for the next freshet to push their way up to the spawning beds in the tributaries. In many places there are signs of scouring in the shallows of the main river itself. These are doubtless made by fish that have been a good while in the fresh waters, and who are too impatient or too advanced to wait for the coming freshets. The conservators are sparing no pains or expense to protect the spawning fish by putting on an efficient staff of water-bailiffs, and are determined to prosecute to the utmost rigour of the law any attempts to destroy or disturb them. A few anglers, unwilling to tear themselves away entirely from the river, have began a campaign against the pike, and are showing good results. Some of various weights up to 10lb. have already been killed in splendid condition by spinning with spoons or other baits.—RICHARD BRADFORD.

THAMES ANGLING DEFENCE FUND.

WE have received the following statement from the secretary:—

	£	s.	d.
RECEIPTS.			
Total amount contributed to the fund	163	9	6
PAYMENTS.			
Donations towards Andrews' defence	140	0	0
Printing and advertising, petty cash, local expenses, and honorarium to secretary ..	20	15	8
Balance paid to Andrews	2	13	10
	£163	9	6

(Signed)
J. D. M. PEARCE, *Treasurer.*
C. H. RICKS, *Secretary.*

Maidenhead,
November 10, 1891.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE READING OF PAPERS AT ANGLING CLUBS.

A MEETING, under the auspices of this society, was held on Friday night at the Citizen, Houndsditch, when Mr. H. J. Tibbatts took the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the discussion turned on the arrangements to be made in connection with Mr. Walbran's forthcoming lecture at the Foresters' Hall, and upon the proposition of Mr. G. E. Simms, seconded by Mr. Smith, it was resolved that "admission to the meeting should be by reserve ticket for the platform, and by showing the privilege tickets of either the Anglers' Association or the Central Association, the reserve tickets to be two shillings and sixpence." On the same evening, and conjointly with the lecture, the prizes in connection with the Rye House Fishing Match will be distributed, and any person connected with the competition will, of course, be admitted to the lecture.

With respect to the hire of a lantern and screen, the chairman said that Mr. Mason had called upon him, and expressed his willingness to do everything that lay in his power to make the lecture a success. (Cheers.)

Mr. Shrubsole said he would see to the provision of a lantern. He further suggested that posters announcing the lecture, and calling attention to the Rye House Prize Distribution, should be got out, and that a number of reserve seat tickets should be printed.

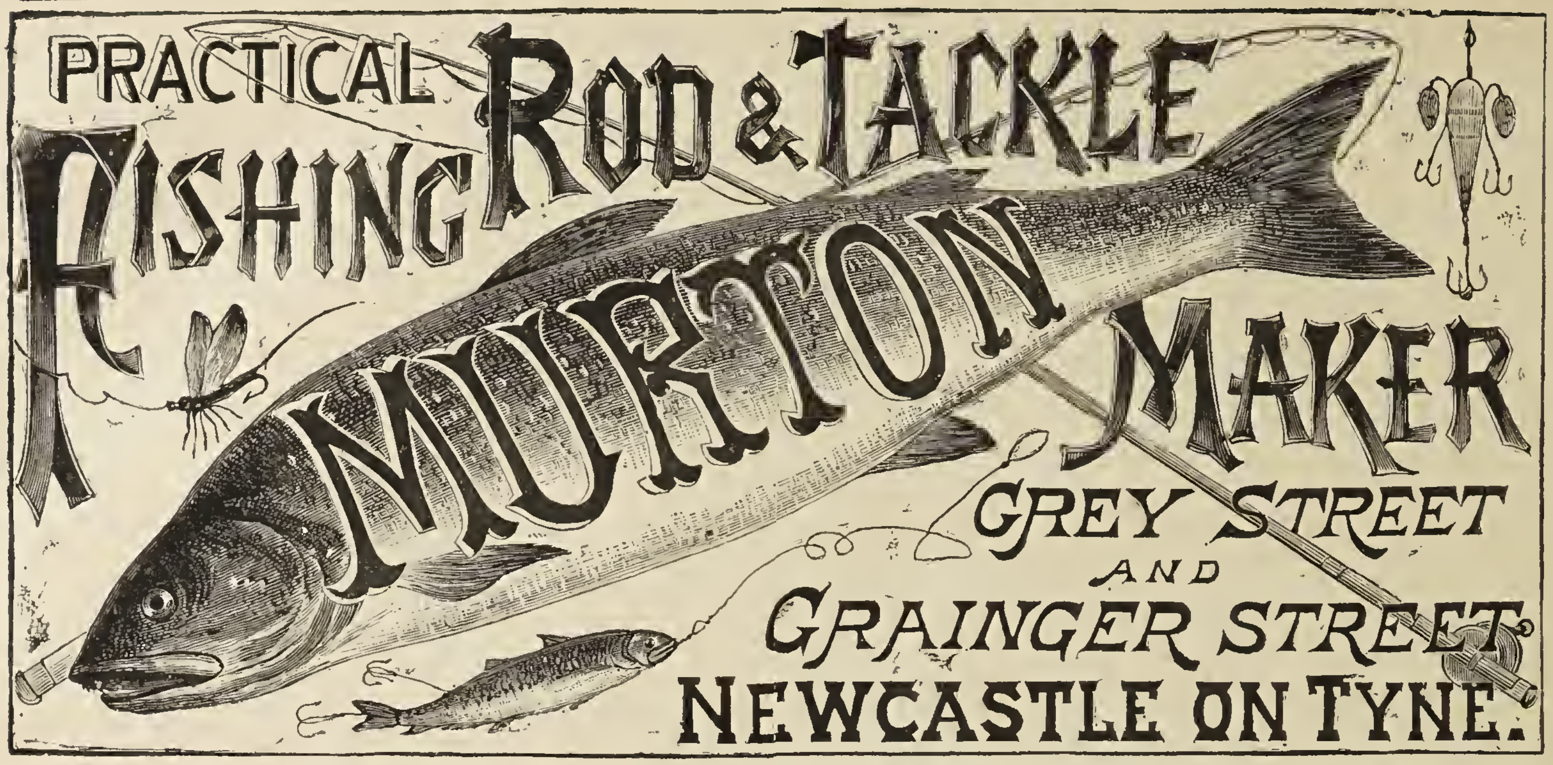
On the motion of Mr. Simms, seconded by Mr. Stretch, this part of the business was left in the hands of the hon. secretary.

The question of the institution of a bronze medal, postponed from last meeting, was then discussed, the subject being well ventilated by Messrs. Shrubsole, Macdermott, Simms, Ghurney, Dunn, Keeble, and Matthews.

Ultimately it was resolved, on the proposition of Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. T. Keeble: "That a medal be instituted by this society, and that the medal be awarded for the reading of papers at angling clubs at the discretion of the committee of this society."

Mr. Smith, as secretary of the Causton Angling Society, applied for a paper to be read there, and Mr. Shrubsole promised to attend on Nov. 23, and lecture on "Fly Fishing for Chub and Dace."

After a vote of thanks had been passed to the chairman, the committee adjourned until Friday, the 20th inst.



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— NOTICE. —

THE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

Communications relating to the Literary Department Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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The GAZETTE can be had by sending Postal Order or Stamps to Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Co., Limited, the Proprietors, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London, to whom all money payments should be made.

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Telegraphic Address—"RIVSAM, London."
TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST, 1891.

IMPORTANT TO FISHING-TACKLE MAKERS AND OTHER ADVERTISERS IN *THE FISHING GAZETTE.*

WE receive inquiries from time to time from advertisers, asking if we know anything of "So-and-So," who has obtained goods from them and then decamped. We are informed that certain parties, under various names and from different addresses, have for years been obtaining goods from our advertisers in this way, and we shall be much obliged if advertisers will send us the names of any persons they have on their black lists, as we may very probably be able to give useful information about them.

AN INTERLUDE.

BY ENTHUSIAST.

A HARD morning's work at the grayling and an empty basket; but here's a certain chance, a good fish rising steadily at the slyly gliding tail of a pool; no trees, no bushes, a fair wind, and some intervening broken water to enable an effective approach. The only difficulty was to get the right morsel to tempt this dainty customer. Flies were coming over him freely, and he was as freely rising, but not one of these which were visible did he take. An attractive *menu* was placed before him of the following dishes, and in this order: *Hors D'œuvres*, various; *Potages*, Green Insect; *Poissons*, Dark Mackerel; *Entrees*, Wickham's Fancy; *Rotis*, Red Tag; *Entremets*, Mulberry Bumble. It is hardly to be conceived that the supply of such a pleasing variety would have met with not even an acknowledgment, but it was so. Is it not common experience, however, that the last dish, the ice pudding, is the fatal one? I felt it was to be so here, and I believe it would have been but for the events which I have to detail. For ice-pudding I selected one of Holland's Pale Watery Duns. The Scorned Mulberry Bumble had been sent back to the kitchen for service on another occasion, and the new dish was being carefully prepared for the table on a fresh length of drawn gut, when the sound of the sweetest music crept in my ears. It made me hold my breath to better catch every note of it. The delay saved that grayling's life, for the metaphorical ice-pudding was dropped on the grass, and who ever heard of an ice-pudding, metaphorical or otherwise, being recovered under such circumstances? But what was the music? Not the song birds' thrilling notes; these belong not to the autumn grayling angler. Neither was it the rolling tones of the adjoining church organ, nor a bonny lass's song, not even the whistle of the boy with the lunch. Sweeter by far than all these is the music of the hound in full cry to the man into whose soul it can enter. It was this that caught my ear this November day.

Now, I do not profess to be a hunting man. I knew nothing about it, and, if it be possible, still less do I know about horses, except that when I go a-riding, I and my steed generally part company at an early stage of the proceedings, *nolens volens;* but I love with the deepest love all field sports, and the sight of a well-kept pack of hounds in full cry raises in me all the enthusiasm for the sport which I imagine exists in the breasts of hunting men. They have no monopoly of it, as anglers have no monopoly of the love of their craft. A friend of mine who is a keen sportsman will watch me fish all day long, although he has never thrown a line in his life, and he will look out for rising fish, and betray an embarrassing excess of excitement when one is hooked. I plead this in extenuation of the statement that although no hunting man my spirits were genuinely aroused at the sound I have described. There was no need for me to strain my hearing. Each instant the cry became louder and louder, and I knew the pack must be coming in my direction. My due that day was a basket full of fish, for I had worked hard and carefully. Our severest labours do not, however, always meet with their just reward, and this afternoon I had to look in other quarters than my creel for my deserts. In my ignorance I expected to come across a pack of fox-hounds and plenty of good horse flesh; but before many minutes had elapsed all doubt was cleared away by my seeing a pack of beagles crossing some stubbles, two fields off, on what was evidently a strong scent. A stern chase was the only hope of seeing more of the run. It was a chance not to be missed. Fishing impedimenta were discarded, and I was off. Fortunately, I had to-day left my waders behind, and come out in knickerbockers and a moderately thick pair of boots. Time was when a mile in five minutes on a grass course was no great achievement; but years stiffen the joints and add to the flesh. Thirteen stone is not a suitable weight for the performance of the feats of "Jack the runner." Good fortune, however, was with me, and following the line of hounds for a few fields I found they had had a check at a stone wall. I was thus enabled to get up with them. The field were, like myself, on foot, and consisted of three students, one of whom was hunting the pack, and some young farmers. I asked if it would be considered interference if I joined them, and being assured that quite the contrary was the case, I made one of the party. The hounds by this time had cleared the wall, and were apparently at fault. A cast over the field had been tried and failed, but it was worth the run to see these miniature creatures spread, and try every inch of ground with the greatest care, without avail, however. The huntsman took the pack back over the wall, and made a fresh cast, first to the right and then to the left of the old trail; and after some little time the scent was soon picked up again. The hare had evidently run some distance along the wall and doubled back, and now I was in for another stiff run, without a check, to the finish. I freely confess that I availed myself of the huntsman's advice as to the line which the hare would take, and by following it and negotiating a few corners freely, I was able to keep within measurable distance, and be in creditable time for the death. This, by the way, I think is much better missed, notwithstanding that all efforts are concentrated on the attempt to be present. It is the most painful part of the whole business. We anglers are better off in this respect. A knock on the head will do all we want, and there are no more struggles. But the piercing and piteous cries of the hare as of a child in agony cannot but appeal to anyone's heart. I was inclined to call it a cruel sport, but there was a certain satisfaction in seeing the hounds allowed that for which they had worked so hard. To have taken the hare from the hounds for a gourmand's table would, to my mind, have been a cruel wrong. I wondered whether a hare was ever kept from being torn asunder, and if so, how? The huntsman told me if he was among the hounds at the death he could nearly always pick up the hare without trouble, and the use of the whip; but that if he was close at hand, and blood was tasted, he was obliged to avail himself of the latter, and sometimes freely and often lose the hare. I do not know what distance I had covered, but I felt little inclined for another run. I endeavoured to persuade myself that it was because I did not care to witness another death; but my legs were too strong evidence against that proposition, and I had unwillingly to admit that they were not ready for another four miles across country. I contented myself with watching the hounds work a few fields, and having found, I left them to go their way, and they me to go mine. That was straight back to the stream, where I found my rod and basket just as I had left them, and the best of the day gone. I had enjoyed my run, but as my blood began to cool, I could not help feeling that if I had stuck to my rod, and not attended to matters with which I had no concern, I should have done better. In fact, I wanted to have my cake and eat it too. My friend the grayling was not of a sufficiently accommodating turn of mind to have kept on rising during the interlude, but I thought I would give him a cast. The Pale Watery Dun was, as I have explained, gone, so I tried what is an unusual fly for these waters—an Apple Green Dun. It was fruitless. I reeled up, resolving to go home, and half dreading the jeers which I felt sure my empty basket would call forth. My host and his friends were not anglers, and I knew I should get nothing but scoffs in return for my earnest attempts to provide a dish of fish for his table. People who do not fish only look at results, and have no sympathy for the angler's fruitless efforts and his disappointments. No, truly; but neither can they ever taste his pleasures and the sweet results of his self-imposed labour. On my way home I had to pass a broad, gravelly shallow above a bridge, and, seeing a grayling rise, I was irresistibly tempted to have a shot for him. Who has not experienced the difficulty of having the last cast? I can never understand why an angler does not go on fishing for ever—I mean, of course, an accomplished angler. A catastrophe generally stops me. Sometimes a fly is flicked off, and it is too dark to put another on, or my cast gets hopelessly entangled, or the water comes uninvited over the tops of my waders. Any of these necessitate a full stop. But why a man who deftly places his line each cast without a fault does not solve the vexed question of perpetual motion is beyond my comprehension. I only know that if these attributes were permanently mine, I should never know when to stop, and believe I never should. But to go back to my grayling. The Apple Green Dun killed, the first time, and a fish of 1½lb. was shortly in my basket. Two others of the same size followed almost immediately from the same spot. Such are the fortunes of war. I had spent the best part of the day hard at work, and here were three fish picked up as easily as mud in a gutter. Any fool could have done it. But I was pleased; and, having no other chances, went home, in the words of the old diary writer, "Thanking God for His mercies, and mightily well content with my day's sport"; and, may I add, having kept up among my non-angling friends my undeserved reputation as an angler.

A FORTNIGHT'S HOLIDAY.

By Francis M. Walbran.

(Continued from page 274.)

There are few villages in Yorkshire, or even farther a-field, which can rival Helmsley in picturesque beauty. Neither "Redspinner" or myself had been there previously, and we were quite captivated with the place; whichever way you turn the most charming views of hill and dale meet your eye, while the grey old church tower, the lichen-covered stone bridge spanning the Rye, and the park gates, with the long avenue leading up to Duncombe House, all tend to enhance the effect. Upon our arrival at the Feversham Arms, a most comfortable hostelry adjoining the church, we found Mr. Phillips awaiting us, and he inquired which length of the Rye we would take that day? He had kindly obtained for us permission to fish on some private water in the district, and also on that belonging to the Ryedale Angling Club. After mature consideration we decided to take the first-named on that day, and accordingly chartered a conveyance to drive us to the scene of action. Our line of route lay through Duncombe Park, in front of the noble mansion, which was totally destroyed by fire some ten years ago, and which is now in course of re-construction. The morning air was fresh and crisp, rendering the drive most enjoyable. All around the timid deer bounded away at our approach, and Mr. Phillips pointed out to us a ring fence, beyond which the wild red deer might be found.

"Now then, gentlemen, you will have to walk from here to the river," exclaimed our guide, and out we got, striking down hill into a precipitous path, carpeted with fallen leaves and trailing bracken. And now we get our first glance of the river, curling in beautiful eddies under a rustic wooden bridge, and widening out below into a pool, on the surface of which were the dimples caused by several rising grayling.

"Redspinner" said that he would commence in the stream above the bridge, therefore the keeper and I made tracks some half mile or so farther up the river. He informed me that the fish had been taking the Whirling Blue Dun the best lately, so I mounted one as point fly, with a Red Tag and Blue Hawk as droppers. It was some time after starting that I had a rise, and that was from a half-pound grayling, which came boldly at the point fly, and paid for its temerity by becoming acquainted with the interior of my creel. A trout followed, and then another grayling, then a blank, after which I strolled down to where my companion was fishing, to see what he had done. I found him sat upon a mossy boulder, note-book in hand, making some of those observations on Nature's charms which have made his name famous in many lands, and which are indeed *sui generis.*

"Well, and how have you fared, my friend?" he remarked, in his cheery way, as I approached. "I can do nothing with them at present," he added; "so thought I would improve the occasion until they do rise."

I told him about the Whirling Blue, so he closed his book and picked out an imitation from his fly-box, wading carefully into the pool below the bridge. Opposite to him was a high red sand-bank, and under the lee of a thick hawthorn bush, three or four goodly fish were "putting up their nebs." "Redspinner" made a few preliminary casts in the air to measure the distance, and then despatched twenty yards of line as straight as a rule over the rising fish—a ruffle on the surface, a sudden plunge, and the reel gives indication of the capture of a good 'un. Right skilfully does my friend manage him, now here, now there, the fish rushes indignantly, rolling over on the surface after the manner of his kind, and then sinking to the bottom of the pool with the aid of his large dorsal fin; but his strength becomes less, and his rushes more feeble, until the net is featly slipped under him, and the scales announce him to be 1lb. 3oz. I go now to a pool below a small island, where the water flows gradually over a rocky shelf, and forms a deep swirly hole—a typical grayling swim. "You are sure to get one there, I think, sir," remarked the keeper, and he was right, for at the second cast I saw a silvery flash below the surface of the water, and tightening the line, I found that I had hooked a fairly good fish; he was duly landed, and proved to be ¾lb. in weight.

I had interviewed the keeper as to the probable result of our day's fishing, providing that the fish were taking. He appeared to think that twenty brace each would not be at all an astonishing result, but I had not been fishing an hour before I quite saw that, unless some merciful interposition of Providence occurred—analogous to the miraculous draught of fishes of Biblical history—we should do well if we captured half that number. There was evidently an abundance of fish, both trout and grayling, but they were rising "short" in a most exasperating manner; and if you hooked and landed one fish out of six you were uncommonly lucky. We next came to another rustic bridge, and another lovely grayling pool below, and on this piece of water I performed a feat which rather pleased me and astonished the keeper. Just below the bridge on the far bank of the river was a bush of dead thorns, which projected about a yard out into the stream, then came a distance of perhaps a yard and then another similar bush; in the little pool between the two, the keeper drew my attention to a rising trout; and although the situation appeared well nigh hopeless, I determined to have a try for him. There was only one course to pursue, and that was to drop the end fly right over him, first throw and then if he took it, to drag him through the narrow opening right into the main stream, before he actually comprehended the position of affairs. Accordingly I flicked my line in the air, until I could see that I was well over the spot, and then, light as thistledown, descended the fly; he took it in an instant, and before he knew anything, he was outside his fancied place of security and fighting in the main stream. He was a nice bright fish of about a half-pound weight, and no doubt had broken many a cast of flies in the thorns above and below him. I could see from the keeper's face that I had advanced greatly in his estimation as a performer with the rod, and I must acknowledge that I felt rather proud of the achievement myself.

On we wandered, taking stream and stream about, until we came, towards the close of the afternoon, to a weir extending across the river, which, after falling over it, ran down under the left bank, entirely overarched by trees, their branches drooping within four feet of the surface of the water. "Redspinner" took his position up below the weir, fishing towards the fall, while I crossed the stream and took stock of the water running beneath the trees; but I could "see at a glance," as Mr. Toole says, that, with my twelve-foot rod, nothing could be effected except an entanglement in the trees, so I walked down to a pool below and hooked a good trout, which, however, kicked off. Now, my friend was using a powerful split-cane rod, 10½ft. in length, which was just the thing for under-hand casting beneath the branches, and when he arrived once more in the open, his net contained a nice trout and grayling, still kicking, which he had extracted from beneath their shade.

This concluded our day's sport, which came a good deal within the keeper's estimate, being about nine brace each, and the largest fish the grayling, which "Redspinner" captured in the morning in the pool below the bridge. As we were uncertain where we should reel up, we had decided not to have the conveyance to meet us, so walked up slowly through the park. On our arrival at the hotel, we found a good dinner ready for us, and after that fishing conversation occupied the remainder of the evening.

The next day was Saturday, and as we intended returning to Leeds to spend Sunday, before commencing our Wensleydale wanderings, we agreed over-night to get away early to our fishing on the Ryedale Club water. This was acted upon, and at ten o'clock we were on the banks of the river, having, under Mr. Phillips' advice, driven down to the lower portion of the water.

I made a good commencement by killing a brace of nice grayling out of the first pool I went to, and also lost another; and then the fun ceased, not rising another fish for fully an hour. "Redspinner" came up and announced a similar state of affairs. He had basketed a brace of fish in the first twenty minutes, and never saw another. We held a consultation of war, changed our flies, tried them sunk and floating, but all to no purpose. The fish were rising fitfully at a wretched little Black Midge no bigger than a pin's head, and at nothing else would they look. By dint of very hard work, worthy of far better results, we picked up a few grayling, but nothing of any size; and I was not sorry when my friend remarked that he had experienced quite enough misery for one day, and voted that we should work back to the mill, where the trap was to meet us. It is a lovely length of trout and grayling water that belongs to the Ryodale Club, and I sincerely hope that next season "Redspinner" and I may have a red-letter day or two on it. That there are plenty of fish may be gathered from the fact that, ten days after our visit, a reverend gentleman, who is a member of the club, killed with Red Tag, Green Insect, and Apple Green Dun seventeen brace of grayling in one day, many of the fish scaling ¾lb. and 1lb. "'Twas over thus," as Francis Francis used to say; but I don't think that we ought to grumble, as the pleasures of angling do not consist wholly in catching fish, and we certainly did have a most delightful time. Besides, far better sport awaited us on the Yore, an account of which must stand over to my next article.

(To be continued.)

Notes

In reply to several inquiries, we beg to say that the statement which appeared in a Trade Journal recently to the effect that we were about to dispose of the *Fishing Gazette* is utterly untrue. It is a pity some people do not mind their own business, instead of circulating false reports about other people's.

We much regret to hear that Mr. Thomas N. Debenham, of the firm of Debenham, Tewson, Farmer, and Bridgwater, died at Cairo on the 12th inst. Mr. Debenham was a member of the Flyfishers' Club, and his loss will be greatly felt.

In Mr. Cooper's window, at 131, High Holborn, there is a dace to be seen weighing 1lb. 3oz.

Several correspondents have written to point out the very extraordinary results which are arrived at when the account of sport sent to us by Mr. Andrews, of Maidenhead, last week, is analysed. We must leave Mr. Andrews to explain, as we find our report is a careful copy of his letter to us of November 5. Here is what one correspondent says:—

Dear Mr. Editor,—What a formidable record of the catch of pike in your first paragraph of "Notes" in last week's issue! and if your contributor had not called special attention to the fact that "all fish under 5lb. were not included in the weight," examination would have been unnecessary. But the following analysis shows that very few fish of each day's specified weight could have been *much over* 5lb., or the rest must have been *under*, and should not have been included in the total; and, besides this, the average weight of *every* fish in Friday's catch was only *4lb. 10⅔oz., and should *all* have been returned to water if the limit was 5lb. The following is the analysis of each day's take, and gives an average of 5lb. 5½oz. for each of the hundred and ninety-six fish caught, not including the three mentioned in the record of 15lb., 13lb., and 16lb:—

	Wednesday.		Thursday.
	61 fish, 365lb.		41 fish, 237lb.
	Less 1, 15lb.		Less 1, 13lb.
	60 fish, 350lb.		40, 224lb.
Average	5lb. 13⅓oz each.	Average	5lb. 9⅗oz. each.
	Friday.		Saturday.
	79 fish, 380lb.		18 fish, 95lb.
	Less 1, 16lb.		—
	78 fish, 364lb.		—
Average	*4lb. 10⅔oz. each.	Average	5lb. 4½oz. each.

Yours faithfully, (Signed) G. R. Hunt.

Mr. W. Ramsbottom, fishing tackle maker, 24, North John-street, Liverpool, writes: "Dear Sir,—It is a long time since we have had such a good back-end salmon fishing in the north. I was out on the Annan last week and got nine splendid fish, weighing from 18lb. to 25lb. each, seven of which I caught with my new pattern fly, which I call 'The President.' I think it is by far the most killing fly I have seen for some years. I have much pleasure in enclosing one of them for your inspection, and hope you may have a chance to try it." The President is certainly a handsome salmon fly, and one we should have every confidence in putting over a fish. It is dressed on a square sneck-bend hook, and for salmon flies we much prefer the Limerick, and have asked Mr. Ramsbottom to make us some on that hook in different sizes.

With a year (1891) that has brought wonderfully good salmon fishing—that some time or other, about all over the country, has given more or less sport of a quality that may well be called excellent for the individual rivers in their several recognised grades of first, second, third, and fourth rate salmon fishings—it is only reasonable to expect to find the bulk of regular fishing anglers making the admission that they have been tolerably well pleased. But how few of them, it is safe to say, will be got to acknowledge that they were perfectly satisfied with their experiences and results; in other words, that they had every fair chance of fish with their neighbours and friends; that they lost few or no fish that (bar wholly unavoidable accidents) they ought to have landed; that they found sport come quite up to their most sanguine expectations; and that their seasons and best one-day's takes were such as to prove completely satisfying, leaving nothing beyond to be desired. Ah! few there be who will admit all this.

Careful observation on the part of the watchers during the past few years has shown that, on the South Esk, of the fish attacked with disease there is a proportion of nearly two females for every male, and that on the Spey it is the reverse way to an even greater extent, no less than ninety per cent. of such fish being males. But though in these rivers, in respect of the sexes, there is such a great difference in the numbers of fungussed fish, it appears, on the other hand, that in both the disease often proves not fatal, as also that of the fish taken out dead, or that appear likely to die, nearly twice as many males are spent as are not, while, in the case of females, it is exactly the reverse.

For some time past, the stocking with salmon and trout ova of the various hatcheries on the Duke of Sutherland's estates in the North has been going on. There is a prospect of the Loch Brora Hatchery being still further enlarged.

No great scores were run up on the Tweed last week, the best take in one day by a single rod being six fish. Latterly it was felt that a freshening of the water, which was getting rather low, was much needed. Early in the week this came about, and from Wednesday onward, owing to the heavy falls of rain that had taken place, angling on many of the streams was out of the question. Anglers, however, were all looking forward to finding during the "new week" sport greatly improved in consequence of the rise of the water.

The Annan season, which came to an end last Saturday, has been a first-rate one—reckoned by not a few as the best on record. Fish were numerous, of extra special quality for autumn, and averaged a greater weight than for years past. The immense number over 20lb. in weight was a feature of the season. In the autumn alone it is reckoned that about five hundred fish were killed by means of rod and line on this nice little river.

At the instance of Sir Robert Jardine, Bart., M.P., a fish-ladder has been placed on the river Milk, Dumfriess-shire, at Castlemilk Mills, superceding the caul-leap, which formed an almost insuperable barrier to the farther progress of fish up-river, and thereby occasioned temptation to not over-scrupulous fishers to snatch or "snigger." As fish will now get past quite freely, it is of the utmost importance that a staff of watchers, adequate to protect them effectually during the spawning, should look after the upper waters. Without this following on the opening up of the river, the "improvement" will be no improvement at all—rather the reverse; something like "leaping out of the frying-pan into the fire."

On the North Esk, this past autumn, Sir John R. Gladstone, Bart., of Fasque, in one day's fishing with fly from the bank and wading, had sixteen salmon, a large proportion of which were heavy fish. This *is* sport.

Rod-fishing on all the Scotch salmon rivers, except Tweed and Urr, having, on different dates, already closed, the season of 1891 is now practically on its last legs—since a fortnight hence, on the two rivers named, will see the end of it.

Anyone who has the time, the inclination, and the purse to afford it can, if he succeeds in getting water, fish in Scotland for salmon with the rod during about forty-seven of the fifty-two weeks of the year. Some of the rivers have their season opening as early as January 11, and others theirs not closing till November 30.

Scarcely a single river, even amongst the longest-seasoned ones, has a beat or fishery on it that continuously yields sport from the start of the season to the finish. And why? Because the weekly slap is too short, and in-river netting, mill dykes, and other artificial obstructions, nearly always impassable, intercept the fish on their way to the middle sections, which are naturally the longest-seasoned on the river. This statement, in one or more ways, applies to the whole of the best long-seasoned rivers in Scotland—Spey, Deveron, Don, Dee, North Esk, Tay, and Tweed.

A spent salmon, weighing 68lb., which had succumbed to disease, was taken out of the Glen Ewan Pool of the North Esk, Forfarshire, the winter before last. Before it shed its spawn this fish must have been a good many pounds heavier. Will some expert say how many?—in the case of milt, ditto ova.

Lately the "blue fish," so-called from their peculiar bluish look, have been running the Aberdeenshire Dee. These fish spawn about Christmas and the New Year, and for this purpose mostly affect the Aboyne and Ballater reaches.

On the Lochy-Spean the season this year has all throughout, from first to last, over the whole river, been one of the best ever experienced. The heaviest fish killed weighed 37lb. The spawn-beds of the Spean are almost unique, the fish being great "holers," digging quite enormous pits, and piling up huge ridges of gravel. It is hoped that the spawning season will be a good one—exempt from severe droughts or heavy floods—as spawners are forward in such numbers as have been seldom seen.

A box of salmon, according to the Billingsgate Market standard, weighs 112lb. But 140lb. is often the weight of the box sent up by Scotch consigners.

The two mile stretch of fishing on the Don, at Kintore, known as the Burgh Water, which is open to non-burgesses on payment of the primitive fee of one shilling per rod for the day, is reported to have yielded about three hundred salmon during the late autumn fishing. One day the grand catch was as high as twenty-one fish, while there were frequently days when fifteen to eighteen were got. But as proving how effectually worm, minnow, gudgeon, and prawn had the fish "put down," it is stated on good authority that the fly accounted for only one per cent. of the whole take—three fish. Langsyne it was different, the fly doing most of the work, but *then* the loaded minnow, the "naitral," the gudgeon, and the flattened-eared Devon were strangers to the "Burgh Water," and even the "wurm" was sparingly used.

Mr. Murdoch writes: "Mr. Nicol McNicol, manager on the Sandside Estate, Reay, Caithness, has stocked Mr. Pilkington's hatchery with one hundred and thirty thousand salmon ova. There are no salmon streams on the estate, only a burn, but getting down this stream the young fish by-and-by become in the sea, where the Sandside nets work—a good paying concern for the proprietor. The McNicols are a family of noted fishers, fish culturists, and fly dressers. Amongst them they have started a number of hatcheries, and otherwise done much for the improvement of the salmon fisheries in the far north. The two brothers, James and Nicol, have most come into prominence in this respect, but a son of the former's, Donald, as yet but a very young man, has already, by his management of the Westfield Hatchery on the Forss, proved himself a very capable hand. For excellence in fly dressing, half-a-dozen at least of the McNicols are well known; and as showing that the art runs in the family, Nicol's eldest son, a boy of only thirteen, carried off the first prize for fly-tying at the Highland Industrial Exhibition at Inverness, in September last.

"The other year Mr. Nicol McNicol constructed rearing ponds and formed artificial lochs at Sandside, which latter he stocked with Loch Levens, and he now writes: 'We had splendid sport with the Loch Leven trout in our new lochs this past summer.'"

The following, anent "Free Fishing," will no doubt be interesting to a good many of our readers: "There is a large extent of water on the Deveron open to the public where it is no uncommon thing to come across a 'pot hunter' with the top scare of his rod taken off, and a marvellously large hook whipped on to the middle scare. With this clumsy but potent weapon he rakes the pools where grilse and salmon lie, and thus cleans them of fish. The legitimate angler, of course, cannot compete with him, and can only grin and bear it with the best possible grace. Now, if human nature is the same in the vicinity of large towns as it is about Huntly and the Cabrach, the evils deplored would be multiplied on a scale proportionate to the number of anglers. They are few, it is to be regretted, who would be generous enough to restrict their methods of angling to that which is fair and above-board for the sake of posterity. Forty or fifty years at most would see every river within a radius of a hundred miles of our large centres of population not worth casting a line over. Between nets, clips, sieves, grapples and salmon roe used surreptiously by unscrupulous people who care for nothing but a haul of fish, our Scottish rivers would in due time be piscatorially worthless."

Eight thousand one hundred and thirty-five more boxes of salmon were sent to Billingsgate this year than were forwarded last year. Both from English and Scotch fishing stations there was an increase, but from Irish a trifling decrease. The figures were:—

	Boxes, 1890.		Boxes, 1891.
Scotch ...	18,931	Scotch ...	25,889
Irish ...	10,710	Irish ...	10,131
English ...	1,607	English ...	2,710
Berwick ...	1,285	Berwick ...	1,762

The Scotch Fishery Board, in seeking to arrive at the value of the yield of the Scotch salmon fisheries, estimates a box to be worth £5 10s., which is equivalent to saying a shilling is the price (average for the year) of a pound of salmon.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. H.: There is good flounder fishing off Southend-on-Sea.

J. A. S.; Yes, there are many places on the Thames where you can only fish by permission.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

HERRINGS CONFINED IN A POND TAKING A BAIT.

Dear Sir,—Adjacent to the estuary of the Humber there exists a large pond, some three acres in extent, which has been dug out in order to afford clay for the neighbouring brickyard. Communication with the Humber is effected by means of a clew, which is so contrived that water may come in occasionally, but not go out. One dull day, this November, a friend and myself had a day's fishing in it. We caught several nice flat fish, with which apparently the pond swarmed; when, tiring of this, we tried fishing with small pieces of cockle. We soon got some bites, which we could hardly understand; and changing our tackle for a light gut bottom and small hooks, what was our astonishment at catching herrings. They bit so boldly that at first we struck immediately on perceiving a bite; but afterwards, growing wiser by many and sundry misses, we gave them more time, and consequently were more successful. Once hooked they were the gamest fish it has been my lot to catch. They run up to about ten inches long. On questioning the proprietors, we were informed that these fish (which the locals term "pilchards,") got in by chance some ten years ago, and that they breed regularly in the pond. A noticeable fact in connection with them was that they refused to take other than a small bait. These fish are not pilchards, as is assumed, the pilchard being rarely found so far north, and the great distinguishing mark (the dorsal fin), is not in the centre of gravity.—Yours, &c.,

H. M. Foster.

Hull Scientific Club.

"ORCADIAN MEMORIES."

Dear Sir,—Wherever "Duine Môr's" observant eye sees, and his facile pen writes regarding trout fishing, we have an article full of vigour, clearness, terseness, and interest, whether he is describing the sport obtained by landing some 6lb. sea trout, or only excusing the unproductiveness of some sequestered loch.

His "Orcadian Memories" are very interesting, and what is better, accurate in most details. It is very unfortunate that this disciple of the rod should have visited Orkney during the worst season for good angling in the memory of man. So bad, indeed, has it been, that no reports have appeared in this *Gazette* for the season. But we must remember how ungenial the summer months were, especially the earlier part of September, when Loch Stenness is at its best. I am glad to find the corroboration of Mr. Arch. Young's report in the fifth annual publication of the Fishery Board borne out by "Duine Môr" as to the possibilities and capabilities of these lochs.

"Duine Môr" says: "There are probably more enormous yellow trout in it than in any loch in the United Kingdom." Mr. Young says: "Were they fairly fished and properly protected, they ought to be equal to any lochs in the United Kingdom. It seems to me that no amount of fair fishing would reduce the trout as they have been reduced in the Lochs of Harray and Stenness; there is such a vast expanse of water, such a good bottom and such abundance and variety of feeding. I was very much impressed with their extraordinary capabilities."

The scenery of Orkney is of itself worth a visit, the more so that the run from London to Kirkwall can be made in twenty-seven hours. The boldest and tersest, the most dignified and the most realistic description of the weird and bleak aspect of these islands and their surroundings is contained in a verse of Vedder's, the Orcadian poet, who describes Loch Stenness as the "Orcadian Windermere":—

> "Land of the whirlpool, torrent, foam,
> Where oceans meet in maddening shock
> The beetling cliff, the shelving holm,
> The dark insidious rock.
> Land of the bleak, the treeless moor,
> The shapeless cairn, the ruined tower,
> Scathed by the bolts of heaven;
> The yawning gulf, the treacherous sand—
> I love thee still, my native land."

The large yellow trout in this loch are often taken during the latter half of August and first half of September. The limpid brackish waters no doubt require very fine tackle and considerable skill, but these are the acquisitions every good angler prides himself in. My own experience in fishing this loch for twelve years is that for one month each year very good sport can be had. Not for the weight of the basket, although good baskets are often got, but for the sport derived from a 6lb. fish on a fine gut, the pleasant remembrances thereby begot, and the keen bracing atmosphere. The largest trout I secured on fly scaled 7lb.

With what "Duine Môr" says in regard to Stenness I quite concur. With his remarks on the eccentricities of the trout in Loch Harray I have to enter a mild protest—not, I hope, with the appearance of a finical disposition, but for the benefit of anglers generally who fish this loch. The Harray Loch is fresh with yellow trout, running up to 3lb., which differ in colour, compactness of flesh, and in other ways from the Stenness trout, although both lochs are only separated by a large bridge, through which the trout have free access. It is very seldom I have caught a yellow Stenness trout in the Harray Loch, and *vice versa*, spawning time excepted. Further, the access from the Harray Loch to the Stenness Loch, and from the Stenness Loch to the sea, at the Bridges of Brodgar and Waith, are such that no better places could be got for experimenting with set nets as to whether these fresh-water trout really descend to the brackish water and ultimately to the sea. Mr. Edward Hamilton proves in the *Gazette* of Nov. 7, that Loch Leven trout did leave an upland tarn and became habituated to brackish water; but we must remember that circumstances alter cases. These trout may have left the loch to find more suitable food, or on account of over-stocking; but the question is, Do trout migrate from their natural habitat, where food is in abundance, to brackish water and the sea? From long experience I doubt it very much. If they migrate, their skins, their spots, and compactness are transformed in a few days as by an enchanter's wand. Let fishermen continually set their nets in these contracted isthmuses I have named, and their testimony is, with a rare exception, against his. The passage I specially write to contradict, on account of the evil effect it may produce (however unintentional by "Duine Môr") is where he says: "The influx of salt water may certainly keep them from rising, but the supply of food which it carries in is probably the reason why it so affects them, for trout are in no way affected by salt water, and often go down to the sea."

So firmly convinced are we that the salt water does affect these fresh-water trout, that we have taken the precaution, at a good amount of trouble, to prevent the salt water getting in. The general opinion among the riparian proprietors is that sea water does sicken. So certain are we of this, that a subscription of £12 was raised, with which sluice gates have been erected on the "eyes" of the Bridge of Brodgar, for the purpose of preventing the influx of salt water in the Harray Loch. The effect the salt water undoubtedly had was this. When the first influx occurred during the spring tides—for only during dry weather and high tides does this occur—the appetites of the trout were sharpened, and they took the fly more greedily than usual, which continued for two or three days. After this they were more indifferent, and often took to deeper water. Many takes which may appear fabulous have been made in a few hours aftar the trout got their first dose of brine. After a few days more, when the influx had ceased, the normal state of affairs arrived. A month later, if the weather continued fairly dry, a fresh influx, added to that which (owing to its specific gravity) occupied the deeper parts of the lock, tainted the water slightly. The trout now abandoned the lower reaches of the loch where the salt water was finding access, and the others left the deeper parts, and crowded along the shallow shore, especially where fresh streams were running into bays and creeks. There the angler had fishing to his heart's content, over one hundred trout having often been caught in about three hours. To crown all, the farmers came in half dozens, with long sweep nets, and in one haul have been known to land three hundred trout. These were packed and salted like herrings for winter provender. There was one large burn where the trout could ascend for about a quarter of a mile. This was often literally crowded. So dreadfully hungry were these trout, that the mere glitter of a bare hook attracted them, and many were thus caught. This entirely refutes "Duine Môr's" theory.

It has been stated that these trout were diseased. The very few found dead were ones that had been wounded by hay-forks, nets, feet, &c., as they were in perfectly good condition. None, so far as we are aware, died from the effects of the salt water. In fact, we rather think that were the stream of salt water regular and in less quantities, the trout would shortly adapt themselves to their environment.

The sluice gates we have mentioned were put up about three years ago, against strenuous opposition from several small riparian proprietors, who, no doubt, desired "use and won't," sweeping, ottering, &c.; and who will only be too glad of an opinion like "Duine Môr's," as a pretext to destroy these sluices. The trout have materially increased during these three years, and now if anglers will only help us by visiting these lochs, and thereby increase the demand for boat hiring, it would act as one of the very best incentives for inducing these unpathetic and sedate old rustics to take an active part in preserving these fine trout from wholesale slaughter. Since these sluices were erected no trout have come ashore, although one season at least was excessively dry.

No doubt many will wonder if any trout yet remain to propagate their species after such destruction; but permit me to say that only during dry seasons, when an unusual amount of salt water got in the loch, did this occur, and only then within the last twenty-five years or so. Prior to that time there was a higher barrier of rock across the entrance at the Bridge of Waith, which had, at the time mentioned been deepened by some quarrying to build the present substantial bridge.

Are not these fine lochs worth our best combined efforts to preserve, when Nature has bestowed gifts of beauty and romance in such diversified grandeur, with here a fantastic cliff towering its serrated head a thousand feet towards heaven, and there a mysterious chambered mound, and romantic standing stones, bathed by the ceaseless ripples of the two finest lakes which adorn the face of Great Britain, and within a day's journey of London?—Yours, &c., M.S.

THE SLAUGHTER OF BABY JACK IN THE THAMES.

Sir,—I fully agree with "Templar's" article in last week's *Fishing Gazette*, regarding the by-law of the Thames Conservancy, which allows little jack of 18in. or 19in. to be retained. I know of one angler who has this season taken upwards of one hundred jack, none of which have been large enough to weigh in at his club with any prospect of taking a prize. Surely this ought not to be? If the Thames Conservancy would alter the standard size to 24in. to 25in., we should soon have a splendid stock of large pike in the river, and every jack would have had the opportunity of contributing at least once towards the replenishment of the stock of the river. Considering the fact that pike have been and are decreasing at a very rapid rate, something should be done *at once*, or the enjoyment of a good day's pike fishing on our grand old river will be a thing of the past.—I remain, Sir, yours truly,

Esox Lucius.

SUGGESTIONS FOR HELPING THE T.A.P.S.

Dear Sir,—You are asking this week for suggestions *re* Thames Preservation Society. I here give you mine—viz., That, instead of giving fish away, which is very often done in club rooms after a good day's sport, anglers should do as I used to, sell the fish for whatever they can get. I did not mind what I got, so long as it was something to go into the box. I generally got a penny or three-halfpence for a 1lb. roach, fourpence or sixpence for a 4lb. jack, and so on, and had very little trouble to get it. One year I collected £2 10s. for fish caught by myself. Mr. Ghurney opened the box, and I gave it to him for the Benevolent Fund, and I think this scheme would be taken more favourably than a tax.

Now, Sir, as I have proposed this same thing for the Benevolent some years ago, I do not wish to rob them, so will suggest something for them, and that is two shillings out of every member's annual subscription be sent to the Benevolent; it will never be missed, even if the subscriptions are raised, and doubtless you are aware what the Masonic body do with four shillings per annum from each member.—Hoping I have not said too much; if so, cut it out, and believe me to remain, yours very truly,

A. Brodie.

Shepperton.

[We do not at all like the idea of an angler selling his fish, even for a benevolent object; Mr. Brodie's other suggestion is infinitely better.—Ed.]

GOLD AND SILVER PLATE OR TINSEL FOR BODIES OF SALMON FLIES.

Sir,—Can you or any of your readers tell me if tinsel or plate for the bodies of salmon flies is made in sheets instead of, as one purchases it, in strips? If it is not so made—*i.e.*, in sheets—manufacturers would confer a great benefit on fly-tyers by making it in this fashion, and save us all the bother of keeping numerous reels of different breadths; as all we would require to do would be with a straight edge and knife cut off a strip of the requisite breadth.

I was once given a small sheet of gold plate, and am the happy possessor of some of it yet, but was told it was made by an amateur, and consequently not available for purchase, so I have practical knowledge of the value of this suggestion.—I am, &c.,

Poorbeah.

BIDEFORD POULTRY SHOW.

Dear Sir,—In your issue of Aug. 29 last, a Mr. F. G. Pattison informs us that there would be a class for poultry, providing feathers suitable for fly-tying in the Bideford show, to be held Oct. 22 and 23, which is just past. Can he now give us any information as to the result of this effort? I think many of your readers would be glad to hear besides myself.—Yours very truly,

Clapton. T. W. White.

A LONG-LOST RING.

Sir,—I enclose a cutting from a Maidenhead aper, dated 28th October, 1891, about a ring st twenty-one years ago:—

> "A Long-Lost Ring.—A ring that was lost no less than venty-one years ago was found the other day by a boy on e very spot where it was originally missed. It seems e late Mr. Leo Schuster, of Cannon-street, was fishing e day on the banks of the Dee, near Durris, when the ng slipped off his finger, all efforts to recover it proving tile. As the long-lost trinket was found within a yard the spot where it was supposed to have been lost, it is rmised that the earth by which it was covered for so any years was washed away by the floods of last week. he ring was shown by Mr. Morrison, gamekeeper, to ady Isabella Keane, who identified it as the one lost by r husband, and she at once handed to the finder the ward which had been offered when it went amissing."

My friend, Mr. J. W. Rope, three years since, as looking over the rail of his house-boat at enley, when his diamond ring slipped off his nger into the water. He immediately pushed a unt pole into the gravel near the spot where it ll to, and got a diving boy to try and find it, fering a sovereign reward for its recovery. The oy dived a good many times, but did not succeed. r. Rope then tied a handkerchief outside of his nding-net, and he and his man dredged for it, d after a dozen tries, and examination of the rthy contents, they recovered it. T. R. S.

FLY-FISHING FOR COARSE FISH.

Dear Sir,—Your correspondent (Mr. Alfred ardine) is deserving the thanks of all true nglers for his plain and practical hints on his ethods of angling for coarse fish. I, along with thers in this part of Yorkshire, have watched ith interest his treatment of the various subjects your columns. His remarks upon fishing for ub and dace are to my mind most interesting, d although we may find similar methods dopted even from the days of the venerable Izaak," through the pages of most of our standard books on angling—not omitting some of the ints given in good trade catalogues—of the present day; yet I wonder how many of our everncreasing number of anglers pay attention to the abits and *habitue* of these two members of what e term our "coarse fish family." They cerinly deserve it. They abound in most of the vers and streams throughout the country, and many in very large numbers. But, Sir, I am lways surprised that so little attention is paid y the regular coarse fisher of adding to his eans of sport by using, or *trying* to use, the rtificial and natural fly in the capture of several inds of coarse fish, and especially chub and ace. They are, as most of our best authorities ut it, surface-feeders and "free-risers" at lmost any form of insect-life which comes near em. Then, why so much neglect of the fly, hen good sport may be had? I am one of those hose business ties prevent my getting away mongst trout and grayling as often as I could ish, but can command an hour or two of good oarse fishing at a few minutes' notice; and let e say, Sir, that years ago, I was naturally led to e use of the fly as a means of capturing dace and hub, when other methods for the time failed. f course, I do not even hint at discarding ottom-fishing, or to cast any slur at the man ho has the patience to sit or stand for hours at time swimming or "plumbing" with maggot, orm, or paste, when he may often favour his hances of sport by resorting to the more noble, cientific, and pleasant means of casting and daping" with the fly-rod. Without going rther into this important subject at present, I ould just like to say that, besides the flies Mr. ardine has named, I would like to add my testiony to the virtues of the bloa hackles, such as artridge, snipe, and water-hen, as supplied for rout and grayling fishing by the Leeds and Bishop uckland firms. These are excellent for dace shing, but should be dressed larger for chub shing.—Yours very truly, Ronald.

BRAN IN THE CREEL.

Dear Sir,—I am inclined to think that you are ot aware, from your remarks at the discussion fter Mr. Shrubsole's lecture, on "Fishing askets, &c." last week, that an angler can, by arrying a little bran with him, keep his fish quite resh in appearance in any creel, by simply prinkling enough of it to adhere all over them hen first caught.

It is surprising how fresh a trout looks when the bran is washed off even after *three or four days*, and it is therefore one of the very best ways of packing fish to send a distance.—Yours truly,

F. G. Mackaness,

Hon. Member Hertford Angling Preservation Society.

[We have often used bran for keeping Spinning baits bright, and no doubt it would answer admirably if used in the creel as described by Mr. Mackaness, and we are much obliged to him for the hint.—Ed.]

FINE SPORT WITH THE PIKE.

Dear Sir,—Fishing this week with Mr. A. T. Ellis, of Cambridge, in the Hampshire Avon, I caught a pike weighing 26lb. Our take included twenty-three other fish, from 4lb. to 9lb., and thirteen under 4lb. (returned to water). A second edition of a heavy flood abruptly terminated our visit.—Yours faithfully, G. R. Hunt.

A TRUE HISTORY OF THE FREKE BAG.

Sir,—The following account of the Freke bag and how it came into existence may interest your readers.

In the year 1869, a Mr. Freke Williams called at 43, Ludgate-hill, to see Mr. George Richard Woolgar, offering to give us his opinion *re* a fishing bag. He brought with him an old, brown canvas sack with rings on it, similar to the old, green baize bag of my school-days, and requested us to make him a waterproof fishing bag to hold fish. I at once saw his idea was a mistake, for the simple reason that to put trout (he was a fly-fisherman) into a waterproof bag would not only spoil their beauty but their value for the table; so I advised him to have the bag made part waterproof (the front bag), but the bag to contain the fish porous. The form of the bag was good, and the first one was cut out and designed by myself, the opening allowing a heavy fish placed in with the head out at one side and the tail at the other; thus a large fish could be carried in a comparatively small space. The waterproof front when turned to the angler's back prevented him from getting his back wet, whilst the porous part, allowing a free passage of air to the fish, prevented the fish going off colour, not to say bad in hot weather, and coarse fish got in a worse state when put in a rubber bag.

It was not very long after this occurrence that Mrs. Malcom saw the principal defect, and tried several times to improve upon it without success, until she hit upon the plan of attaching a new *proofed* fine canvas bag to the waterproof front portion without altering the shape of the original Freke fishing bag. She succeeded admirably, and a splendid notice was given of it by the Editor of the *F. G.*, in 1879, with the result that over four hundred were sold the first year. This bag can be taken off, sent to a laundress, and have every bit of smell *boiled* out of it—a grand idea, I think.

If Mr. Shrubsole will take the trouble to examine the outside pages of the *first* number of the *Gazette*, he will see our sketch of the best fishing bag, in my opinion, ever yet invented.—I am, &c.,

27, Ludgate-hill, E.C. F. Malcom.

DO LOCH LEVEN TROUT MIGRATE?

Sir,—The theory advanced by correspondents in the *F. G.* may very possibly be a delusion. I am inclined to think it is. The assumption that these trout are "descended from land-locked salmon" needs justification by proof before the migratory habit of the salmon tribe can be attributed to them. Even if the supposed ancestry of Loch Leven trout were admitted, does it follow that the trout bred in an inland lock, in hatcheries, and in streams all over the land, will to all eternity be migratory and make for the sea! I fancy few persons will be found ready or willing to believe that these trout, more or less, crossed with other trout, and bred under the same conditions and in the same waters as the common, brown, or yellow trout, will for ever and ever be so dominated by the instinct of their "first parents" as to be incurably migratory. Surely this love for the sea will die out in time, if it ever was a feature in Loch Leven trout, of which there is much room for doubt. I know a tidal river into which some Loch Leven trout were placed a few years ago, and I often catch some of these trout within two miles of the tideway; and in the same river a great many brown trout are netted in the tideway. This goes to show that brown or yellow trout will go down to taste salt water, whether Loch Levens do or not. But I think that probably some trout of every strain which live in streams having access to the sea may go to the edge of the tideway, but not out to sea. I am sure some brown and yellow trout near the tideway do go into that part of the river which the tide reaches now and then, for a time, not permanently. Further, I have reason to believe that the Loch Leven trout of to-day do not stray more, or are more sea-inclined, than any other trout.—Yours, &c., H. L.

MESSRS. GUISE'S FLATTENED GRAYLING HOOK.

Dear Sir,—We observe in your last week's issue that you were good enough to express a favourable opinion of our new hook for grayling and other tender-mouthed fishes; at the same time you expressed a fear that the flattening would cause a somewhat sharp edge, which would cut its way out somewhat easily. Will you allow us to say that in adopting the form under review we trusted, and indeed believed, that we had succeeded in producing a pattern that would obviate that very defect. Our hook is wedge-shaped, and flattened in the bend, giving greater penetrating power, a firmer grip of the cartilage of the mouth, and by its extra width preventing the twisting of the hook when the fish is struggling, and transferring the twist to the gut instead, thus saving many a "break away."

Thanking you for your favourable notice.—We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

Redditch. W. Guise and Sons.

FEATHERS FOR FLY-TYING WANTED.

Dear Sir,—Would some reader kindly, through the medium of your paper, let me know where to get some Norwegian crows and other feathers for fly-tying?—Yours truly, H. Gale.

64, Glover-street, Camp-road, Leeds, Yorkshire.

THE SLIDING HOOK ON FLIGHTS.

Sir,—It is pretty evident that your correspondent, Mr. J. W. King, must have had but a very limited experience with sliding hooks on spinning flights or snap tackle; otherwise he must, before now, have found out the way in which to adjust the hook. Usually the tackle is sent out without any turn around the shank. If J. W. K. will take the tackle and pull the gimp out quite loosely *between the two eyes of sliding hook*, he can then give it as many turns around the shank as he chooses, each time passing around the loop by which the tackle is attached to trace; or if he does not happen to pass around the loop, then push the loop through the last turn and draw tightly. If the tackle (snap) *be attached* to trace then the gimp is passed around the lower triangle as many times as required. To adjust the tackle, nothing is easier: push the gimp in at either eye of sliding hook, when it immediately becomes quite loose and the hook can be shifted as required.—I am, sir, yours faithfully, J. T. Scott.

Marlow.

ELASTIC BANDS FOR FASTENING JOINTS OF RODS.

Dear Sir,—I wish to make known, for the information of brother anglers, a neat and ready substitute for the twine or soft wire ligatures used to tie together the joints of a fishing rod, when in use. Instead of using either of the above-named articles, to loop round the bits of wire at the ends of the ferrules, I have been employing for some time back the ordinary india-rubber rings sold in small boxes for a few pence—and usually used for binding bundles of letters or papers. These elastic bands will stretch to a great extent, and when one is looped over the joint of the rod, like a St. Andrew's Cross, it keeps it very firm and does not interfere with, but rather improves, the elasticity of the rod. With fair usage, too, the elastic band will last for some time.—Yours truly, G. B.

[Mr. H. S. Hall always uses these small bands, and recommended their use in our columns, many years ago; but doubtless many readers are unaware of the value of the elastic band for securing the rod joints.—Ed.]

MR. T. CRUMPLEN.

By Edgar S. Shrubsole.

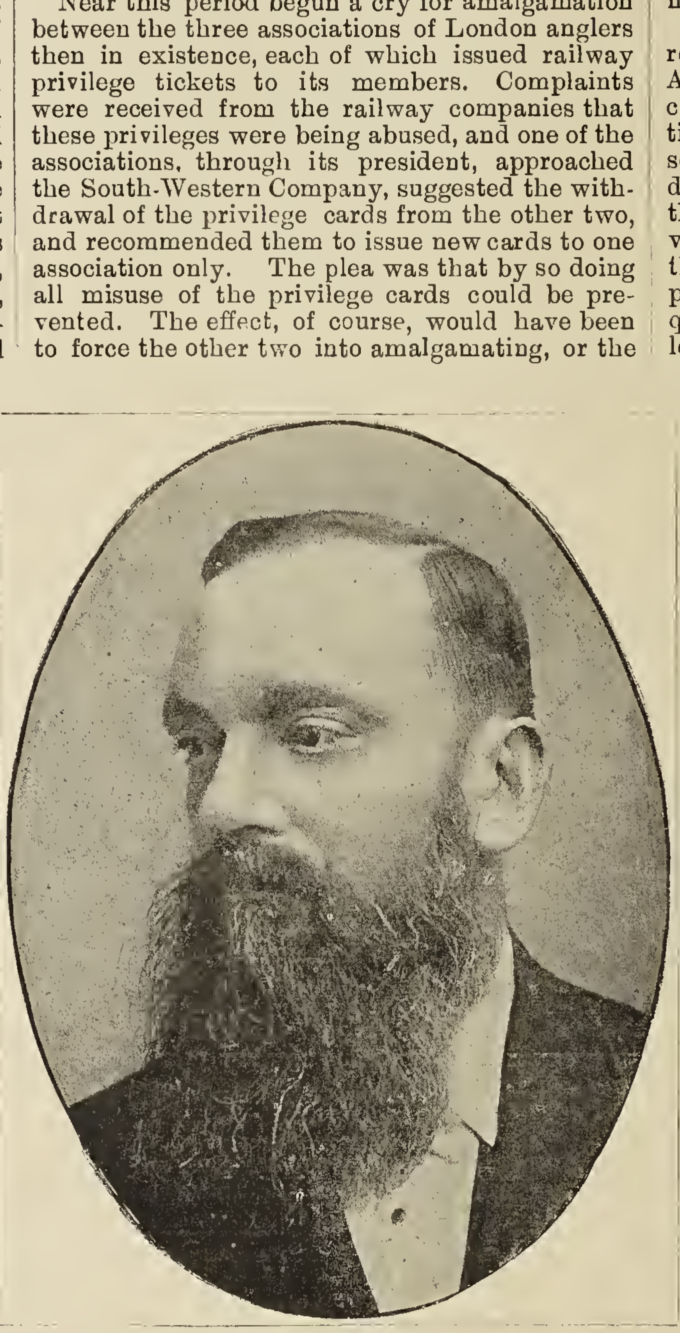
Mr. T. Crumplen, whose portrait appears in this week's *Fishing Gazette*, has so long been a prominent figure in the London angling world, that a brief sketch of his career, together with his views on what may be termed angling politics, so far as I have been able to gather them, cannot fail to be of interest to the many thousands of metropolitan readers of this paper.

Mr. Crumplen is a Londoner, and was born in the Strand in June, 1840. His father was a native of Hampshire, and passionately fond of angling, in fact he was, I believe, a member of a London club, the members of which respected him so much that they had his portrait painted and hung in their meeting-room. This occurred in the early part of the present century. He died in 1847, and rests, at his own request, in the ancient burial-ground of the Savoy, within sight of the river he loved so well. Mr. Crumplen's earliest recollections are associated with angling, and one of his first playthings, so he tells me, was an old brass winch, to which he took a particular fancy, and which had doubtless played an important part in the capture of fish in its time. It is not surprising, then, that Mr. Crumplen should have made fishing the recreation of his youth, or that later on in life he should have taken so warm an interest in anglers and angling clubs. The bent of his mind was towards scientific pursuits at one time, and for some years he was an ardent student of astronomy, and made many observations of a useful character, which have appeared in the annual reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science; besides which many articles from his pen have seen the light in sundry periodicals and magazines. He was lecturing upon "Luminous Meteors," so long back as 1863, and his papers were so far appreciated, that they secured him the friendship of some of the most distinguished men of the day. He recalls with a feeling of pride how the late Rev. Prebendary Humphrey, one of the most eminent scholars of his time, voluntarily gave him an introduction to Mr. Gladstone, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, which, but for the threatened breakdown of his health, would have resulted in his definitely adopting a scientific career. He has, however, succeeded in the profession he has since followed, although he has still a hankering after his earlier pursuits. Many well-known medical men are, and have been, numbered among his circle of friends, but to none does he express so deep a debt of gratitude as to the late Dr. R. B. Painter (F.R.C.S., Exam.) for many hours passed in his company, wherein the wonders of the heavens and earth were mutually discussed.

Mr. Crumplen had been working among angling clubs for several years before he became so generally known by the founding of the Gresham Angling Society, which was mainly the result of his efforts. He presided at its first meeting, in March, 1881; was chairman at its inaugural dinner in June, 1881; became its first secretary, and read the first paper before it in October of the same year. In the two following years Lord George Hamilton, M.P., and Mr. Alderman Cotton, M.P., respectively took the chair at the society's banquets, then held at the Holborn Restaurant, and Mr. Crumplen's name was in each case coupled with the toast of the evening. Many of the leading representatives in the piscatorial world attended these banquets, and on the latter occasion Professor Brown-Goode and other commissioners from the United States to the Great International Fisheries Exhibition honoured the society with their presence. Correspondence poured in from various parts of the world, to say nothing of the work entailed by the ordinary affairs of the society, which put itself forward as a model one in the best sense of the word.

The thought and labour the secretaryship entailed upon Mr. Crumplen has been hardly appreciated by any except his immediate friends, who know and saw the work he did. The Greshamites of that day, at any rate, appreciated his efforts, and he was presented with a very handsome silver claret jug and two silver cups (the jug being a fac-simile of one discovered on one of the vessels of the Spanish Armada), as a mark of their respect and esteem. He was about the same time unanimously selected, in conjunction with Mr. T. R. Sachs, of the Piscatorial Society, to represent the interests of London anglers on the committee of the International Fisheries Exhibition of 1883, which he soon found no easy task, but, thanks to the hearty co-operation of Mr. Sachs, and the tact and zeal of Sir Edward Birkbeck, M.P., chairman of the executive, the difficulties that at first cropped up were removed, and a grand display of the treasures of the London clubs resulted.

Near this period begun a cry for amalgamation between the three associations of London anglers then in existence, each of which issued railway privilege tickets to its members. Complaints were received from the railway companies that these privileges were being abused, and one of the associations, through its president, approached the South-Western Company, suggested the withdrawal of the privilege cards from the other two, and recommended them to issue new cards to one association only. The plea was that by so doing all misuse of the privilege cards could be prevented. The effect, of course, would have been to force the other two into amalgamating, or the members would lose the privilege of travelling on the South-Western line at the reduced rates. The Great Western Railway Company were approached in the same manner, but refused to comply with the request. The South-Western assented, and it was then that Mr. Crumplen took up the cause of the Central Association with vigour that has never abated, and a spirit that has never flagged. Whatever difference of opinion may exist about the necessity for the *two* associations at present managing the affairs of London anglers (and I certainly differ with the subject of my article upon some points), nothing but admiration can be expressed for Mr. Crumplen having so consistently "stuck to his text." He was warmly supported by Mr. F. C. Hatfield, Mr. J. A. Fitch, Mr. J. C. Murray, and other gentlemen. The East Central joined hands, and a joint deputation, in which Mr. R. Ghurney, its secretary, and others took part, impressed again upon the company the injustice of the proceeding; but the company would not yield, and within a very little time, by pre-arrangement, the three associations held several consultations. Ultimately, the East Central Amalgamated with the West Central, as I described in my notice of the Anglers' Association, which appeared in these columns some eighteen months ago.



MR. T. CRUMPLEN
(Of the Piscatorial Society).

Mr. Crumplen, who had hitherto advocated amalgamation, now rallied the Central in opposing this scheme, and his association, determined to live an independent life, refusing, a they asserted, "to barter away their existenc even for a privilege ticket." Mr. Crumplen tell me they are as strong as ever in their determination to oppose amalgamation, even under th present improved circumstances. They are doin good work, and are rapidly increasing in numbers

The South-Western Company, who had alway worked well with the anglers, ultimately gave th Central their privileges again, and have certainl no reason to regret having done so.

This question chiefly led to Mr. Crumplen' retirement from the Gresham Angling Societ Among the papers read at that society was on called "An Angler's Parliament," to the publication of which he was strongly opposed. He himself having gone much among the anglers, wa decidedly in favour of some better organisatio than then existed, and was doing his best at tha very time to bring it about. The publication o that well-intentioned but (from Mr. Crumplen' point of view) disastrous paper hurried on th question, and, in Mr. Crumplen's opinion, clearl led up to the Waterloo visit. I believe the following passages, written at the time, would sti embody Mr. Crumplen's views, but his feelin is that, *at present*, the two associations do, an can, if they are so disposed, work best apart and that nothing is to be gained by stirring u further strife. Writing in July, 1884, Mr Crumplen says:

"What we want, if we have one associatio is a good one, not the mere stringing togethe of three weak ones, but an infusion of new me and new blood. There are a score of men wh could with dignity preside over such an institution, but the opportunity has never bee afforded them, and there are services they coul render in such a capacity which we shall a present have to do without. . . . Thi unfortunate *forcing* of amalgamation has don incalculable harm, for amalgamation of higher type and nobler character, which wa looming in the near future, has now been mad almost an impossibility. Day by day th anglers of London were uniting more closel their Benevolent Society and Fisheries' Societ were common to all, and they had agreed tha their railway privileges should be placed almos on a similar footing. Against the breaking u of this feeling of unity by the introduction of movement known to be largely objected to, th Central has made a bold and successful stan It has regained the railway concessions, it ha never knowingly misused them, and will probably soon obtain more. It has cheapened thei cost. Its members have aided many a goo work. They have contributed to river preservation, and were the first to help (after th other associations had refused) in the defenc of the rights of anglers on the Norfolk Broads Their members carried the banner of "Thame Rights" in a recent Lord Mayor's Sho (good old banner that!—E. S. S.) and fro their headquarters emanated the largest petition in favour of inquiry into the subject b the House of Commons. . . . Why, the should they be *compelled* to join another association, and unite, as they are virtually told the *must*, from necessity rather than from choice They have every privilege the new associatio has, and may yet possess more. Whatever thei numbers may have been in the past, or whateve their weakness, they are getting stronger daily and will doubtless in time form the nucleus of good and powerful institution, worthy the nam of the 'Central Association.'"

Mr. Crumplen's forecast was so far correct tha the Central Association has in the interval treble its number of members, and done much usefu work.

Mr. Crumplen has taken great interest in th question of the right of the public to fish with ro and line from recognised foot-paths, or from boat in the navigable parts of English rivers, an some three years since he became hon. sec. o "The Anglers' Rights Protection Committee," o which Mr. R. S. Fennings, hon. treasurer of th Piscatorial Society, was the chairman; and Mr Crumplen received the thanks of the Sheffiel anglers, and other provincial bodies, for th exertions then made. Mr. Crumplen—who rea a capital paper upon this subject before th

Balloon Society, Colonel C. E. Howard Vincent, C.B., M.P., presiding—thinks the right of the public will never be settled satisfactorily without an Act of Parliament, which whilst reasonably safeguarding any well-defined riparian claims, shall open to the angler the public parts of streams and rivers subject only to such regulations as may be requisite to insure order and proper preservation. He thinks a bill of that kind, properly drafted, the only remedy for the litigation and claims constantly set up; and that such a bill would meet with a large measure of support from both sides of the House is quite certain.

With regard to the present system of prizes adopted by so many clubs, he is no supporter of it, but at the same time does not see his way to suggest its *abolition*. He agrees with me that a good medal or diploma given by the clubs or associations would be more to be coveted, less expensive, and more appropriate than the many money prizes now offered. My extract from his Gresham paper, in my article upon "The Renting and Preservation of Fisheries for Club Anglers," shows him a firm advocate of river preservation, and I can hardly do better than quote here another sentence from this paper on "Fish and Fish Life," read before the Piscatorial Society last year :—

"It is greatly to be regretted," he says, "that the majority of club anglers (with few exceptions) take little interest in fish culture, and not sufficiently aid the work of river preservation. The aim of some of them is to see *how many* fish they can take from a river, without giving a thought as to how the supply is to be kept up, as if for every sizeable fish they catch another was spontaneously created to supply its place. Let us hope that, with more knowledge, better ideas will prevail and that *gross weight* competitions in the form sanctioned by some angling clubs may soon become a thing of the past—the work of Nature will go on in time to come as it has done in time past; but man by obeying her laws or disregarding them, may do much to aid or mar its progress.

As an active member of the committee of the T.A.P.S. he, in common with others, is continually urging anglers to subscribe to its funds. Mr. Crumplen joined others in appeals to the anglers to increase their standard at a time when he tells me the cry was more needful and less popular than now, and with the growing desire of anglers as a body to become truer sportsmen he has no fear for the future of our rivers if they are judiciously re-stocked, properly preserved, and fished in a sportsmanlike manner.

If Mr. Crumplen is not with me exactly on some questions, I know he is anxious to aid everything that has a tendency to elevate working men anglers, and whether it be by a good angling song, or the reading of a paper, he is always its supporter. He wrote an angling song for the Gresham inaugural dinner, and he has added a couple of verses to Walton's Angling Song. One of his papers on "A Visit to Izaak Walton," an angler's dream, has been warmly received. Another on "Pulborough and its Surroundings," has also proved popular. Of the many papers he has written two have been read before the Piscatorial Society, of which Mr. Crumplen has been for some years a member, and he has promised them a third in January, 1892, the subject of which is to be the "Story of the Thames." I very frequently have occasion to chat with Mr. Crumplen, and while holding strong views upon angling matters, I have invariably found him to be straightforward and fair in his statements, and a careful listener to "the other side of the question."

SOME NOTES ON THE BEDFORDSHIRE OUSE.

By an Old Hand.

(Concluded from page 288.)

Hemingford Pool and Mill.—It was a magnificent day; one of the very few glorious days we experienced through the singularly boisterous, wet, dull, dreary summer, and the only fine day during my stay, that, as I passed round the mill to the second weir, I saw a lady sketching in the shade of the willow tree, by the old dilapidated lock, and I had not been fishing very long before another lady rowed athwart the lasher of the weir, and dexterously turning her boat she rowed along with such ease and skill, and her attitudes were so perfect, that I instinctively ceased looking at my rod-top to watch the graceful precision of her every movement. The boat shot along the sunlight surface of the broad and spreading pool, past the bent and bowing bulrushes, swaying in the wind; the pollard willows dotting the left bank; the streak of back-water; and so across to the opposite side, past the overhanging trees, waving their graceful branches in the breeze, until the boat, with its fair and slim occupant, passed from view. An incident, you will say, simple in itself, but so thoroughly in keeping with the pool and its surroundings, and imparting such life and animation to the scene, that I make no apology for relating it. Presently a train coming along at express speed literally flew over the viaduct below. Professor Ruskin may detest seeing a lady on a tricycle as much as he does a railroad generally, but I must confess that it is under such circumstances as these that I like to listen to the deep rumbling of an approaching train, until it comes sweeping past in all the grandeur of its mighty strength, for a moment drowning the sound of the splashing seething water, until, like the noise of distant thunder, it gradually dies away in solemn and peculiar tones, a pleasing contrast to the ceaseless music of the fall; and I cannot help thinking that William of Malmesbury had the charming upland beyond the bridge in his eye when, as far back as the year 1204, he said :—

"The fens were a very paradise, and seemed a heaven for the delight and beauty thereof, in the very marshes bearing good trees, which for tallness also without kusts strived to reach up to the stars; in short, out of slough and bogs accursed they made a garden of pleasure." Substitute woodland splendours glowing in the sun for "A garden of pleasure," and in this case, at all events, he would not have been far wrong. Again, to the angler more especially, what a fascination there is about these mysterious old structures. The windows white with floury accumulations; some of the more protected portions looking like the down on an unfledged bird, and the thatched roofs of the outbuildings necessary to them, covered with moss looking like the dust of gold in the soft light of the setting sun; but once past the whitened door, what a hive of industry the interior presents. What a humming; what a rattling of chains; what a crunching and grinding; what a whirr of wheels; what a flitting to and fro; what a grappling, wheeling, and struggling with sacks; what a pouring down into the innumerable shoots; what a rumbling on the floors above; what a bawling below.

It is after passing out of such a building into the pure fresh air, that the music of the rushing waters sounds so sweetly and the scenery is so delightful; when the landscape is continually changing its aspect, and—

What about the fishing?
What about the fishing?

Destruction of Fish.—Roach Swims.—From time immemorial the devil destruction has been roaming through the land, busy slaughtering baby fish. Thousands of money and other prizes have been won at a fearful cost of fish life. I once sat on the bank of a well-known river opposite thirty or forty of these so-called anglers: when, in the course of one Saturday afternoon, over one thousand fish were caught, and the slaughter of innocents must have been tremendous.

A large number of both club and unattached anglers seem to imagine that the supply of fish is inexhaustible, but this is a woful mistake, and unless something is done to stop this wholesale destruction of small and utterly useless fish (more especially in some rivers) the work of depletion will be accomplished. This devil was present on this occasion, and it was most irritating to hear one of these destructive gentlemen grumbling and growling about the scarcity of good roach, with twelve or fifteen "scripers" lying dead and dying at his feet. Roach may generally be taken in the quiet water between the two weirs, using a good, long, light, bamboo rod, keeping well out of sight, and baiting with paste, gentles, or wheat. Try all three, for roach sometimes prefer one bait to the others. Even when fishing in the river above the Mill the native I was with had a rod at least twenty-one feet in length. He sat as still as death, sneaked his bait in the most careful manner, and there being no dearth of swims he did not stop too long in one place. The water was so clear we could see numbers of rudd between the Mill and the "Six Gates," near the surface, apparently on the look-out for flies. There are some rare harbours for pike and capital haunts for chub in various parts of this splendid pool, live-baiting for the former, and fly-fishing for the latter. *Re* best baits see previous remarks; also see report in *F. G.* for November 14, of two good pike taken in this district. Legering may be carried on in the fast water below the weir nearest to the lock, and there are occasions when splendid bream may be caught. I advise the use of as fine tackle as possible, because the water is usually so clear. Standing at the head of the pool and looking down-stream, there is a lovely backwater to the left, at the lower end, running across the meadows to another grand pool, into which the water dashes through what is locally called the "Six Gates." This pool may be compared to a huge basin, around which the water flows like an eddy, and *looks* a splendid harbour for jack, perch, chub, &c.; for there is nothing to prevent the fish from coming up this charming overflow from the main stream, or for the matter of that the pool at Hemingford.

The water in this backwater is rather deep in places; quiet, and contains some swims delightfully situated. There is such a forest of bulrushes, &c, near the outlet of the pool into the backwater, that it is difficult to see any portion of the latter when standing near the river by the flood-gates. I may just mention that there are some capital roach swims in the main stream on either side of the gates, and a little distance higher up the river is Badcock's Island, where good fishing may sometimes be obtained. From the island to Huntingdon is only a few miles distant. An immense number of eels have been taken in Hemingford Pool in one night; on one memorable occasion I believe the take weighed a ton. I was talking to an angler this week, who has been fishing much in foreign lands, who told me he has caught splendid chub in this water with the Black and Red Palmers.

Native Anglers.—There are several good anglers residing at Hemingford, and a stranger may often save himself time, trouble, and expense (taking a boat to an unlikely place, for instance), by a timely appeal to these knowing customers, whose addresses may nearly always be obtained at the inns, or failing them, the Post-office. London anglers think it worth their while to employ them, and this fact alone should be a sufficient recommendation. So much depends upon the state of the water, proper ground-baiting, swims, &c.; and these anglers being on the spot, as a rule, know where the fish are likely to be found; in short, it is to their interest to provide good sport for their customers.

Navigation, Locks, &c.—There are various rumours afloat; but supposing that the Eastern Counties Navigation Company thought of making the river navigable, say, between Earith and St. Ives, it appears to me that the chief obstacle would be the expense of cutting or dredging a channel through Swavesey and Holywell shallows, and I should think that 4ft. or 5ft. of water at most would be sufficient for the traffic. There is a great fall in the river between Bedford and Lynn, and if the locks were done away with, such a proceeding would drain all the water from Bedford. There are only four locks between Cambridge and Lynn, and the fall is about 25ft. The fourth lock is Denver, where the tide on certain occasions rises as much as 20ft.; and if the locks were removed, navigation would be impossible.

I may be mistaken, but I do not think such a work will injure the fishing to the extent some seem to imagine. The locks are intended to dam or hold up the water for traffic of barges. The water above St. Ives Locks is over 12ft., probably 14ft. higher than it is below, and the fish may to a certain extent be said to be boxed in in sections, the locks and staunches being the boundaries; for I cannot possibly see how coarse fish can work up the Hundred Foot or Bedford Level from Denver, through Over, and St. Ives Locks to Hemingford, and the fall here is very considerable. I have heard of trout (salmon, I suppose) being seen attempting to jump the fall at Over, but never accomplishing the feat. The water from St. Ives to Over Locks is rather flat, and the stream is consequently slow when at its normal height, but as far as I can recollect, even the fall at Over is 9ft. or 10ft.

Bream.—An old Ouse angler, and one to whom I am greatly indebted for many useful hints and much valuable information, says: "My own idea respecting bream is that they are not a migratory fish, as some people think, for I firmly believe that they take a fancy to a certain stretch of water and *stick to it.*" They will pass up and down this water frequently, perhaps during the day and night, but I have never seen them attempt to pass anything like a shallow, and I have frequently seen an example of this at Swavesey gravel.

"I have seen a shoal of bream working up from Over Locks past the Ferry, up to the very edge of the gravelly shallow, and immediately return back to their 'hover' in the deep water just above the locks. Another large shoal of bream can often be seen at Ducker's Hole; these will work up to Holywell shallows and back again in a similar way.

"Within half a mile of Brandon Creek they are often seen, and here again I must assert my opinion that they work up from the deep water between Hilgay railway bridge and Denver Sluice, where the water is 6ft. to 10ft. in depth, and a gravelly bottom."

Proof.—"Bream in this district are seldom seen or caught on a muddy bottom (they will pass over it in search of food), and the old bream fishermen about here always fish over a gravelly bottom, and this is why so few bream are seen in the Old West, &c.; the bottom is generally muddy." I quite agree, and this is another reason why night fishing for bream is more successful than day fishing. Bream are very shy, swim so near and sport so much on the surface that in the daytime it is next to impossible to keep out of sight enough to catch them; more especially in a gin-fine water, and to leger for them in many places is impossible.

Visitors should not forget to call at that angler's paradise, the Pike and Eel, Over Ferry, Cambs., one of the most charming spots on the river. See previous remarks *re* the fishing. Boats can be hired here; good accommodation; charges very moderate; fairly good pike fishing all through the winter. Address, Mrs. Hemmington, Pike and Eel, Overcote Ferry, near Swavesey, Cambs.

Waltoniana

Surely this is one of the most rainy years ever known. To those fond of winter fishing the weather is most exasperating, for no sooner is one flood on the point of subsiding and the water getting into good condition, than a fresh downpour comes and upsets everything. What can we poor flooded-out anglers do? Well, nothing much to our tastes, unless it be to mend our tackle and devise fresh contrivances for taking fish. Those who can tie flies need never be in want of amusement during the long evenings, and those who fly fish, but who know nothing of the fly-tyers' art, may with advantage to themselves make at any rate an attempt to construct such a combination of fur and feather as will lure a trout or salmon to his doom. There are several books which give full instruction in fly-making; but, besides a study of one of these, I would recommend a beginner to carefully take a good-sized fly to pieces, and notice exactly the order in which the different parts were put on. Of course all flies are not tied in the same way, and some thought is often required to see which portions are best put on before others. The beginner cannot perhaps do better than make his first attempt with a good-sized lake trout fly. It is by no means difficult to tie.

Another diversion for the winter evenings is looking over the bindings of fishing rods, pike tackle, &c. Many will be found to require re-tying, and all will be none the worse for a coat of varnish. Good coachmakers' varnish is the best, but at this time of year something that will dry quickly is required; and for bindings there is nothing better than shellac dissolved in spirits of wine. As to quantities, half fill a bottle with powdered shellac, and fill up with spirits of wine. The shellac takes some days to dissolve. This varnish should on no account be put on any binding which is not quite dry, and it should be put to set in a dry warm place.

Did any angler ever take a jack with a live-bait adorned with a piece of weed? I never have; possibly because I am always particular to keep my bait free from such adornments; but I have never heard of anyone who has. If a piece of weed will keep a pike from taking a bait, we can well understand how it is that a live-bait—one side of which is decorated with a couple of triangles—is not taken as often as it might be. Everyone who has pike-fished much must have, at times, felt certain that pike have come and inspected the bait and gone away without taking it. The bait may have been working quietly for a long time, when suddenly it makes most frantic efforts to get away, and one is on the *qui vive*, expecting a run every moment. Of course, a pike may not have been near, but everyone attributes these antics of the bait to the presence of a pike, and I imagine everyone is right. What I am coming to is that it seems reasonable to say that we should make our tackle for pike as invisible as possible.

With regard to the line between the bait and the float, we all know to what extent invisibility can be carried, and that the line has to be drawn at single gut; I will not say salmon gut, as for ordinary pike-fishing something less stout will usually suffice. But, with regard to the hooks and gimp, which are attached to the bait, as it may be presumed that the pike inspects the bait more than anything else, it seems reasonable to say that on the tackle close to the bait should be lavished our ingenuity. The great point seems to me to be the advisability of making this portion of the tackle resemble the bait in colour as much as possible. For that reason bronzed or japanned hooks are most objectionable for pike-fishing. On the silvery side of roach or dace, they show out almost black, and are most conspicuous. Silver-plated hooks would, I imagine, be best of all, but no doubt bright steel would be a very good substitute. Then we are told to stain all our gimp, but stained gimp, like the hooks, shows out boldly on the side of the bait. For the portion of the tackle touching the bait I would, therefore, recommend the silver gimp of commerce. These remarks apply as much to spinning as to live-bait tackle.

I have no doubt some readers of the *Gazette*, whose lines are laid in pleasant places, where jack are easily caught will say that I am far too particular, but the jack that I have been acquainted with of late years are also far too particular; and we anglers have to consult the peculiarities of the fish in matters of detail, or we should not catch much. Thames jack are getting almost as highly educated as Thames trout. How wonderfully dark those jack at Henley kept themselves! Few people suspected that the river was really well stocked with those fish, but now, after a flood, when the jack are ravening and the water is coloured, such immense takes are made as to prove beyond question that the river in that district is really well stocked with jack. Why they have not been caught before is simply because anglers have been less clever than the fish.

I always expected that, when anyone who really understood fishing with bait went to Houghton, some really remarkable takes of fish would be made. Numbers of big fish, both trout and grayling, lie in the hatch-holes where bait fishing is allowed; and in the matter of worms and minnows they are as unsophisticated as they are cunning in all that pertains to fly-fishing. Still, Mr. Walbran's take, reported last week, was a great one, and will rejoice the heart of many north country anglers. Were there not so many grayling in the Test, I would suggest to the club that they might with advantage employ a skilful London bottom-fisher to catch the fish in the hatch-holes for the purpose of returning to the river, or at least so many of them as might be worth returning, for the largest of the trout would perhaps be best knocked on the head.

Templar.

Notes and Queries

The Connon Salmon Hatcheries.—New Departure.—These were erected about a year ago, under the supervision of Mr. J. McNicol, consulting piscicultural engineer, Tain. As an experiment, Mr. McNicol substituted perforated zinc instead of glass grills. Over the zinc a thin layer of gravel was placed, on which the ova might rest without coming in contact with the zinc, the water rising through the perforations from below. The method has turned out a complete success, under the careful management of Mr. Nisbet, Inspector of the Connon District Board. Out of 100,000 salmon ova from the Tweed, which was deposited last season, 95,000 fry was turned into the Connon during the summer from the nursing ponds, the whole loss being estimated at not more than five per cent. The success of the Connon experiments has given an impetus to artificial hatching, which it is earnestly hoped will be promoted on every hand.—*G. M. M.*

Spawning Salmon "Cruelly Gaffed."—Clever Capture of Poachers in the Isle of Man.—At a special Court, on Thursday week, before his Worship the High-Bailiff of Douglas, three men, named John Corrin, Thomas Cain, and Edward Collister, were brought up under the Salmon and Fishery Act, charged with salmon poaching. In consequence of information received on the morning of the 12th, Mr. Caley, the inspector, proceeded to Port-e-Chee river, but found the birds had flown. Persevering, however, in his search, he found them coming over Pulrose Bridge, and, after a severe struggle, captured one of them, the others making off in the direction of Douglas. In the pocket of the poacher was found a large salmon, evidently just about to spawn, and which had been cruelly gaffed. Conclusive evidence was given by Mr. Peter Cadman and Mr. Caley, the inspector, against the defendants, and his Worship, in fining them each £5, or in default two months' imprisonment, commented severely on this cruelty, and regretted that it was not in his power to order them to be flogged as well. The prisoners were removed to the Isle of Man Gaol the same day. Mr. Boyd conducted the prosecution, on behalf of the Fishery Board. We are glad to see that some effort is being made by the public to assist the inspector in his sometimes difficult and dangerous duty, and we congratulate the Fishery Board on their evident determination to put a stop to the scandalous poaching which has prevailed in our rivers. The salmon, which was utterly unfit for human food, was brought into Court, and ordered to be at once destroyed.

Pike in Scotland.—"There are no pike nor coarse fish of any kind in Caithness, and if I am rightly informed there are none in Sutherlandshire either, but in the adjoining county of Ross pike are to be found, and in almost every county south of Ross. The only fish met with in the two former counties are salmon, brown trout, sea trout, eels, a few char, and *Salmo ferox*, the latter in Sutherlandshire only. I never heard of a *ferox* being caught in any loch in Caithness, but there are a few char in some of its lochs. Can anyone give a correct reason why pike never found their way into Sutherland or Caithness lochs or streams, and how they got introduced to the neighbouring counties? Not that I have any desire to see them here, as they are destructive to salmon, &c., but I ask from curiosity only."—*A. H.*

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

An enthusiastic meeting of the above society took place on the evening of the 18th November, at the Mona Hotel, Covent Garden, being the seventy-eighth birthday of their senior member, Mr. T. R. Sachs. Congratulatory speeches were delivered by Mr. R. S. Fennings, honorary treasurer, Messrs. Foreman, Adlington, and Crumplen, and the health of the chairman, Mr. T. R. Sachs, was most cordially drunk. The chairman replied and gave a short sketch of his angling life, which was received with much applause.

A smoking concert will take place at the hotel on Wednesday evening, November 25, at 8.30 o'clock. The programme, Part 1, contains nine instrumental and vocal melodies; Part 2, eight ditto. All anglers are welcome and their friends also.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear Best quality only —East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

OTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

HE Belmont Society, which have lately been forced to nove from the Fox and Dogs Inn, Princess-street, rough a misunderstanding with the host, held a special neral meeting on Tuesday evening last at the Brunswick otel, Lancaster-street, for the purpose of taking into con- eration the position of the club, and also, if possible, cide upon a place convenient to the members to hold the ure meetings of the society at. The meeting was well ended, and was presided over by Mr. Chambers, who plained the nature of the business to be transacted. Mr. Currie, the secretary, read the correspondence received, d pointed out to the members that he was unable to call muster-roll on account of the books being detained by . Robinson, of the Fox and Dogs, but he, the secretary, d the minute-book, and he proceeded to read the minutes the last meeting held on Nov. 3. The chief portion of minutes related to the removal of the society. This atter was taken first, when, after a little discussion, it s unanimously decided to ask the committee of the rmingham Angling Association to allow them to make Brunswick Hotel the meeting-house of the club. The cond portion of the minutes dealt with the re-stocking of oseley New Pool, which is rented by the club. In speak- to this part of the minutes, the secretary informed the embers that he had been in correspondence with a gentle- an who had a large pool, and the gentleman intended ving all the coarse fish netted out of it, and to stock it th trout, and he (the secretary) had been offered the fish five shillings per gross. The report of the secretary, gether with the minutes relating to the re-stocking, was cepted, and it was further decided to expend the sum of in re-stocking the water. The trustees and auditors, gether with the chief officers, were appointed to visit the st of the old club-house for the purpose of obtaining ssession of the properties of the society. It will be seen the minutes passed at this meeting that the Belmont ciety, which is only a working-man's club, is composed the right sort of anglers. The whole of the funds are voted to the renting and re-stocking of their waters, hich are at Moseley, near Birmingham, and a portion of e river Avon at Bidford. This year the club has expended ar upon £30 in re-stocking their water and other improve- ents for the comfort and benefit of the members; and, as small club, the greatest praise is due to the members for e manner in which they go in for re-stocking their water d also setting an example which some of the greater d richer clubs would do well to follow. I hope the society ll prosper in its new quarters, and meet with the success at it richly deserves.

THE recent heavy rains that have passed over the idlands has, in some parts, put all kinds of angling com- etely out of order. The Trent, in the neighbourhood of rewas is, in some places, over the meadows, and owing the great amount of rain we have had of late the ground so saturated that it will take a longer time than usual r the water to settle down to its proper level, but I am eased to say, as these notes leave me, that the weather s changed for the better, and the barometer is rising pidly, and if the rain keeps off, the river will be all right the time these notes appear in print. The roach will be orth trying after, and will be found in the deep water. ike fishing should be good as soon as the water goes own. Some few have been taken during the past week om some of the backwaters, but none of any size worth entioning. Previous to the heavy rains some good pike ere taken at Yoxall, and some decent catches of roach, ith the gentles. No grayling have been taken lately, and e best bait on this river, as soon as the water gets right ain, will be the small red worm, as the roach in this ver are very partial to this kind of bait during the winter onths.

ON the Severn matters have been rather dull, and othing worth recording has been done by any of the irmingham anglers. Some of the Kidderminster men ave been trying for chub with the blood and brains, but ery little has been done with this favourite bait, and I on't expect it will be any good until we have had a sharp ost or two, then we shall hear of some large takes with is bait, as it is the bait that the majority of Severn chub shermen only use and swear by.

ON the Avon the water is reported to be getting into ondition again, and as soon as the water gets down again should advise the anglers who frequent this river to go for pike fishing, as there is a large quantity just now, pecially in the waters rented by the Birmingham clubs. revious to the recent rains some very decent fish were aken, but nothing over about 7lb. The roach are quiet; ut as soon as the river begins to fall some good sport ught to be had with these fish, as the rise and fall of the iver is about the only time for successful roach fishing in he Avon.

A MATCH between Mr. G. Garrett, of the Deritend lub, and Mr. H. Saunders, of the Hilly Fields Society, was shed on Saturday last in the canal at Tamworth. The onditions of the contest was only roach to count; the ime for fishing was two hours. The Deritend man had atters all his own way from start to finish, and won by our fish. The stake was for a purse of gold, subscribed to y the members of the clubs to which the contestants elonged.

I AM pleased to inform my readers that Mr. T. Coles, the resident of the Provincial and Birmingham Associations, nd Mr. R. Wingfield, the vice-president of the Provincial ssociation, have been appointed by the Worcestershire ounty Council to serve on the Severn Board of Con- ervators for the ensuing year of 1892.

FISHING from pier and rock in the Macduff harbour and icinity has been greatly enjoyed during the past week. he rough weather drove fish in shoals in-shore, and the vater in the harbour was swarming. A few tried the fly vith fair success, but over a hundred rods that used nussel bait had extraordinary takes of saithe and codling. or an hour or two's fishing the catch ranged from one ozen to three. Dredging the harbour with nets in the ark, and when the tide was ebb, was of late quite of ommon occurrence at this season of the year. Those who vere engaged made a fine thing of it, the yield having to e taken home in large baskets used for measuring errings when landed from the boats in the fishing season. Ve understand that the practice, in future, is to be put a top to, and those found transgressing will be prosecuted.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

THE lecture delivered by the Rev. C. P. Roberts, on "My Experiences in Fishing Loch Awe," to the members of the Northern Anglers' Association, in the City Rooms, 16, Cannon-street, Manchester, on Nov. 12, was a complete success. The room was comfortably filled, the attendance being a great improvement on the initial lecture of a few months ago. The rev. lecturer at once secured the sympathetic attention of his audience by declaring that all social distinctions disappeared in an assembly of anglers, and the pleasure it afforded him in being amongst those who represented every class of fishing, from the modest canal fisherman to the followers of what he considered the king of sport—viz., salmon fishing. Loch Awe has received regular attention from the lecturer for about thirty years, and after so long an acquaintance, it is no wonder that sufficient recollections existed to form subject matter for description to keep his hearers interested and attentive to the last minute. Mr. Roberts possesses a wonderful delivery, and his racy anecdotal style is very pleasing and instructive. Like many other anglers of note, he has the courage of his opinions in respect to tackle, and the manner in which he persevered against the opinion of the natives with what has come to be known as Roberts's Yellow-fly, and his success with the same was not the least interesting item of the evening. The capture of a salmon between two perch, on a fine trout cast, is an item worthy the notice of every reader of the *F. G.* The fish took the first dropper, a March Brown, and immediately made for the bottom of the loch; here the point-fly and second dropper were seized by the perch, and after two hours of exciting sport, all three fish were landed. The specimens on view during the lecture were much admired. Mr. R. Burn presided, and amongst the audience were Dr. Simpson, Messrs. R. Ramsbottom, J. Statter, J. Broadbent, J. Seed, J. Peacok, J. Johnson, and many noted anglers from Rochdale, Oldham, Bolton, and other surrounding towns. Cordial votes of thanks were accorded to the lecturer and chairman. The next lecture will be in January, 1892, on "Norway, and its Fishing," when lantern views will be requisitioned.

THE Manchester Anglers' Association held a meeting at the Grand Hotel, on November 17. The members had received an urgent whip to be present. After tea a general and interesting discussion took place on the question of introducing grayling into trout streams. An exhaustive and enjoyable consideration of the question resulted, and no doubt the different views expressed by those taking part in the discussion will give additional interest to this prominent question.

THE petition to the various railway companies has received many signatures and it now remains to be seen whether the united effort of the Northern Anglers has made any impression at headquarters. The amount of traffic behind the scheme both in passengers and goods should have the desired effect.

THE Wellington Club held a smoking concert a few days since of a most successful character. The Duke of Cambridge Club held their annual meeting on the 14th inst. Judging from the list of vocalists to hand a most harmonious evening was spent. We should have liked a list of the new officers, and perhaps the same may be forthcoming when the "Cornbrook Bait Can," containing valuable assets of the club, is again heard of. The New Islington Angling Society is passing through another phase of its career. Formed to give membership to total abstainers only, the results have not been satisfactory and it is to be at once reconstituted on a different basis. The Heaton Norris Society is a really good society, and although of only some few years of age it has a goodly roll-call, and is financially strong. In the coming year many valuable prizes will be offered for competition. The Hulme Crown held an ordinary meeting on the 16th. The greater part of the business on hand was purely club affairs, but the future of the amalgamation received careful consideration.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

OWING to the rain and wind of last Wednesday, all our rivers have been so thick that both pike and bottom-fishing have been out of the question during the past week. On some of the private broads some pike fishing has been done, but not with any degree of success. A friend and myself were out last Thursday on private water, which we expected to find in good condition, but it was so coloured that despite natural and artificial, live and dead bait fishing, all we succeeded in taking were two small pike, under 4lb. each.

ON the Yare a few rods have been out, only in two instances with success. On Saturday, at Rockland, one boat had three pike, and on Monday, at Brundall, one boat took two about 4lb. each.

ON the Bure more success has attended the few anglers out on this river. On Tuesday one boat had twelve pike at Wroxham. Last Thursday two stone of good roach were taken at St. Benet's Abbey, near Horning.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

PIKE fishing has received a check. No sooner were my Notes written last week than the Trent began to rise, and on Saturday the river was running fully six feet above the usual height of summer. Since then the water has fluctuated considerably, and angling pursuits have been anything but enjoyable. Still, the winter contingents have not remained idle, for on Monday several gentlemen journeyed to Weston, where it was found the water was in fairly good condition. Frequently it happens that the river is much finer above Nottingham than below. Anglers commencing operations at Shardlow, and working upwards to Weston and so on, miss the important tributaries of the Erewash, the Soar, and the Derwent. The first-named finds its outflow at Barton, the second named immediately below Trent Lock, and the last-named a short distance above Sawley Weir. The Dove empties itself into the Trent opposite Newton Solney, above Willington Bridge, and so affects the subscribers to the Willington, Foremark and Weston Fisheries, but as the Dove is naturally a very fast-running river, the water is sometimes up and down in a day. Well, as regards the doings in Mr. T. Wood's subscription length on Monday, Mr. J. Theaker and Mr. P. Wilson, of Nottingham, both secured substantial bags of roach with the maggot; and above King's Mills Weirs good sport was met with by Mr. E. Harrington, of Radford, and myself. Some Derby and Melbourne anglers were out near Weston Cliff, but their takes did not transpire. Three or four Nottingham gentlemen visited the Colwick and Holme Pierrepont reaches below Nottingham, for the purpose of giving the pike a trial in the back eddies, but they might just as well have remained at home, for the water was of the colour of a clay pit, and totally opposed to a pike seeing a bait. I always regard pikeing in a thick water as so much waste of time, but there are ardent fishermen, especially beginners who had tasted "blood," who will not be denied. Last week, before the new order of things meteorological occurred, Mr. T. Wood killed five splendid pike at Weston. The heaviest fish weighed 9½lb., and there were two of about 7lb. each. Previously, in a take of four, the same gentleman had one of 11lb. odd As soon as the river settles down, coarse fish anglers should certainly be up and doing in earnest, for roach, dace, perch and bream ought to bite readily, not to say greedily.

I LEARN that, after a lengthened correspondence, the executive of the Nottingham Shoulder of Mutton Angling Association have succeeded in securing for the benefit of members of the society a capital piece of fishing water on the Trent, between Trent Lock and Sawley Iron Bridge. The water is in the right of the Hon G. E. Curzon, M.P., and is well stocked with coarse fish generally. Roach and bream predominate, and in the first field (there are four fields) above the ferry on the south side of the river ought, when the water is coloured, to afford an abundance of sport. The roach run unusually large, and at times bream up to 4lb. each are taken. There is perhaps a scarcity of barbel, but the runs below the Iron Bridge ought to yield a decent quantity of chub and dace, not to say pike, for the capture of which the trolling bait should be used. The society is now firmly established in the town, and I wish the members every success in their new venture. On the 9th they held a sort of inaugural day, and enjoyed themselves—that is, the members—immensely.

Apropos of the owner of the fishery, I might mention that during the week Her Majesty the Queen has approved of his appointment as Under-Secretary of State for India, in place of Sir John Gorst, Q.C., M.P. Mr. Curzon has travelled a great deal in India, Russia, and Persia, and is a most able man.

A PETITION against the proposed imposition of a tax on the rods of coarse fish anglers by the Trent Fishery Board. lies for signature in certain of the meeting rooms of our local societies. There can be little doubt that if the Board impose the tax they will give an equivalent for it. A paid water bailiff is greatly required in our district, and if, after the tax comes into operation, the Board do not give us one, there is sure to be a loud outcry against their policy. The Trent in the summer season teems with anglers, both old and young, and I pity the poor collector who is called upon to collect their subscriptions. I am afraid he would be given what the sporting prophets call "The Miller." According to the working of the present Acts coarse fish are not recognised, or rather projected. In public waters the "skull-dragger," or "snatcher," is at liberty to ply his vicious tackle *ad libitum*, and it is to protect the fish—coarse fish, I mean—that the Board are now striving to obtain a special legal enactment. Towards this end Mr. Henry Bromley, one of our local Conservators, has formulated a resolution, which has already met with the approval of the Board. It is impossible, however, to say when it will become operative through the action of the Legislature. Special Acts of Parliament are not obtained every day, and experience tells us only too plainly they are a long and often tedious process. But we must hope for the best, and trust that, until the Act is got, the Conservators will not seek to impose a tax.

HOW easily a friend may be led into hot-water—I mean angling hot-water. The other day friend J. asked friend T. to join him in a day's pike fishing, having received the necessary permit from a son of the owner of the fishery. T. killed a very good pike, and was delighted, for it was about the first he had ever landed. Friend J. told me of the capture, and of course I mentioned it in my ordinary report. The owner read the report, and has since written T. to the effect that, having seen it published, he should much like to know by *whose authority* he was angling in his waters, of which explanations have followed, and the case, I am happy to say, will not engage the attention of a police-court.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

THERE has been a great deal of real old November weather of late, but even the risks of rheumatism and lumbago have not altered pike fishers from taking advantage of the favourable condition of the water A large number have been on the war-path, and the slaughter has been fairly great. Messrs. Craddock, Tench, and company have had some good days in the neighbourhood of Uffington, and some good sport has been obtained at the mouth of Sundorne brook.

A RATHER amusing incident is related in reference to the pike fishing at Uffington. Last week Mr. Craddock had some grand sport at the mouth of the brook, and in two days took sixteen and ten fish. His success was duly recorded in the *F. G.* and other angling papers, and the result was that on Monday there were eight or ten pike fishermen endeavouring to emulate Mr. Craddock at this favoured spot. But, alas! for human hopes, they toiled all day and caught nothing, nay, they had not even a run; and now nothing will convince them that such wonderful catches were made a day or two before.

OPERATIONS at the hatchery of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society have of necessity been somewhat slow of late, but the hatching season will soon be upon us, and matters will, we are promised, assume a different prospect. Trout hatching will, says Mr. J. Williams, the hon. sec. of the society, be carried on with renewed vigour, and, it is hoped with more increased success. It is intended, too, to introduce some grayling fry to the hatchery, and there is no reason why this should not have a satisfactory result. The great drawback is still the comparatively small supply of water to be obtained, but under the present conditions it is impossible to increase it. The trout in the breeding ponds thrive wonderfully well, and are all in a healthy condition. It is hoped that a goodly supply of spawn will be obtained from these in the spring.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

"NOTHING doing" has been the consolatory cry from the Yorkshire streams during the past few days, and, indeed, I am sorry to say, will be re-echoed for some time longer unless circumstances change very soon. Rain has fallen in large quantities, and the rivers are now, and have been, bank-full, rendering fishing of anything like sport attached to it practically *nil*. However, we are having one or two touches of frost, which, should the streams soon run down, would materially improve grayling angling, especially with the worm. Pike fishing has been of late resorted to very considerably by anglers who must be "up and doing," and find it no easy matter to lay by their rod for a time. One or two jack have been captured in the Foss, but nothing above ordinary weight has been landed.

THE clubs in this district are now, for the most part, settling down for the coming winter. Several are holding their annual meetings, and that of the Harrogate Association, which took place on Thursday evening, the 12th inst., showed that a successful year's work had been done. The report presented gave evidence of the interest displayed in the art of angling by the members, some of the records being more than usually good. After the officers for the coming year had been elected, considerable discussion took place on the proposed prospectus for the ensuing season. Mr. G. F. Milner (president) occupied the chair.

NOTES FROM TYRONE.

THE storms of last week, which did so much mischief in England and Scotland, were scarcely felt in Ulster, except immediately around the coasts. Inland no harm was done, and the only result was the rains, which have fallen intermittently since, and which have raised all the rivers.

THE Ballinderry is high in flood, and some excellent runs of salmon have come up from South Neagh; and the same remark also applies to the Blackwater. Report speaks well on the favourableness of the spawning season in the Strule, Mourne, Castlederg, Broughderg, and Finn rivers. All of these are fairly preserved, and in addition to the staff of bailiffs, the local constabulary are detailed to watch the spawning beds, and otherwise assist the bailiffs if necessary.

THE other night a fresh filled a small stream that runs from Stewartstown Lake to Lough Neagh, and in this time of the year, during floods, the eels run down in the darkness to the large lake. A local poacher ("Johnnie") got a cobble-net, and set it in a convenient point in the stream, and was making great hauls, when the runs stopped, and he discovered that a brother chip ("Paddy") had also set a net above him, and was taking all the eels. Mad at being outwitted, Johnnie lifted his net, and crept upstream, but, to his great disappointment, could not get a suitable place to re-set it in. However, not to be done, Johnnie gathered huge wisps of weeds, &c., and set them floating down-stream, completely plugging up poor Paddy's net. Paddy ultimately had to give up his netting in disgust; nor yet has he found out what was the cause of all the "—— stuff" entering and filling up his cobble. It is needless to say that after Paddy's departure the 'cute Johnnie re-set his net, and had fine tackes till daylight.

COARSE fishing on the lakes, Eskeragh, Roan, Carnteel, Farlough, &c., has been interfered with by the heavy rains rendering the banks swampy and therefore unpleasant for shore angling. Pike are taking fairly, but perch are decidedly off, except in Stewartstown Pond and Coalisland Canal, where an odd half-a-dozen brace are occasionally taken by local anglers. This species of sport is rising in popularity (though slowly) which, no doubt, is due to the increasing scarcity in the rivers of the nobler game—salmon and trout.

AT the village of Moy—celebrated for its horse fair—there is a small lake which contains perch and pike. The country people around it allege that the fish in it are unwholesome and even poisonous, from the fact that the water of the lake is stagnant, there being neither inlet or outlet. One stout old farmer assured me that the smell of the fish during the process of cooking "wud stink the divil out of his den." Be that as it may, a line is never met in Moy Lake.

CLUB FIXTURES.

Nov. 23.—Paper at Causton, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City, by E. S. Shrubsole. Subject: "Fly Fishing for Chub and Dace." Chairman, W. H. Beckett.—Central Association visit to Anchor and Hope, Canal-bridge, Old Kent-road.

Nov. 24.—Important Meeting of Liverpool East End Friendly, 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool.—Anglers' Association, Southern District visit to Bermondsey Brothers, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—Supper at Crown and Buckland, Middlesex Arms, 34, Clerkenwell-green.

Nov. 25.—Supper at Walham Green and Fulham, Stamford Arms, Fulham-road.

Nov. 26.—Paper at New Albion, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road, by J. Tayler. Subject: "The Humane Angler." Chairman, W. F. Grimmett.

Nov. 29.—A. A. Eldridge's Competition at Pulborough.

Nov. 30.—Paper by G. H. Howard, at St. John's, Skinners' Arms, Coburg-street, Clerkenwell. Subject: "An Amateur's Experiences." Chairman, H. J. Tibbatts.—Anglers' Association Eastern District No. 2 visit same place and evening.

Dec. 1.—Paper by E. S. Shrubsole, at Good Intent, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch. Chairman, H. J. Tibbatts.

Dec. 2.—Smoking Concert at Hounsfield Otters, in aid of Anglers' Benevolent Society, King's Head, Lower Edmonton.

Dec. 7.—Paper by G. E. Simms, at Epsom, Wellington, High-street, Epsom. Chairman, E. S. Shrubsole.

Dec. 10.—Lecture upon "Two Yorkshire Rivers," by F. M. Walbran, illustrated with one hundred dissolving views. Distribution of prizes in connection with the Anglers' Benevolent Competition at Rye House same evening, at the Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell. Chairman, R. B. Marston, Esq.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association.—The delegates met at Foresters' Hall on Monday last, the 16th inst., at 8.30 p.m., Mr. W. H. Beckett, the vice-president, occupied the chair. The minutes of the last delegate meeting, held on the 19th ult., were first read and confirmed, then the minutes of the last general committee meeting, held on the 2nd inst., and the especial general committee on the 9th, were also read by the secretary. Mr. R. Murphy, chairman of the renting and preservation committee, then read the minutes of his committee, and trusted that the members forming it would turn up in greater force. Several letters from various railway companies were read, from which it appeared that the Great Eastern Railway Company could not make the 7.28 p.m., from Ely to Liverpool-street and St. Pancras, available for anglers holding cheap tickets, but they have kindly consented to include Lower Edmonton in the list of stations from which privilege tickets can be obtained between Ponders End, Buntingford, Ware, and Shelford. It appeared that some difficulty has arisen with regard to the number of rods that might be used in the various fisheries of the society, notwithstanding that notice boards have been fixed at said fisheries some time ago, prohibiting the use of more than two rods by any member, but omitting to state that only one rod could be used for any one description of fish, thus each member can use one rod for jack fishing and one for roach, but he must not use them both for jack or roach, otherwise the second rod is merely the subterfuge for a trimmer. Mr. F. Vallis, of 1, Myrtle Villas, William-street, Slough, a member of the Uxbridge Rovers, was duly appointed honorary bailiff for the society's waters at Slough. Mr. Sims, of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs, announced that this society had decided to award a bronze medal to any angler who would read a paper under the auspices of this society before an angling club, also that Mr. Walbran will deliver his lecture at Foresters' Hall, on December 10. The visiting officers then gave their reports. Mr. Manning visited the Stepney Angling Society, last Wednesday, where, notwithstanding the great storm, six clubs sent representatives and filled the room. Mr. Armstrong visited the Battersea Friendly Angling Society, when seven clubs were represented. His next visit is to be at the Bermondsey Brothers, the Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey, on the 24th inst.; Mr. Thorling visited the North London, where nineteen clubs were represented, the room being packed; Mr. Genning had attended the Allason United, where thirteen clubs sent delegates, and upon opening the Anglers' Benevolent box, found 24s., also at the Alison Piscatorials, where twelve clubs were represented, the Anglers' Benevolent box yielded nine shillings. The roll was called at 9.45 p.m., when it was found that delegates from fifty-four clubs were present. The meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the chairman.—HON. REPORTER.

Anglers' Association. — VISITING LIST, EASTERN DISTRICT NO. 2.—The next return visit on the above list will take place at the St. John's A.S., held at the Skinners Arms, Coburg-street, Clerkenwell, on Monday, November the 30th, when Mr. Howard will read a paper under the auspices of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers among Angling Clubs (the title of the paper must be nameless at present). After the paper there will be a smoking concert, and a great number of talented anglers and friends have promised to attend. A cordial invitation is extended to all, and I hope to see a bumper. Mr. W. H. Beckett, vice-president Anglers' Association, will take the chair.—F. THORLING, visiting officer.

Anglers' Association.—SOUTHERN DISTRICT VISITING LIST.—The next visit on the above list will take place on Tuesday next, the 24th inst., at the Bermondsey Brothers A.S., Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey. As this club has been represented at every visit on both lists for the past six years, I hope all brother anglers will rally round and give them a bumper.—G. W. ARMSTRONG, district officer.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of £1 1s. from the Cobden Angling Society; 10s. 6d. from J. Cuthbert, Odds and Evens Angling Society. Donations: South London Angling Society, £1 4s.; Alison Piscatorials, from their donation boxes, 9s.; and £1 15s. 8d. collected at the Rye House Competition on the 15th inst. The next meeting of the committee will take place on Friday evening, Nov. 27, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY.

THE LONDON UNITED ANGLERS' SOCIETIES' FOURTH ANNUAL ANGLING COMPETITION, in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—On Friday, the 13th inst., the usual meeting took place, when prizes were received from Mr. G. Wood, Good Intent; Mr. Sowerbutt, Marylebone; North London, Royal Small Arms, Hoxton Brothers, Mr. Levett, Sociable Brothers; and Mr. Farebrother. On the 15th inst., two hundred and sixty-four competed for forty-four prizes. Forty-six weighed in fish as follows: G. Jolling, Edmonton and Tottenham, 2lb. 4½oz.; Bird, Waggoners, 2lb. 2½oz.; G. Wood, Hoxton Brothers, 2lb. 2oz.; J. Row, Hoxton Brothers, 1lb. 12¼oz.; E. Dewen, South Belgravia, 13¾oz.; J. Huntley, Hoxton Brothers, 12¾oz.: W. Gordon, Wellington, 12½oz.; W. Bees, Anglers' Pride, 9¾oz.; J. Adkins, Edmonton and Tottenham, 9¾oz.; Meniear, Penge, 8¾oz.; G. Stevens, Sociable Brothers, 8½oz.; R. Brockett, Original Alexandria, 8¼oz.; H. Killick, Dalston, 7¾oz.; Staines, Mildmay, 7¾oz.; Twomer, Prince of Wales, 7¼oz.; Snooks, Good Intent, 7¼oz.; C. Richardson, Dalston, 7¼oz.; G. Rodgers, Crown and Buckland, 7oz.; R. Spenceley, Sociable Brothers, 6¾oz.; W. Clark, Crown and Buckland, 6¼oz.; G. Overett, Original Alexandria, 6¼oz.; A. Barclay, Royal Oak, 5¾oz.; Good, Waltonians, 5½oz.; J. Suthill, Havelock, 5¼oz.; W. Stevens, West Ham, 5¼oz.; Russell, Hearts of Oak, 5¼oz.; Barnes, Wellington, 5oz.; Scultz, Hoxton Brothers, 5oz.; Rider, Hearts of Oak, 4½oz.; T. Harrison, Odds and Evens, 4½oz.; Marks, Sociable Brothers, 4¼oz.; H. Day, Edmonton and Tottenham, 4¼oz.; Brink, Hearts of Oak, 4oz.; A. Petty, Waggoners, 4oz.; Harris, Prince Arthur, 4oz.; E. Pleydell, Sociable Brothers, 3¾oz.; E. Billings, North Western, 3½oz.; J. Carter, Burdett, 3½oz.; H. Dodge, Waltonians, 3½oz.; A. Freeman, Dalston, 3¼oz.; Howel, Buxton Brothers, 3oz.; P. Jucha, Convivial, 3oz.; Hearts, Hearts of Oak, 3oz.; A. Millett, Duke of Norfolk, 2¾oz.; H. Wade, Tottenham and Edmonton, 2¼oz.; E. H. Clark, Golden Barbel, 2¼oz. Gentlemen and secretaries will oblige by sending in their prizes as soon as possible, at the Foresters' Hall, E.C., care of hall-keeper. The distribution will take place on December 10, 1891, a full list of prizes will be published as soon as possible.—S. MALBY, secretary.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge Street, Notting Hill-gate, W.—Several members were out on the 15th inst., but owing to the weather cock forgetting to turn the water off met with poor sport. Members will note that there are three prizes to be fished for on the 22nd inst.; two rods; jack, eels, and pope barred. All members must meet next Wednesday for important business; hoping members will show up at nine p.m. sharp.—B. ABRAHAMS, hon. sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—Several of our members fished in the Rye House competition on the 15th inst., but were unsuccessful. It is proposed we fish for a series of prizes in the river Wey, the match to take place on Dec. 5.—W. H. POTTER, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 15th inst. several of our members were out fishing for prizes at Windsor, but owing to the floods very poor shows were the result, the prizes being taken by the following members: Mr. J. Nunn, jun., first, with roach and dace; Mr. Ricks, second, with roach; Mr. Dyer, third, with roach; and Mr. Looseby, fourth, with roach.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—Owing to the flooded state of the Thames, the fixing of punt competition was postponed until Tuesday next, when all members are requested to attend. The Christmas prizes will be fished on Dec. 13. Mr. J. W. Hopkins weighed in a nice show of roach on the 15th from the Thames.—GEO. MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—Several of our members took part in the Anglers' Benevolent Competition on the 15th, but none of them were successful. A few nice roach were weighed in by Messrs. H. Patman, J. Smith, and J. Warman on same date. On the 22nd the members fish a competition for the November series of prizes, place and conditions to be decided at the meeting on the 20th. On Tuesday, the 24th, a visit on the Anglers' Association List, Southern District, will be paid to the society, when a most hearty welcome will be given to any brother anglers that can make it convenient to pay us a visit.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—On the 15th inst., some of our members were out, and brought in some good shows of fish. Mr. J. Barker, some very fine dace; Mr. Rouzilier, ditto; Mr. F. Barker and Mr. Farmer, roach and dace; several others also weighed in. On the 29th we fish a match at Sunbury. Train leaves Waterloo at eight o'clock. I hope to see a good show of members on this occasion. Mr. Holden has been elected a working member of this society. The date of the reading by Mr. Crumplen I will give next week.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—The next return visit on the Clerkenwell United Visiting List will take place at the above on Monday, December 7.—D. WARREN.

Bostonian Angling Society.—Our return visit will take place on Monday next, the 23rd inst., when all brother anglers will be welcomed. Messrs. Halsell, Clark, and Brown, have had roach during the past week.—J. H.

Brothers Well Met Angling Society, Berkeley Castle, Rahare-street, Goswell-road.—On the 15th inst. some of our members competed for our daily prize, which was won by Mr. A. Field, with 11lb. 15½oz. of roach; Mr. W. Alderton second, with 9lb. 2oz. of roach; Mr. W. Harris third, with 2lb. 7oz. roach. On Thursday evening, Nov. 26, we are giving a smoking concert at the above house, for the benefit of the widow of the late Mr. Sutcliff, a well-known London angler. On which occasion I should like to see as many friends as possible.—HY. TAME, sec.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—Since my last report the following weighed in: Messrs. J. Mearring, Tucker, Watkins, roach; Messrs. Tucker and Wilson, jack; Mr. Watkins, chub; Messrs. Tucker, Hawkes, and Watkins, dace; and Mr. Tucker, bream. On the 10th inst. we had a very good meeting for the benefit of "Old Buff," one of our members, for which we beg to return our thanks to those clubs who were represented, or took tickets. Any club or gentleman still having tickets out, please give in returns at your earliest convenience, so that we may close the account. On Tuesday next, Nov. 24, we hold a special meeting to arrange for our Christmas prizes. Will our members please show up in force, as time is now short? There will also be laid before the meeting a question of allowing a member to use one or two rods when out fishing. As this will affect all members in the future, I should advise all who possibly can to be present, so that we may have the matter thrashed out, as it has caused a great deal of friction amongst some members of late.—T. HAWKES, secretary.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—We had a few jack on the 15th inst.: Mr. D. Flint had one jack, 3lb. 11oz.; Mr. Gurney also had a small jack, 2lb. 5¾lb.; Mr. Carter, perch, 3lb. 0½oz.—J. PETHER.

Caledonian Angling Society.—The members of this society have been well to the front lately with some good shows of roach from the Thames, the secretary leading the way with 14lb. 11oz.; Messrs. Mills and Knock 6lb. each, besides smaller catches by Messrs. M. George, Rooke, &c. On Thursday last a competition for four prizes took place at Bourne End, resulting as follows: Mr. A. George, first; Mr. A. Knock, second; Mr. W. R. Turner, third; and Mr. M. George, fourth. We fish on Saturday, the 21st inst., at Hertford, for two prizes.—A. GEORGE.

Cambridge Friendly Angling Society, Mason's Arms, Titchborne-street, Edgware-road, W.—Owing to the condition of the water, our pegged-down is further postponed. A member recently weighed in a fine show of roach from the Thames—13lb. 2oz.—W. R. MORRIS, sec. *pro tem.*

Campbell United Angling Society, Sir Colin Campbell, High-road, Kilburn.—Since my last report, several members have weighed in, Messrs. J. Tanner, Hiscock, Colman, Smith, Sheppord, and Pickett being the most successful. Members will please take notice that the prizes left from last match will be added to the December outing. At our last meeting we were presented with a handsome set of fish trays by our esteemed member, Mr. G. Last. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded him for his kindness.—E. W. WOOD, hon. sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City.—Under the auspices of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers Among Angling Clubs, Mr. Edgar S. Shrubsole will, on Monday, the 23rd inst., at 8.30, read his paper, "Fly-fishing for Chub and Dace." Mr. W. H. Beckett (Good Intent) will preside on that occasion, ad any brother rod who may favour the Causton with a visit will receive a very hearty welcome.—John Smith, hon. sec.

Central Visiting List.—The next return visit on this list is to the Anchor and Hope Angling Society, held at the William the Fourth, Canal-bridge, Old Kent-road, S.E. on Monday next, 23rd inst. Anglers and friends will be cordially welcomed on this occasion.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—On the 15th inst., we fished a friendly competition for a supper, between Penton Hook and Chertsey, which ended very satisfactorily, notwithstanding the state of the river, which was very much swollen. Members are requested to attend on meeting nights in full force, as we have a good number of Christmas prizes to fish for.—A. Trowbridge, sec.

Clapton Angling Society, Wayland Hotel, Dalston-lane.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Monday last, Mr. G. Colls in the chair. A very handsome jack, weighing 12¾lb., was exhibited by Mr. Colls, having been captured by him last Saturday at King's Weir. He also captured, on the same day, the smallest jack that he ever landed—viz., one of about 2oz., which was lipped while endeavouring to swallow a bait larger than itself.

Clerkenwell and District United.—A successful visit on the above list was paid to the Islington Brothers on Monday evening, Mr. Stretch, jun., in the chair, faced by Mr. Stretch, sen., the following societies being represented: Great Northern Brothers, Lincoln, St. John's, Convivial, St. Andrew's, Crown and Buckland, City of London, Independent Brothers, Seymour Brothers, Eustonians, Amicable Waltonians, Funny Folks, Islington Brothers, Bloomsbury Brothers, Alma, Burton Piscatorials, North London, Camden, Bostonians, Piscatorials, Bermondsey Brothers, and Patriotic, being a total of twenty-three. The next visit will be to the Bloomsbury Brothers, another good visiting club, held at the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury. The angling competition in connection with the above will come off on February 7, 1892, from the Great Western Railway bridge at Windsor, to Bray Lock. The tickets will be ready next month.—F. Castell, hon. sec.

Cliftonville Angling Society, Cliftonville Hotel, Alderton-road, South Bermondsey.—We were saved a blank on the 15th by Mr. Lewin weighing in some roach from Ware. We fish a roving-match at Ware on the 22nd. All members are requested to show up on Wednesday. We had some good roach and dace from the Thames, caught by Mr. C. Morgan and Mr. J. Snow, one fish going 1¼lb.—P. Gardner, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—Several of our members took part in the competition at Rye House, on the 15th inst., but were unsuccessful. We had a nice show of roach weighed in by Mr. G. Percival from the Thames, weight 7lb.; B. Colman, dace.—A. Smith, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 15th inst. several of our members competed at Rye House, Messrs. Killick, C. Richardson, and A. Freeman, were successful. On the 22nd inst. we fish a boundary match at Windsor, from Clewer Lock to Surley Hall, members to go down by the nine and 9.20 from Paddington.—S. Malby, sec.

Earlsfield Angling Society, Half-way House, Earlsfield, S.W.—The members of this society have decided to hold their next outing from Molesey Weir to the Surbiton Swimming Baths, two rods, all fish to weigh; Middlesex side only. Train, 8.40 from Earlsfield. I am very glad to say that some of our members have been having some sport lately, notably Mr. Biederman, junr. I wish to remind all members that the time of meeting is 8.30 on Wednesday evenings, and I hope that members will turn up a little earlier than usual.—R. W. Bird, hon. sec.

Eclipse Angling Society, Ledbury Arms, 40, Ledbury-road, Bayswater.—Our annual Christmas outing will take place at Windsor on the 22nd inst.—F. Reynolds, sec.

Eustonian Angling Society, King's Head, Swinton-street, King's Cross.—On the 15th inst. several of our members fished at Rye House for the A.B. competition, but we had no sport; still the Brothers Pitt saved us a blank with a handsome show of roach and perch, not one perch weighed less then 8½oz.—R. Neall, sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 1, Goswell-road.—On the 15th inst. we had a few roach weighed in by Mr. Biggs and Vanhegan. Mr. A. A. Eldridge's competition will take place at Pulborough, on the 29th, special train from London Bridge eight o'clock. All members are requested to attend on Thursday next.—J. W. Biggs, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—A smoking concert will take place at the above club on Tuesday next, 24th inst., in aid of the A.B. fund, when I expect to see a large muster of members and friends present, as our splendid case of nine roach weighing 5lb. 1oz. will have arrived back from Mr. Gibson, the naturalist, and will be in the club-room. On the 15th inst., we were saved from a blank by a few roach taken by myself and the old veteran. I am sorry to have to mention the death of our old and esteemed member, Mr. S. Snow.—A. Payne, sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road, W.—On the 15th instant, the following weighed in: Mr. Monk, dace, gudgeon, and a nice barbel of 3lb. 2oz.; Mr. Roach, gudgeon; Mr. Jones, 11lb. of roach; Mr. De Perrion, a nice jack of 3lb.; Mr. Chapman, a show of barbel and dace; Mr. Green, roach and gudgeon; Mr. Bryant, dace and roach. I hope to see many members present on Tuesday next, as we have very important business to bring forward. Members who have not joined our Christmas sweepstake, to take place on Dec. 6, from Bolter's Lock to Cookham Ferry, will oblige by doing so as soon as possible. The prize list, which is exceptionally large and substantial, can be seen at the club-room. Entries up till the 24th inst.—A. Stokes.

Good Intent Angling Society, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch.—Mr. J. Lyte brought in a nice show of roach on the 15th inst. Mr. Parker also brought in roach: Mr. Snook and Mr. Wade was successful in the competition at Rye House. Mr. E. S. Shrubsole has kindly consented to give a lecture at our club house, on Tuesday, Dec. 1, when he will exhibit his large collection of fishing baskets, creels, and bags, &c. I hope all members will be present on the occasion, and members from other clubs will be welcome to attend. Mr. H. J. Tibbatts will preside. Chair taken at 8.30 sharp. I trust all members will show up next Tuesday. to decide for having another outing for prizes before Christmas.—R. Murphy.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—On the 15th instant the members of the above club were out, when Mr. J. Grande weighed 2lb. of dace and roach, saving the club a blank for the second time this season.—G. F. Weaver, sec.

Great Yarmouth Piscatorials.—The annual dinner of the society was held on Tuesday evening last, the Mayor (Mr. F. Burton) presiding, Mr. C. G. Baker occupying the vice-chair. Nearly fifty were present, our host catering in splendid style. The Foulsham challenge cup was presented to the winner, Mr. R. Scarborough; and prizes for specimens to Messrs. W. Johnson, W. Platt, A. C. Vaughan, and M. A. Simpson. The dinner was a great success, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.—Wm. Kirby, hon. sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The Gresham Society had their first smoking concert of the season last Tuesday, which was presided over by Dr. Brunton. A varied programme of vocal and instrumental music was got through, and afforded great enjoyment to a full meeting, among which were many visitors. A new member was elected and another proposed. On Tuesday next, the 24th, Dr. Brunton will read a paper, when members of other societies will be welcomed.—James Tayler, sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 15th inst. several of our members were at the competition in aid of the A.B.S., and I am pleased to state that some were successful—viz., Messrs. Brink, Russell, Hart, and Rider, the first three also taking prizes that had not been won in the previous pegged-down, it being arranged to allow the members to win them if possible under the same conditions as the competition.—W. Fenner, sec.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—On the 15th inst. we had a fine show of roach and dace from the Cam, by Mr. Rutherford, and Mr. Shaw. I shall be pleased if some members will kindly give me their support for the smoking concert that is in contemplation, of which due notice will be given.—J. T. Griffiths, sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—Eight of our members fished in the Rye House competition on the 15th inst., four winning prizes: G. H. Wood, third; J. Row, fourth; J. Huntley, sixth; and P. Schulze, all with perch.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—At our last meeting, Mr. G. Bigsby was made a working member of our society. On the 15th inst., the brothers Morgan weighed in roach and gudgeon.—Snap.

Islington Angling Society, Jubilee House, Hornsey-rise, N.—We had a microscopical evening on Monday last. Several highly interesting subjects were exhibited by Mr. C. S. Bently. The meeting terminated at a late hour, after a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Bently. The next meeting will be held on November 30.—C. Downing, hon. sec.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—The following weighed in on the 15th inst.: Mr. Croker, roach, 7lb. 6oz.; Mr. Willsher, roach, 5lb. 5¼oz.; Mr. Holder, roach, dace, and gudgeon, 2lb. 9½oz. Several of our members fished in the match at Rye House, but resulted in a blank. Our return visit on C. U. L. on Monday last was a success, the room being packed. On the roll being called, twenty-three clubs responded, to whom, on behalf of the Islington Brothers, I return my sincere thanks; also that we shall return the compliment. The next visit of the C. U. L. goes to the Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, when I hope they will have a bumper. We have room for a few more members. Our worthy secretary having sprained his foot, was unable to attend on Monday night.—J. H. Herbert.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The half-yearly distribution of special prizes took place on Wednesday last. Mr. C. Hayward occupied the chair, Mr. W. Worcester the vice-chair. To celebrate the event the members and friends had a supper, which was served in a very nice manner by our hostess, Mrs. Rogers. After the cloth was cleared, the president presented the prizes—which were numerous—to the different winners, at the same time, in his usual affable manner, congratulating each upon their success. There were a good number of special prizes given to be competed for during the remainder of the season. After this ceremony the party went in for harmony. Votes of thanks, awarded to the president, vice-president, pianist (Mr. T. Harris), our hostess (Mrs. Rogers), and secretary, brought a very pleasant evening to a close. The members competed for a series of Christmas prizes on the 15th instant, but only one was taken, Mr. G. Bliss being successful; the remainder are to be competed for previous to Christmas Day. Competitors to choose their own fishing waters, but must not leave London before the morning of the competition. There are also a series of special Christmas prizes to be competed for on the five Wednesdays previous to Christmas Day; same condition. Mr. T. W. Garrard weighed in roach on the 15th instant; Mr. H. Butt had roach and perch on the same day.—H. B.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—At our weekly meeting on Friday the members mustered in force. Several had been out with varied success. Messrs. Carter, Turner, Salter and others weighed in. Mr. Cotton had a fine show of chub from private waters, the largest turning the scale at 2¾lb. Members are reminded that the 22nd instant is the pegged-down competition at Sunbury Lock Cutting.—T. Salter, hon. sec.

Leeds Woodhouse Carr Angling Society.—On Tuesday evening, November 18, the members of the above society met together to hear Mr. F. M. Walbran deliver his lecture, "The Four Seasons of Angling." There was a good attendance. Mr. A. Wood occupied the chair. The hon. sec., Mr. G. Hodges, at the close of the lecture, proposed a vote of thanks be given to Mr. Walbran, asking him to accept, as a slight mark of their esteem, a handsome filled cigar case. Mr. Walbran replied, thanking them for the kindly feeling they had displayed towards him, adding that he was at all times ready to render any assistance in advancing the interests of anglers. A vote of thanks to the visitors was proposed by Mr. W. Oliver, and seconded by Mr. Roberts. Mr. A. Williams, of Redditch, responded, saying that it was his first visit to a Leeds angling club, but he hoped that he should come among them on some future occasion, having thoroughly enjoyed the evening. Some excellent selections were given during the course of the lecture by the St. Michael's Glee Party, who kindly volunteered their services.—Geo. Hodges, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 15th inst. several members were out, the following showing some good roach: Messrs. Webster, Watling, and Stanton. Messrs. Belton and White, dace. On Wednesday, the 18th inst., Mr. Moro, a nice of roach, 8lb. Our Christmas outing will take place at Cookham, on December 13, for several good prizes.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association, held at the Bee Hotel, 5, Queen's-square, Liverpool.—There was a very fair attendance of members at our meeting last week. Mr. J. W. Johnson read his promised paper on our "Rented Waters: Are They Worth Keeping on at the Price?" Mr. J. W. Johnson argued they were not, as although much money had been spent on stocking, the return in fish was precarious and disappointing. Eventually the secretary proposed to write a reply paper, and, after considerable discussion, it was agreed to defer further discussion upon the matter until Dec. 10, when the reply paper will be submitted and read. Mr. Johnson promised to prosecute a vigorous campaign in the meantime in the direction of obtaining information as to new waters.—Rd. Woolfall.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 15th inst. our members were at various waters, but, owing to the floods, the sport was very bad, Messrs. Penfold and Milburn being the only members to show up to weigh in, with a few roach and dace.—W. F. Pearce.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road.—Owing to the state of the waters we have not had very grand shows of fish, though our members have been out a great deal. I hope all the members who were not up last week will take notice of the roving competition at Hatfield Peverel on the 29th inst., for several prizes.—J. Comber, sec.

Mitre Brothers Angling Society, Mitre Tavern, Kingsgate-street, Holborn.—The members of the above club, on November 1, weighed in fish—roach and dace—from the Thames. On the 8th inst., Mr. Richardson weighed in roach from Ware; Mr. Ryan, roach and dace from the Thames on the 15th; Mr. Crocker and Mr. Ryan, roach and dace from the Thames. A smoking concert will take place on the 30th inst., at the Turk's Head, East-street, Theobald's-road, for the benefit of Mr. J. Irish, who met with an accident at Elstree. All members and friends are requested to attend.—J. Joliffe, hon. sec.

New Albion Piscatorial Society, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road, London.—Mr. J. Tayler, of the Gresham Society, reads his paper on the "Humane Angler" at this club on Thursday evening next at eight sharp, when the chair will be taken by Mr. W. F. Grimmett. Admission will be by ticket, which can be obtained on application to me at 75, Wells-street, Camberwell, and all anglers will be very welcome. As the paper is a very interesting one, it is to be hoped that Mr. Tayler will be well supported. The reading will be followed by a smoking concert, Mr. E. Ruston Odell at the piano. The first and second prizes at to-day's (Thursday, Nov. 19) outing at Windsor were taken by Messrs. Newbury and Matthews.—A. E. Baldwin, sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland-park, N.W. — Important business was transacted on half-yearly night; Mr. Goodman being elected chairman for the ensuing quarter, Messrs. Billings and Pritchard, auditors. Our forty-eighth half-yearly supper and prize distribution takes place on Thursday, November 26 (Mr. Holman in the chair and Mr. Billings in the vice-chair). Any gentleman who can give us a visit on this occasion will be highly entertained, our worthy hosts Messrs. F. and H. Roper being indefatigable in their efforts to ensure a success. On November 15, Mr. Billings had roach, from Rye House. winning a prize in the Rye House Competition.—G. S.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, Rosemary-road, Peckham.—Our members fished an open match on Nov. 15 for a series of five prizes, but owing to the heavy rains of late the shows were very poor, but four of the prizes were taken. The following were the successful ones: Mr. Kemp, first; Mr. Brancher. second; Mr. Williams, third; Mr. Stidolph, fourth.—E. A. Fautley, secretary.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—On the 15th inst. very few of our members took part in the competition in aid of A. B. S. at Rye House, and I am pleased to record that Mr. Twomey was successful. From other waters: Mr. Porter, roach; Robbins, roach; Hayden, roach; Brett, barbel; Scott, jack; Twomey, perch. There will be a special meeting of the above on Wednesday next to consider outing.—Wm. Bowyer, sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun. Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The visit on the S.L.U.V. List came to the above society on Tuesday, the 17th inst., when a most enjoyable evening was spent. On the roll being called nineteen clubs responded. Our monthly outing takes place at Henley, on the 29th inst.; all to go by the first train, and to return by 5.30 p.m. train. We had some very nice shows of roach weighed in on the 15th inst., as follows: Messrs. E. Pyne, roach; J. Wigley, roach; F. T. Lamberton, roach; T. Lines, roach and dace; P. Martin, roach and dace; F. Lamberton, roach and dace; Mr. J. Davies, weighed in, on Wednesday, evening dace.—F. T. Lamberton, sec.

Rochdale Walton Angling Society. — The annual dinner of the Rochdale Walton Angling Society was held at the Clock Face Hotel, on the 13th inst. Songs were given by Messrs. J. J. Taylor, E. Carter, and W. Taylor. Mr. J. Thomas was the accompanist, and Mr. R. Barnish gave "The Lifeboat' and other recitations in capital style.—A. Stansfield sec.

Royal George Angling Society, Queen's Arms, Bateman-street, Soho-square, W.—Our smoking concert took place on the 11th inst., and proved to be a great success. A vote of thanks was duly given to Mr. Phillips (chairman), and Mr. Gibbons (vice-chairman). Only two members weighed in on the 15th inst.: Mr. Gibbons and Mr. H. Holder, with a nice show of fish from the Upper Thames. I beg to remind members that next Wednesday is quarterly night. Our Christmas outing for prizes will take place on December 6, at Cookham, from Cookham Bridge to Bourne End Bridge; one rod; bank only; jack barred.—F. C. Longland.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Coborn Arms, Coborn-road, Bow, E.—On the 15th inst., several of our members fished in the Rye House competition, but the only member who was fortunate to obtain a prize was Mr. A. Barclay, who came in somewhere at the tail-end. Sport has been very poor with us the last two weeks, but I hope will soon improve. Members will oblige by attending in round numbers on November 24, as there is important business to transact. We fish for four prizes at Roydon on 29th inst., further information can be obtained at the club-house. I beg to remind members that Tuesday, Dec. 1, is quarterly night.—A Barclay, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—On the 15th inst. Mr. Wink was the only member who weighed in, and he had tench. The remaining eight prizes will be fished for on the 22nd inst., roving, between Rye House and Lock at St. Margaret's, go by the 8.2 a.m. train from Liverpool Street Station, and return from St. Margaret's at 7.12 p.m., and not in the Chelmer, as was proposed on the 11th, as the water is not fishable. I trust that the members not present at the club-house, on the 18th inst., will see this and fish for the prizes as proposed and carried this night, the 18th.—J. Wright

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 15th inst., nine members fished for four prizes at Bourne End, with the following result: W. North, first, roach, 3lb. 2oz.; E. Wright, second, roach, 1lb. 10½oz.; S. Lovibond, junr., third, roach, 1lb. 8¾oz.; C. Holmes, fourth, roach, 1lb. 7½oz.; C. Lumby, roach, 1lb. 4¼oz.; J. Petrie, roach and gudgeon, 1lb. 4oz. On Tuesday last we had a fair muster of members present, when some very important business was brought forward, and Mr. Unglec kindly gave us a prize to be fished for (a tobacco-jar). Members are requested to attend, clear the books, or be subjected to rules. Another committee meeting will take place on Monday, November 23 at nine sharp, when all are requested to attend.—S. E. CANE, sec.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—Mr. Fountaine, the president, has captured a specimen perch of 2¼lb., which he intends having set up. He also caught a pike, 8lb. 12oz., and twelve roach, weighing 6lb. 12oz. Several members have been out, but Mr. Holloway only was successful.—C. B.

Silver Trout Angling Society, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.—On the 15th inst., Mr. Mengles had a jack just on 6lb.; Mr. Mason a smaller one; Mr. Smales had about 4½lb. of roach, and Mr. Massey had two going just on 2lb. On Tuesday, Mr. Massey had a splendid dace going 10¾oz., besides roach. Our next outing will take place at Moulsford on Nov. 29. Members will go down on Saturday evening. Further particulars will be announced next week.—PELICAN.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—The members weighing in on the 15th inst., were Mr. Stevens, dace; one scaling 8½oz.; R. Spenceley, perch; Pleydell, perch; M. Marks, perch. At Tedding, on the 22nd, I hope to have the pleasure of meeting all the members. Our return visit will take place on Monday, Nov. 30. —R. SPENCELEY, sec.

South London Angling Society, George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell-road, S.E.—Since last reporting, we have had some capital shows of fish from the Essex, Stour, and Thames, jack and roach predominating. One new member elected at last meeting. We hope to see as many members as possible on Wednesday next for business of some importance.—J. J. F., sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—A visit of the clubs enrolled on the above list was paid to the Rodney A. S. on the 17th, when a most jolly evening was spent. On the roll being called by Mr. J. Wright, vice-president. Mr. J. H. Field, president, I am sorry to say, having to leave (through indisposition). The following nineteen clubs responded: Bermondsey Brothers, Second Surrey, South London, Anchor and Hope, Peckham Bros., Wellington, United Brothers, Anglers' Pride, St. Alban's and Excelsior, Waggoners, Blackfriars, St. George's, Clapham Junction, North Lambeth, St. Thomas's, Cliftonville, City of London, Amicable Waltonians, and Rodney. The next visit will be to the Cliftonville A. S. held at the Cliftonville Tavern, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey, on Tuesday, Dec. 1, when I hope to see every club on the list represented.—A CONN, hon. sec.

St. George's Angling Society, Prince of Wales, St. George's-road, Peckham.—We fish a series of prizes on the 22nd inst., at Staines, members to leave town same morning. Several of our members have had good takes of fish from the Thames. Messrs. Etherington, and Long, weighing in some nice bream and roach.—G. ETHERINGTON, sec.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith.—On the 8th inst., the following members weighed in: Mr. Hare, roach; Mr. Hill, roach; Messrs. Carpenter and Reeves, dace. There was an excellent muster at the meeting on the 10th inst.: one new member was elected and one nominated. During the meeting it was suggested that every member weighing in fish from the Thames should pay a sum of not less than one farthing per pound, for every pound or part of a pound of such fish, the same to be placed in a box provided by the T.A.P.S. This was suggested by the chairman, Mr. J. Harwood, and was carried unanimously on being put to the meeting.—H. REEVES, sec.

Sussex Piscatorial Society, Arch 104, King's-road, Brighton.—At the usual weekly meeting of the above society, held on the 11th inst., the hon. sec. Mr. Wm. F. Booth, read a very interesting and instructive paper, on the "Fresh Water Aquaria." The paper was listened to and thoroughly appreciated by those present. The hon. sec. in the course of his remarks alluded to the large tank at the Brighton Aquarium, which the directors have placed at the disposal of the society, and which at the present time contains some fine specimens, all of which have been caught by the members, including tench, carp, roach, perch, rudd, bream and pike. The society will find these fish invaluable for stocking purposes. Members wishing to see the large pike (17½lb.), which was caught by Mr. Fry, will probably have the opportunity at next meeting, as it is expected back from the taxidermists shortly.—W. C. F. GILLMAN, assist.-hon. sec.

United Brothers, Deptford.—Several members of the above were out on the 15th inst., with the following result: Mr. R. Lawes, roach; W. Windred, roach; F. Drage, dace. The members of the above have a jack and perch match fixed for the 22nd inst. in the Medway, but owing to the weather I think it would be better to fix a later date for the said match.—H. TYLER, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—Only a few of our members fished in the match at Rye House, on the 15th inst., and two of them got prizes. Mr. Bird, sen., took second prize; and Mr. Petty, a prize. I wish to remind members that an important meeting will take place on Tuesday next, when I hope to see all present.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—On Wednesday last we had a good muster, Mr. W. J. Crisp in the chair. Result of competition was declared as follows: Mr. H. Lees, first with roach; Mr. Risden, second with roach. It was proposed that Mr. Prolaine should be secretary *pro tem* during the illness of Mr. C. Hibble, who we hope will soon recover and be among us again.—R. BAILEY.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 15th inst., Mr. G. Herbert weighed in a nice show of roach; Mr. G. Boyd, bream and perch; Mr. Field, perch and roach; Mr. Gordon, roach; Mr. F. Barnes, roach: Mr. Martin, roach. On Wednesday last, Mr. W. Palmer and Mr. W. Warde were proposed as members. Ballot to take place on Wednesday next.—R. J. DARTNALL, sec.

Wellington Angling Society.—The members of this society held their first smoking concert, on Wednesday evening, the 11th inst., at their headquarters, Wellington Inn, Mosten-lane, Blackley, Manchester. Mr. J. Hay (president) took the chair. The meeting on the whole seemed to be a very enjoyable one, and we hope to have another soon.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—On the 15th inst. the following members weighed in: Messrs. Heir, jack; Anderson, jack; Parslow, roach; and Blyth, roach. I hope all members will attend on next meeting night for to arrange about the Christmas competition; there will be upwards of twenty prizes. Member's friends may compete, tickets two shillings each. Full particulars next week.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 15th inst. and the following weighed in: Mr. C. Wadsworth, jack, 3lb. 3½oz.; Mr. Homer, jack, 2lb. 5oz.; Mr Goodrich, roach; Mr. W. Stevens, perch. I hope our members will not forget our match at Witham on the 29th inst all to go down by the first train same morning, leaving Stratford at 7.50.—R. LOWTHER.

Ye Pluckie Perche Piscatorial Society, the Ear Derby, King Edward-road, South Hackney.—A specia meeting will be held on urgent and very importan business, on Wednesday, the 25th instant, at nine p.m sharp; the attendance of every member is earnestl requested.—H. RICHARDSON, hon. sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle Hammersmith.—Members are requested to note that ou quarterly meeting is called for Thursday, Dec. 3, and t attend the club-house at 8.30, as it is desired to arrange th last match of the season, and to elect a chairman and vice chairman for the ensuing three months.—J. J. HUNTER hon. sec.

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SEA FISHING AT WATERVILLE, 1891.—The sea fishing in the district may be considered to be practically at an end for the year. The spring mackerel season was decidedly below the average, and the fish of a small size and rather inferior in quality. Angling with hand-lines began on the 1st May, and was really first-class up to the end of July. The principal fish taken were whiting, bream, gurnet, and pollack. As many as six hundred and forty of all kinds was had one day at the Hogg Head by a party of four anglers. Nets of different kinds were used on the bay during the summer, and the captures recorded show that the fish taken were of a larger size than usual, but not so numerous as in 1890. This is particularly applicable to the herring fishery. The herrings this season were in most cases once and a half the size of the ordinary herring taken on the coast. Whiting also were very large this year, and I saw one which measured exactly two feet in length. Trawlers had a poor season, but unfavourable winds was the principal cause of this. Bass anglers also had only indifferent success. From July to September, fishing of all kinds was very poor and was practically given up during the latter month. Towards the end of October matters improved and several boats met with much success in the small bay and other points of Ballenskellege Island. Whiting were caught in large numbers chiefly by fresh mackerel bait. I counted as many as twenty-seven boats engaged at bottom fishing one evening between the heads, and learned next day that all did well—some of them making remarkable scores. The opening days of November also found sport first class—pollack, whiting, and gurnet being well on the feed. Since then bad weather terminated all kinds of fishing. Netting, however, is still carried on in the Portmagee District.—T. J. DENNEHY.

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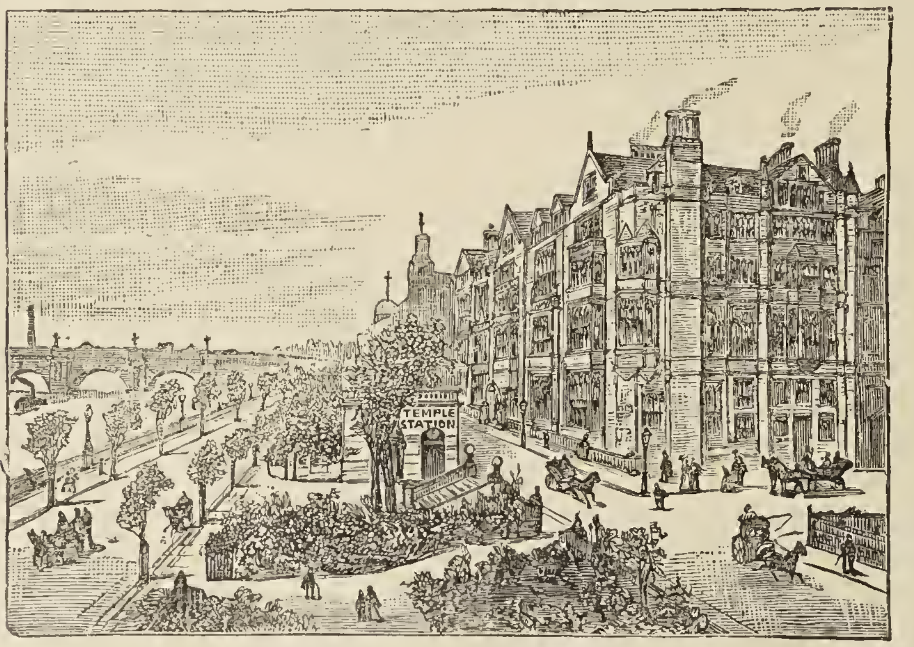

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SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1891.

THE FISHES OF SWITZERLAND.*

As more than eight years have elapsed since the publication of the last volume of the "Faune des Vertébrés de la Suisse," I may preface this notice with a few words as to the general scope and progress of this important work. The first volume, published in the year 1869, was devoted to a detailed account of the mammals of Switzerland; the third (1872) to the reptiles and batrachians; and the fourth to a part of the fish (Acanthopterygians and Cyprinoids); the second volume, which will contain the birds, being still in course of preparation.

The part now published, which is the fifth of the series, treats of the remaining half of the fishes, notably the Salmonoids, which take up nearly two-thirds of the volume, and whose study has probably occupied the author by far the better half of the eight years which he has devoted to its preparation.

As regards the plan of the work, the thoroughness and originality with which the author treats his subject, and the fairness of his criticism of his predecessors, I may be allowed to refer to what I have said in my notice of the first volume of the Swiss ichthyology (*Nature*, vol. xxvii. p. 220); stating again that "this work rises far above the level of a local publication, and is of as great value to the student of European freshwater fish as to the Swiss naturalist."

The species treated of in the present volume are the following: Three loach, two shad, eight Coregoni, one grayling, one salmon, one trout, one char, one pike, one Silurus, one eel, one burbot, one sturgeon, three lampreys. These bring the total number of Swiss freshwater fish to fifty-one.

The hydrographic system of Switzerland comprises the head-waters of four rivers—viz., the Rhine, Rhone, Po, and Danube. The first contributes the largest contingent to the Swiss fish fauna—viz., forty-two species; however, this number is reduced to twenty-eight in the upper course of the river, above the falls of Schaffhausen. At an altitude of between 600m. and 900m., the majority of the Cyprinoids, and between 1,000m. and 1,100m. the perch, salmon, eel, and burbot disappear. Only five species remain at that altitude—viz., the miller's thumb, minnow, loach *(N. barbatulus)*, grayling and trout—species which likewise have the greatest horizontal range in a northward direction. Between 1,800m. and 1,900m., first the grayling and the loach are lost, and then successively the trout, miller's thumb, and minnow. The trout, however, can still subsist in lakes up to 2,630m., into which this fish has been introduced. The Rhine contributes five types of fishes to the Swiss fauna which are not found in the other hydrographic systems—viz., *Acerina* (the pope), *Rhodeus*, the salmon, the sea lamprey, and the stickleback. The absence in the southern and eastern waters of the four first is readily accounted for by their distribution generally; but it seems very singular that a fish like the stickleback, which in the west of Europe extends far southwards, and reaches even Algeria, and which is supposed to be capable of easy transportation by aquatic birds, should not have made its way into the other river systems.

The fishes contributed by the Rhone fall into two categories—one comprising those of the part of the river Doubs which is within the political boundaries of Switzerland; the other including the species of the Rhone proper above the "Perte." The latter are computed to be twenty in number, and do not call for special remarks.

The fishes of the Po showed a marked difference from those of the Rhine and Rhone. This system is represented in Switzerland by the tributary Ticino, into which twenty-three species enter, out of a total number of forty-four Po species. Although there is no mechanical obstacle to their ascent, the fish of the Po, used to a warmer climate, avoid ascending into the cold waters from the Alps; and M. Fatio observes, also, that generally these southern fish do not ascend to the same high altitudes as those of the Rhine. Eight of the Ticino species are strangers to the rest of Switzerland—viz., a goby *(Gobius)*, which has ascended from the sea; five Cyprinoids, which may be regarded as southern representatives of northern forms; *Cobitis tænia* and *Alosa finta*.

Of the sixty-eight species belonging to the fauna of the Danube, only four find their way into Switzerland through the river Inn—viz., the miller's thumb, minnow, grayling, and trout. This is owing to the great elevation of this river at its entrance into the country (1,000m.).

Ichthyologists will turn with particular interest to that part of the volume which contains Dr. Fatio's views on, and his treatment of, the Salmonoids; for my own part, I could not help feeling some surprise at what appears to me a somewhat inconsistent mode of dealing with this subject. Whilst the author distinguishes no less than eight Swiss forms worthy of binominal designaton in the genus *Coregonus*, he admits, besides one species of char (*Salmo umbla*), two equivalent forms only in the genus *Salmo*—viz., the salmon and the trout, for which latter the collective term *Salmo lacustris* is chosen. If a student of the European fauna, or any part of it, arrives at the conclusion that the various forms of river, lake, and sea trout cannot, and should not, be held to be deserving of specific distinction, no one will deny that there are very strong arguments in favour of this view. In my own experience, it does not seem to be desirable to adopt that course—first, because there are certain well-characterised and well-localised forms which the practical fisherman will always distinguish, and of which the naturalist has, somehow, to take notice; and, secondly, because the ichthyologist who goes beyond the narrow limits of a fauna, and has to deal with the trout of the whole northern hemisphere, is compelled by technical considerations to admit those distinctions. I myself go a step farther, and consider it a mistake not to separate, specifically, from the extremely variable *Salmo fario*, such strongly differentiated forms as *Salmo lemanus*, *S. marsitii*, *S. venernensis*, or the Loch Leven trout of the older authors. But if, as is Dr. Fatio's opinion, no taxonomic value is to be assigned to the characters by which those forms of trout are differentiated, then I cannot see why in *Coregonus*, a closely-related genus of the same geological age and distribution, similar organic modifications should be considered to have a different bearing.

As is well known, there are some very obscure facts in the life-history of Salmonoids, which greatly contribute to the difficulties of their study. Dr. Fatio discusses them very fully; but we must pass over the deductions he draws from them, with the exception of the phenomenon of sterility as a cause of change in the outward appearance of a fish. Sterility among Salmonoids is apparently much more common in Switzerland than in British waters; but over since Siebold has drawn attention to it, its effects seem to me to have been exaggerated. At any rate, I have received specimens as, and, indeed, with all the outward characters of, the so-called sterile trout of Lake Constance, which had fully-matured ova.

Like errata, appendices of works are only too often overlooked; I would, therefore, mention that the present volume concludes with important supplements to those which contain the Mammalia and Reptilia.

The volume is illustrated with four plates—one representing the *Bondelle* of the Lake of Neufchâtel, the others various details of structure, chiefly of Salmonoids.

I trust that before many years Dr. Fatio will be able to complete his work, for which, not only his countrymen, but every student of the European fauna, owe him a debt of gratitude.—*Albert Günther in "Nature."*

VIRGINIA WATER.

[Mr. Bambridge writes: "These lines were found, recently, amongst effects of that well-known local fisherman, the late George Holland ("Nottingham George"). Must be very old.]

No merry lay I sing! yet let me tell
The woes and trials that two wights befel,
Who, fishing bent on, gave their desks a spell,
And hurried to Virginia Water.
And now behold them sitting at their ease,
Discussing Windsor ale and bread and cheese,
Wind ominously howling through the trees
And o'er the water.

Obsequious landlord, waiter, boots, and all,
Who gladly greet them in the lighted hall
Of Wheatsheaf, known to fishermen who call
In that famed quarter.
Yet better known than liked, as we may see.
Says waiter, "Coffee, gentlemen, or tea?"
Oh! "Tea be blowed," quoth one, "no more for me!"
The other, "Come! some rum and water!"

Then Morpheus exerts his gentle sway;
A damsel brings two candles on a tray—
Thirty! I swear, no more, if she's a day,
The landlord's daughter.
Where were the bait next morning? Where the lot
Of lively dace? Dead, in some pail or pot,
Of course—the charming creature had forgot
To change the water.

Where were the worms? The bag looked damp, she
And so she'd aired it, ere she went to bed, [said,
Before the fire; and they, too, all were dead
As bricks or mortar.
Enough is said, so here I drop my pen;
Yet ere I lay it down, give ear, all men;
May I be blow'd if e'er I'm caught again
A fishing in Virginia Water.

Meeting of Anglers at Auckland.—The annual general meeting of the members of the Bishop Auckland and Wear Valley Angling Association was held at the Wear Valley Hotel, on the 11th inst., Mr. Hoyle presiding. In spite of the inclement weather there was a good company present. The secretary (Mr. Albert Foster) read the third annual report, which stated that the association had a balance on the right side of £12 9s. 9½d. The number of 5s. "authorities" issued exceeded last year's total by forty-three; 2s. 6d. "authorities" had decreased by six, and 1s. "authorities" had increased by one. The number of prosecutions for offences against the Fishery Laws was twenty-five, against eighteen of last year, of which number sixteen were due to the able manner in which Watcher Lambert had fulfilled his duties. Five hundred stakes had been put in the Wear, between Escombo Bridge and Nunfield, at a cost of £18, which would no doubt check netting to a great extent. The total amount received by subscriptions from certain members of the committee and others was £25 13s. 6d. Mr. J. T. Proud had again prosecuted in the whole of the Auckland cases, and four at Stanhope, and made no charge against the association. The total amount of fines inflicted, exclusive of costs, was £14 6s. 10d., the whole of which would be paid over to the Fishery Board. Application had been made to the Bishop Auckland Local Board for leave to place a grating at the West Mill Race, to prevent the entrance of fish into the race; but nothing yet had been decided in the matter. The report was adopted. The balance-sheet was also passed, showing that at the beginning of the next season there would be a balance of £25 1s. 9½d. Considerable discussion took place as to the disposal of this balance, and eventually, on the motion of the chairman, it was decided to carry it forward as a reserve fund. It was also decided that the association should be authorised to devote a sum, not exceeding £10, if deemed expedient, to a fund for stocking the river with Loch Leven trout. A motion, proposed by Mr. Harburn, that trout fishing should commence on the 2nd of March, bull-trout fishing to commence on the 2nd of February, as usual, was negatived by a considerable majority. The election of officers was then proceeded with: Mr. Pattison, of Witton-le-Wear, was re-elected treasurer, and the former committee was also re-appointed, with the exception of Mr. Candler, Crook, whose place was taken by Mr. Thompson, of Hunwick.

Holloway's Pills.—In cases of chronic indigestion, disordered liver, and general debility, these Pills are wonderfully effective. They indeed have so general and powerful an effect on the whole system that they clear away or ward off most of the ills that flesh is heir to. They cleanse the bowels, purify the blood, correct the bile, give tone to the stomach, excite a healthy appetite, produce sound sleep, and impart increased energy to both mind and body. The admirable properties of these far-famed Pills are too highly appreciated to require any encomium here, as they are resorted to by rich and poor of every nation. The cures they effect are not temporary or imperfect, but they bring about a marvellous and most beneficial change throughout the entire body, and enable it with renovated powers to resist the approach of all future attacks.

SPINNING FOR SALMON WITH THE PRAWN.

The ranks of the old school of anglers whose motto is "Salmon with the fly or no salmon" are thinning fast. Season after season witnesses new defections to the side of the latter-day angler who is always on the look-out for and ready to take advantage of those occasional substitutes which often prove so valuable in bringing a fish to the gaff when wind, weather or water, are dead against sport with the fly. Among others the prawn comes to the front as a most successful supplementary lure under certain conditions. Mark! the prawn is not to be used as a substitute for the fly. Like the natural minnow and Phantom to which it may be said to rank next in order of merit as a lure, it has its time and place, and may only be called into requisition, as a general rule, when a decided change is needed. The fly is the lure of lures, and, if the utmost is to be made of a stretch of water, it should be more *en evidence* than all other substitutes combined. The natural minnow, gudgeon, Phantom, and kindred lures yield best results in spring and autumn, when the water is about its average temperature, or rather rising to the average. This is but a general statement in the main; but it is given on the strength of several years' observation on the Dee (Aberdeenshire), where special arrangements have been faithfully and fully carried out for making such. The conditions under which the prawn works best are more frequently met with in July and August; yet it may be introduced at any season, and often fetches the wished-for prize when all else has failed. A fresh-run salmon—newly from the sea—will take almost anything; but, when he has been in the river some time, when the water has gone down, and the fish become "*potted*," as the saying is in the north, and the efforts of the angler to fetch the stale fish with the fly have proved futile, then the prawn is called into the "council chamber," and inevitably furnishes the exasperated sportsman with his revenge.

Should the water rise slightly, so as to shift the fish, so much the better, for there is nothing "works the oracle" like the prawn, with red or potted fish after a slight freshet. It is to be preferred to the worm, unless the water be slightly coloured; under such conditions, and should the prawn fail, the angler may give over the effort to get sport as a hopeless task for the time being. Opinions differ greatly in this, as in all other such-like matters, as to the time and place, and the extent to which the prawn may be used without injury to the after chances of the angler; but the general practice in the north is to reserve the prawn as a last resource—from the opinion, no doubt, that should the fish be off the take, this will make them the more so. Certainly nothing is more distasteful to a neighbour on the opposite bank than to have the water he is about to fish over with the fly raked "fore or aft" with the prawn, or any other trolling bait.

Many elaborate descriptions of prawn tackle and the mode of dressing it are given in books on angling, filling whole chapters. The Dee and Don anglers have a very simple method of dressing, which is in every way preferable to that requiring complicated tackle, and may be described in one or two sentences. All that is needed is a flight of two triangles and a stocking-needle. The stocking-needle is first inserted longitudinally from tail to head, as the prawn is fished head downwards. The loop of single gut, on which the triangles are whipped, from an inch and a-half apart to two inches, is run through the eye of the stocking-needle, and the triangles are fixed, one into the belly of the prawn and one on the back, the whole being whipped in wide coils by a piece of red silk thread. Should the water be heavy, the spinning-trace may be leaded to suit. The rod, reel, and line, are just what may be used at any other time in searching for fish with the Phantom or live minnow. From the Malloch reel the bait is thrown across the stream—more down than across—and is worked round with a somewhat slower motion than when spinning with the natural minnow, and much after the fashion of a large, well-sunk salmon fly. Instantly the fish are felt they must be struck sharply to ensure a hold. Now just a word about the procuring and preserving of this bait. There are prawns and prawns, and, as much of its success depends upon its colour, this should be particularly attended to. After many experiments, it has been found that the best prawns are those which are boiled immediately they are caught, and bottled in diluted glycerine almost immediately they are boiled. Freshness is the secret of the colour when the crustacean is in season and well-matured, and no imitation of this enigma of enigmas or sickly substitute will fascinate the eye or tempt the dainty palate of *Salmo salar* like the veritable "Simon Pure" *in propria forma*.—Dod.

Unlawfully Fishing for Trout.—At Barnard Castle, on the 11th inst., before Major Hodgson (chairman), Mr. W. T. Scarth, and Mr. W. H. Ralston, Mr. M. B. Dodds, Stockton, clerk to the Tees Salmon Fishery Board, said that on the 30th September last he appeared at that Court to prosecute, on behalf of Mabon, the chief inspector of the Tees Fishery Board, in a case brought against three gamekeepers for unlawfully fishing for trout with a net in Grand Beck, near Raby. After hearing the case, their Worships had thought that considerable doubt was involved, and that they would not be doing their duty other than by giving the defendants the benefit of the doubt, and the charges were consequently dismissed. Application was made for a case, which was granted. Subsequently a meeting of the Finance and Watch Committee of the Fishery Board was held to consider what proceedings it would be advisable to take with reference to the case, and at that meeting Mr. Scarth, the chief agent of the late Duke of Cleveland, was present and explained the circumstances of the case. Mr. Scarth, practically as the employer of the defendants, regretted the matter, and said he was now satisfied that fishing for trout with nets was an illegal act, and as such would not be allowed in the future. Previously, he had no notion that the practice was illegal or it should not have been done, and he gave an assurance that it should be discontinued. A resolution embodying those facts was passed by the committee, and Mr. Dodds now asked to be allowed to withdraw his application for a case and that the recognisance which had been entered into should be discharged. He hoped the Press would observe that the practice was illegal, as it might be that the recent decision of the Bench might cause an impression to be made that netting for trout might be done with impunity. Mr. W. J. Watson, on behalf of the defendants, assented to the present application, which the Bench granted without comment.

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* "Faune des Vertébrés de la Suisse." Par Victor Fatio. Vol. V. "Historie naturelle des Poissons." 2me partie, avec 4 planches, pp. 576. Supplémens, pp. 13. (Genève et Bâle: H. Georg, 1890.)

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea. 40 „ „ Putney. 45 „ „ Hammer-smith. 50 „ „ Barnes.	Add	55 min. for Kew. 75 „ „ Richmond. 80 „ „ Twickenham. 85 „ „ Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

		Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Nov. 21	5. 7	5.30
Sunday,	„ 22	5.55	6.21
Monday,	„ 23	6.49	7.20
Tuesday,	„ 24	7.53	8.28
Wednesday	„ 25	9. 6	9.46
Thursday,	„ 26	10.21	10.51
Friday,	„ 27	11.19	11.44

English and Welsh Reports.

Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—I was afraid the boisterous storm of rain and wind of Wednesday in last week would do something for the Thames that would not be very agreeable to either fishermen or anglers, and the result proved to be so. Some portions of the river suffered very much and especially in the upper portion, as the reports from Kingston to Staines, have been a complete blank as far as punt-fishing is concerned, but in some places the bank anglers have been doing very well and getting some very fine specimens of roach. It will be found from the returns in the Tideway, there has been a little business done. After I had sent my report last week, I was informed by one of my neighbours he had been fishing at Twickenham and brought away over 20lb. weight of fine roach and dace, and in addition a nice carp of 5lb., which he has sent for preservation. I mention the circumstance now because some people are apt to doubt the accuracy of such takes, and I am always pleased to have them confirmed by the anglers themselves, as it places the result beyond doubt. I must just refer to the letter of "Liberia' in last week's *Fishing Gazette*, to say if I wrote the return of "thirteen dozen of fine jack," it was an error of putting "of" for "and," which rendered it liable to his interpretation. I hope we shall be none the less friends for what has been said. There is another letter which gave me very much pleasure from that good old angler, Mr. Harwood, to whom I have written personally and sent him a collecting box; and I sincerely hope the "Sundial" members will make a good example for other clubs to follow, and the river will afford them abundant sport to make their result the more substantial. I am also pleased to state I have had other applications this week for collecting boxes, and all this affords me the most satisfactory evidence the clubs are beginning to feel desirous to assist in the work of Thames preservation. In my declining days there is nothing that will cheer me up more than to find the Thames Angling Preservation Society, to which I have been attached for nearly thirty-three years, has fully enlisted the support of the angling clubs of London and the suburbs. I cannot say all of the former, but to the latter it has a direct and substantial claim as being in the neighbourhood of the Metropolitan river. I do not want to appear selfish, but I may be allowed to remark, when I was elected a member of the committee of the T.A.P.S. on February 5, 1859, I am the the only survivor.—B.

RICHMOND.—Job Brain, in four days, 35lb. of roach and dace; Henry Mansell, in two days five and a half dozen of roach and dace, and two bream, and Christopher Brown in the same time, 34lb. of roach and dace.

TWICKENHAM.—John Spong, in two days, 26lb. of roach and dace; Charles Brown in one day, five dozen of roach and dace, the largest roach, 1lb.; John Coxen, in one day, five dozen of roach and dace; and J. Frost, in two days, 15lb. of roach and dace, and a couple of bream.

TEDDINGTON.—B. Stevens, in one day, three barbel, weighing 12lb.; and W. McBride in two days, seven jack. One of the netsmen below Kew Bridge, in his net, caught a trout of fourteen inches in length in a very good condition. He at once sent a message to the head river keeper of the T.A.P.S., who on Tuesday last got possession of the fish and took it over to Mr. Alfred Nuthall, J.P., chairman of the society, and the trout was safely turned in the river again at Town's End Hole, Kingston. The netsman received the usual reward.

Upper Thames.—THURSDAY EVENING.—The river during the past week has once again been in high flood, and with the exception of a few good takes of roach, and some small jack from Eddies, not anything worthy of record has been done in the upper waters of the Thames. As I write the river is rapidly getting back into its old groove, and as it even now is in excellent colour, without any additional contribution of rain, good business should be done next week amid roach and jack. The weir tackle at present is all out, and until put down anglers per force must seek Eddies and even fresh fields and pastures, for there assuredly the fish are locality. Weather bright and cold with every indication of frost. A sharp frost just now would be real jam to the Thames anglers.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Goring).—Water going down and getting in good condition, would do well for roach at time of writing. About Tuesday or Wednesday it would be in good jack condition.—G. BARTHOLOMEW.

Thames (Windsor).—An extremely heavy water is still passing through the Thames valley, and too discoloured for anything but worm fishing. As might be expected, though very late in the season, a great many barbel have been caught, but can hear of none over 4lb., this being the weight of one taken with others by Mr. Windsor, of Windsor. A few good roach have been taken with worms, largest 1lb. 2oz., and a specimen of that scarce fish in the Thames, the tench, was caught by a Mr. Miles, of Windsor; it weighed 1¾lb. On the 12th inst., the Windsor and Eton Angling Preservation Society made an attempt to net the out-lying waters; but the result of the principal piece near Dorney being so poor, it was decided not to proceed with it till the water has run off more. Compared with the last netting, when fifty-six jack, besides a quantity of smaller fry, were caught, the result of this last trip was extremely poor. Large quantities of fish are known to be out-lying, but cannot be rescued whilst so much water is out.—B. R. BAINBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—Waters are now of the colour and almost consistence of pea-soup. Angling is therefore well-nigh out of the question, and there has been a general abstention this week. The taking of trout ova has commenced at the Mauve Fishery, Caistor.—THOMAS FORD.

Arun (Pulborough and Amberley).—The river has been in flood again this week. At several places it has overflowed its banks, and only a few anglers have ventured out. I can hear of no takes worth mentioning being made. This (Thursday) afternoon the weather looked more promising, and I trust the river will again be in condition for Mr. Eldridge's competition, on the 29th inst. —GOOSEQUILL.

Brighton.—(SEA FISHING).—Silver whiting have come into the bay, and when the sea has been calm enough, several of large size have been taken. To-day (19th inst.) the sea is too rough for boat-anglers to venture out, but is calming down again. A cod-fish, weighing over 15lb., was taken off the Black Rock ground the other day.—H.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—The heavy storm of last week had the effect of clouding rivers, and in some districts the water was again over the banks; but rivers are now in good trim and sport during the week has been fairly good, despite the dull and foggy weather, a few good chub and roach have been taken from the upper waters of the Ouse, and early in the week pike were feeding but 8½lb., is the heaviest fish notified me. The patrons of the Adur have secured good dace and roach—this water holds no pike in the lower district; and from the Arun a few bream, and fair baskets of roach have been made. But few anglers patronise the Rother in the Selham district, where may be obtained some of the finest roach in the county. A visitor on Tuesday, secured 10½lb. of roach, nine fish weighing 7¼lb.; a perch of 2lb., and a pike of 4½lb. Some good roach have also been taken near Fittleworth. Chichester Canal is fast filling, some tons of water from the Lavant flowing in daily. The water is in good order—bream, roach, perch, and a few small pike have been taken but no specimen fish.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—The rivers have been in heavy flood, and plenty of spawning fish running up. The poachers have been busy, and have an idea (carefully fostered by our plucky inspector and a few more in the swim) that they could do as they liked. But little good might have accrued from catching one or two of the poachers; but owing to the pluck, strength, and perseverance of Mr. Caley, some of the most unmitigated scoundrels which disgrace our island will spend their next two months in jail. SEA FISHING.—Not so good, as the weather is too bad, and bait scarce.—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—Weather has been wet almost incessantly since our last, and we have heard of nothing having been done. Water will be right in a couple of days for grayling or pith if no more rain comes.—D. AND W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourne.

Eden (Carlisle).—On the 15th inst., the rod fishing season closed. Unfortunately, owing to the heavy rain, the last week was almost a blank. On the 15th inst., the last day, the river was in splendid order, and several fish were killed by anglers in private waters, who were not afraid to ignore the undoubtedly strong feeling there is in the north against Sunday fishing. The season has, on the whole, been a prolific one for salmon and grilse, and a poor one for sea trout. In the spring the yield was not above the average, but the summer and autumn migrations were very heavy, and both netters and anglers had a good harvest. We never can arrive at the number of salmon taken in the nets, but nearly every fish killed with a rod gets into the newspapers. I quite expect there will be an outcry from the Solway about anglers killing so many breeding fish. What a narrow-minded lot these fishermen are! Their one idea is wholesale slaughter as a means of livelihood, and yet they begrudge a few fish fairly taken with the rod by the men who find spawning ground and protect the fish for another year. There need be no jealousy between them. It is to the interest of all alike to keep up the supply of fish from year to year.—SILVER GRAY.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—Since last writing angling in the rivers has been impeded by the floods. Some of them—the Glen, the Nene, and, I believe, the Welland—have overflowed their banks, and from what I learn, it will be several days, even with favourable weather, before the sport can be resumed. The drains are better circumstanced, as the water can be got away more rapidly, and the chief impediment is the rapid stream of water towards the pumps. Prior to the heavier rains, anglers seem to have been doing very well. Many splendid pike have been banked, and anglers were well satisfied. Among the specimen fish mentioned was one taken by a gentlemen in the North Forty-foot, which scaled 16lb. This is the best fish I have heard of so far this season; but it is full early for the big fish. In some of these drains, fish up to this weight are caught several times in a season. Mr. Fancourt, of Billinghorough, caught a six-pounder the other day in the water against Donington Bridge of the old Forty-foot; and Mr. Dunn, of the same place, last week, in two days, landed six fish, sealing 23lb. Plenty of other fish were taken up and down the district. Natural bait is the most effective; but anglers often have to resort to spoon and artificial minnow, because live roach and dace are not procurable at the tackle and other dealers. Fishing for them is often a tedious process, and not always agreeable in this weather.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—Anglers do not seem to have troubled the Idle much since last writing. It has been out of order they say by the storms, but the upper waters have not I fancy been quite unfishable. It was expected early in the week prospects would improve, but there has not been any great change until to-day (Thursday), which has been a really beautiful day. By the end of the week it would be worth while trying again for grayling, with gentles or brandling worms. Roach, dace, perch, and chub, ought to be available.—L.

Lea and Stort.—In consequence of the heavy floods of last week and the almost incessant drizzle since, the rivers are still too much discoloured and too high to admit of the chances of much sport; therefore there is but little angling news to report. What sport has been had has been principally with perch and pike: the former have at times and at some places taken worms well; indeed it is the only style of fishing worth following, in the present state of the water. On the 15th I saw a good one taken from above Rye House, it weighed a little over 1¾lb. For pike-fishing, just now, a spinning-bait will be found to be the most killing; a Spoon-bait or Phantom-minnow should be used as artificials, or a bright dace as natural, but in any case the bait should be larger than usual to prove attractive in thick water. Mr. H. T. Haslewood had a jack of 5¼lb. from the Ferrie Boat Waters at Tottenham, on the 15th. This gentleman will not be denied, and seems to bid fair to be the Lea champion pike fisherman, having killed more and bigger fish, both this and last season, than anyone else. I have heard that a very large jack was shot in the above neighbourhood last week. I cannot tell whether it is true or not, but considering the numbers of lads and men to be met with on the marshes every Sunday, I should not be surprised if there is some truth in it. It is absolutely dangerous to go about on that day, so numerous are these gunners, and I think if an inland revenue officer were to drop down on to them, he would find the majority were without licences. During the competition on the 15th inst., Mr. Ashmore, of the Eagle Angling Society, met with a curious incident. He was fishing between Rye House and St. Margaret's, and using worms on two hooks, about eighteen inches apart, he saw a pike near his float, and for a bit of fun struck at it, when he found both hooks had fastened, one near the head and the other near the tail. After a tussel he got it out, but returned it uninjured. He says it would weigh about 8lb. This morning I found the old river too much out of order for anything except as described above. The Canal is much more fishable.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—The floods in all parts of Leicestershire have been so extensive this week that angling has been entirely out of the question. Both above and below Leicester the country for mile after mile presents large sheets of water. Immense damage has been done, and many of the roadways have been rendered impassable. Previous to the heavy rains a few good roach were taken at the Leicester town waters, fish up to 1lb. being the heaviest among the few score landed. With the cessation of the downpour on Thursday reports to hand show the waters to be subsiding, but the streams are pouring down their volumes of water at a tremendous speed.

Loddon (Earley).—The floods have gone down, and the river is in good fishing order. Five good jack have been taken to-day by Mr. Richards—the largest scaling 8¾lb. Mr. Wilson landed 20lb. of chub, also some good perch. If the weather continues fine I hope to report next week of good sport, as there is a grand show of fish this season, and the river is thoroughly cleared of all rubbish by the flush of water.—J. R. GOULD.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—These streams are running out of order for fishing, heavy rain having made the water rise and coloured. The water is going down, and with a few days' fine weather fly fishing should be able to be resumed. No sport done in them of late. The Pinsley is out of fishing order.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—On Friday last these rivers rose again to nearly bank-full, since which they have been slowly sinking, the weather being very unsettled. By Monday, should weather be moderately fair, they should be fishable with bottom, though perhaps rather high. It will be the second half of the week before the fly will be available. This (Thursday) evening, wind S.W.; heavy clouds on the horizon; looks likely for more rain.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—The river has been again running in flood, but is now coming right for the angler; there has been a quantity of roach taken, and they are biting freely at the worm. All other kinds the reports are very meagre. The large pike taken was weighed at the railway station; its weight was 23¼lb.—WM. SHRUBSOLE.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—We have again had a lot of rain, which has caused the river to rise considerably. At Elton several pike have been taken, but, speaking generally, sport has been very tame. Some large eels were captured on Saturday, near Peterborough; and one city angler obtained a decent creel of fish just out of town, after angling for over three hours. Prospects will brighten considerably when the river regains its normal condition. A couple of pike were last Saturday taken at Caudle.—NENEBANK.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Rivers.—Most of our rivers and streams in these counties at the present are too full to fish, and very high coloured. I should advise anglers to wait for a few days before making a long journey down here. If we get no more rain the rivers will soon settle down, and roach come on; red worms will then be the bait.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Ouse, Derwent, &c. (York).—Rivers in flood yet. Nothing doing.—RONALD.

Plymouth.—SEA FISHING.—The gales, floods, and hail-showers have taken leave this week, and we have had some delightful weather. A friend of mine, on the whiting ground, had thirty dozen the day before yesterday. Some small pollack have been taken whiffing, but as these fish are out of season for a few months, they are hardly worth the trouble of catching. The favourite sport now and during the crab and lobster season is with the hoop-net, which is a net bag about four feet deep and three or four feet in diameter, with large mesh, say, three inches, that is, one and a-half from knot to knot, and made of stout twine. This is sewn on to an iron ring, which has two strings fastened across the diameter. In the centre of these strings is fastened the bait, which might be a hake's head or any fish garbage. The ring is slung by three cords, which terminate in a knot or loop, and it is lowered to the bottom by means of a line. Several of these nuts are used around the headlands and wooden pile piers, and they are hauled about once an hour. Besides taking crabs and lobsters, flat fish are very often taken in them. Nets on the same principle, only with very much finer mesh, are used here for catching prawns, shrimps, white-bait, smelt, or fresh-water eels, and they are very effective. Herrings are now being caught in abundance.—WILLIAM HEARDER.

Scarborough.—Sea angling has only been poor for a week or more. A large whiting-pout of some 10lb., taken off the far pier, is all worth recording at present.—H.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—Anglers have had a fairly good time during the past week, and the river having been in good condition, some fine pike and perch have been taken. The best capture was that of Mr. Edwards of Pride Hill, who landed below Atcham, a 13lb. pike, in splendid condition. Many pike anglers have been trying their luck at Uffington; but, although one or two fish of a few pounds weight were taken, they were by no means so successful as Craddock, the professional a week before. Tench caught a fine perch of 1¾lb. near Atcham. On Tuesday, Craddock who was fishing with him hooked, but lost, a very heavy pike.—PISCATOR.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this part has been running high, and bank full and quite out of order for fishing. The weather has been unsettled, and the water is gone down. If the weather would take up grayling fishing should be good in a short time. At the beginning of this week a few anglers were out with the maggot; but sport was limited only a few roach being landed. On the 15th inst., at Ashford, a pretty sight was to be seen at the Weir, where the salmon were jumping the Weir to get up to the Upper Water to spawn. The Ony, Corve, Clun, and Ledwyche are all coloured—no fishing done in them.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this district the Teme is coloured, but a nice level. The water has been very high, and fishing has been quite at a standstill, and is likely to remain so as long as the weather keeps so unsettled. No anglers have been out. The Rea, Kyre and Ledwyche are all out of fishing order.—WORCESTER.

Wimbledon Park Fishery—The following gentlemen have had some very good luck with the jack. The lake is in capital order and nice colour for jack or bottom-fishing: Mr. Woods, Putney, jack 4½lb.; Mr. Smith, Walham Green, jack 5¼lb.; Mr. Bovie, Wimbledon, jack 6lb.; Mr. Cloat, jack 3lb., and perch 1lb.; and several other rods had various takes of roach and bream.—W. BUCKETT.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—No sport of moment is reported from the Witham district. though such as the Fosdyke waters have been fairly fishable. A good deal of water has been going down the Witham, but it is now fairly off. Visitors have been very scarce of late, but this is usual in winter. I often wonder more do not go for the purpose of pike fishing, which is really often very good. Some of the best points are Dogdyke, Kirkstead, and the stations towards Boston. Chapel Hill and Mount Pleasant are also good localities.—LUCI.

Yore, Wharfe, Nidd, and York.—These are now getting into fairly good condition, but the weather must be colder before grayling fishing will improve. Bradshaw's Fancy, Green Insect, Apple Green Dun, and Blue Hawk will be best flies to depend on for a week or so.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Usk (at Usk).—The season for salmon angling in the Usk ended on Nov. 1 last, and, during the whole time, not a better has been remembered by anyone here. Several anglers took over a hundred salmon on the Lower Association waters, and there is little doubt that over two thousand salmon have been killed on the whole of the association waters. The greatest number taken by a single angler was one hundred and fifteen by Major-Gen. Mignon, of Usk. Mr. Thomas Rees, on the limited water, caught one hundred and twelve; but the most successful fishing was by Mr. W. H. Browne, who, in seven weeks, landed one hundred and seven. Mr. Crawshay, on his private waters, took close upon three hundred salmon to his own rod. Mr. H. E. Cole, of Usk, caught one hundred and eight; Mr. W. H. Pride, fifty-three; Colonel Waddilove, sixty-one; and many others from fifty to eighty each. Had it not been for the three weeks' incessant floods at the end of the season, the above numbers would have been greatly enhanced. Local anglers are now busy fishing for coarse fish, such as dace, and good sport is being had. Last week one angler caught ninety-four dace, weighing 35lb.

Scotch Reports.

Dee, Don, &c. (Aberdeenshire).—The spawning season on the upper reaches of the Dee, Don, Deveron, and their numerous feeders is now well over; but on the main stream the fish are just taking to the redds. The rivers are not so much flooded as one would suppose from the amount of rain which has fallen, the heavy rains having given place to a continuous succession of lighter showers. The streams are in good volume, and from the estimate made of the numbers of fish in the river, the amount of spawn deposited will be far in excess of any recent record. The Durris hatchery, now in the hands of the Dee Fishery Board, is gradually being fully stocked by Mr. Duncan and his assistants, who have entered with great zeal upon their duties as artificial breeders of salmon. The excessive rain-water, however, has been causing some trouble, on account of the foreign matter it contains.—DEESIDER.

South of Scotland.—CLOSE OF ANGLING.—The angling in the Annan and Nith, which remained open at the despatch of my report last week closed for the season on Saturday evening.

ANNAN.—On this river the year will long be remembered among anglers as the very best on record, both on account of the large quantity of salmon falling to the rods in the autumn, and for the number of big fish weighing over 20lb. each. At the opening in February, the spring salmon fishing was above the average, more especially in the lower waters, where many fine fish were caught with fly. Sea trout made a middling show in the early season, and they were under the average in weight. As the season advanced the trout came on better, and rose fairly well to the fly. A few of 4lb. and 5lb. were killed, but the general weight was 1¾lb. to 2lb. each. One very fine one of 12lb. was caught in the Solway nets. Grilse made a poor appearance, and from an angler's point of view, the season for these fish was a decided failure. In the months of July and August the herling, or what may be here termed the grilse of the sea trout, afforded splendid sport with fine tackle and small flies. During the summer months the Annan ran unusually low and clear, but still capital baskets were had, more especially in the lower waters. When the wet weather set in and the floods came, extraordinary catches of sea trout and herling were made with worm in the floods. For weeks together anglers filled their creels daily, and it is not lending colour to the report to say that hundreds of those fish were caught daily in the lower and middle water. The river was in flood for two consecutive months, and only on occasional days was fly-fishing at all practicable. As soon as the nets were withdrawn for the season in the Solway on Sept. 9, the salmon commenced to run to the river. With a free passage to the pools, some became well stocked with fine salmon. The continual floods that prevailed induced the fish to run to the higher waters. On this date Mr. T. Reid, keeper, Hoddom Castle, landed the heaviest fish of the season—viz., a salmon of 43½lb., and a few days before the close, one of 42lb. was killed with the same lure fly. On Sept. 25 a great run of salmon came on, the like of which had not been seen for many years. During the first twenty days of October the river was almost in daily flood. Thereafter the floods subsided and the river came into excellent ply for fly-fishing. For three weeks the sport was so exceptionally good, that the oldest fisherman living never remembered anything approaching it. In Mount Annan portion of the river Mr. John Bell-Irving and his keeper killed from Sept. 25 till the close, sixty-five salmon, weighing 1,162lb. (over half a ton). On one day of three hours, Mr. Irving killed six salmon, and his keeper four, which weighed 185lb.; and on a second day the keeper killed ten. From the 4th November to the 14th, Mr. Irving and his keeper killed twenty-one salmon, some of them weighing 29lb. and 30½lb. each. Mr. P. A. Pasley-Dirom, of Mount Annan, has had really splendid sport, and as he stuck exclusively to the fly the record he made was all the more creditable; with his fisherman he killed forty-one salmon, weighing 780lb.; Mr. Dirom's heaviest fish was 29½lb. Neither of the above gentlemen fished the water close. Mr. Crawford's fisherman killed seven salmon, weighing 140lb. The total catch in this short portion of the river for the back-end was about one hundred and twenty salmon, weighing as near as possible 2,300lb. Mr. Dirom, and Mr. Bell-Irving, with their two keepers, killed about one hundred and five salmon, weighing nearly 2,000lb. Mr. Dirom's most successful killing fly was the Black Doctor, which accounted for fully one half of his salmon (twenty-two). In the lower waters the best individual catch was made by Mr. Arthur Nicholson, a visitor, from St. Asaph, North Wales, this gentleman killed twenty salmon and a grilse, weighing 420lb., all with fly; two or three of his fish weighed over 30lb. each. The next best catch was fifteen salmon. In the Hoddom Castle portion, the highest catch was made by the keepers; Mr. Reid killed eighteen salmon; while three of the keepers had forty-two salmon, all heavy fish; two rods had ten each, and some nine or ten other rods killed from five to ten each; Mr. Ramsbottom, and Mr. T. B. Johnstone, Liverpool, paid a flying visit for three days and killed thirteen salmon, not at all a bad record. It is calculated that two hundred salmon were killed on this portion. Altogether since the close of the nets some five hundred salmon have been killed in the Annan with the rod, and apparently the fish weighed about 20lb. each. The river was in part flood during the greater part of the closing week. Still on odd days a good number of salmon fell to the rods.

NITH.—This river never gave better sport. From the beginning of October until the close capital angling was had when the water allowed of fly-fishing. In the Cowhill District and Mid-Nitsdale, a large quantity of salmon were killed, but the total was nothing like that obtained out of the Annan. Mr. Ferguson, of Isle, and friend, killed forty-three salmon, weighing 756½lb. an average of 17½lb. each. This was the best record by far on the river. The Elisland and Blackwood portions afforded fine sport.—HEATHERBELL.

Tweed, &c.—During the past week this river was much out of order for the prosecution of salmon angling, the flood mentioned in last week's notes being the cause assigned thereto, having kept the stream in a partially unfishable state nearly all the week. The floods at its largest height last week, reached fully 6 feet, and since then a further pluvial descent as kept the river rising and falling in turns, the gauge at Kelso Bridge during the week registering from 1 foot to about 3 feet at times. Last night (Tuesday) both Tweed and Teviot rose about one foot, so that to-day it was not in the best of ply, while to add to the dismay of the Waltonian have also had a deal more rain, with a stiffish wind, and a further rise is imminent. As was to be expected, there has been a very large run of fresh to the upper waters since Wednesday last, and hundreds of salmon and grilse, besides bull trout, have been observed ascending the various caulds in this neighbourhood, and all the fastnesses have thus once more received a further stocking, which should be conducive to excellent sport during the remainder of the season, if the weather would only take a turn for the better. All through the week the votaries of the rod and line have been on the alert, and whenever a chance has been afforded them between the almost daily rises of the river, they have been busy, never missing a chance. Their efforts have been well repaid, and, all things taken into consideration, the disciples of Old Izaak have had nothing to cavil at since during the week. To-day (Wednesday), although the river was not in the best of order, angling was participated in on the main river; but Teviot was unfishable. On the Ednam House Water, since Friday last, Major Wilson and Mr. Drummond have had nine fish. On the Wark Water, from the 6th to the 11th, nine fish were also got; while between thirty and forty have been got on the Carham Water between the 5th and 10th. On the Hendersyde Water, Sir Richard Waldie Griffith, and Mr. Tayler, of Chipchase Castle, have had a score of salmon and grilse; while on the Birgham Water; between the 9th and 13th instant, Lord Home and his friends have had a score. On Monday, on the Dayburgh Water, Mr. Arkwright killed four fish. From the 2nd to the 9th, nearly a score of fish were got at Makerstown Water; and on the grand casts on lower Floors Castle Water, Mr. Hadden and General Cooke have had twenty-five fish between them. On the Rutherford Water, nearly a score of fish have been killed; while satisfactory reports are also to hand of the waters farther up the river. On the Teviot, several fish have been killed lately, the fortunate anglers being: Mr. Robertson, mason, Kelso, one, of 26lb.; Mr. Richard Ormiston, Haybank House, Kelso, two fish; Mr. J. O. Wilson, stationer, Kelso, one; and Mr. James Chisholm, one salmon. The barometer is again on the downward move, and there are slight indications of more broken weather; but it is to be hoped that the elements will soon clear up, and give a few more days' sport before the season closes.—MAXWHEEL.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—The late rains have swollen the river and enabled salmon to ascend higher up stream, but the greater part of thepresent run spawners are lying on the redds below Coagh Bridge. It wouldseem that at this time of the season the smaller fish are on the redds. The heaviest coming up about Christmas, when from their golden colour they are called locally "red salmon" in distinction from the silver coloured fish of the earlier part of the season. Poaching is well kept down by the bailiffs and constabulary.

Lough Neagh.—The eel fishing of the lough is very good. Lining at night is practically over, as this way of taking the eels is not very successful in the cold weather. The nets and weirs now account for the greater part of the fish taken. The weir on the Bann—which is rented by Colonel Bruce, D.L., for the nice sum of £2,000 per annum—is making enormous takes, and, the price for the eels being greater about Christmas than any other portion of the season, as they are taken they are put in tanks sunk for the purpose in the lough, and kept till that time. At present the price of eels around the lough is seven shillings per stone (14lb.).

Waterville (County Kerry). — Satisfactory accounts continue to be received from the spawning grounds. The salmon and white trout are reported to be very numerous on the redds. Poachers, however, are beginning to work. The watchers are on the alert, and the constabulary are assisting them in guarding the waters at night. Sea angling for pollack and whiting has been very good on a few favourable days during the week. Weather mild, with light frost. —THOS. J. DENNEHY.

TROUT FISHING NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND.

AUTHENTIC news is now to hand of the success anglers met with on the opening day at Rangitata river—Mr. A. Hope got seventeen trout, which scaled 82½lb.; Mr. C. Nicholas, twelve, weighing 53lb.; Mr. C. K. Meredith-Kaye, four, scaling 30lb.; Mr. Holwell, four, scaling 21lb.; Mr. Bowman, five, which went 21lb. Several Ashburton anglers were also successful at the Rangitata. On the Temuka river sport with the fly was fairly good. Messrs. T. Oliver, D. Findlay, and J. Findlay, among the local men, and Colonel Bailey, Dr. Thomas and friend, of the visitors, had capital sport with the fly; while Mrs. Hayhurst, the only lady angler at the river side, grassed a beauty weighing 2lb. At the Winchester streams fishing was good early in the day, Mr. Gardner, a visitor, landing eight very fine fish. Among the flies used we hear that the Hare's Ear, March Brown, Blue Upright, and Light Gnats have been most successful in killing.—*Timaru Herald*, Canterbury, New Zealand, 25th September, 1891.

THE FISHING SEASON.—The fishing season for trout opened in the North Canterbury district yesterday. A considerable number of anglers left Christchurch for the Selwyn, the Cust, and other streams in the country, and a few paid their attentions to the Avon. One fisherman took thirteen fish out of the last-named stream, none of them over 2lb. in weight. One of the first of this season's trout was exhibited in Mr. W. J. Alpe's window, in Colombo-street, yesterday afternoon. The fish, which was in the pink of condition, weighed 3lb. 10oz., and was caught by Mr. Taylor, near Hereford-street Bridge.—*Timaru Herald*, Canterbury, New Zealand, Oct. 2.

ANGLING.—From Ashburton we learn that on the opening day of the fishing season some really good sport was obtained, as will be seen from the results given below: Rakaia River—Mr. Pilbrow, thirty fish, weight 171lb. 12oz. (the four largest weighing 39lb. 12oz.; this is about the record for one day's fishing); Mr. Stephens, eight fish, 50lb.; Mr. Kidd, six fish, 16lb.; Mr. Fox, eight fish, 29lb.; Mr. Cambridge, one fish, 8lb. Rangitata River—Mr. Huston, nine fish, 53lb.; Mr. W. F. Somerville, ten fish, 50lb. (including two of 8lb. each); Master Tancred Somerville (his first day), two fish, 10lb.; Mr. Shury, one fish, 3lb.; Mr. Moss, one fish, 4lb.; Mr. M'Keage, one fish, 8lb. Ashburton River—Mr. Simpson, one fish 1½lb. Several five shilling visitors' licences have been issued to enable Christchurch anglers to fish before the Rakaia is in flood.—*Lyttelton Times*, Canterbury, N.Z.

THE CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF LONDON ANGLING CLUBS.—The monthly delegate meeting took place at the headquarters of the association, the Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, W.C. Mr. C. A. Medcalf, president, in the chair; Mr. J. Kelly, vice-president, filling the vice-chair. The business was somewhat limited, and after confirmation of minutes and routine matters had been gone through, comparatively little was left. A member, who had committed himself by taking eels, perhaps unknowingly, from a trap, when on an angling excursion, was severely censured and expressed his deep regret. He was long a member of the Anglers' Association, and the complaint is therefore matter of regret to both. Mr. Wade incidentally made reference to the movement in favour of angling in the public parks of London, and suggested sundry impediments in the way, which rendered their opening difficult, if not altogether undesirable; but pointed out that they might contribute to the angler's enjoyment if the fish they contained were taken due care of, afterwards netted, and from time to time transferred to the Thames or other waters free to all anglers. Eventually it was decided to present a petition to the London County Council, asking them to preserve, as far as possible, the fish in waters under their control, and allow them afterwards to be transferred to such open waters as might be deemed desirable in the interest of anglers generally. A similar request was to be made to other public officials having water under their control. A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Medcalf, Mr. Kelly, and Mr. Wade, brought this short, but interesting, meeting to a close.

REVIEW OF PAST SEASON'S SPORT ON THE CARRON, EASTER ROSS.—The sport obtained with the rod has been by far the best experienced for a great number of years. The waters in connection with the Balnagown Arms Hotel, Ardgay, yielded well on to one hundred salmon and grilse in the course of the season. On these waters, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Coupland, of Cresswell Gardens, South Kensington, were the most successful. On March 23, they grassed four salmon and lost two; on April 6, they landed three and lost two when almost ready for gaffing; and a few days thereafter they caught four salmon, including a beauty of 18lb.; in one week during that month, they landed fourteen salmon. Amongst other successful anglers on the hotel waters, were Mr. Landale, Dr. Eley, Mr. Eley, Mr. King, Mr. Mervyn King, Mr. Crewdson, and Messrs. Woodroffe and party. The Braelangwell Lodge Waters yielded famous sport to the Messrs. and Miss Crewdson; from the middle of April to the middle of May they grassed forty-eight salmon, weighing in all, 459lb.; on April 8, Miss Crewdson had three fish to her own rod, while Master Douglas Crewdson got two, one of which weighed 18lb., and took the young angler—who is only in his teens—three and a-half hours to play. During the last week of May, the Braelangwell party had sixteen salmon, aggregating 128lb., which made a total for them, of eighty salmon up to that date. Fishing was later than usual in commencing, the first sport of the season being obtained on March 20, when Mr. and Miss Littlejohn, of Invercharron, landed four salmon on the Invercharron Waters. The Craigs Water is also attached to the Invercharron estate, and both beats yielded a number of fine fish, including two of 13lb. each on June 1, and a clean-run 23lb. salmon on July 18. On the upper reaches, Mr. W. Allis Smith, of Glencalvie, had splendid sport from the end of May onwards; on May 28 he grassed five salmon, and on the 29th, four; the same angler landed six salmon on June 4, and five on the 5th. Splendid sport was got on the Grumards Water in the early part of the season by Captain Maxwell, and subsequently by other anglers. The Gledfield Waters and the Amat Waters did fairly well. Altogether it is estimated that fully four hundred fish, including salmon and grilse, were landed in the course of the season.—McB.

*** **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

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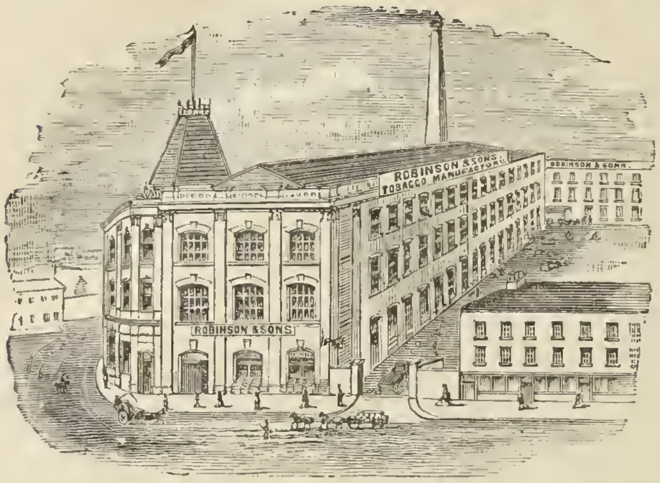

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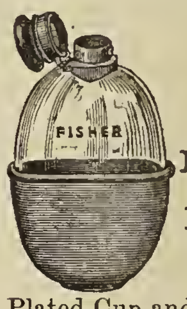

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mmunications relating to the Literary Department Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

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— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH, 1891.

IN DAYS BYGONE.

BY MAC.

THE object I have in writing this paper is to ount a few angling experiences and observations rsonal to myself. That they are startling or ry wonderful, I do not seek to claim, but I do im for them the merit of being new, fresh from mint so to speak, since never before has any of them related by me appeared in print.

"THE BEEF EATER."

Though I do not know that I blush to own it, wn all the same that when a youth I did, at nes, do a bit of poaching *of a kind*. This was I may let out the secret) to set off in the dusk the evening, with a confidential chum or two, to river to set night lines—a reprehensible actice which I now most vigorously condemn. those days, salmon and sea trout fishing was t "the rage" and so carefully looked after as now is on the smallish low country river near ose banks I resided for the twofold purpose of *rection* and training by the village master who ght his little school! Thanks to a generous oprietor, anyone could fish without the apprension of molestation, or being brought up in rt, provided only it was done by the rod in a r and square manner. But nowadays there is his stead a proprietor "who knew not Joseph," l the whole complexion of matters is entirely nged. But to proceed. It was because I could not get fishing in the legitimate way to my heart's content that I went in for setting these lines. It was only in October that the "muckle" fish came up, and, with having under the old rural system of schooling, only the Saturday half-holiday of leisure (from one o'clock), I had merely about three hours in the week to fish with the wand, as the other nights of the week it was too dark for rod fishing, before I got out of the charge of the dapper little "maister," with his florid face, frock coat and sneeshin mull. Usually it had become about dark ere I ventured to go away with my companions to set the lines; and usually it was before daylight had declared itself that I returned to draw them. One year, in particular, I remember there was a good fall of snow during the last week of October; and in the keen morning about five o'clock it was very chill, chilpy work hauling in the frozen lines. The fish, too, had a marvellously cold feel with the snow upon them, amongst which most of them had walloped a bit before we got hold of them. It was a case during these snowy days of dearth of bait. The snow-storm was quite unforseen, and we had made no provision against it. Lob-worms, which we gathered at night by lantern light we baited with, and these after a few days ran done. Our little game, therefore, we felt was up for a time. By luck, however, through my meeting the kindly old parson of the place, who I now imagine must once have been a hand at the job himself, we were put in the way of a substitute for the lobs. This reverend worthy, to whom I was much attached, and with whom I think I must have been a special favourite—for he took me much into his confidence—was in the way of asking me frequently up to the manse to spend the evening with him. Often I had the pleasure of making him a present of a few good sea trout, and so, as he knew well it was interesting to my young mind, fishing was generally the most prominent topic chatted about by us when we forgaithered. One evening, during the time of this snowstorm, the subject of baits for the muckle fish came up, when the parson, who in his younger days had been a keen fisher, and the companion of many a regular two-footed "otter," told me that he had once or twice been "told for a fact," that a piece of red beef fished like a minnow killed fish at times; that even when set—set that it did not sink to the bottom, but kept moving in the water—it had proved deadly, if he was to believe what he had been told by "old John the Miller." The exploits of "Old John" and other local worthies were enlarged upon, and I heard enough about the "beef" business and how it was done to make me acquainted how to proceed should I determine to try—which really, there and then, I had formed the resolution to do, though I kept my counsel to myself, young as I was. I had my doubts, however, about its success, since I had not the successful experience of the parson himself, who told me that he had never tried the thing once in all his life, to strengthen my belief in it. However, the "beef" I would try next night, and the beef "red and raw," was got and cut in little long slices, and away to the river, with my bosom cronie whom I met on the bridge, I duly hied. We set in the broad, sandy runs our usual lines for sea trout—three or four I think—and then proceeded to put out our beef-baited Stewart tackle. These, like the others, were secured by means of a "baikie," or pin, which we easily got firmly planted in the rich deep soil of the bank. Nowhere was the water over a dozen yards wide, but as the fish—sea trout, which we generally got—ran heavy, up to 6lb., 7lb., and 8lb., we never used less than thirty yards of line. The "baikie" held the line at the end, but as seldom more than six or seven yards length was put into the water, a stone of some weight was placed at the end of this length, and when a fish having gorged the bait, set off to run, the stone was displaced as the line run out from below it, but there still was a lot of line to be taken out before the fish got to the end of his tether, which often likely he never did, but kept jiggering about in the little pool, trying to free himself, instead of dashing to the end of the line and breaking. By this means we often held fish which would have broken right away with their first wild rush on feeling themselves hooked, had our lines been short—seven yards or so in length, and tight from the "baikie," instead of having the twenty or thirty yards of loose in reserve to let them dance with after striking themselves from the stone. Osier twigs we suspended our beef tackle over, and weighted it sunk a foot or two in the water, but being where there was a current, it was kept moving, and so, as the parson had said, had the chance of proving deadly. Next morning we were down early—half an hour sooner than usual. All the lines were drawn in great haste, and with an eager expectancy, but while we got sea trout of small size on the lines set for them, baited with the last and poorest of our lobs, we got nothing on the "beefers," which were all still fishing just as we had set them the previous night. Our lobs now done, we had more lines to use the beef on, and so the next night we had quite a half-dozen of "beefers" out. Back in the morning we went, and drawing all the lines one after another very hurriedly, we had got over them all—all but the last one, when coming to it, we saw by the tight line and the way it was drawn down quite close along the bank, that something must have been at it, if something was not still on. Eagerly we pulled in line hand over hand, when presently we felt a tug—tugging, and anon saw appear, first the head, then the tail, then the whole of a good large fish, which very soon lay on the bank—a fine bright autumn salmon of 11lb.—to us, urchins that we were, no more than fourteen, a monster fish—caught with a strip of red, raw beef.

HE'S OFF LIKE JEHU.

I once, though it was no credit to myself, got hold of a fish which I cannot in anyway more accurately describe than by calling him a perfect flyer. Fishing with fly in the autumn a long sharp stream which tailed off into a dub quite half-a-mile in length, I was holding the point of my rod down quite close to the water to make the fly sink deep and bringing it over the stream towards the side I was on without any movement, as was, and is, the recognised fatal style of "flying" on the river in question, when I felt something drag the line as if a shrub or bough below water had caught the fly. Tightening, but not hurriedly, my action was responded to by a violent jerk, and the next instant up straight out of the water, three feet anyway, leaped a fine fish, which three or four times performed this feat, each time with a violent shake, and twisting lash of his tail as he fell on the water. Then without further preliminary, and absolutely no warning of his intention, he bolted off down river at a speed to me quite astonishing. I was not the least flustered, being rather a cool and tried hand at the salmon, but this fish did make me, for once, wonder a bit though time for wondering there was little. Before I got up on to the level bank he had about the whole of my one hundred and twenty yards of line run out, and so it was a case of pelting in after him instanter or breaking in a jiffey. I am rather a fat stodgy individual, but for my weight and height I can cut the pace with most of like calibre for a good bit when put to the test. All my activity, however, was called into play to keep up with this maddened fish, going like the wind, and as if he would not stop till he had got back to the sea. Down through the whole stream he went in this fashion, and the whole of the long dub below he left behind ere ever he slacked an inch of his surprising speed. But the collapse came at once, and welcome indeed to me it was that it did, for I could not have held on much longer at the rate I was going, albeit I had only the encumbrance of light stocking waders. Really I was puffed; but the fish had fairly run himself out of the last iota of energy in him, for without a struggle I drew him on to a small sand spit and there without a movement he lay, till my man Davie came up and lifted him on to the grass, well away from the water. He was a new-run cock fish of 16lb., foul hooked close up to the back fin, and with the line looped round his body. The distance of this one interrupted burst, at the fastest speed I ever saw a fish make, was half-a-mile and ninety yards according to my measurement. I am told that "sniggerers" often get wonderfully exciting runs with fish which they foul-hook, something like this recorded, but I do not make the remark to encourage sniggering as the means of getting out of the fish the grandest, wildest, most exciting play that they can afford.

A FROSTY MORNING'S WORK.

I think it must be a very rare event to get sea trout to take the fly well in spring during severe frost. Often I have had this subject up in a chat with anglers, but never once to find it stated that anything like such sport as I once had had been obtained by any one of them under pretty similar conditions. The chance, however, does not often or in many places occur, as sea trout, fresh-run, are scarce in the rivers early in spring. Plenty of finnock are found—and such finnock, many of them—faugh! But the real prime new-run sea trout is a scarce commodity in the waters to the Englisher "ayont the Border." Often we hear of salmon taking the fly during a blizzard, more often when snow lies deep all round, and not unfrequently in a pool which has been rested a short time after the ice covering it is broken. But for sea trout in the early morning to waken up and greedily take the fly when the ground is like iron, the water "colder than charity," and the margin all ice, is a thing, I venture to think, but rarely heard of. Yet that they do sometimes, *when they are there*, so behave, my after remarks will show. About the middle of March, 1882, I went down to the river, at seven o'clock in the morning, to take a cast to keep my hand in for the salmon fishing, which was just about to commence. The morning, as I describe it, was intensely frosty, with that chilling white frost which soon makes one's nose look blue, the hair get tipped with white, and the hirsute adornment of the upper lip depend small icicles! Handiest for me was a nice, quick, but even paced shingly-bottomed stream, which, to make the circumstances fully understood, I remark was not over half-a-mile above a long tideway. I put on sea trout flies because I wished to have, along with my practice, a run from a finnock or two, which were numerous about, and I thought might come "up," as often before I had found them do, though always to be returned to the water, as not till a fortnight later did any ones in fit condition appear, and even then they were few and far between. Above, the air was clear, though the white haze hung below along the valley. I worked away, improving, as I thought, in my casting, and fast getting into my old knacks of making the line go out straight, just as I wished it, whether near or far, but my practice brought up no finnock, much less sea trout. A good hour I must have spent in this amusement, when, just as the sun rose over the hill and his first beams lighted on the water, making it look red like himself, a fish of apparently a good weight took me with a splash. I landed him after a little play, and found to my astonishment that he was a *real* fresh-run sea trout of 2lb., or thereby. As the sun got higher the haze wore away, and in about three-quarters of an hour it had entirely gone. The most perfect quiet of the earlier morning gave place to a breeze, and with that my sport ended. But sport *it was* while it lasted, for it amounted to twelve runs, with nine sea trout landed as the result. The heaviest of the lot weighed 2½lb., the lightest 1½lb., and the average was close on 2lb. How those fish came there, and how they were in such a mood for taking puzzles me, and all the more that never before nor after, either to me or anyone else, often as it was tried about the same time of the year and under pretty similar conditions, did the same water yield any fishing of the kind.

(*To be continued.*)

THE FISHERIES AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

By J. W. Collins.

It is doubtless safe to assume that all who are prominently identified with commercial fishing, with angling, with fish culture, or with the scientific study of questions relating thereto, will feel an interest in that section of the World's Columbian Exposition, which will be specially devoted to an exhibition of all that pertains to them. It may well be a matter of special gratification that the fisheries will receive more consideration at this Exposition than has ever been accorded them elsewhere under similar circumstances. And it should be all the more satisfactory to Americans because heretofore there has never been adequate and suitable provision made at any exposition in this country for a fishery exhibit, and all attempts in this direction have been limited by small appropriations and inadequate space.

It is true that there have been numerous fishery expositions in different European countries, some of which have been national and others international. It is also well known that the United States has participated in two of these, and that the highest honours were awarded to America and Americans at Berlin and London. But, while the National Fish Commission succeeded so well in securing recognition for our fisheries abroad, and though all honour is due to Prof. G. Brown Goode, who so ably represented this country on those occasions, it nevertheless will be apparent to all that, while it was then practicable to illustrate the principal features of American fisheries and fish culture, it was not possible with the means and time available to make a thoroughly exhaustive presentation of them.

Never before has the occasion presented itself to do this, and, as has been stated, it should be a matter of much satisfaction that the management of the World's Fair have arranged to construct a group of buildings specially designed for the purpose of a fisheries exhibit—an action which should result in the most hearty co operation of all who are interested in fishing and the industries dependent thereon, and the inauguration of such an effort on their part as will result in making this section of the Exposition equal to any in completeness and attractiveness.

Before proceeding to a more detailed consideration of these buildings, permit me to say that the exhibit of the U.S. Fish Commission, illustrative of its work and functions—including scientific exploration, fish culture and fisheries, but exclusive of live fish—will be located in the Government building immediately opposite the centre of the main fisheries buildings, with which it will be connected by a bridge crossing the ornamental lagoon.

For the reception and accommodation of general exhibits of fish, fisheries and fish culture, both domestic and foreign, there will be a group of three buildings, most admirably and appropriately located on an island in the lagoon at the northern part of Jackson Park near the outlet to Lake Michigan. These buildings have been designed in the Spanish style by the well-known architect, Mr. Henry Ives Cobb. They will be somewhat unique, but exceptionally graceful and pleasing to the eye, while their ornamentation, form and dimensions have been considered with the special object of adapting them to the purposes for which they will be erected.

The main or central structure is rectangular in form, four hundred and fifty feet long and one hundred and fifty feet wide. This will be the great central hall, where will be displayed all that pertains to commercial fishing and fish culture, including apparatus of capture, boats, vessels, products, models of fish-breeding establishments, ponds, &c.

Connected with each end of the main hall by an elegant curved arcade, is a circular building about one hundred and thirty-five feet in diameter. The one at the east, nearest the lake shore, will be devoted to an exhibit of living specimens of fish and other forms of aquatic life. Let me say that this building will have a grand central rotunda one hundred and eighty feet in circumference, around which will be placed the largest aquaria that is practicable to use; while in the centre will be a pond twenty feet in diameter, with a beautiful fountain, beneath the spray of which will disport many ornamental fishes. Entering the galleries near the side of the building, the visitor will pass between two rows of large aquaria, in which, as in those previously alluded to, there will be representations of the fauna of the Atlantic, the Gulf of Mexico, the Pacific and interior waters, including the Great Lakes. No words of mine will, I believe convey anything like an adequate idea of the beautiful architectural effect of this aquarial building to the construction and equipment of which the Exposition authorities have very generously contributed. I will not, therefore, attempt a description, but will content myself with the hope that all present will be there to see it in the summer of 1893.

In this building the U.S. Fish Commission will make a great national exhibit of fishery resources, embracing many varieties of fish, marine invertebrates, &c. And right here, let me say, that is the purpose of the Commission, as it is of the Exposition Management, to give consideration to species that are economically important, while the occasion will be improved to call attention to the great work that has been done by the State and National Governments in the artificial propagation and acclimatisation of fish and other aquatic species, thereby restoring and maintaining abundance in waters that had become depleted by over-fishing or other causes. It is impossible to over-estimate the consequence of this work, either in the present or future, and it is beyond question desirable that this opportunity should be improved to make the public better acquainted with it than ever before.

The western building of the group is similar in form and construction to that devoted to the live fish display. Here it is expected there will be assembled a magnificent and exhaustive exhibit of all that pertains to angling, and let us hope that the thousands of enthusiastic and public-spirited anglers in America and other countries, as well as all those interested in the manufacture and sale of anglers' outfits, will join hands in making this the grandest display of its kind that has ever been seen. For never in the world's history has there been such satisfactory provision for showing all the details of the gentle art. Not only will there be ample room for installation of exhibits, but here, right in the shadow of the building, fly-casting and bait-casting tournaments can be held, and the art of the angler may be tested, from shore or boat, in friendly trials of skill, and in the exhibition of the various modes and methods of angling.

As to what may be embraced in this fisheries exhibit, I believe the classification adopted is sufficiently broad in its scope to permit the inclusion of anything which will be strictly germane to fish or fishing. This seems to cover the whole field, and under it not only will it be proper to show living and mounted specimens of all forms, from microscopic animals to whales, together with aquatic or marine vegetation, and the apparatus for their capture; but it will also include the products of the fisheries and their manipulation in all their varied forms of methods and material. Besides this, there will be ample opportunity to illustrate angling of every description, together with fish culture and the literature of fishing, and all that pertains thereto. Indeed, I can think of nothing which would be of value to the fisheries exhibit which cannot properly be included under the classification referred to.

I have thus briefly outlined what has been and will be done by the Exposition Management to provide for a great fisheries exhibit. It now remains with others to make this one of the most attractive and successful features of the World's Fair, as I believe it will be, for it must be fairly assumed that those who are interested in fishing and all that pertains thereto will not permit this grand opportunity to pass unimproved. From information now at hand, we have reason to expect marked enthusiasm in this matter on the part of all the fisheries interests in this country, and that as a result there will be gathered at Chicago in 1893 a magnificent and exhaustive display illustrative of angling, commercial fishing, fish culture, and the science of the seas. It will thus be possible for the citizens of other countries who are our customers to find there an infinite variety of fishery products—the harvest of the seas, lakes, and rivers—and the whole world may see object-lessons, which will convey in the most emphatic manner information concerning the methods and magnitude of our fisheries, and their history and development from the earliest settlement of the country. In the same way, the world may learn what has been done in America by the States and Federal Government to maintain and increase the supply of fishes by artificial propagation, &c., and may become familiar with the results which have been achieved here by scientific exploration of our inland waters and the ocean depths.

I have reason, also, to believe that the fisheries of several foreign countries will be fairly illustrated. It is not necessary to speak of how much this will add to the interests and importance of this part of the Exposition, since I am sure this will be understood by all. But it is certain that it must be of great moment to us as a nation to gather here the arts and appliances which are used for the capture and preparation of fish in other lands, for, in addition to the interest we may naturally feel in seeing the exhibits of foreign countries, and comparing them with our own, it must be assumed that our fishermen can learn many things of value and importance to them by a study of such exhibits.—"*American Shooting and Fishing.*"

Notes

It is to be hoped that all who have any influence with the Corporation of the City of London will support the appeal to them, a copy of which we give in another column, from Mr. J. Granville Layard. Our readers who are interested in Thames angling know what a splendid fight Mr. Layard has made for ten years, single-handed, against wealthy landowners on the Thames.

We are glad to hear that such an influential gentleman as Mr. Andrew Pears has joined the committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society.

Pursued as a recreation and a study, angling will be found to be unequalled by any other pastime for beneficial results.

On the Tweed there was some good fishing last week, scores of eight, seven, and six fish, being obtained by individual rods in one day's fishing. All round, however, the sport was very far below that obtained three weeks to a month ago. Neither were any fish of a weight worth being specially noticed got. Monday next sees the end of the business, and however the last two days may turn out, Tweed certainly has done grand—more than kept up its autumn fishing reputation—and generally those who have fished "her" will have reason to congratulate themselves on their good fortune.

With regard also to the autumn angling all over the country. So good has it been that we believe there is scarcely an angler who will not heartily join us in wishing that "soon may there be another such season."

Mr. John MacIntyre, manager, Balnacoil, Brora, writes: "While my son was on his rounds, the other day, he saw two cormorants alight and begin to dive in a salmon pool about a mile above Loch Brora. He stalked and shot them both. One had nothing in its pouch, while the other had two char about size of well-grown herring, a trout nearly ¾lb. weight, and a full-grown salmon par! I never knew char were in the river—never saw one caught in it. Do you think they come there to spawn, or do they frequent the river all the year? In the loch they are plentiful, but seldom take the fly. There are more salmon on the spawning beds here than for many seasons past, and the weather up to now has been favourable."

It looks as if salmon disease will become epidemic to a frightful extent this winter. Of all the autumn salmon rivers in Scotland there is scarcely one in which it has not already shown. Generally it appears that the immense number of fish lying together is causing it to spread, but even where this is not the case it is breaking out and spreading fast. In several rivers vast numbers of fish have succumbed during the present month, and this is the more to be regretted in that but few of them were spawned. The loss in the future to the fisheries through the fish dying after spawning is but a mere trifle compared to that which is brought about through their being cut off before having spawned.

An agitation over the "lunch and flask" business, a gillie fortifier provided by Highland's hosts, at the expense of "ta shentlemans," is spreading amongst the tourist class of anglers, many of whom desire to see it abolished, or else its equivalent in "clink" made optional.

That grilse never become salmon is the opinion held by most of the rod and net fishers and river watchers on the North Esk. Curious; wonder what the resident member of the Scotch Fishery Board thinks?

We learn that many of the Scotch salmon rivers are flooding repeatedly, and so are altogether too unsettled for the season being a good one for the early spawning fish depositing their spawn in safe redds.

The heaviest fish caught by rod on the Aberdeenshire—this past "back-end"—a forty-six pounder got by Mr. Fortescue, younger of Kingcausie, exceeded by no less than 9lb. the weight of the second heaviest, which only came up to 37lb. But of this weight two were got—one by Miss Fortescue and one by Mr. T. Turner Farley.

Of late little has been heard regarding the proposed hatchery for the rivers at the Kyle of Sutherland. Apparently it hangs fire. Without a doubt a well-managed salmon hatchery, on an extensive scale, would enhance to a vast extent the value of the great ramification of fisheries, rod and net, connected with the kyle. But it would scarcely be fair that those most anxious to see it set a-going should have all the expense to bear. In that case there would be proprietors reaping a benefit without paying for it. It is hardly to be expected that the concern will be floated until the whole of the owners of fishings come forward and signify their willingness to meet the maintenance rate on the full assessed value of their fisheries.

The salmon hatchery on the Conon river, near Dingwall, is in good hands, and is likely to be kept up. But it would much sooner bring about a return of the river's prosperity to stock the hatchery on a far greater scale, and make ample rearing ponds, if they can be afforded, an adjunct. Without the latter, more than half the improvement a hatchery can bring about is neutralised.

There has been a regular riot, which threatened to become a serious affair, at Berwick-on-Tweed, by more than a hundred fishermen and others of the place, over the seizure by the bailiffs and crew of the preventive boat of a number of nets which it was suspected had been used for the illegal capture of Tweed salmon.

We regret to hear that "grappling," or "sniggering" salmon in the autumn by means of two or three flights of Stewart tackle (hooks) of enormous size has become notorious of late years on a certain salmon river not far north of Aberdeen.

Our correspondent, "Mac," reports that in twenty minutes one day, during the autumn fishing this year, he rose nine salmon, all of which hooked in some shape or other, but only in the case of two to hold on to the end. At the time there was a soft drizzle (without any wind), which ended in a tremendous downpour, previous to which, for a few minutes, the whole of the quieter water looked as if covered with oil. An almost similar experience was had by other anglers for a few miles along the same river.

The well-manned preventive "cruiser" of the Aberdeenshire Dee Fishery Board has been doing good work in overawing the less scrupulous of the fishermen of Fittie and Torry, who were wont at night, during the close season, to net great hauls of clean salmon in the estuary and along the coast.

Half of the important, largest, and naturally most productive rivers of the North-east of Scotland have now got artificial salmon propagation going on on their banks. These are Spey, Deveron, and Dee. Those still without it are: Findhorn, Don, and North Esk. There can be no question that Findhorn and Don stand greatly more in need of a hatchery than either Don or Deveron. The rod-fishing proprietors should spur up, and not lag behind the times.

It is reported that on the river Ythan, in Aberdeenshire, fully more than a hundred salmon, of over 20lb. in weight, were landed during the seven weeks of the past autumn angling season. This is a wonderful yield of large fish for so small a river. A great many grilse and small salmon were forward, which brought the average weight down to about 11lb. None of the heaviest fish caught came up to the usually best weight for autumn, the heaviest fish being 33lb., followed by 32lb., 30½lb., 29lb., and 28lb. fish. Some of the rods having complimentary tickets for Lord Aberdeen's extensive fishery had rattling good sport.

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear Best quality only —East London Rubber Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. Carnegie: You will see an announcement respecting some photo-reproductions of fish paintings by Rolfe in our Christmas Number. We shall probably issue some coloured by hand.

Correspondence

RE SLAUGHTER OF JACK IN THE THAMES.

Sir,—I wish to ask "Esox Lucius," Why trouble to protect such destructive fish as pike, or their youngster jack, in a river that affords sport for better fish—viz., trout, roach, &c.? Given a hungry jack, and any novice can kill it; exterminate them if you wish better sport is the wish of Anti-Esox Lucius.

PIKE IN SUTHERLAND AND CAITHNESS.

Dear Sir,—Harvie Brown ("A Fauna of Sutherland and Caithness, 1887," page 283) says: "*Esox lucius* pike used to occur at Loch Migdale, the only loch in Sutherland where it is found." Sheriff Mackensie writes us: "He has never seen a specimen from this loch; so the species may have died out. They were introduced at least sixty years ago by the then Mr. Dempster, of Skibo, and were caught in Loch Achilty, in the east of Ross-shire, by Peter M'Aulay, the keeper at Coul, for that purpose." Mr. Peach says he has just heard of one being caught in the Wick river.—Yours, &c., E. H.

LARGE ROACH—A QUERY FOR "GIANT."

Dear Sir,—Will "Giant," or anyone who, like him, keeps a valuable record of all specimen fish taken, kindly tell me (with dates, place and names if possible), of any well-authenticated instances of roach weighing over 2lb., taken during the last ten or fifteen years?

I could never get to hear of any true roach in Ireland (where the rudd which abound is called "roach"). Am I correct in supposing there are none in that country? Will any Scotch angler kindly tell me how far north the roach is found?—Your obedient servant, Inquirer.

TO SECRETARIES OF TROUT AND GRAYLING FISHING CLUBS.

Dear Sir,—I am anxious to join a good trout and grayling club about forty to seventy miles from London. If you will be kind enough to give me some information on the subject in your Correspondence columns, I shall feel extremely obliged to you.—Yours faithfully, C.

[We shall be happy to forward to "C." any particulars sent us from secretaries of clubs which may have vacancies.—Ed.]

LOCH LEVEN TROUT.

Sir,—I am most interested with your accounts of Loch Leven trout. The fishing association here obtained fry at the beginning of this year, and intended turning them into the river Teme at the beginning of next year. Are they likely to stay in the river? It is a fast-running stream, with deep, long flats and holes. I am doubtful on the matter, and should be very pleased to any of your numerous readers who would kindly give any more information in your valuable paper about them and their habits.—Yours, &c.,

W. Woodward.

HOW TO BREED AND REAR TROUT.

Dear Sir,—I observe with much pleasure that you have commenced to publish some papers on trout culture in last Saturday's *Gazette*, and I beg to thank you for the same. I would suggest that, before the papers, Mr. Andrews would inform the angling public the best kinds of weed and vegetable matter most suitable for trout streams, and the best means of introducing them. This is a matter of special interest to me, as, living near to the river Churnet—a splendid little trout stream—but owing to pollution from the Leek Dye Works, all vegetable matter has been destroyed, and also consequently the fish food in the shape of animalculæ; this pollution is now all or nearly all kept out, consequently I am wishful to get my portion of the river well stocked with ret and other vegetable matter. Any information you may give on this subject in your valuable paper will be thankfully received, at least by, yours sincerely, J. E. SMITH.

Cheadle.

THE FREKE BAG.

SIR,—A little error crept in the letter last week *re* the Freke bag. Of course, one could not boil a *new proofed* bag without spoiling it; it should have been "the bag to contain the *fish* is made of *unproofed canvas*," no leather or anything else that boiling would spoil.—I am, &c., F. MALCOM.

22, Ludgate Hill.

A QUERY.

DEAR SIR,—Would you be kind enough to let me know if there is any Sunday fishing allowed at Warner's Park, Walthamstow? Also, is there any jack or perch fishing? If you do not know would you please put my inquiry in the *Gazette*.—I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

Nov. 23, 1891. STEPHEN MASTERS, Jun.

ORCADIAN WATERS.

DEAR SIR,—I am pleased that my stray notes on Orkney should have met with the approval of your courteous correspondent "M. S.," who is evidently well acquainted with the fishing, the antiquities, and general characteristics of the Orcadian group. It is six years since I visited Orkney, but the season of 1885 was quite as bad an angling season as last season seems to have been in Orcadian Waters.

With regard to "M. S.'s" remarks on what I said with reference to salt water affecting the trout of Loch Harray, I can lay no claim to any special knowledge, such as your correspondent manifestly possesses, as to its operation on the trout of that particular loch; but it is at the same time contrary to my experience elsewhere to find yellow trout or brown trout at all affected adversely by salt water, or, at least, by brackish water. I gave merely the opinion which at that time was locally current—namely, that salt water sickened the trout of Harray. On looking over some of the reports in the *F. G.* of the fishing obtained in Lochs Stennis and Harray, I found, in more than one instance, high tides given as an excuse for indifferent sport. I do not wish to analyse your courteous correspondent's argument, which he says refutes my *obiter dictum* (for it was no more than that, and not a theory which I advanced), but I would submit that his evidence is contradictory to the local belief that the salt water sickens the fish, and to the excuse often given by your local reporter for poor takes, and that, in any view, the effect of salt water, on his own showing, varies with circumstances. In any case my theory only amounted to this, that if the local belief were well founded as to the effect of salt water, and the trout did not take after an influx of it, then the true reason was not because the trout were sickened, but because they had more food than usual. I do not believe, however, that salt water affects loch trout adversely in such lochs as Harray, and your correspondent admits in one part of his letter that if the influx were more regular the fish would soon "adapt themselves to their environment." I am no believer in disturbing the established order of Nature in a negative direction, and all barriers imposed upon the free and natural movements of fish, or calculated to artificially alter the normal conditions of their existence, will, I am persuaded, in the end, be proved to be dangerous experiments. It is a strange anomaly that the penalties attached to trout poaching in all its forms are not more rigidly enforced in Orkney. In this lies the real danger to the future prospects of Orcadian angling. The large number of small riparian proprietors (for trout fishing being a strict pertinent of the land goes with it, and the ownership of one square inch of land *ex adverso* of a loch, carries with it the right to angle over square miles of water), and the consequent want of joint action are probably the causes of the indifference of the community to poaching. In other words, it is the class, which should guard against poaching, that is the greatest sinner; but it should be noted that illegal methods of capture when used by those in the right of angling are not thereby legalised, for at common law any proprietor in the right can interdict any other proprietor in the right and recover damages, if he can show that injury is being done to the fishing by such illegal methods. The Acts 8 and 9 Vic., c. 26, and 23 and 24 Vic., c. 45, which together prohibit net-fishing, cross-line, or set-line fishing, the use of the otter, &c., do not unfortunately apply to proprietors.—Yours truly, DUINE MÔR.

PUBLIC RIGHTS ON THE NORFOLK BROADS.

SIR,—Your readers may recollect that, at a meeting convened at the Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush, by the Association for the Defence of Public Rights on the Norfolk Broads, the chair was taken by General Goldsworthy, member for the borough of Hammersmith, and one of the patrons (?) of this club. As I considered his speech on that occasion not at all in sympathy with the feelings of the conveners of the meeting, I attended a meeting at the Athenæum, Shepherd's Bush, where he was announced to meet his constituents, for the purpose of asking him the following question: "Whether, in the event of a measure being introduced in Parliament, making the County Councils the conservators of all common rights, public rights of way, fishing rights, &c., he would pledge himself to actively support such measure?" The chairman of the meeting appeared to fear some embarrassing questions being put to the honourable member, and declined to allow any questions at all to be put; but I mention the facts for the guidance of fellow-anglers and electors, as it appears to me that the only way to ensure the defence of public rights is to make some public body responsible for their maintenance, and I trust that other anglers will take similar steps with better results in order to expedite the arrival of that "consummation devoutly to be wished."—I am, Sir, yours truly,

West London Angling Club. W. H. ROGERS.

A SUGGESTION.

DEAR SIR,—As a constant reader of your interesting publication, the *Fishing Gazette*, it has appeared to me that it might be a benefit to many of your subscribers if you were to set a column aside for offers of, or inquiries for, fishing appliances (rods, tackle, &c.).

I should think a considerable number of people would avail themselves of it in order to dispose of rods, &c., which they find, for some reason or other, do not suit them or are no longer required; and doubtless there would be others who would gladly take the opportunity of purchasing a rod by a reliable maker at less than first cost if offered through the medium of your paper.

I merely suggest this: possibly others have done so before me; if so, and there are difficulties in the way of its accomplishment unknown to me, please do not take any notice of this.—I am, yours faithfully, WILLIAM LEA.

"Ardeer," College-road, Reading.

[We have for some time past had a column of this description in the *Gazette*, and have instructed our printers to give more prominence to it. Our only objection to the "exchange" business is that it may open the door to rogues.—ED.]

ANOTHER FINE PIKE FROM THE THAMES.

SIR,—Whilst fishing with Smith, of Molesey, last Thursday, in the neighbourhood of Hampton, I had the good fortune to kill a very fine specimen pike, which turned the scale at 18lb. 14oz., and measured 40in. long, in good condition, and is now being preserved by Messrs. John Cooper and Sons, St. Luke's.—I am, yours truly,

ALFRED KELLAND.

THE RECENT REPUTED CAPTURE OF PIKE AND PERCH IN NORFOLK.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—Referring to the large catch of pike and perch mentioned in the *Fishing Gazette* "Notes" of Nov. 14, and recorded on the authority of Mr. Edward Andrews, of Maidenhead, as being caught in Norfolk waters by two anglers fishing "Thames style," by which I suppose is meant "spinning," and possibly (as *three* rods were used) "snap" and "live-baiting," I wrote, at the request of yourself and other gentlemen, t Mr. Andrews the early part of this week (the 16t inst.), asking him to be kind enough to say i there was any mistake in his report, as from a analysis of the figures (as given below—a copy o which I sent him) it seemed impossible that suc a *miraculous* quantity and weight of fish could b caught by rod and line in the time stated—viz. fourteen and a-half hours. For some reason h has *not* replied to my letter up to the present date.

ANALYSIS.—Wednesday (four hours), 61 pike, 365lb.; 16 perch, 20lb.; Thursday (four hours), 41 pike, 237lb.; 3 perch, 2lb.; Friday (four hours), 79 pike, 380lb.; 16 perch, 22lb.; Saturday (two and a-half hours), 18 pike, 95lb. Total: fourteen and a-half hours; 234 fish; 1,121lb.

According to Mr. Andrews, "all pike under 5lb. were returned to the water, and not included in the above weights."

Through a long lifetime's experience, and numerous opportunities of fishing very splendid pike preserves, in rivers and lakes, I have always observed and "noted" that when fish *only over 5lb.* are allowed to be retained, a very large number of smaller ones—from 2lb. to 4lb.—are (or *rather should be*) returned to the water; and where the *minimum* for retainable fish is 5lb., the proportion of takeable ones is not more than three out of every five caught. But, supposing these fortunate fishermen replaced *only seventy* jack under 5lb. in the water, they would have been catching at the rate of *one fish every two and three-quarter* minutes (within a fraction) for fourteen and a-half hours, irrespective of the time taken up in putting on and casting out the baits, "working them," and *finding their pike*, whether "spinning" or "live-baiting on snap tackle" (for I don't suppose they fished "live gorge"), playing and landing the fish, replacing broken hooks and tackle, and in addition to all this, remembering the *extra time* that would be occupied in playing and landing the 16lb., 15lb., and 13lb. pike (to say nothing about the eight and nine-pounders), it would reduce the *average* time to *less than two minutes per each fish captured*. Verily, good sport for three rods during fourteen and a-half hours' fishing.—Yours, &c., ALFRED JARDINE.

November 21, 1891.

P.S.—Since sending the above letter to the *Fishing Gazette* a reply has reached me from Mr. Andrews (as given below). I would merely remark, Is it sportsmanlike, or even fair, to deplete waters at the rate stated by Mr. Andrews? Do the owners approve of it, and is it not the frequent cause of fine fisheries being closed for years to even those anglers who are content with moderate "bags," instead of "cartloads" of pike, which, after all, are useless, unless for "gross weight" club competitions? A. J.

[REPLY.]

SIR,—In reply to yours, I can only say that, if anything, I am under the weight of fish captured, and there is not the slightest mistake whatever in the figures, unless it be that every fish taken averaged when first weighed 6lb. each all round, a few, as you say, reaching 8lb. and 9lb. We fished in two boats and with three rods, and we landed the fish on several occasions two at a time. If we had fished more hours, "Marlow Buzz's" record of "ten tons" would not hold a shade to our capture, as I *can hardly believe ten tons of pike* were ever captured in "*Three Days Fishing on the Thames.*"

Returning once more to our capture in Norfolk: Mr. Wheeldon, writing in the *Sportsman* of November 19, mentions a large take, in which he took a part. I can, in reply, state, that had we fished an equal number of hours, and not returned any fish, we could easily have made one of the largest records of fair rod and line angling, as I could find no difficulty in landing and baiting hooks, casting out, &c., every two minutes.—Yours obediently,

EDWARD ANDREWS.

THE BIDEFORD POULTRY SHOW.

SIR,—A letter asking for information on the above show is in your paper of the 21st Nov., 1891. There were many birds shown, but I regret to say, that the colour was not mentioned, but I understood the prize was for the best hackles, and the result showed that colour was the aim of the gent who gave the prize and judged himself.

The first prize was given to a cross-bred Andasian blue, which most fly-makers put down as orthless; the second to a ginger blue perfect pered feather and Honey Dun Game Hen; the ird to a ginger freckled Game Cock and Honey un Hen; the fourth to a mongrel-bred. The econd and third were game bred, likewise a comended bird; but the judge liked colour; and the est feathers were not so much esteemed as they hould have been. I believe the first prize was old; but the breed is certainly no use to a flyaker.

Should you wish, I can refer to some breeders f game blues, gingers, Honey Duns, &c., which understood was the intention to unearth the ost valuable breed and colour, not Andalusian olour.—I am, Sir,

A Judge of this kind of Poultry.

Sir,—In answer to your correspondent, T. W. White, in your issue of last Saturday, to which my ttention has been drawn, I beg to say the class eferred to produced seven entries. The merits of he birds competing are not within the scope of oultry fanciers, but the gentleman who judged he class being a *practical* and successful fisherman or a very long stretch of years, makes it a cerainty that he knows what is wanted. He is not dealer in the trade, nor did he undertake the ask with a view to self-advertisement, but acting n concert with the gentleman who provided the rize money, his desire and effort was to promote he culture of birds that *are* suitable. Personally am unable to provide further information, but hould anyone interested desire to have more, I hall be pleased to act as the medium of communication between them and the judge.—I am, Sir, yours obediently, F. G. Pattison, Hon. Sec.

GOOD SEA-FISHING TWO-AND-A-HALF HOURS FROM LONDON.

Dear Sir,—I have often seen the sea fishing at Deal mentioned in your columns, and it may be of nterest to your readers if I record my experience. My friend (Mr. Henry Ball) and myself, left Victoria, at ten o'clock on Monday morning, arriving at Deal about half-past twelve, when we were soon informed of some good catches during the past week; this naturally made us very anxious to get afloat. We hurried over our luncheon, and just managed to have an hour in the day-light, being rewarded with thirty-three whiting, one plaice, one cod (11lbs.), and some dog fish. Next morning we started out at eight o'clock and finished at half-past eleven, our catch was forty-eight whiting (some very large), four cod average 12lb.), three conger eels and four dog fish. We were fishing with a rod, Nottingham winch and line, a twisted gut paternoster, with two hooks; when the tide was running, an extra tailhook, with a large bait, was added to attract the cod. Any one going there between now and Christmas, will find the fishing very good, provided the weather is favourable. I must mention our host, Mr. Hanger, at the North Star Inn, who provides comfortable accommodation, and is most willing to answer any inquiries as to state of weather and prospect of sport. Mr. Hanger is a good host—a capital fisherman, and being the second coxswain of the Lifeboat Crew, can spin a few interesting yarns over a pipe and glass of whisky, which is by no means an unimportant part of the programme in fishing, at Deal, this weather.—Yours truly, A. W. Stratton.

63, Haymarket, S.W.

AUTUMN SALMON FISHING ON THE EDEN.

Dear Sir,—In case a few lines may interest you, *re* the autumn season in the middle waters of Eden, when the floods ceased about Oct. 25, we hoped to get a good three weeks to the closetime, but frosty nights brought the river very low, within little more than a week, and many fish showed signs of disease, so perhaps, except for the last week's angling, the re-appearance of continuous rain was the best thing that could have happened. Although there were any number of fish, it was anything but a good back-end for us, as the middle stretches do not fish well in high waters.

Personally I was fortunate in getting some nice fresh-run fish, amongst them the three largest takes in the middle waters—viz., 28lb., 28lb., and 30lb.; a 28lb. she and the 30lb. male being perfect fish, and as good as you will see in Bond-street in the spring, and this was lucky, as I should say that, generally speaking, the fish this autumn were two or three weeks earlier than usual towards spawning, in fact some were already on the gravel beds, and the trout up the burns.

The storms this autumn all coming from the south-west, naturally affected the Eden more than the other Solway rivers, which rise from the northward, and kept them to a nice size, while inundating us, however, I suppose this southern origin causes the Eden to boast of a better run of spring fish than any other Solway river.

I enclose you water-colour sketch of the fly (one of my own patterns), which I dressed myself and killed the three largest fish with, on a size larger hook, also two quarter-plate views, which, while not pretending to be gems of photographic art, may recall to your mind Armathwaite, looking up and down from the bridge.—And remain, yours very truly, Fraser Sandeman.

[Here is the dressing of the fly as given by Mr. Sandeman: Tag—Gold tinsel; blue silk. Butt—Peacock herl. Tail—Summer duck; golden pheasant tippet. Body—Silver braid (flat); purple silk, blue hackle, orange silk, brown hackle, gold tinsel (flat). Throat Hackle—Gallina. Wings—Four bold strips gled hawk, two bold strips argus pheasant, two bold strips red macaw, four narrow strips (three fibres each), of blue and yellow macaw. We are much obliged to Mr. Sandeman for the views, which recall pleasant memories of the Eden, in some respects the most delightful of English rivers.—Ed.)

THE READING OF PAPERS AT CLUBS.

Sir,—I know you are aware how delighted I am at the result of the movement to promote the reading of papers. lectures, &c., at our working-class angling clubs in London.

It is a decided success, and the efforts of "the society with a long name," are duly appreciated, and the meetings, so far, have been "bumpers."

I want to make use of a part of one of your correspondence columns this week for two purposes, and I feel sure you will not "crowd out" my request.

First, Mr. Francis Walbran delivers his lecture upon "Two Yorkshire Rivers," at the Foresters' Hall, on Thursday, December 10 (R. B. Marston in the chair). The lecture will be illustrated by one hundred dissolving views. During an interval your humble servant will give a recitation, entitled "'Ow Bill Adams Won the Battle o' Waterloo," and this will also be illustrated with thirteen instantaneous photos projected upon a 15ft. screen. The lantern for the lecture and recitation are by Watson and Son, of High Holborn, the same as are used at the Crystal Palace, and for Mr. Harry Furniss's lectures. The same evening the distribution of prizes in connection with the late competition at the Rye House, in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Society, will take place. Admission *free* on production of an angler's or Central Association ticket.

Secondly.—Of course all these meetings we are holding, and other matters we have in hand—of which more anon—cost money—postage, printing, hire of hall, hire of lanterns, &c., &c., so we have decided to print and offer for sale a few reserved seat tickets, at 2s. 6d. each, and the committee wish it to be distinctly understood that purchasers of these tickets are really subscribing to the funds of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers, and not merely buying the right to a reserved seat at Mr. Walbran's lecture.

Now, Sir, I have been told that our object is a worthy one and that it deserves to succeed, but we must have the sinews of war, and I feel sure that many of your readers (and yourself) will help us in our work. 2s. 6d. is not much, and I believe there are many readers of your paper who will willingly help us to this amount.

All communications should be sent direct to me. Donations to our society can be made by P.O., cheque, or stamps.

I may add, the society hold meetings for business at the Citizen, 70, Houndsditch, the first and third Friday in the month, and papers are read every week (two this week) at some club in London.—I am, &c., Edgar S. Shrubsole, Hon. Sec.

16, Montefiore-street, Battersea Park Town.

SPORT ON LAKE WINNIPESEOGEE.

Professor Ben and I were spending a week bass fishing on Lake Winnipeseogee, New Hampshire. The day about which I am going to tell you was the fourth of our stay. So far we had obtained more experience than fish. The night we arrived we hastily swallowed our suppers and rushed down to get a boat and try the fishing, expecting, from all the stories we had heard of the lake, that it was so full of fish as to impede navigation. It was dark when we started, but the Professor actually pulled in a good-sized black bass in less than five minutes. That settled it; we must start early in the morning. We ordered our breakfast, put up and went to bed, expecting to catch more fish the next day than there are in the whole State of Connecticut.

We started at half-past four in the morning. It was mighty cold, but one of us kept warm rowing, and the other was still warmer from trying to steer our young canal boat and keep it from advancing sideways. After the sun came up we ate our breakfast and began to fish. We fished down the shore five or six miles and didn't get a bite. We tried all sorts of bait and all sorts of places, but apparently there wasn't a fish in the lake. By this time we were both cross enough to bite a nail. It is astonishing how cold air, cold water, and a cold breakfast, no luck, eight miles of rough water and a strong head wind on an empty stomach, will change a man's mind about the fun in fishing. We got home about three o'clock in the afternoon, filled with a strong desire to lick the man that told us there were fish in Lake Winnipeseogee.

The next day it was too rough to fish if we had wanted to, but towards night we took a row in the harbour and had a little adventure.

Between Blueberry Island and the shore there is a stone causeway and a bridge. We rowed down towards this bridge and unintentionally intruded on a young couple, in a Rushton pleasure boat as cranky as a canoe. They rowed through under the bridge and we the other way. Professor Ben said he sympathised with the fellow and hated to spoil his chance; I suspect he must have been there himself. Well, we rowed a little way and then floated. It happened that we could see under the bridge, and just as we looked, the fellow, who was sitting very close to the young lady, facing her, stood up and tried to take her in his arms and kiss her, but she pretended she didn't like it, and pushed him off, and he sat down just as though he thought she meant it. Just then they both looked and saw us, and we rowed away towards Pine Tree Point. Before long we saw a boat going at a tremendous speed for the bridge, and the Professor said he guessed the girl's old man must have been using a field-glass. When we came home the whole village was greatly excited about the young man and woman, who had capsized just the other side of the bridge. No one knew how it happened except Professor Ben and myself; the couple said they didn't know.

After supper we started out to do the town. We decided to begin by going to see the noted Whittier Pine, on Sunset Hill. In order to visit this historic spot in style we secured a two-seated waggon, and a horse which looked all right; but we soon found the latter had a shattered constitution and the former was sadly out of repair.

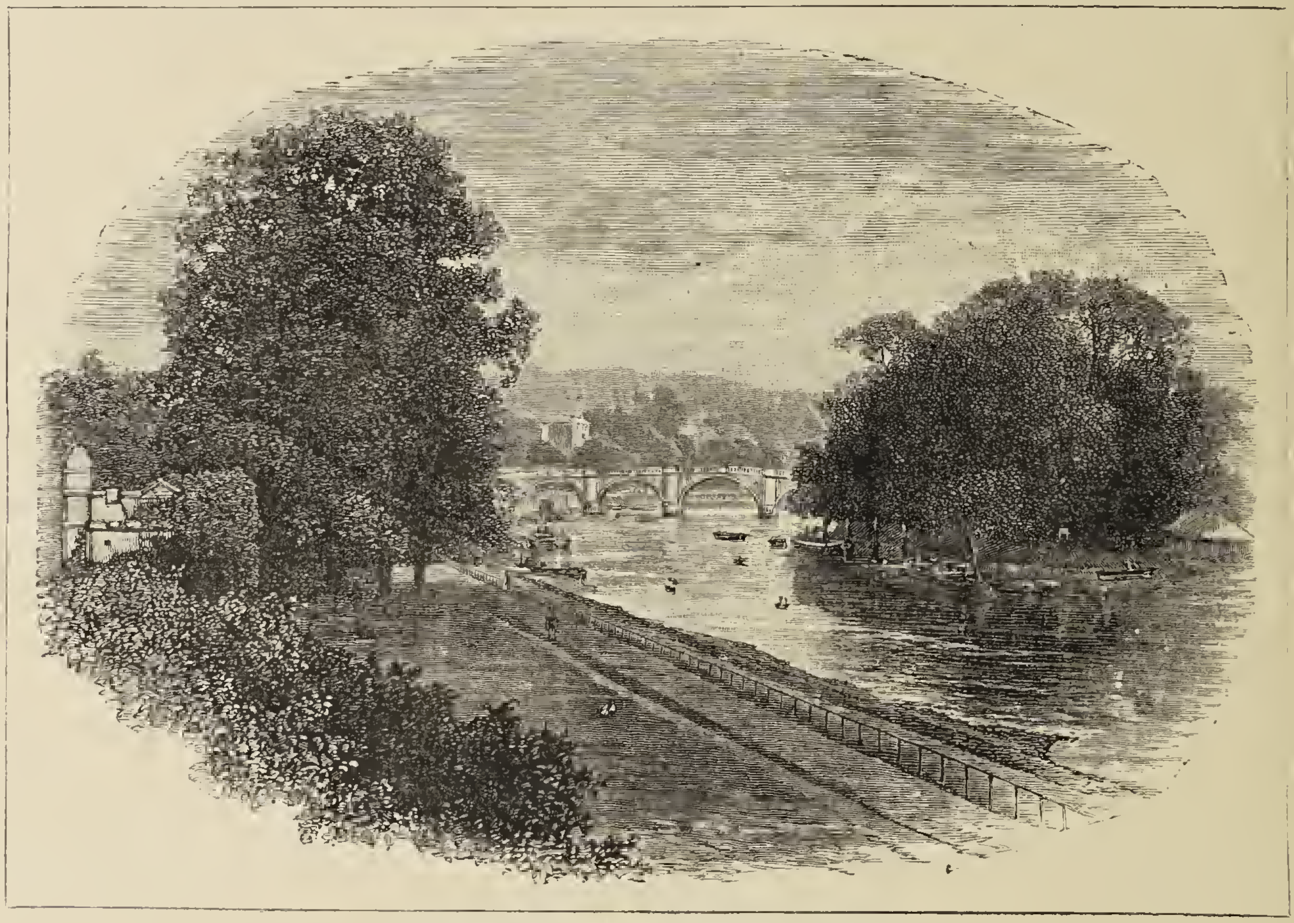
The animal had a habit of gesticulating fluently with his tail, particularly over the lines. We also found afterwards, that the owner had charged a price for the outfit based upon the probability of the speedy dissolution of the motive power.

We entered the capacious vehicle just abaft of amidships, deposited our feet on the front seat, and discovered that the horse also resembled a steamer from the fact that he backed before he went ahead.

Finally we reached the top of a hill, and passing through a gate entered a piece of woods. At this point, I attempted to find out if the horse was alive, by a judicious application of the whip, on an entirely new spot of his epidermis, and the effect was wonderful. He gesticulated more violently than ever with his tail, and jumping out of the rod jerked the waggon over a large rock. All that prevented the vehicle from overturning was the ballast on the front seat. I was so delighted with this sign of returning consciousness in the animal, that I continued the treatment until Professor Ben hit me on the side of the head, and then brought the horse up-standing, a-straddle of a large rock, in a perfectly conscious condition. From that position we carefully watched the sunset, but didn't notice anything peculiar about it, and then started back as soon as possible, for we were anxious to get the horse home before it was too late, lest he should die on our hands.

But to return to our fishing experiences. On the next day we got up very early. Our enthusiasm had revived. We had firmly resolved to catch some fish if possible. It would never do to go home and say we didn't catch anything, and we didn't like to lie unless it was absolutely necessary. We were going to have a guide, and were going over to the Neck, an inlet twelve miles long and not much visited. We were so excited at the prospect that we got up at intervals all night to see if it was morning.

About five o'clock we got up to stay, notwithstanding the fact that we could not have breakfast until seven. Professor Ben and I can learn by experience, and we don't go fishing now without a good warm breakfast. We had to get our traps ready, to wet our helgramites, and give our frogs fresh grass. The folks up there never saw a helgramite before. The guide called them "tarnal critters," and when he tried to put one on his hook he didn't take hold of it right. The helgramite clapped its pincers into his finger and grabbed him with its sixteen legs, and jabbed him with its tail. He flung it away and swore a streak that left blue marks on all the nickel rings on my rod.



THE THAMES AT RICHMOND BRIDGE.
("The Thames, from Source to Sea.")

At the house where we boarded were a maiden lady, a fat woman, a lean woman, a consumptive young man, and a French-looking artist, with a stunning wife; but they were none of them up at breakfast; only the man who knew all about fishing and could tell you where to go. He deliberately drew a rubber frog, painted green, out of his pocket, and said in slow emphatic words: "Do you want to know the best bait a man ever used? There it is. That's the killing bait. That takes 'em. I'll show you boys a string to-night." We told him we preferred the genuine article, the kind that scared the folks half to death down in Windham, Connecticut, in 1754.

We went over to the Neck in a two-seated waggon; we like to go fishing in style, and we sat on the back seat. We stopped at the store and got two quart bottles of nerve tonic and a dozen of ginger ale, and sarsaparilla and lemon soda. Our guide, who looked like a half-breed and had a greasy, grey moustaçhe and goatee all twisted to sharp points, said such stuff was too light, so he put in a gallon of cider. We were in a hurry, and told the boy who drove that he was the best driver we ever saw, upon which he got so much speed out of the old horse that he threatened to wreck the whole concern, and constantly kept about a foot of air space between our trousers and the waggon seat. A rock in the road a foot high is nothing to a New Hampshire boy when you tell him he is a "James Dandy" driver.

After going through the woods a mile and encountering only six rail fences across the road, we reached the lake and found the nice dry boat we were to use full of water. One of the advantages of having a guide is that he does the rowing while we can lie back, drag our hands in the water and wear our flannel shirts *decolleté*. The first place we went to was a large bare rock out in the lake. Most of the rocks and islands are covered with trees and snakes. The guide said he had counted three hundred snakes one day, and he hadn't been drinking, either. We found this rock was wanted by other parties. A man can't keep both feet in the air and fish at the same time; neither does he like big black ants up the legs of his pants. I gave it up and got into the boat. Professor Ben wanted to try a frog, but frogs are no use, they are always either at the bottom in the mud or out of the water or something, and when Professor found his frog out on the rock eating ants he came into the boat too.

The guide fished all the time, when he wasn't busy getting the snarls out of Professor Ben's line, or getting the hook out of a fish's tail when it had swallowed it too far, or asking us what the Governor of North Carolina said to the Governor of South Carolina, and then showing us what they did afterwards. He used a big bamboo pole about twenty feet long, and ten feet of very heavy silk line with a cork and a cod-hook. He said:—

"When I hitch to 'em, if the britchin' holds, they've got to come in, or else I go out."

He would lay his pole down on the water and when the cork began to bob, would leisurely pick it up, all the time saying: "Chew away, chew away, will ye?" Then he would put the butt down by his knee and derrick him out. The first time we saw him do this his pole doubled up and he seemed to have hitched to a log, when—swish—up in the air came a pickerel two feet long, and as he grabbed it around the body, he said:—

"There, ding ye, I got ye, didn't I?"

We had relatively as good luck this day as on previous ones it had been poor. We had the best luck off beds of lily pads, on a sandy bottom and we landed at night with seventy pounds of black bass, beside four pickerel and countless perch We didn't have to lie when we got home, but the whole crowd came out to stare at the mass of fish the biggest catch there that season. The artist's stunning wife came out and said in the sweetest tones:—

"Oh, my! oh, Will, just look! Oh, Professor Benjamin, are those really bass? Did you really catch them? Oh, how funny!" We thought she was rather frivolous. She told us one night she was twenty-three years old, and the next morning she made a point of telling the whole company she was just twenty-one, whereupon her husband said:—

"Ha! you grow younger as you grow old, don't you?" But she never blushed.

The man who knew all about fishing came out and nearly fainted. He hadn't had a bite all day and he excitedly asked us if he could buy some We told him we would give him some, and invited him to help himself; upon which he filled three water pails with the largest, and then went out behind the barn and threw his green rubber frog a long distance down the side of Garnet Hill.

In the room where Professor Ben and I slept there was a nice soft single bed and a small cot which closely resembled the soft side of a board. The question who should sleep in the bed and who in the cot, or rather which of us should sleep and who should not, was daily submitted to arbitration. Sometimes we threw up a cent for choice, and sometimes the winner was the one who caught the next fish.

The Professor and I like to be original, and we settled the matter in a new way every day. After supper we went out and set up a small stone on a boulder, away down the hillside. After throwing about three tons of small rocks, Professor Ben knocked it off, accidentally I think, and I slept on the cot that night.—*By Howard A. Giddings, in the "American Field."*

"THE THAMES, FROM SOURCE TO SEA."*

A valuable contribution to Thames literature has just been made in the publication, by Messrs. Cassell, of "The Thames, from Source to Sea." This handsome and profusely-illustrated volume is full of information—historical, descriptive, and otherwise—regarding the famous river itself and the innumerable places of interest and of beauty throughout its course. In perusing its pages the thoughts of the reader are carried back to the times of Alfred and Canute, of Ethelred, of Harold and William the Conqueror; to spots where the Dane, the Saxon, and the Norman fought, and where Cavalier and Roundhead met in fierce conflict; to ancient abbeys and nunneries —strongholds of that Church which bluff King Hal treated so roughly; through scenes of rural beauty and peace and rest; through that mighty agglomeration of peoples of wealth, of poverty, of human passions, and of incessantly busy life, which we call London, to where at last the waters which have beheld so many fair and wondrous scenes find rest—like other waters less famous in history—in the ocean.

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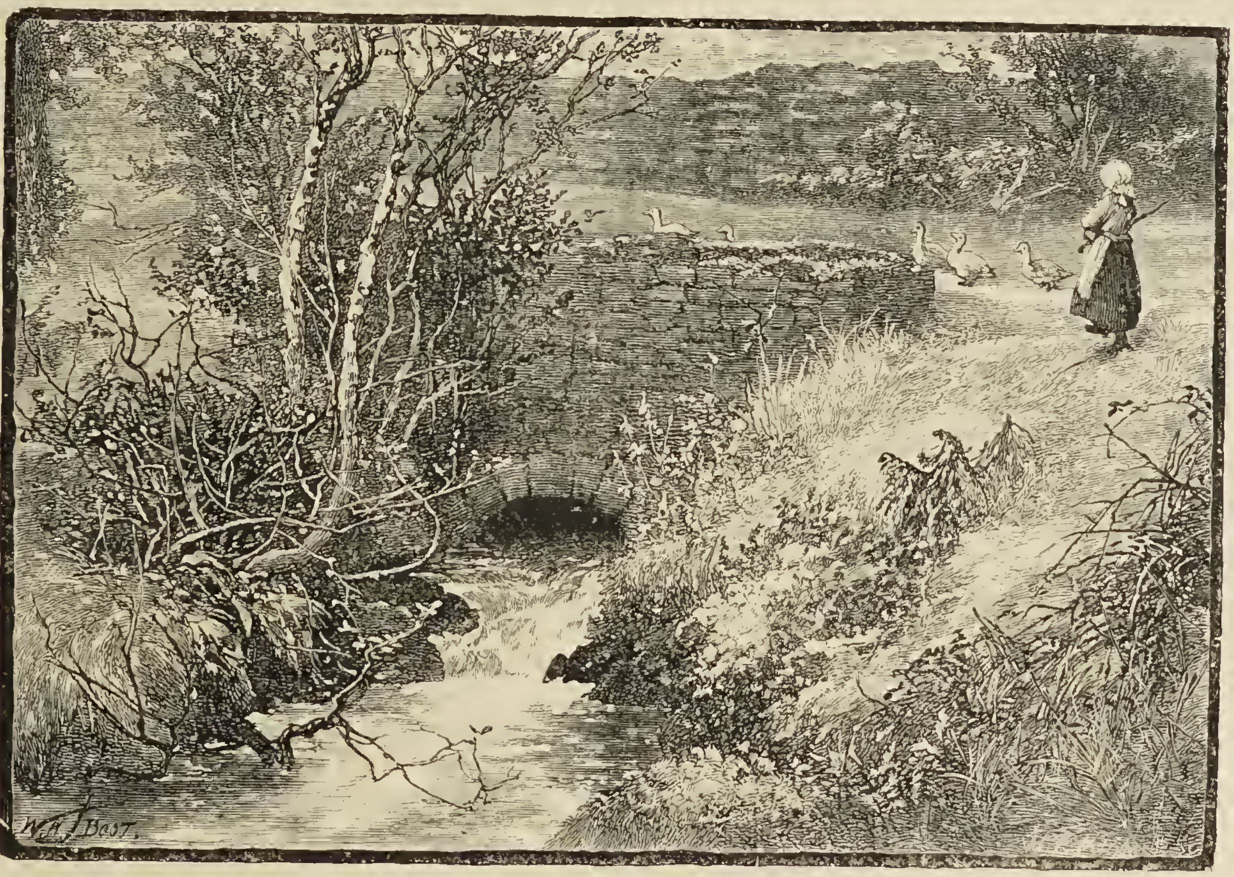
* "Rivers of Great Britain." The Thames, from Source to Sea. Descriptive, historical, pictorial. Cassell and Co., Limited, London, 1891.

In very pleasant fashion Mr. Senior writes in the first chapter, "Above Oxford," anent the sources and upper reaches of the stream, with the sleepy hamlets and villages on its banks, its farm-houses with their rick-yards and orchards, and country seats with their paddocks and gardens.

"The oldest, and in truth the oldest-looking, stone bridge on the Thames" we learn is called "Newbridge," and this we approach below the place where Alfred held his Parliament. The bridge is an excellent sample of old English masonry. It has been Newbridge for at least six hundred years now, yet its groined arches and projecting piers seem as strong to-day as they have ever been." Amongst the prettiest of the illustrations included in this chapter are those entitled "The Ferry, Bablock Hythe," and "Stanton Harcourt Church."



THE FIRST BRIDGE OVER THE THAMES NEAR TREWSBURY MEAD.
("THE THAMES, FROM SOURCE TO SEA.")

At Oxford commences a very different phase in the life of the Thames; and in the chapter devoted to that portion of the river from the University Tower to Abingdon, Mr. D. S MacColl, in graphic language, describes the innumerable places of interest contained in the former, and of rural beauty on the stream below. "Oxford from Headington Hill," "Magdalen Tower from the Cherwell," and "A Bump at the Barges," are the most noticeable illustrations of the great University town; "Iffley Mill," and "Church," and "The Bridge and Cottage, Nuneham," of its immediate neighbourhood. One of the many spots of interest in the beautiful stretch of river between Abingdon and Streatley, described by Mr. T. Penderel-Brodhurst, is Wallingford.

"The town was of consequence," he writes, "in Roman times, and a line of splendidly-preserved earthworks, thrown up by Latin-tongued warriors, is to be seen in a field near the railway station. The Castle of Wallingford underwent sieges innumerable, since its comparative nearness to London rendered its possession of importance to each side in the dynastic wars of the Middle Ages. It was held for the Empress Maud; it resisted stoutly in the behalf of that clever scoundrel, John Lackland; it was garrisoned for Charles I., but was compelled to surrender, and the Parliament made short work of its keeps and battlements." "Moulsford Ferry" and "Streatley Mill" are two of the prettiest sketches pertaining to this chapter. "The village" (Streatley), quotes Mr. Senior, at the beginning of the next chapter, "swarms with geniuses and their æsthetically-dressed wives." From this point downwards to Hampton Court may be said to be the part of the river most popular with the vast number of the inhabitants of the Metropolis who love to take their pleasure on the water, whether it be in the form of rowing, sailing, steaming in launches, or fishing. Goring, Whitchurch, Pangbourne, "object of worship to London anglers, as Streatley is the haven of desire to the artist"; Mapledurham, with its old Manor House and magnificent avenue of elms and delightful old mill; Caversham; Henley, of regatta fame; Medmenham; Cliefden Woods; Maidenhead; and incomparable Windsor, are only a very few of the places described and illustrated in this interesting volume.

A charming picture of Cliefden Woods has deservedly the place of honour at the beginning of the work, and there are many others of great merit, of which "Windsor Castle from Romney Lock," and "Bisham Abbey" and "Church," are perhaps the most attractive. The angler will peruse with interest Mr. Senior's remarks on the various forms of Thames angling, its times and seasons, its past, its present, and its future prospects. He will also derive encouragement from the information given in regard to the various experiments in pisciculture made at different points on the river.

The numerous scenes and buildings of vast interest, historical or otherwise, on the banks of Thames within what may be called the Metropolitan area are fitly described, and are as fitly illustrated. To single out the finest of the illustrations is no easy matter, but "St. Paul's from the Thames," "Billingsgate: Early Morning," "Woolwich Reach," and "Plumstead," are among the best. I cannot do better, I think, than end this brief notice by quoting the concluding words of Mr. Runciman: "Sometimes a Cockney sceptic may be found who shudders and speaks of the lower river as a place of horror. He sighs for the glades of Cliefden, for the mossy chestnuts of Hampton Court, for the sloping gardens of Sunbury. But let a wise sportsman take the sceptic's education in hand; let his wayward mind be disciplined by merry days among the swarming saltings, and he will acquire a taste that will be lasting. If he is judiciously taught he may come at last to feel the true ecstasy, the mysterious poetry, that touch the soul on shining nights, when the moon-silvered roll of the water is gladsome, and the shadowy ships steal away to the sea. Then the sordid flats are touched into beauty by the cold gleam; and the winds and the waters, and the sailing clouds, and the quiet ships pass like a mystic pageant—fleeting, fleeting ever eastward. The veriest townsman that ever waked the echoes under Kingston Bridge with his clamour will own at such a time that few sights in England are finer than the noble outflow of our splendid river."

HOW THEY CATCH STURGEON WITH MAY-FLY LARVÆ ON THE DANUBE, AND ANOTHER GOOD STORY.—"I have always read and heard that it was impossible to catch sturgeon with a hook on account of their mouths, but it seems it is not so. Here they dig up mud from the Danube with a long scoop and get out the May-fly grubs and use them on hooks sunk to the bottom, and the sturgeon suck them in. Another way is to put a cork on the water with a hook sticking out, and the sterlets (young sturgeon), or 'Shega,' as they call them, here flip at the corks with their tails and get hooked. This sounds rather like a Yankee tale, but I see it going on almost every day."—E. CARNEGIE, Brailo, Roumania.

AN IMPROVED SPOON.—Mr. E. Fenn, of Highland Cottage, Redditch, sends us a new spoon bait of his make, which we like very much indeed, and can strongly recommend to all who use spinning baits. By a very simple and strong contrivance which entirely does away with the dangerous split-rings, one can change the swivels and triangles very easily, and yet they are perfectly secure when in use.

HUBBARD'S SOUTHERN CROSS SMOKING MIXTURE.—Messrs. Hubbard, who advertise this tobacco in our columns, send us a packet to notice, and after trying it for a week, we can, with confidence, state that we believe it is a mixture which will find favour with the majority of smokers, being fragrant, cool, and in every way pleasant to smoke.

THE English Edition of Bonvalot's "Travels in Thibet," is in a forward state of preparation, and will be shortly published by Messrs. Cassell and Company in two volumes, under the title of "Across Thibet."

Waltoniana

So far as the state of the water is concerned, anglers cannot do better than visit the Upper Thames just now. What the weather may be during the short interval which elapses between the time these lines are written and put into typo, no man knoweth; but if it is at all respectable I shall be very much surprised if both grayling and bottom fishers do not have some capital fishing for a day or two.

The November number of *The Journal of the Marine Biological Association* contains one paper of great interest to the salt-water angler. It is on the production of artificial bait for sea-fishing. Mr. Frank Hughes, a chemist—who has been provided with funds for the purpose by Mr. Bayly, of Plymouth—has been endeavouring to discover a bait-extract, the scent of which shall be attractive to sea fish. Without meeting, so far, with entire success, he has made extracts which, when mixed with a suitable medium formed bait which sea fish would take, and there is some reason to suppose that before long he will find exactly what is required. One great difficulty at present is to discover some substance which may be impregnated with the odorous oils obtained from various baits. Mr. Hughes states that the substance must be exceedingly strong, and not easily pulled to pieces. For some kinds of fishing such a substance is, doubtless, very desirable; but it must not be forgotten that two of the most valuable baits used by sea fishermen—the mussel and the lug-worm—are weak things, and most easily pulled to pieces.

The methods of obtaining the extracts were various. Ether was used as a solvent in an extracting apparatus with good results, especially from worm baits, which give off an extract attractive to turbot, rockling, and pouting. Other extracts were obtained by soaking the baits in a liquid of a temperature about 50 C. Olive oils and fats took up no smell, and distillation in water or in a current of steam only gave a smell of cooked fish. Mr. Hughes also made extracts from some of the coarse fish, using the intestines of hake and ling. But nothing worthy of note resulted, and he sums up by saying that if any efficient extract is to be prepared, it must be from squid, mackerel, or pilchard. He finds that the most attractive extracts are those prepared with glycerine, but they have the disadvantage that the solvent cannot be recovered or got rid of; but, on the other hand, they can be kept for any length of time if some boracic or salicylic acid be dissolved in the glycerine.

With regard to the medium, various substances were tried, such as pieces of flannel and bags of butter-cloth. But these did not retain their smell more than a few minutes. Slices of turnip were tried, but these gave off a vegetable odour, and were useless. Gelatine seemed just the thing, but to use it heat was necessary, and heat destroyed the smell of the extracts. Liquid extracts being so difficult to use, Mr. Hughes tried making a mash of the bait, using boracic acid and glycerine to prevent decomposition. Squid and mackerel treated in this way were attractive to the congers in the aquarium, but no fish were caught in the sea with them, though some of the bags containing the mixture were sucked off the hooks. Conger also eat pastes made with flour and those mashes, but that mixture was no use in the sea, as it would not keep on the hooks. Roach fishers who read this may at once think of the well-known plan of mixing cotton-wool with paste to keep it on the hook. Possibly among the readers of the *Gazette* are some who may be able to suggest a suitable medium for his extracts to Mr. Frank Hughes, whose address is, I presume, the Marine Laboratory, Plymouth.

Mr. Goschen has recently delivered himself of a definition of some interest to anglers. "A lively imagination," is, he says, "a mental habit, which, departing from fact, expatiates on what is contrary to fact, and scarcely escapes from untruth."

This reminds me of the old kettle story, or, rather, a new kettle story, coming from Sutton Coldfield, a place I imagine to be somewhere in the Midlands. In a small well in a kitchen (a queer thing to start with, but I have seen something similar in a cellar) lived for some twenty years or more a small trout. It did not grow much, and had a quiet, peaceable, and uneventful existence. One memorable day a member of the household dipped a kettle into the well in the course of the usual preparations for the evening meal, and put it on the fire. After a few minutes there was an outcry that the devil was in the kettle, so great was the commotion. Someone braver than the rest lifted the lid and there behold was the poor trout at its last gasp. You would think the story might reasonably end there, but it goes on to say, that, on being returned to the well the long-enduring fish quickly recovered and is now as lively as ever. Moreover, I will tell you the name of the house—namely, Manorial Farm, Hill Wood, Sutton Coldfield, of which worthy Master John Sadler is the tenant. Mind, I don't say the story is true, but, one generally looks for truth in wells, which is in its favour.

Templar.

THAMES FISHING RIGHTS.

PETITION FROM AN ANGLER WHO HAS FOUGHT IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PUBLIC FOR TEN YEARS.

To the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, the Aldermen, and Commonalty of the City of London in Common Council Assembled.

The humble petition of John Granville Layard, of 27, Chancery-lane, in the County of Middlesex, solicitor, showeth:—

(1) That in September, 1882, your petitioner was prosecuted before the Magistrates of the Borough of Maidenhead, by a Mr. Tyrrell Lewis, for angling in the river Thames, at Maidenhead, which he alleged was his private fishery. Your petitioner defended the case, and the charge against him was dismissed with costs. Thereupon the prosecutor appealed, by way of special case, to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division, which appeal failed.

(2) In November, 1883, your Honourable Court, taking into consideration that the rights of the public in the river were involved in the case, and that the innocent recreation of angling therein, which had been enjoyed by many thousands of citizens of London and others for centuries, was jeopardised thereby, was pleased to grant a sum of £100 to your petitioner, in aid of the very serious costs and expenses to which he had been put.

(3) In the year 1885, an association of wealthy gentlemen, owning property abutting on the Thames, was formed, which styled itself "The Riparian Owners' Association," and the secretary thereof inserted a notice in the public press, challenging some person to angle in the river without permission, with the view of raising a test case. Your petitioner, encouraged by the support so graciously afforded to him by your Honourable Court, and being determined not to allow the public rights and enjoyments to be prejudiced, accepted the challenge, and angled in November, 1885, in a reach of the main stream of the river Thames, at Mapledurham, which is claimed by Mr. John Darell Blount as his exclusive fishery.

(4) A writ was thereupon issued by the said Mr. Blount against your petitioner in the Queen's Bench Division, and the action came on for hearing and was tried before the Lord Chief Justice and a Special Jury, on the 6th, 7th, and 8th days of December, 1887, with the result that the jury disagreed, and were discharged without verdict.

(5) Thereupon the plaintiff, Mr. Blount, appealed to a Divisional Court, and ultimately to the Court of Appeal, to have judgment entered for him; but his appeal was unanimously dismissed by the last-mentioned Court, constituted of the Master of the Rolls, and Lords Justices Bowen and Lindley, on the 4th May, 1888.

(6) The plaintiff thereupon set his case down for rehearing, and amended his pleadings, which amendment considerably complicated the questions at issue in this very difficult and expensive litigation. Whereupon your petitioner again applied to your Honourable Court for assistance in continuing the contest, and your Honourable Court was pleased to grant to him a further sum of £100 in November, 1888.

(7) In March, 1889, the case came on for rehearing before Mr. Justice Field and a special jury, who found a verdict against your petitioner, and judgment was given against him for forty shillings damages and costs.

(8) The plaintiff proceeded to tax his costs of suit against your petitioner, which were abnormally large, owing to the second trial, consequent upon the disagreement of the jury on the first hearing, and to the numerous ancient documents, some of which bear date anterior to the reign of Edward III., and which had to be produced, transcribed or translated, and the total judgment amounted to no less a sum than £1,018 5s.

(9) For the last two years and a-half your petitioner, who is only a struggling solicitor, has endeavoured, without applying to anyone for assistance, to liquidate this heavy amount, and has already succeeded in paying off a sum of £250, and he has also insured his life on the sum of £800, and has assigned the policy to the plaintiff, with the view of securing the balance due to him.

(10) Your petitioner is now indebted to the plaintiff in the sum of £896 3s., after allowing interest and incidental costs on the judgment, and the plaintiff has recently intimated to your petitioner that bankruptcy proceedings will be instituted against him for such balance. Your petitioner having, however, pointed out the hardship of these proceedings, and the real effort he has made to honourably fulfil his obligations, has been informed by the plaintiff that if he pays the sum of £250 within a short period, and continues during the remainder of his life to keep up the insurance policy, further proceedings will not be taken against him.

(11) Your petitioner is utterly unable to find the sum of £250 so required, and, therefore, will be made bankrupt, and ruined professionally, unless he is assisted to obtain such sum.

(12) Your petitioner's action in this matter has received the very general support and approval of the public Press throughout the country.

(13) In consequence of his connection with this litigation, your petitioner has been twice examined before a Committee of the House of Commons, on the last occasion being the first witness on behalf of the Conservators of the river Thames, who were promoting, and obtained, an Act for the better regulation of the river.

(14) Your Honourable Court is respectfully reminded that the case has been litigated twice in the Queen's Bench Division, twice in the Divisional Court, and once in the Court of Appeal, and, therefore, your petitioner submits that he has used all reasonable efforts to maintain the interests of the citizens of London and the public in the Thames.

Under these circumstances your petitioner respectfully asks your Honourable Court favourably to entertain his prayer for some pecuniary assistance, to save him from ruin for contesting for some eight years what he believed, your Honourable Court believed, and many thousands of the public believed to be their rights in the river Thames.

And your petitioner will ever pray, &c.

November, 1891. J. Granville Layard.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

A special general meeting of the Birmingham and District United Angling Association was held on Thursday evening last, Nov. 19, at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield, Birmingham. Mr. T. Coles, the president of the association, presided, and Mr. J. A. Dance occupied the vice-chair. The roll-call showed that forty-six societies were represented. The president pointed out to the delegates that the object of the meeting was for the purpose of electing the officers, in order to facilitate the printing of the travelling cards for the ensuing year of 1892, as the railway companies desired the names of the chief officers to be printed on the inside pages of the new cards, and the Midland cards having to go to Derby to receive the official stamp of that company, it was desirous that the chief officers should be elected as soon as possible, so that the cards would be ready for issuing before the present year was out. The election of officers was then proceeded with, when Mr. T. Coles was unanimously re-elected with acclamation, upon the motion of Mr. R. Gumbley and supported by Mr. Hughes, to again occupy the position of president. Mr. Coles, in reply to the hearty manner in which he had been elected, said that it was a great source of pleasure to him to know that he had the good wishes of the delegates present, and that it would be a great incentive to him to try and make the association bear the good name that it now possessed, and help to make it one of the most flourishing in the country. Three vice-presidents were next elected, the retiring gentlemen being Messrs. Dance, Gumbley, and Hiley. Five gentlemen were nominated—namely, Messrs. Dance, Hughes, Hall, Gumbley, and Holding, and the vote being taken, Messrs. Dance, Gumbley, and Hughes were elected. Mr. E. F. Simkiss, the treasurer, having sent in his resignation, Mr. A. G. Hall, the president of the St. George's Society, was unanimously elected; Mr. C. White was elected as secretary, being unopposed. Messrs. R. Holding and Mr. J. Allen were appointed auditors, and Messrs. Buller and Cross, of 1, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, were appointed solicitors to the association. This concluded the election of the chief officers, the election of the working committee being deferred until the next general meeting, which will be held on Dec. 10 next. Several notices of motion dealing with the care of the monies of the association were brought forward, which were allowed to stand over until the next general meeting.

We are at last having a little dry weather, and the rivers are beginning to settle down and become fishable, but many anglers have been prevented from going out on account of the dull and foggy weather that we are just now having. On the Trent I have heard of nothing particular being done, as very few of the Birmingham contingent have visited their waters. Some of the St. George's members have been to their water on the Avon at Bidford, and they report the river to be getting into good condition. The pike are on the move and one or two runs were obtained; but, owing to the fisherman's luck, none were captured, the largest fish taken being a chub of near upon 3½lb. This was taken by Mr. L. Robinson. The Severn is also getting into condition, but very few anglers have been out, but with a continuance of the dry weather, this river will well repay a visit, and some fair catches ought to be had, as the recent rains have done much towards benefitting the fishing. From the waterworks' reservoirs at Gravelly Hill I have heard of the pike feeding well, and hope that some of my friends will take notice of this, and see if they cannot capture something worth recording, as this water contains some first-class fish. The other pools, both public and private, should also command attention.

A committee meeting of the Birmingham Angling Association will be held at the headquarters on Thursday evening next, Dec. 3, when the applications of two new societies who have applied for admission into the Birmingham and provincial associations will be considered. Both the new clubs are in the neighbourhood of Sparkbrook, the one being held at the Turners' Arms Inn, Turner-street, and the other at the Junction Inn, Highgate-road. There will be other business of great importance to be decided, and I am requested to ask the committee-men to use every endeavour to attend this important meeting, which will be the last committee meeting of the year.

A committee meeting of the St. George's Club will be held shortly, when the important matter of re-stocking the river Anker at Tamworth and Amington will be discussed, and, from what I can hear, the members are greatly in favour of the project, which, if carried out, will give great satisfaction to the members, and also be an inducement for other persons to become members, as the Anker is very convenient for the Birmingham anglers to get to, and if the fishing was improved, it would be the means of a large increase of members.

The members and friends of the Tenby Society, held at the Tenby Restaurant, Tenby-street, will have a supper on Wednesday evening next, Dec. 2. The supper will be laid at eight o'clock. After the cloth is drawn, a smoking concert will be held, when the company of any of the anglers in the district will be esteemed a favour, and they will receive a welcome from the Tenbyites.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

The annual meeting of the affiliated clubs forming the Manchester District of the Amalgamated Anglers' Association, was held on November 19, at the headquarters of the Royal Walton Club, the Farm Yard Inn, Harpurhey. Previous to the meeting, Mr. James Kay, the genial landlord, entertained the district officials and the officers of the club at dinner. At eight o'clock the president took the chair, and without any delay called upon the secretary to read the minutes of the last meeting, which were passed as read. The balance-sheet next received attention, and proved of a very satisfactory character. It is a matter of congratulation to the present executive that since they took office two years ago the muster-roll has risen from 380 to 691, and the balance in hand in similar proportion, although many heavy demands of an extraordinary nature have been made upon the funds, consequent upon the reforms instituted and carried out during their period of office. The minutes of the amalgamation were next read, and also the balance-sheet. The former were of an uninteresting nature, and with the exception of the item "correspondence," were passed as read. Some very plain speaking was indulged in respecting the action of the delegates in passing and printing a resolution on a private letter sent to their secretary. The balance-sheet also produced a lengthy discussion not favourable to the amalgamation generally. Proposals were made to the effect that the Manchester District withdraws its two delegates; but, at the suggestion of Mr. Spence, the question was deferred for a month, and in the meantime the various clubs are asked to consider the desirability or not of secession from the parent association. Mr. George S. Smeeth was again elected president: Mr. Peacock, treasurer; and Mr. Chadwick, secretary, all being unanimous elections. The ballot for the special sub-committee resulted in the following being elected: Messrs. Kay, Yates, Oliver, and Butterworth. The executive were urged to acquire fishing for the district. After the further consideration of finance and salaries, the meeting stood adjourned for four weeks. A cordial vote of thanks to the host and hostess concluded the business of the evening.

The promoters of the memorial to the various railway companies are to be congratulated on the success attending their efforts in the preparation of the same. Already abundant proofs of the popularity of the movement are to hand in the number of sheets returned filled up with valuable signatures.

The annual dinner of the Shakespeare Club, held on the 18th, was of a most enjoyable kind. Mr. Walker presided, and the musical and other attractions being supplied by Messrs. Issott. Reed, Wolstencroft, Newton, Wheeldon, Robinson, and Livesey. The Openshaw Club at their annual meeting elected the following as officers for the year: President, Mr. Chadwick; vice-president, Mr. Yates; secretary, Mr. C. P. Milnes. Both these clubs have just completed the season in a satisfactory manner.

The roll-call of the N.A.A. has just added to its strength the Cambrian Club. How long are the outstanding clubs going to hold aloof? The St. George's dinner—or rather one of them—was a great success, Messrs. Johnson, Green, Kelly, Taylor, and Radcliffe being responsible for the harmony which usually follows these social gatherings.

The results of the limited number of rods out during the past week are not of an exciting character. Pike are being taken every day, and coarse fish are contributing a moderate amount of sport. One exception to the usual uninteresting state of things was a fine basket of grayling. in grand condition, and averaging ¾lb. each, taken in private waters by Mr. W. George. One of the Salford clubs is negotiating for additional fishing, and if successful will then have some really good waters at its disposal.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

On the Yare nothing worth reporting has been done during the past week. Several anglers have been out after pike, but only a few of them caught fish, and they were very small. With the water fining down as it is, good sport may be anticipated next week.

On the Thurne, at Heigham Sounds, some fair sport has been obtained. Two gentlemen staying in the neighbourhood took, in four days, sixteen pike, weighing from 4lb. to 15lb. each, and one splendid perch of 2¾lb.

The Bure has been productive of some good sport. Two friends of mine took, at Wroxham, last Thursday, seventeen pike. Last Friday, a catch of about 14lb. of perch was made near Salhouse Little Broad, and six pike, of sizes varying from 3lb. to 6lb., were taken near St. Benet's Abbey.

A curious incident was witnessed on South Walsham Broad, on Monday afternoon, about four o'clock, by a man who was rowing home from work. He saw a pike of about 8lb. strike at a large fish, and noticing that the pike seemed to have more than he could manage, he stayed and watched it. In a few minutes the pike came to the surface, and lay motionless, with his prey still in his mouth, and the man rowed up to it, and caught it by the tail; but it darted off out of his grasp, and swam into a clump of reeds, where it was lost sight of. On Tuesday morning the man, who felt sure that the pike could not swallow so large a fish, and at the same time was convinced that it was so far gorged as not to be released, went again in search of the pike, and found him about three yards from where he left him. lying at the bottom, in about three feet of water, and seeing he was helpless, put an oar under him, lifted him gently up, and then threw him under the reeds. He sent the pike, with the fish—a fine tench of, as far as can be judged by several old anglers, about 3lb., firmly fixed in his jaws, of course, quite choking the pike—up to Norwich, and it is now shown in his window by Mr. A. J. Rudd, fishing-tackle maker, London-street. The pair were seen by several gentlemen directly they were caught. one of the gentlemen mentioning the fact that night at the annual dinner of the Norwich Angling Club. This incident is interesting, as it shows that pike, at any rate, when pressed by hunger, will take tench, though the latter fish is supposed to enjoy an immunity from death by swallowing.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

It is surprising how quickly the Trent, after the heavy rains, has run down, and already a big flutter exists amongst pike and chub fishermen to renew their connection with the fish. Pike anglers were, in fact, out on Monday, and in the centre portion of the Weston subscription length, Mr. W. Harrington, of Radford, landed a choice fish of something like 6lb. One of similar weight was taken on Saturday in the "Black Pool" at the foot of Weston Cliff, by the veteran Mr. Humber, of Derby. This gentleman, who is an old and valued servant of the Midland Railway Company, by whom he is allowed a superannuation, is above seventy years of age, and is, in spite of his years, as hearty in the cause of angling as when he was a young man. He has always held his own amongst the *Esox lucius* family, and has, in his day, killed a large number of remarkably fine salmon, not only in the Trent, but in the Dove, up which the late spawning fish are now making headway. It is the opinion of the water-bailiffs of the Trent Fishery Board that this season the fish will push beyond Tutbury for the purpose of depositing their ova, and of late they have been carefully watched. At Weston, on Monday, a friend of Mr. Harrington caught several splendid bream with the worm, and odd specimens were got at Barton with the same class of bait. On Tuesday, below King's Mill Weirs, Mr. Walter Marshall, of West Bridgford, enjoyed some extraordinary sport amongst chub, using pith (bullock's pith and brains) as a lure. In very rapid water he speedily landed seven, weighing in the aggregate within a few ounces of 20lb. The two heaviest weighed 7lb., and one of these was recorded on the books of the Nottingham Wellington Association, of which the angler is a member. I hear, however, there is one weighed in of nearly 4½lb. On the same day I caught some big roach in the same fishery, and on Wednesday bagged six chub of 14lb. in the Wilford water. Singularly enough, Mr. Marshall supplied me with the bait he had left over night, and at times the fish actually seized it lying on the bottom. But it must not be inferred by this that I am an advocate for tight floating with pith. The fact is the swims, through extra water, were almost unfishable at Wilford, and I was compelled to hold "hard" on them. Chub are bold feeders in a fine water, and it is a treat to get amongst them with fine tackle and a plentiful supply of brains. These are indispensable, and should be used in proportion to the depth of the swim operated upon. Many small pike have been caught during the week above our new Trent Bridge, and fish of fair size have been met with in some of the lower backwaters. On Monday, Mr. Geo. Hall, an old and persevering "splodger," took thirty-one roach with the cockspur worm above the bridge named, and on the following day he supplemented the take with a less number, although the fish ran larger. At Wilford, on Tuesday, Mr. J. Taylor, Nottingham, had a grand lot of roach, dace, and chub with the maggot, and I hear that of late roach have been in a feeding humour in the deeps in Clifton Grove.

At the last meeting of the committee of the Nottingham Wellington Angling Society, a variety of questions of considerable interest were brought forward. I should be sorry, however, to attempt to divulge any secrets or confidential communications. I am at liberty to state that a sub-committee was appointed, and that ere long some most welcome news, as regards the status of the society, will be laid before the members. Meanwhile the angling contingent are on the strict war-path, and specimen fish in the various classes open for competition continue to be weighed in. Great things amongst *Esox lucius* are expected during the next few days. No fish under 5lb. are recognised by the executive, and in this respect they certainly set a splendid example to the other clubs in the town. Chub (essentially a winter fish) are not tolerated under 2lb., and throughout the classification a high standard of weight is happily maintained. We have none of Mr. Shrubsole's "tittle-um daddlers" to contend with, and already that gentleman's exposure of such miserable specimens appears to have done a power of good amongst the London clubs.

In the early part of the week a portion of the Nottingham and Beeston Canal was run off for repairs to one of the locks, and the bait catchers were busy in the small hours of the morning. I am afraid, however, their takes would not be over profitable, for the water seemed as black as ink, and too impure for fish to live in it. But I hear they got a decent number of bleak, gudgeon and dace, and of course these were quickly secured by the dealers in pike baits. No matter how large the supply, the baits are speedily disposed of when the Trent is in anything like pikeing condition. I have known one well-known dealer (Mr. J. Theaker) to sell as many as twenty score in a couple of days. Dace are always in eager request, but of late a re-action has set in in favour of bleak, and judiciously rigged up on light pike tackle they prove an admirable substitute; whilst for trolling purposes they have no equal.

Another local fish story! Have any of my readers ever heard related the tale of a fighting pike effectually curing a case of deafness? I heard it told the other day after a fishing outing, and the veteran who told it pledged himself that it was positively true. In the village of Normanton-on-Soar (and the Soar joins the Trent only a few miles above Nottingham), a retired doctor, who was deaf, passed most of his leisure time angling for pike when the fish were in season. One day, whilst live-baiting, he hooked a veritable monster. The fish rushed madly about, the doctor grew intensely excited, and finally, in the height of his excitement, the line broke and the prize escaped. He ejaculated a great big "D.," and at the same instant was astounded at recovering his hearing. He instantly packed up, hurried home, and amazed the household by answering every question put to him in the most fluent manner. The incident quickly spread into the village, and the villagers flocked in a body to the doctor's residence to congratulate him on his pike mystery. As the teller of the tale said, "The excitement of losing the fish was too much for him. It *bust* the wax in his ear sockets, but he never forgot that day's fishing."

The same old warrior asked me whether I had ever killed any chub with a spinning bait. I replied that I had killed occasional fish whilst spinning the Devon minnow for salmon. "But," said he, "have you ever killed a bream with the spinner?" I replied, "No; they are not a fish of prey." "Well, then," he retorted, "you are not in it. I have killed two this very summer." "What," I queried, "with the spinner, and the fish hooked in the mouth?" "No," he answered, "through the back fin. I ne'er thought you would have asked me that."

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

This week brings a frost, a keen, bitter, nipping, and biting frost, which makes its presence unpleasantly felt to the angler, and reminds him that golden autumn has passed the gate of time and has paid the toll. It brings home to his mind the fact that unless he be possessed of a more than usually robust constitution, he must oil his rods and lay by all his instruments of torture until the advent of gentle spring. The majority of local anglers have already carried this out, and few, except the professional pike fisherman who seems impervious alike to hail, rain, and sunshine, pike fishing, either in the pools or the river, will at this time be found to produce excellent sport, but the streams are too fine for heavy takes. Good sport may also be obtained with the perch and roach.

The decision of the Severn Board of Conservators not to extend the close-time for salmon fishing, has caused a good deal of dissatisfaction and irritation among the representatives of the Upper Severn, who have been so long agitating for a better supply of "the king of the Severn," in the districts above Shrewsbury. By their adverse vote against the resolution to extend the close-time, the Board on Thursday practically showed that it existed not to act fairly and justly to every interest, but on the other hand to protect the commercial industry of the lower waters at the expense of those interested in the fishing. For the fishing industry of the lower waters to have been deprived of a week or two of their fishing, would, as it was freely argued, have been a matter for regret, but at the same time it was the duty of the Board not to consider this one special industry and neglect the common interests of the river, to say nothing of the angling and netting rights of those on the upper waters. For years the number of fish annually taken in and above Shropshire have been decreasing; the revenue derived from the licences in these districts has decreased. The take of salmon generally has become less, and still the Board remains blind to the fact that unless the mature fish are permitted to pass to the spawning grounds in the upper reaches. the supply must necessarily become smaller and smaller. Not only is it but just and reasonable that the people in the upper districts should receive their fair proportion of fish, but it is most expedient that they should do in the interests of the lower water fishing industry as well, for if the fish are not given every facility for spawning, how can it be expected that year after year they can reap the harvest that they have not sown? It is greatly to be regretted that the scheme to extend the close-time was not, at any rate, given a fair time, for the resolution of the Board will greatly increase the irritation that is strongly felt by such powerful public bodies as the Shropshire and Montgomeryshire County Councils as well as by private individuals. There is no doubt, however, that the representatives of the upper waters will not allow the matter to rest, unless something is done to satisfy their just claims.

NOTES FROM EAST TYRONE.

After the broken weather of the past fortnight, we are now enjoying a kind of second-hand summer in Tyrone Occasionally the thermometer rises to 58 deg. Fahr. about noon, but the nightly frosts are the more bitter. However. these frosts are doing good service in clearing the small pike streams of the weeds and vegetable matter, which would otherwise interfere with spinning, not that much of the latter is done in Tyrone, except in the small burns that only hold pike. The luce is often found in the most unlikely places. A few evenings ago, while walking along the Mullgloss burn, I saw a brace of pike on a shallow. Inquiries showed that no local person was aware that the stream held pike. Since then I have taken half-a-dozen brace out of it.

The rivers are scarcely yet down to the autumn level since the recent floods. The Ballinderry is swollen, and a great rush of water is going over the "carries." This is very favourable for the salmon running from Lough Neagh to the spawning-beds. Some very large fish have crossed the Lough Carry this season, and with each flood the runs are increasing. Close observers inform me that "spawn-gathers" are in multitudes around the spawning-beds, and much damage is resulting from this. Poaching is not prevalent as compared with other years, but occasionally salmon are gaffed going over the "carries," or when on the shallows. The Blackwater is high, and some good runs of salmon have recently been observed.

From the Upper Bann, which divides the neighbouring counties of Derry and Antrim, a daring outrage by poachers is reported. During the eclipse of the moon on Sunday night, the 15th inst., a gang of poachers attacked a watch-house, erected by the Foyle and Bann Fishery Company, at Mulloghmore Carry, for the shelter of the keepers on the river, and who were then about on duty farther up the river. The windows, although protected by stout shutters, were smashed by large stones, hurled with great violence, and other damage was done to the building. The police are investigating the matter. About ten years ago the watch-house was similarly attacked, and partially demolished. Fortunately such occurrences are extremely rare in law-abiding Ulster.

About ten years ago a mysterious disease appeared among the spawning perch in Stewartstown Lake. Hundreds of fish died, and up to two years ago this scourge came annually. At the time mentioned, Mr. C. R. Stevenson and I, alarmed lest the perch should be entirely destroyed, caught large numbers of healthy perch, and placed them in neighbouring pools and ponds, where they bred. Since then we have put some hundreds of young perch into the lake, with the result that the disease has disappeared apparently. It may be that the introduction of new or purified blood has something to do with this.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Shortness of Breath. Coughs, and Colds.—Thousands of testimonials can be produced to prove the power possessed by these corrective remedies in cases of asthma, incipient consumption, and all disorders of the chest and lungs. The Ointment, well rubbed upon the chest and back, penetrating the skin, is absorbed and carried directly to the lungs, where, in immediate contact with the whole mass of circulating blood, it neutralises or expels those impurities, which are the foundation of consumption, asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, and similar complaints. On the appearance of the first consumptive symptoms the back and chest of the patient should be fomented with warm brine, dried, with a coarse cloth, and Holloway's Ointment then well rubbed in. Its absorption will subdue advancing symptoms, and baffle this formidable foe

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* Fishing Gazette, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* Club Report *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association. — Visiting List, Eastern District No. 1.—The next return visit will be to the Sociable Brothers, the Hope, Pollard's-row, Bethnal Green, on Monday next, November 30, when I hope to have the pleasure of seeing a good meeting.—G. Manning.

Anglers' Association.—No. 2 Eastern District Visiting List.—The next return visit on this list will take place at the St. John's Angling Society, Skinners' Arms, Coburg-street, Clerkenwell, on Monday, Nov. 30, when Mr. G. H. Howard has kindly consented to read a paper under the auspices of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers among Angling Clubs. After the reading, there will be a smoking concert. The chair will be taken by Mr. W. H. Beckett, vice-president of the Anglers' Association, at 8.30 sharp.—F. Thorling, visiting officer.

Anglers' Association.—Southern District Visiting List.—The return visit on the above list took place on Tuesday, the 24th inst., at the Bermondsey Bros. A.S., Pitt's Head, Grange-road, S.E., when a most enjoyable evening was spent. On the roll being called, the following eighteen clubs answered: Anglers' Pride, Anchor and Hope, Blackfriars, Battersea Friendly, Bermondsey Bros., North Lambeth, Peckam Bros., Rodney, Second Surrey, St. George's, United Bros., City of London, Clifton, Eustonians, Lady of the Lake, Funny Folks, Islington Bros., North London. The next visit will take place at the Blackfriars A.S., Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, the date I will give next week.—G. W. Armstrong, district officer.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of twelve shillings, donation from the Edmonton and Tottenham Angling Society.—R. Ghurney, sec.

The London United Anglers' Societies' Fourth Annual Angling Competition, in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—In my last report the number of prizes promised should have read forty-five. Postal Orders received from Amicable Excelsior, Amicable Bros., Anglers' Pride, Bermondsey Brothers, Bostonians, Cambridge Friendly, Crown Perseverance, Clissold, Cobden, Duke of Norfolk, Ealing, Eclipse, Edmonton and Tottenham, Fustonian, Golden Barbel, Great Northern, Hearts of Oak, Highbury, Jubilee, Kilburn Piscatorials, Lincoln, Mitre Brothers, Penge, Reform, South London, St. John's, Waggoners, West Ham Brothers, Pluckie Perch, Alma, Lady of the Lake, Queen's, and Prince of Wales, with thanks. I shall be glad to receive the prizes promised as soon as possible.—S. Malby, sec.

Alison Piscatorial Society, Golborno Liberal Club, Portobello-road, Notting Hill, W.—We fished a match on the 22nd inst., and the following members were the winners: Messrs. C. Severn, first; C. Turner, second; C. Hamnans, third; W. Boyce, fourth; Pilgrim, fifth; Newell, sixth; the fish were not on feed so our bags were not heavy. I wish to call the attention of all the members that the Christmas match has been proposed for Dec. 13, and I hope that all members will turn up on Tuesday next, to propose where to go as the time is now short.—W. Miller, sec.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge Street, Notting Hill-gate, W.—The members of the above met as usual and important business was done, Mr. Morgan had jack, from Langley, 1lb. 14oz.; Mr. Probert, jack, from Langley, 2lb.; Mr. B. Abrahams, roach and dace, from Twickenham, 2lb. About twelve members are going to try their good fortune on 29th inst.—B. Abrahams, hon. sec.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—On the 22nd inst. our trays were fairly filled with perch and jack by the following members: Messrs. J. Windsor, H. Wilson, and J. Drew. I wish to remind members that our next outing takes place at Ware, from the Engine-house to the Bridge, on Dec. 13; one rod only to be carried.—J. Pailes, sec.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—On the 22nd inst., Mr. Moir weighed in perch. I trust members will turn up on Wednesday next, as it is proposed that we fish an outing, on Dec. 6, for a series of prizes, the match to take place at Byfleet.—W. H. Potter, sec.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Our eighth match this season came off on the 22nd, at Twickenham, when the prizes fished for were all taken as follows: Mr. D. Cooper, first, with 3¾lb. of bream, winning a handsome shade of flowers; Mr. J. Bell, second, winning a very nice rod, presented by Mr. Reade, of the Angel, King-street, Twickenham; and Mr. G. Rich, third; and several others weighed in fish. Members and friends are informed that on Tuesday next, Dec. 1, there will be a grand smoking concert at the above hotel for the benefit of Mr. H. Lovett, our chairman, when I hope to see a good muster, as it is a deserving case.—J. Rich, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 22nd inst. several of our members were out, but only a few members were successful. Mr. Wright having a very nice show of roach. Mr. Recks having a good show of roach, dace, and chub; and Mr. Lambarth, jun., also had a nice show of roach. On the 29th inst, several of our members compete in the Pulborough competition, weather permitting. — E. R. Embleton, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday night. On Wednesday next a special general meeting will be held, and I hope all the members will kindly attend, as there will be a lot of important business to transact. On Monday night we received a visit on the Central Association List, and I am pleased to report that twenty-two clubs answered to the roll-call, and for which I tender them our best thanks for their attendance. I hope our members will kindly attend at the visit to the Cliftonville Angling Society, on the South London Visiting List, on Tuesday next, Dec. 1, this being their first visit, so I hope they will receive a bumper.—A. G. Smith, sec.

Barbican Angling Club, White Bear, St. John-street, Smithfield.—The members of the above club will fish for prizes given by the landlord (Mr. Gorey), on Dec. 6, at Teddington Tidal Waters; roving. On Monday, Dec. 7, the above club receive their return visit on the Central Association List, when they will welcome all anglers and friends who can conveniently attend.—W. Ryan. sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—We were saved a blank on the 22nd inst. by Messrs. Pindar and Morris, with a nice show of roach from the Thames. We fish a punt competition, at Staines, on December 6, for five prizes, value £3. The Christmas prizes will be fished on Dec. 20. Prizes not taken will be drawn for; to take place at Kingston. Members are requested to attend next Tuesday, to give names for punt match.—G. Mumford, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—The members of the above society fished a competition on the 22nd inst., for their November series of prizes, conditions: Roving anywhere on the Thames bank only, with the following result:—J. Warman, fifteen roach, 9¾lb., first; Mr. Pocock, five roach, second; G. Armstrong, roach, third; Messrs. J. Smith, D. Dodson, H. Metcalfe, and H. Patman also weighed in, total gross weight, 31½lb. On Tuesday, the 24th, a visit from the clubs on the Anglers' Association List [Southern Division], was paid to this society, when I am pleased to say eighteen clubs were represented on behalf of the Bermondsey Bros. I return sincere thanks to those societies who were represented; and the B.B. will not forget to return the compliment on the occasion of future visits.—A. Conn, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—Only two of our members weighed in last week. Mr. J. Forster had a fine show of roach, perch, and dace, Mr. J. Barker, the same. The next visit on the Anglers' Association (Southern District), will be to this society on Tuesday, December 8. I hope to see a good muster on this occasion, for I am sure they will get a hearty reception from the "Old Blackfriars." We fish our match on the 29th inst., train leaving Waterloo for Sunbury, at eight o'clock.—F. Roberts, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C. — On the 22nd inst., our trays were well filled by the following: Mr. Fairhead, 14lb. 2oz. of roach, this being his maiden weighing in; Mr. T. Davis, jack (heaviest 5lb.); Mr. Rich, jack; Mr. H. Davis, jack; and Mr. C. Davis, roach: making a nice show altogether.—D. Warren.

Bostonian Angling Society.—Our return visit was held on Monday, the 23rd inst., our worthy treasurer, Mr. Jennings, chairman; Mr. Carter, of the Lady of the Lake Angling Society, in the vice-chair. It was a successful visit, and an enjoyable evening was spent, some excellent songs and recitations being rendered by the visitors and friends. Our Benevolent box was opened and the substantial sum of £1 15s. was found within, this is the second opening with twelve months. On the roll being called twenty-two societies were found to be represented, and Bostonians will show their appreciation by attending every return visit whenever notified. The following clubs were represented: Allason United, Cambridge Friendly, Cobden, Camden, Campbell United, Independent Brothers, Jubilee, Kilburn Piscatorials, Lady of the Lake, Marylebone, North - Western, Phœnix, Waltonians, City of London, St. Johns, Good Intent, Islington Brothers, North London, Funny Folks, Bermondsey Brothers. The following members have had fair takes since my last report: Messrs. Taylor, Spalding, roach, dace, and bream; Halsell, roach; Brown, roach. Members will oblige by attending meeting nights a little more regularly.—J. H.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On Wednesday evening Mr. Sewell had a nice show of roach, the largest fish weighing 1lb. 10½oz., and Mr. Avis a nice jack. Members will please remember that the competition for the brewers prizes and other prizes will take place at Cookham on the 29th inst.; all competitors to meet the train which arrives at Cookham at 9.45; two rods, all fish to weigh according to club rules.—H. Roach, sec.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—We have had weighed in since last report, jack, roach, and, dace, by Mr. J. Watkins. Our meeting last Tuesday, was very poorly attended, but the following arrangements for Christmas prizes were arrived at: Six prizes of the value of five shillings each, given by the club, to be fished for on the Chelmer, between Little Baddow Mead and Boreham Bridge, on December 6; three of them for jack, and three for bottom fishing; members to declare beforehand which they intend fishing for, and must then adhere to that class until the prizes are won; two rods allowed for this series; all to leave Stratford Station on the morning by the 7.48 train to Chelmsford. I also remind members that the half-guinea prize given by the club for jack, close on Monday next, and as there is plenty of chance to top the weight already weighed in. I should like to see a good competition to the end for it; one rod only allowed for this prize.—T. Hawkes, sec,

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—We had a nice show of jack last Sunday, also roach, dace, and perch. Mr. D. Flint had a nice show of jack, 8lb. 1oz.; Mr. Gurney, perch, 1lb. 14¾oz.; Mr. Pether, roach and dace, 1lb. 13oz. I hope members won't forget next Wednesday is quarterly night, and our distribution of prizes will take place on Wednesday, December 16. I hope all prizes promised by members will be in the club-room on that night, so that we can have a jolly night.—J. Pether, sec.

Burton Piscatorials, Globe, Derby-street, King's cross.—Members not being able to attend on meeting night and wishing to take part in our sweepstakes at Cookham, on the 29th inst., can meet secretary on platform at 8.25 a.m.—C. Roberts, hon. sec.

Caledonian Angling Society.—The members of this society mustered in good force at Hertford on Saturday last, the 21st instant, to compete for two prizes, but as usual with these contests on the Lea, the takes were very small, the first prize being won by Mr. R. Mills, and the second prize by Mr. W. R. Turner. We admitted two new working members at our last meeting. I also desire to acknowledge the receipt, by post, of a very handsome silver pencil case, as a prize, by Mr. H. S. Mead.—A. George, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 15th instant the following members weighed in: Mr. Marshall, roach; Mr. King, roach; Mr. Langton, roach; Mr. Sharp, dace; Mr. Scurtin, roach and dace. On the 22nd instant, Mr. Boxall, jack; Mr. A. Chapman, jack; Mr. King, roach.

Campbell United Angling Society. Sir Colin Campbell, High-road, Kilburn.—Members will please take notice that Wednesday next is quarter-night, when all arrears should be paid. Rule III. will be strictly enforced —E. W. Wood, hon. sec.

Causton Angling Society, Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City, E.C.—On Monday last, a large and appreciative audience assembled at the club-house of this society to hear Mr. Edgar S. Shrubsole, hon. sec. of the society for promoting the reading of papers among angling clubs, read his paper on "Fly-fishing for Chub and Dace." According to an excellent custom here Mr. H. A. Sharp opened the meeting with the "Angler's Song," from Izaak Walton, and Mr. Shrubsole was then introduced by Mr. W. H. Beckett, chairman, and his paper proved to be an exhaustive one upon the subject, "Fly-fishing for Chub and Dace." The ability of the reader was manifest throughout. Mr. W. H. Beckett, Mr. G. H. Field, Mr. G. Manning, and Mr. Godfrey Cooper were elected life hon. members. A vote of thanks to Mr. Shrubsole for his reading, and Mr. Beckett for presiding, concluded the meeting.— John Smith, hon. sec.

Central Visiting List.—The return visit to the Anchor and Hope Angling Society on Monday last was a decided success. Mr. A. G. Smith presided. Mr. Wade, in returning thanks, urged the anglers present to see that their own clubs gave a more general support to the T.A.P.S.; and intimated that collecting-boxes are to be obtained, one of which was handed to the Cliftonville Angling Society; three other clubs also applied for one to be sent. It was announced that the next visit would go to the Barbican Angling Society, on Monday, Dec. 7, held at the White Bear, St. John's-street, Smithfield.—Charles Watling, visiting officer.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—On the 8th inst., Mr. Castell weighed in roach and dace from Sunbury. On the 15th inst., four of our members fished in the Rye House Competition, but without success. On the 22nd inst., Mr. Macdonnell weighed in 5lb. of roach from Pangbourne. Our club-house having changed hands, we intend having a complimentary meeting on December 14, to give our new landlord a house-warming.—Cas.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—On the 22nd inst., we were saved from a blank by Mr. Chapman, with a dace, minus its dorsal fin. On the 24th inst., Mr. Wilson weighed in a splendid take of roach and dace (bank fishing), weighing 32lb. 14½oz., largest roach, 1lb. 6½oz. On the same evening the committee met to arrange prizes for Christmas outing, with the following result: "That the competition shall be a roving one, to take place on the 6th December. Members must not leave town before the morning of competition, and jack barred; and in the event of the prizes (of which we have twenty-three) not being taken on that day, they shall be competed for on the 13th and 20th December. Winners to choose their prizes according to weight of fish taken; only one day's take to reckon."—A. Trowbridge, secretary.

Cliftonville Angling Society, Cliftonville Hotel, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey.—The next visit on the South London United List will take place at this society on Tuesday, Dec. 1. This being a new club, we shall take it as a favour if brother club anglers will show up in full force, as we have attended every visit on the S.L.U. List and a good few on the other lists. Conveyances are available from all parts. Nearest station (L.B. & S.C.) South Bermondsey or Spa Road (S.E.R.). Trams from Westminster or Blackfriars Bridge to Canal Bridge. Chair will be occupied by Mr. J. W. Huxley at eight p.m.—P. Gardner, sec.

Crown and Buckland United Piscatorial Society, Middlesex Arms, 34, Clerkenwell-green, E.C.—The half-yearly supper took place at the above on Wednesday evening, great credit being due to Mr. Pratt for the capital repast he laid before us, every gentleman present doing ample justice to it. M. J. Penn occupied the chair. G. Rogers, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 22nd inst., twenty members competed for ten prizes. Result: Messrs. A. Freeman, first; Pumfrey, second; Baldwin, third; C. Richardson, fourth; Killick, fifth; Malley, sixth; Spong, seventh; Thornton, eighth; Webber, ninth; Messrs. T. Midson and Lucas, a tie. On Tuesday, Dec. 8, our half-yearly distribution of prizes will take place. Gentlemen who have promised prizes, please send them in immediately.—S. Malby, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—Our smoking concert, in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Fund, on Tuesday last passed off very well. We had a full room, and spent a very enjoyable evening, and collected the sum of 14s. 2½d. for the above fund, and added it to that in our boxes. I may also inform members that Monday, Dec. 7, is quarterly-night, when all subscriptions should be cleared off the books. On the 22nd inst. we were saved a blank by a few roach taken by Mr. Payne. Could any of your numerous readers inform me whether I can get our cases of fish insured against accidental breakage.—A. Payre, sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road, W.—On the 22nd inst. a few of our members weighed in, Mr. Lambert having two handsome trays of roach from the Thames; Mr. De Perron, barbel; Mr. C. Bowring, roach and chub; Mr. Green, roach; Mr. Ellins, a capital show of roach, dace, and chub. On Tuesday, the 24th inst., Mr. Bishop had a fine display of carp, roach, and perch. On Tuesday evening we had a large attendance of members and friends to witness the ceremony of presenting our secretary with a presentation consisting of a purse subscribed for by the members of our club, in recognition of his valuable services in conducting the affairs of the club generally. After a short speech by Mr. Green, the purse was presented by Mr. Brady to Mr. Roach, who thanked the members for the present.

Good Intent Angling Society, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch.—There was a good show of fish at our club on the 22nd. On Tuesday it was decided to fish for ten prizes on Dec. 6; boundary from St. Margaret's Bridge to Ware Bridge; roam of water. The auditors gave their report, and read the balance-sheet, when it showed the worth of the Society was close on £100. Considering the large amount that is granted to every deserving case that comes before us, we stand in a sound position. On Tuesday next, Dec. 1, Mr. E. S. Shruhsole will give a lecture at our club, under the auspices of the Society for Reading Papers to Angling Clubs. I trust all our members will come, and I should be glad to welcome any angler that would kindly pay us a visit on that occasion.—R. Murphy.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—On the 22nd instant some of the above club were out when Mr. F. Bates weighed jack and roach; W. Carr, roach; J. Grande, roach; and G. F. Weaver, roach and dace, 6lb.—G. F. Weaver, sec.

Greenwich Angling Society, Prince Albert, Royal-hill, Greenwich.—Members and friends are requested to show up in full force on Wednesday, 2nd December, at our musical evening, when a capital evening's amusement is promised. Mr. Orr in the chair, Mr. Dowsett in the vice-chair.—G. J. Toynbee, hon, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The Rev. E. Meyer presided on Tuesday evening, when there was a very good attendance. Two new members were elected. Dr. Davidson reported having fished with a friend at Deal and caught a hundredweight of whiting and cod, and Mr. Birch caught 17lb. of flounders at Southend. Dr. Brunton read a paper dealing with the reports of fishing published in the angling papers, and a discussion took place, in which the chairman, Mr. G. E. Simms, and others, took part.

Havelock Angling Society, Royal Oak, Whiston-street, Haggerston.—Owing to our removal to the Royal Oak, we have unavoidably been compelled to put our usual November outing off until December 6, when members will fish for six special prizes, from Rye House to St. Margaret's, leaving Hackney Downs Station by 9.15 train. We should like to see some of our members attend more frequent, as the club at the new house bids fair to be a great success.—W. Young, sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On the 22nd inst. a goodly number of our members were out, the following being successful in weighing:—Russell, roach and dace; Rider, perch; Bagshaw, jun., chub; Calcutt, roach and dace; and Hart, perch. On the 29th inst., the members start to fish for Christmas prizes, a number of which is promised and I hear there is some talk should there be a little prize left of making it a present to—W. H. Fenner, sec.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—On the 22nd inst. several of our members were out, and a fine show of roach was to be seen at the above club, by Mr. Monty, from the Thames; Messrs. Gibbs and Rutherford also out, but too late to weigh in.—J. T. G.

Hounsfield Otters, Lower Edmonton—On the 22nd instant we had some more jack weighed in, among them being one of 7lb. 8oz. by Mr. Simmons, and one by Mr. Aswood of 5lb. 13oz. Mr. T. Smith had some nice roach (best 1lb. 5¾oz.) and dace; Mr. J. Cornwell, dace. Our annual smoker, in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent, will take place on December 2, as already notified, at the King's Head, Lower Edmonton, where anglers and friends will be very welcome.—F. S. T.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—A few members were out on the 22nd instant. G. H. Wood had a pretty jack, 5½lb., taken with a worm on a tight line and roach rod. H. Da Costa weighed in jack and perch; and S. Cole dace.—R. Ghurney, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—At our last meeting it was decided that we fish at Kingston for our Christmas prizes, and to commence on Dec. 5. Mr. Alfred Morgan weighed in some dace on the 22nd inst.—Snap.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members will compete for three special prizes on Wednesday, December 9. Competitors may choose their own fishing waters, but must not leave London before the morning of the competition. There are still a number of the Christmas special prizes not yet taken. Mr. C. Layton had a nice take of roach on the 22nd inst., the heaviest one scaled 1lb. 1½oz.; he also had some fine dace, the heaviest one 13¾oz. Messrs. Daniel and Harry Auburn, had perch on the same day. Mr. J. Poole also weighed in perch; Mr. G. Manning had perch on Wednesday, 25th inst.—H. B.

Junior Piscatorial Society, New Cross Inn, New Cross-road, S.E.—Several members fished at Byfleet on the 22nd for the November series of prizes, but owing to the force of the stream, only one (Mr. James Steer) was successful in finding an eddy that was fishable, where he had some good sport with the bream, bringing home the largest fish, which scaled 3lb. 6oz. This fish carries 42·16 points in the competition, thus beating the previous best fish by 1.54.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—A Grand Smoking concert, will be given on Friday evening, December 4, at the above address, at eight p.m., when all members are invited. Programme for admittance will be sent to members. The Pegdown competition took place on the 22nd inst., and was a grand success. Among other members that weighed in were Messrs. Master, Carter, Mason (who had a very nice perch weighing 1lb. 7oz.), Newcombe and T. Salter.—T. Salter, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville, N.—On the 22nd inst. several members were out. Mr. Holmes, a nice show of roach and perch, 9lb.; Messrs. Belton, White, Warner, Palmer, W. White, Webster, Nelson and Watling, some good roach and dace, on Wednesday, the 25th inst., Mr. More, roach. I must request all members in arrears to turn up next week, or they will not be able to compete in the Christmas outing.—W. Watling, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association, held at the Bee Hotel, 5, Queen's-square, Liverpool.—At our last week's meeting notice of motion was given by Mr. W. Morgan:—"That members wives and sons, on payment of a small fee be permitted to fish in the society's waters." Mr. W. J. Johnson was elected Chairman of the Social Evening, Dec. 3. A paper will be read at the meeting of Dec. 10, on our "Rented Waters, are they worth the rent paid for them, and cannot other and better waters be got for the same money;" and full and free discussion is invited.—R. Woodfall.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 22nd inst. our members were at various waters, but the sport was very bad. Messrs. Milburn and Penfold were the only members to show up with a few roach from the Thames.—W. F. Pearce.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway.—On Nov. 18, the secretary brought up the half-yearly balance-sheet, and it having been certified by the auditors as correct, it was passed by the members, and I am happy to say that we start the next half-year with a fair amount in hand. I wish to call the notice of secretaries of clubs to the paper which will be read at the above, on Tuesday, Dec. 15, by Mr. G. E. Simms, under the auspices of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs, entitled "Coarse Fish Hatching," after which there will be a smoking concert, when a good array of talent have promised to attend.—H. Stretch, hon. sec.

Midland Angling Society, Prince of Wales, King's-road, Camden Town.—We fish for our pegged-down match, at Windsor, on the 29th inst., for prizes amounting to £3 10s.—A. Appleby, sec.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road.—We had a good attendance of members on Tuesday, several having been out, but returned with empty creels, owing to the bad state of the water. Mr. Garratt was out on the 22nd inst., but did not have much sport, only weighing in a small quantity of dace. I hope the members that were absent this week will not forget that we have a roving match, on the 29th inst., for several prizes, at Hatfield-Peverel, all starting from Liverpool-street Station by the 8.15 train.—J. Comber, sec.

Park Angling Society, Tottenham.—The first concert of the above society, will take place at the Park Hotel. Park-lane, on Saturday, December 5, to commence at 7 30 p.m., chairman Mr. C. Roberts, vice-chair, Mr. J. H. Mackney. All brother anglers will be welcome.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, Rosemary-road, Peckham.—Several of our members were out on the 22nd inst., but only one weighed in, namely—Mr. Gardham, with a nice show of roach, weighing 5lb. 3½oz. Our next series of prizes will be fished for on December 6, roving at Reading; members may leave town on Saturday night. All members must be clear of the books as they are club prizes.—E. A. Fautley, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—Members will please take notice that a special meeting will take place on Wednesday next, Dec. 2, for important business. The match will be continued at Langley on the 29th, when I hope all the remaining prizes will be taken. Mr. Harris was declared the winner of the first prize in the above.—J. W. Harris, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—On the 22nd inst. the following weighed in: Robbins, roach; Neal, roach; Brett, roach; Matthews, roach; and a splendid show of perch by Mr. Hayden. At a special meeting held on Wednesday, it was decided to fish for a series of prizes from the funds of the society, to take place on December 6, at Uxbridge, from the Swan Bridge to Denham Lock, all to start by the first train and return by the first train after six p.m.—W. Bowyer, sec.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—On the 18th inst., we had a complimentary concert, which was very poorly attended, owing to the wet, the only club represented being the City of London, by our old friend, Mr. Castell. We spent a very enjoyable evening.—F. Bradley, sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The outing takes place on the 29th inst., at Henley; all to go by the first train—nine o'clock; return by the 5.30 p.m. Our next supper takes place in December. I will give the date next week. All members wishing to join us will give their names in as soon as possible. We had some very nice shows of roach weighed in on the 22nd inst., as follows: Messrs. T. Lines, roach; E. Pyne, roach; F. Lamberton, roach; F. T. Lamberton, roach; J. Wigley, roach; W. Tidmarsh, roach.—F. T. Lamberton, sec.

Royal George Angling Society, Queen's Arms, Bateman-street, Soho-square, W.—On the 22nd inst., several of our members were out, but only Messrs. Harris and Gibbons weighed in, Mr. Harris with bream, roach, and dace; Mr. Gibbons, roach and dace. On the 25th inst. was our quarterly night, when the officers for the ensuing quarter were elected. Mr. Trotter (chairman), Mr. Webber (vice), Mr. Webber (treasurer), Messrs. Holder and Gibbons (auditors), Messrs. Holder and Longland (delegates). Our Christmas outing takes place at Cookham on Dec. 6th; bank only.—F. C. Longland.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Coborn Arms, Coborn-road, Bow, E.—On the 22nd inst. the following members weighed in fish: Mr. Wells, jack; Mr. Barrow, roach; Mr. J. Yeo, roach. I beg to remind members wishing to compete for the five prizes at Roydon on Nov. 29 that the train leaves Coborn-road at 7.30, change at Broxbourne. We are still open for a few good working members. Gentlemen living in this neighbourhood cannot do better than join this society.—A. Barclay, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—Result of fishing at St. Margarets for the series of remaining prizes: Mr. Stone, third prize; Mr. Wink, fourth; Mr. Green, fifth, the other five prizes will be fished for at Pulborough on the 29th, so that the members who wish can fish in the competition, of Mr. Eldridge's. Mr. George was very unfortunate fishing at St. Margaret's on the 22nd, he had caught one roach and two dace, and had hooked a very good roach. He had just taken the hook away and had the fish in his hand, when two gentlemen, standing behind him, said, "You have a very good fish there; he said, "yes," and holding it out for them to see it closer, it gave a sudden spring, and went back to its native element, thus losing Mr. George a prize.—J. Wright, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 22nd inst., several members were out, with the following result: Messrs. W. North, roach, 6lb. 1oz.; J. Petrie, roach and dace, 3lb. 5½oz.; T. Lovibond, jun., roach, 4lb. 10½oz.; G. Giles, roach, 2lb. 5½oz.; and E. Wright, dace. We had another prize given to us on Tuesday last. Members will greatly oblige by attending on Tuesday next to arrange time and place to fish for it. A committee meeting will take place on Monday, Nov. 30, when I hope the committee will attend in full force.—S. E. Cane, sec.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—On Wednesday last the president saved the club from having no catch of fish to record during the week, by bringing in a capital show consisting of one chub, 2lb. 5¼oz.; four perch, 4lb. 10oz.; eight roach, 4lb. 8oz., and one tench, 1lb. 11½oz.—C. B.

Silver Trout Anglers' Association, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.—On the 22nd inst., Mr. Smales had roach, 4¾lb.; Mr. Mengles, jack, 5¾lb.; Mr. Clark, barbel, 1lb. 6oz. Our next outing will take place at Moulsford, on the 29th inst. Members will go down on Saturday afternoon, and the fish will be weighed the next evening. Tuesday next being quarterly night election of officers and several new members to be ballotted for, a good muster is requested.—Pelican.

South London Angling Society, George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell-road, S.E.—Last Friday a member weighed in two handsome jack, going 12lb. 7oz., largest, 6lb. 5oz. On the 22nd inst., two catches from the Thames weighed over 23lb., mostly roach and bream, amongst them one jack of nearly 6lb., caught on roach tackle, No. 9 hook. On Wednesday next we fish for three prizes, at Kingston.—J. J. F., sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on this list will be to the Cliftonville Angling Society, held at the Cliftonville Tavern, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey, on Tuesday, Dec. 1. Although this is a new society, only being enrolled on the list in May last, yet they have turned up at every visit since their enrolment. I trust the other societies will return the compliment, and give them a bumper, so as to encourage them to continue visiting in the future, as they have done in the past. For the information of those who have not visited this society, their club-house is about five minutes' walk from South Bermondsey Station, on South London Line, or seven minutes' walk from the Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road, and the same distance from Old Kent-road Station, Canterbury-road.—A. Conn, hon. sec.

St. George's Angling Society, Prince of Wales, St. George's-road, Peckham.—Several of our members were out on the 22nd for prizes, which, I am sorry to say, was nearly a failure; only two prizes were taken—Mr. Beard, first, and Mr. Etherington, second. Members are requested to turn up next meeting night; we have important business on.—G. Etherington, sec.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith, W.—The punt match has been postponed, owing to the state of the water, until Dec. 6, the conditions of the match will remain the same. Members intending to take part in above will kindly oblige by sending in their names on or before Tuesday, Dec. 1.—H. Reeves, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—Mr. Petty was the only one to weigh in on the 22nd inst., he saving us from a blank with a nice show of roach. Those members who are in arrears are requested to bring themselves within limits, so that we can get to business, as we have a lot of prizes to fish for.—H. G., hon sec.

Walham Green and Fulham Angling Society, Stamford Arms, Fulham-road.—The members of the above held their usual weekly meeting on Wednesday, the 25th inst., Mr. Templeman presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, and general business transacted, and the meeting was declared closed at 8.45 p.m., after which Mr. G. Smith took the chair, and was faced in the vice by Mr. Warner, and the tripe supper, fished for by the members at Staines on the 8th inst., was then placed on the table by Host Mallows, to which about thirty members and friends sat down and did ample justice. After the table was cleared the chairman gave the toast of the evening, "Success to the Walham Green and Fulham Angling Society," coupled with the name of the secretary, who suitably replied; the only other toast being "Success to our worthy host," drank with musical honours, who also responded during the evening. Mr. C. Mallows, vice-chairman Metropolitan Wine and Beer Trade Asylum and Benevolent Fund, was duly elected a honorary member. The chairman also had the pleasing duty to present to the members a magnificent plaster cast of a bream, presented by Mr. A. Cecil. The remainder of the evening, up till twelve p.m., was spent in songs and anecdotes of members' past experience of a day's fishing. A vote of thanks to the chair and vice-chair brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.—E. Sutchall, sec.

Waltonian Angling Society, the Cape of Good Hope, Albany-street, Regent's-park.—Two of our members who fished in the Rye House Competition were successful in winning prizes—Mr. R. Dedge and Mr. Good. On the 22nd inst. we had a fine show of fish from Mr. Miller (23lb. 4oz., roac, and also a jack, 3lb. 2oz.); Mr. Good, roach, 7lb. 6oz.; Mr. Waltham, roach, 3lb. 3oz. This is, I think, the best show we have had this season.—J. Packman.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—On Wednesday last we had a good muster, Mr. H. Bayley in the chair. Mr. W. J. Crisp weighed in jack, 6lb. 1oz. Wednesday next is quarterly night, when I hope all members will attend.—R. Bailey.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 22nd instant Mr. G. Herbert weighed in roach and jack; Mr. E. Enever, dace; and Mr. W. Gordon, roach. On Wednesday last Mr. W. Warde was duly elected a member. On Wednesday next, December 2, will be half-yearly night, when the half-yearly balance-sheet will be presented, and officers elected for ensuing quarter. The auditors for same are Mr. C. Wyer and Mr. W. Turnbull; also the place and conditions of December competition has to be decided. I shall also bring before the members a new subscription card for their approval.—R. J. Dartnall, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—On the 22nd inst., the following members weighed in: Mr. Harden, sen., jack; Mr. Fullbrock, jack and roach; Mr. Casey, roach; Mr. Whitby, roach. A special meeting will be held on December 3, when I hope all members will attend.—W. M. sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford. I wish to remind our members that the match takes place on the 29th instant, at Witham, and all to go down by the first train same morning, leaving Stratford Station at 8.50 a.m.—R. Lowther, secretary.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—Members are requested to attend the club-house on Thursday next, Dec. 3, at 8.30 sharp, as we have to elect a chairman and vice-chairman for the ensuing three months, and to make arrangements for the next club match. Being our quarterly-night, all subscriptions must be paid up.—J. J. Hunter, hon. sec.

CLUB FIXTURES.

Nov. 29.—A. A. Eldridge's Competition at Pulborough.

Nov. 30.—Paper by G. H. Howard, at St. John's, Skinners' Arms, Coburg-street, Clerkenwell. Subject: "An Amateur's Experiences." Chairman, H. J. Tibbatts.—Anglers' Association Eastern District No. 2 visit same place and evening.

Dec. 1.—Paper by E. S. Shrubsole, at Good Intent, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch. Chairman, H. J. Tibbatts.

Dec. 2.—Smoking Concert at Hounsfield Otters, in aid of Anglers' Benevolent Society, King's Head, Lower Edmonton.

Dec. 7.—Paper by G. E. Simms, at Epsom, Wellington, High-street, Epsom. Chairman, E. S. Shrubsole.

Dec. 10.—Lecture upon "Two Yorkshire Rivers," by F. M. Walbran, illustrated with one hundred dissolving views. Distribution of prizes in connection with the Anglers' Benevolent Competition at Rye House same evening, at the Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell. Chairman, R. B. Marston, Esq.

NEW PATENTS.

The following is a weekly list of New Piscatorial Patents, specially complied for the *F. G.* by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Patent Agents and Engineers, 76, Chancery-lane, London, W.C., authorised Attorneys for the procuration of English and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks:—

18,874.—William Sleep Hearder, of 196, Union-street, Plymouth, Devon, for "An automatic fish striker."

19,431.—Henry Milward and Sons, Ltd., and Thomas Perry, of London, for "Improvements in the manufacture of artificial fishing bait."

19,484.—George Philip Araularius Gunther, of London, for "Improved fish tank or aquarium."

THE PRESERVATION OF THE STOUR.

A MEETING of the joint board of the Suffolk and Essex Conservators of the Stour was held on Saturday at the Town Hall, Colchester. There were present: Sir J. T. Rowley, Bart., Captain Pretyman, Colonel Barnardiston, Colonel Burke, Mr. A. T. Cobbold, Mr. W. J. Catchpole, the Rev. C. J. Steward, Messrs. T. S. Furniss, Edward Packard, H. H. Almack, H. S. Oliver, J. F. Hills, W. Garrard, J. W. Potter, E. Clover, H. R. Edwards, H. C. Pratt, H. Brittain, and E. Barnes. Mr. A. D. Berrington (Chief Inspector of Fisheries), attended on behalf of the Board of Trade. Captain Pretyman was unanimously voted to the chair. The proceedings opened with the reading, by Mr. H. C. Pratt, of documents that had been addressed to the Board of Trade. In these papers stress was laid on the fact that the navigable portion of the Stour is subject to the jurisdiction of the Norfolk and Suffolk Fisheries Act, whilst the non-navigable portion—including all tributaries, &c.—is subject to the jurisdiction of the Freshwater Fisheries Acts. It was further mentioned that a Board of Conservators from the Essex side of the Stour was appointed at Chelmsford Quarter Sessions in April, 1889, to confer with the committee chosen from conservators appointed under the Norfolk and Suffolk Fisheries Act, but it was pointed out that considerable difficulty would be experienced in the making of bye-laws, owing to the river being subject to the conflicting jurisdiction of the two Acts. Netting was carried on to a very large extent between Mistley and Sudbury by bargemen, and large powers were needed to successfully overcome this illegal act. It was suggested that the substitution of the Freshwater Fisheries Acts for the Norfolk and Suffolk Act would be a decided practical gain in protecting the waters of the eastern district; but that if such a desirable result could not be attained, the river Stour might possibly be placed under the first-named Acts. Mr. Pratt concluded by reading the following resolution, which was carried unanimously at a meeting of the Joint Committee of the Suffolk and Essex Conservators, held on the 22nd November, 1889:—

"That in consequence of the great difficulties which have arisen (through the divided jurisdiction of the Norfolk and Suffolk Act and the Freshwater Fisheries Acts) on arranging for the preservation of the river Stour, a strong representation be made to the Board of Trade, praying that the evil may be remedied by a special Act of Parliament or otherwise."

The draft certificate of the formation of the Stour Fishery District was then read. The Board of Trade therein stated that they had, by virtue of the powers conferred upon them by the Fisheries Act, 1891, formed a fishery district for the river Stour, its estuary, and its tributaries, and all such waters and coasts as lie within the area comprised within:—(1) A straight line drawn from Landguard Point to the beacon at the seaward extremity of the breakwater at Blackman's Head, Harwich; (2) a line drawn from the said beacon along the said breakwater, and continued along the watershed of all the rivers and streams flowing into the said estuary, or into any estuary connected therewith, until it reaches the said Landguard Point.

The Board fixed the number of the Board of Conservators at twenty-seven, six to be appointed by the County Council of the eastern division of Suffolk, and six by that of the western division; twelve by the Essex County Council, one by that of Cambridgeshire, and two by the Council of the county borough of Ipswich.

The reading of these documents was followed by a very technical discussion, in the course of which the Chief Inspector (Mr. A. D. Berrington) remarked that there were certain bye-laws of the Norfolk and Suffolk Board in existence, but he did not know that they were of much use to this board. He thought the better plan would be to make a series of bye-laws for this district, and repeal the former bye-laws. The question as to what bye-laws would be best suited to the district was a matter of which he thought the members of that board could judge better than he could. The great difficulty was that there were no statutory funds available, and the board would have to find money in some other way. There might, perhaps, be gentlemen willing to accept appointments as water-bailiffs themselves. But if so, he (the chief inspector) might perhaps be allowed to warn the board against an accident that happened to a friend of his. This gentleman got himself appointed honorary water bailiff, and for convenience sake he put his warrant into the crown of his hat. One day he saw a man poaching, and going up, he took off his hat to show his warrant, and he was hit over his bald head and very seriously hurt. The chief inspector mentioned that it was within the power of the board to impose a licence on trout fishing, and added that they might receive from the Board of Trade the powers of a local Fisheries Committee.

The Chairman asked if that board was sufficiently representative of salt-water interests to constitute a committee on sea fishery questions.

Mr. H. R. Edwards thought they ought to have some representative from Harwich and the coast where the Act would apply.

The Chairman said that if they assumed jurisdiction over a large sea-water area, anyone whom they might happen to displease would say, "Here are a lot of landsmen passing laws which affect our livelihood." They might, however, if they became a local committee, pass bye-laws preventing the destruction of immature fish, and the County Council, if it thought they were doing good, could vote them funds.

Upon the matter being put to the meeting, it was found that no one was in favour of making application at present that the board should be constituted a local committee.

Col. Barnardiston, in proposing the appointment of Capt. Pretyman as chairman for the ensuing year, remarked that he was a sportsman in every sense of the word, and would be of great service to the board.

Mr. Berners seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman proposed, and Mr. J. F. Hills seconded, that Mr. H. C. Pratt be appointed honorary clerk and secretary.

Col. Barnardiston supported, remarking that Mr. Pratt had been of great service to them, and had borne all expenses voluntarily.

The Chief Inspector of Fisheries observed that Mr. Pratt had taken immense pains in the matter.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. A. T. Cobbold announced that the Gipping Angling Society would contribute a donation of £5 towards expenses.

The Chairman having suggested that members of the board might induce fishery associations in their neighbourhood to give small subscriptions, proposed that they should open a credit account of £25 at the Bank.

This was agreed to, the Chairman and Mr. Berners becoming guarantors.

The following gentlemen were appointed members of the committee: Capt. Pretyman, Rev. C. J. Steward, Mr. A. T. Cobbold, Mr. E. Clover, Mr. Catchpole, Mr. Hills, and Mr. J. W. Potter. It was resolved to recommend the Essex County Council to appoint Messrs. Groom, Nockton, and F. Johnson to fill up vacancies that had occurred on the board.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chief Inspector of Fisheries and to the Mayor of Colchester (Mr. Wilson Marriage) for the use of the Town Hall.—*East Anglian Daily Times.*

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY'S SMOKING CONCERT.

THIS took place on Wednesday, the 25th inst., at the Mona Hotel, Covent Garden, under the presidency of Mr. R. S. Fennings, the treasurer, assisted by Mr. R. C. Blundell, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. R. E. Booker. It would be invidious to praise one artist more than another when all so distinguished themselves, and the numerous encores that were demanded and the salvos of applause that greeted each singer and reciter testified to the warm approval of a sympathetic and appreciative audience. So attractive was the programme, containing as it did the names of some of the best singers in London, that the room was crowded to overflowing, and a number of members and friends were unable to obtain admission and had to go away. Amongst the artists were Mr. Richard Green and Mr. Joseph O'Mara (of the Royal English Opera House), Mr. F. S. Broadbent, Mr. Graham Gordon, Mr. E. Foreman, jun., Mr. Gordon Craig, Mr. R. Fennings, Mr. Frank Moore, and Mr. G. Blackmore. Mr. Kinkee accompanied in his usual efficient manner. At half-past eleven o'clock Mr. T. Crumplen rose and proposed the health of the chairman, the vice-chairman, and the artists. This was drunk with musical honours. The chairman having responded, called upon Dr. Brunton to lead off "Auld Lang Syne"; this the Doctor did in a right hearty manner, being well supported by those present. "God Save the Queen" brought this pleasant evening to a close, and all agreed that it was one of the most successful smoking concerts ever held by the Piscatorial Society. R. S. F.

DR. J. E. TAYLOR ON "THE SENSES OF FISHES."

AN enthusiastic meeting of the Gipping Angling Society was held on Saturday night, under the presidency of Councillor W. J. Catchpole, in the society's club-room, at the Great White Horse Hotel, to listen to an address by Dr. J. E. Taylor, F.L.S., &c., curator at the Ipswich Museum, on "The Senses of Fishes." The lecturer's illustrations were simple enough, consisting of the regulation blackboard and coloured chalks, which were used in the production of "lightning sketches" to assist him in the anatomical and physiological details of his subject. It is to the credit of the club that, of all its subscribing members, only one was absent, and that, we believe, through ill-health. In addition, many had brought their friends, and supporting Mr. Catchpole were Mr. A. D. Berrington, Chief Inspector of Fisheries, and Mr. J. F. Hills, of Sudbury.

Dr. Taylor rivetted the attention of his hearers (all of whom were anglers, and had, therefore, had some practical experiences of fishes), for over an hour. He first introduced them to the pedigrees of existing fishes, giving an outline of their geological ancestry. Next followed a description of the conditions of life under which fishes were obliged to live. It was shown that a dense medium, like fresh water, and a denser still like sea water, affected the breathing organs most particularly: next the organs of smell; then those of hearing. Possibly the organ of taste in fishes, he said, was lowest of all, for he had himself known an adult pike to be fool enough to take a bait of red flannel. He showed that fishes were the earliest of all vertebrate orders of life, and pointed out that many of them retained a sort of ancestral memory of their ancient marine home, as for instance, some species of eels, which travelled down the rivers in order to spawn in the sea. On the other hand, the highest order of fishes, which were perhaps represented by the *Salmonidæ*, had reversed this experience; they were explorers and left the sea to pass up the rivers and deposit their spawn in fresh water, whilst many nearly-allied species, like the trout, had assumed a purely fresh-water existence in rivers, and even in deep fresh-water lakes, all over the world. In a rapid generalisation, Dr. Taylor sketched forth the oceanic fishes swimming on the surface, and introduced a graphic illustration of the deep sea fishes which live at the bottom under conditions of intense aqueous pressure, and surrounded by a darkness that we know not of. He showed how such fishes had availed themselves, so to speak, by a process of natural selection, of a phosphorescence easily secreted, so that these deep-sea fishes formed along their medial line phosphorescent patches of comparatively brilliant light, and how their eyes were adapted to perceive this kind of light, and thus to seek each other. Sketches of the eyes of these deep-sea fishes were introduced, with an explanation of the peculiar structure of their optic nerves. The hearing of the fishes was similarly dealt with, illustrated by sketches of their auditory bones; the structure of such bottom fishes as rays, soles, flounders, plaice, &c., was dealt with, and a *resumé* was given of the pupæ stages undergone by these remarkable forms. The nervous structure of the brains of fishes was detailed, coupled with a description of how in such well-known kinds as the cod, there were barbules at the front part of the mouth, richly supplied with nerves, which enable them to have delicate feeding organs to search for their food along the bottom of the sea. Practical reference was made to the knowledge gained by all anglers of the natural history of their captures, and the lecture, which was intently listened to by a company who knew something of this part of the subject, concluded amidst sustained acclamation.

CLOSE OF SALMON FISHING IN THE LAKE DISTRICT.

SALMON fishing closed generally throughout the Lake District, on Saturday the 14th inst., and up to the last hour maintained in most rivers the unprecedented run of successful sport, for which the latter portion of the season has been conspicuous. Many remarkable takes—hauls might, perhaps, be a more appropriate term—were made last week, and the year 1891 will long be remembered as a red-letter period in the experience of many north country anglers. The heavy rains at the end of the summer caused the rivers to be full, which in other years have been fordable their lengths or their breadths, and as a consequence salmon have abounded where at other times they were few and far between. This would seem to point to the conclusion that fish abound along our western sea coast in autumn, and only want the opportunity afforded by a full flow of water to ascend the rivers in large numbers as has been the case this year. Certainly the rain was not an unmixed blessing, but the anglers had nothing to complain of.

It would probably be impossible to discover the number and weight of salmon taken from any particular river; but if reliance can be placed on the statements of anglers —and I know not why not—the Derwent seems to claim the palm this year. Mr. W. Fletcher, chairman of the Derwent Fishery Board, states that the past season has been better, probably, than any in living memory, and facts bear out that assertion, both in regard to that river and most others in the district.

An unfortunate sequence to the abundance of fish is the increased amount of poaching; and there are those who are not afraid to insinuate—and insinuate in pretty plain terms, too—that many anglers are themselves no great sticklers to lawful means when favourable opportunity presents. For the credit of the gentle art, may this aspersion be disproved, so far as the *bona fide* angler is concerned.

In view of the large numbers of salmon now in the rivers additional watchers are being put on during the spawning season; and one gang of poachers has already been detected at their nefarious work, resulting, however, in the capture of one of a gang of six men. The fellow has been fined £3, with an additional penalty of £1 for each fish taken, and the magistrates ordered the net to be destroyed.

RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

ON Friday next, December 4, at the Greyhound Hotel, the above society intend giving a complimentary supper to their chairman, Mr. Montague Davenport, C.C., to welcome him back after a painful and prolonged illness. Mr. R. B. Marston has kindly consented to take the chair for the evening, and the musical arrangements will be carried out by Mr. F. Perkins. Members intending to be present should communicate with the hon. sec. at once. Tickets 3s. 6d. each. The supper hour is fixed for 7.30 p.m. Friends of members will be welcome.

A smoking concert is being arranged by Mr. C. W. Potter, and will take place on Friday, December 18, in the Masonic Hall of the Greyhound Hotel. NOTTINGHAM REEL.

FISH CULTURE.—We have received from Mr. T. Andrews, of Westgate House, Guildford, his annual circular from which we make the following extracts: "My stock of breeding fish of the favourite varieties of *Salmonidæ* is now sufficient to produce from five to six millions of ova, and I have again added very considerably to the hatching and rearing capacity of my fisheries; several new rearing ponds having been made during the year. The stock of two and three year old fish is limited, and as all orders are booked in rotation, it is advisable to order early, even if the fish are not required immediately. Although I will endeavour to suit my customers as to time of delivery, the convenience of the fishery must also be considered. If the water required to be stocked contains no fish of any kind, fry may, with comparative safety, be turned down. In some places this is found the more economical plan; but if the water already contains a few fish, yearling or older fish should be introduced, the mortality at these stages being practically *nil*. Fry may also be placed in tributary streams leading to the main water; and as these are now to be had at such a low price, and travel so well, good healthy feeding fry, of seven or eight weeks old, can be recommended. Purchasers of ova should mention if they have appliances for hatching, as I can send them to hatch in a day or two, or in fourteen days. Ova for abroad would, of course, have to be packed in a much earlier stage. Yearlings, and larger fish will not be supplied later than April 30, as there is risk in transit when the weather becomes warm. My yearling fish run from four to seven inches long, and two-year-olds from seven to twelve inches. The delivery, alive, of all fish is guaranteed; on condition that instructions with regard to meeting a certain train with a suitable conveyance, are strictly carried out. Special arrangements for conveying live fish have been made with all the railway companies.—THOMAS ANDREWS.

DROWNING OF A NEW ZEALAND ANGLER.—The body of Mr. James Pilbrow was discovered off the Ninety-mile Beach, at four o'clock on Monday afternoon, by Mr. William Cooper, who immediately sent for Constable Warring. The constable at once went to the beach, and had the body conveyed to the Royal Hotel, Southbridge, where an inquest was held yesterday afternoon, before Mr. R. B. Willis, Coroner. Mr. R. Webster was chosen foreman of the jury. Edward Pilbrow, brother of the deceased, said the latter was fifty-four years of age. He was a very good swimmer in his younger days. Arthur Pilbrow, thirteen, son of the deceased, said that on Monday morning about eight o'clock, his father was fishing from the shingle spit at the mouth of the river. Witness was about a hundred yards away, and had his back to his father. On one occasion when he turned round he discovered that his father had disappeared. Shortly afterwards he saw him in the water trying to swim. He had his rod in his hand. There was not much water where he was, but the tide was running out very fast. Witness ran down the spit, and Mr. Moss, who had been fishing some distance up the river bank, came down also. Witness's father went down and came up again close to the breakers. He then went under, and witness never saw him again. The sea was washing over the spit where witness's father had been standing. C. G. Moss said that young Pilbrow had originally been at the end of the spit. Witness helped him to land a fish, and while so doing a wave came in which would have washed the boy away had not witness put his arm round him. Witness told Mr. Pilbrow that it was not safe for the boy to remain on the spit, and deceased then changed places with his son. The tide was then coming in, and the waves were washing over the spit; even at low tide waves washed over the spit. Witness did not see the accident happen, but his attention was attracted by young Pilbrow running down the beach. Witness followed and saw Mr. Pilbrow in the surf. He appeared to be endeavouring to strike out to sea, but the surf was too strong for him. No assistance could be given. Thomas Henry Pilbrow, a son of the deceased, who had been fishing about three-quarters of a mile up the river, also gave evidence."—*The Lyttleton Times*, Canterbury, New Zealand, Oct. 30.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1891.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea.	Add	55 min. for Kew.
	40 ,, ,, Putney.		75 ,, ,, Richmond.
	45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.		80 ,, ,, Twickenham.
	50 ,, ,, Barnes.		85 ,, ,, Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

	Morning.	Evening.
Saturday, Nov. 28	—	0. 5
Sunday, ,, 29	0.26	0.41
Monday, ,, 30	1. 2	1.20
Tuesday, Dec. 1	1.37	1.55
Wednesday ,, 2	2.12	2.29
Thursday, ,, 3	2.45	3. 3
Friday, ,, 4	3.22	3.42

English and Welsh Reports.

Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—There has not been much done in the way of angling this week, although the water has somewhat improved in condition; but the anglers have had no disposition to be on the move, and the club-rooms, instead of making a show of fish, have been occupied in smoking concerts and the reading of papers. I think the latter is so good an institution that, rightly used, will become profitable and attractive to the members, and the movement which has been set on foot to help the clubs in that direction is a most commendable one. It has almost inspired me with a desire to write a paper on Old Father Thames, in connection with fish preservation and fishing achievements; but whether I shall be able to carry it out remains to be seen. I have had a long association with the river, and in obtaining permission from the committee of the Thames Angling Preservation Society, at their meeting on Tuesday last, to get up another river-keepers' dinner, I had to state it would be the twenty-fifth anniversary of my work in that direction, and by holding it on a certain day in the early part of the coming year, it would commemorate my thirty-third year's connection with the society. I need scarcely add it was cordially agreed to, and if I am spared to the celebration, it will be on an occasion in which I have always felt great interest and pleasure in carrying it out. My usual application for half-crowns or five shillings, where it can be spared. will soon be in circulation, and although I cannot reach everybody with a circular, I am sure the *Fishing Gazette* will, by its publicity, open the pockets of those who are ready to contribute without a direct application, and the donors will receive my hearty thanks. In voting the usual rewards on the recent convictions at the meeting referred to, I could not help feeling that whilst the movement is one in the right direction, there is a great reflection on the number of anglers who regularly fish the river, and never give one farthing towards the protection and preservation of the fishery. The society is always weak in its funds at this time of the year, and a stretch of liberality on the part of the anglers at this especial period will be doubly welcome.—B.

RICHMOND.—Mr. Morgan, of the Barkworth Arms, South Bermondsey, and Mr. Snow, fishing with H. Mansell, in one day, caught six dozen of nice roach and dace. The same fisherman, in four other days, caught from 14lb. to 15lb. weight of roach and dace each day; and Job Brain, in three days, 50lb. of roach and dace.

TWICKENHAM.—C. Brown, in two and a-half days, twelve dozen of roach and dace, and a couple of bream; John Coxen, in the same time, 24lb. of roach and dace, and four bream; George Coxen, in three days, 36lb. of roach and dace, and four bream; John Coxen, sen., has been making an average of eight dozen of roach and dace each day, with a total addition of ten bream; Richard Coxen, in three days, 50lb. of roach and dace; John Frost, in one and a-half days, 26lb. of roach and dace, and six bream; W. Holder, in one day, seven dozen of roach and dace, and three bream; Richard Moffatt, in three days, 24lb. of roach and dace, and two bream; and John Spong, in four days, 50lb. of roach and dace, and nine bream.

TEDDINGTON.—The fishermen are still getting a few lamperns at the Weir. One of the bank anglers between Teddington and Kingston caught a tench of 2½lb.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, in four days, thirteen dozen of roach and dace, one brace of jack, and nine bream; N. Bolton, in one day, four dozen of roach and dace; and J. Knight, during the week, fourteen dozen of roach and dace.

THAMES DITTON.—A gentleman, fishing in a punt by himself, got a jack of 4lb., four roach, and four perch.

HAMPTON COURT.—John Smith, in the Hampton Water, has landed a fine pike of 19lb.; James Hedger, in one day, seven dozen of roach and dace, and another day, four dozen.

SUNBURY.—Edward Clarke has been getting a few perch.

STAINES.—John Keene, jun., one day with Mr. Edwards, four dozen of fine roach, the largest weighing 1lb. 6oz., and another day, with Mr. Newbury, three dozen of roach and one brace of chub.

Upper Thames.—The Upper Thames has dropped down from flood into grand winter angling trim. The subsidence of the water has been so gradual that the outlaying fish, with their natural instinct for safety, have all, more or less, fallen back from the meadows and ditches into the bed of the river. Of course, many roach, jack, and perch will not have realised their danger, and have been left the prey of poachers and other birds of ill omen. When there are protection associations on the Thames, the "waifs and strays" will be duly looked after and returned to the river; but, from personal knowledge, there are miles of unprotected waters between Oxford and Staines, and, consequently, where the carrion is, there will be found the loafing kites. Within the past few days, since the water has got well back into the bed of the river, immense quantities of jack and roach have succumbed to local anglers, who, of course, are in the know about the trim of the water daily and hourly, and have the pull of fishermen who wait for letters and wires, and then possibly take days before arrangements can be made for a blow on the "grand old meanderer," and in the meantime the men who call themselves "fishermen" have taken the cream off the milk for sale, and left their patrons very washy skim. Why is it thus? Answer echoes, "Greed and ignorance." Thursday Night.—River well in bounds, in excellent colour and winter trim, and as the weir tackle is gradually now being closed, good all-round business should accrue in those parts of the river where the wicked poacher ceases from troubling and the patient angler can be at rest.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Datchet).—The river is getting in good order again, shall be able to do a bit of jack and chub fishing in a day or so, bank anglers caught a great many barbel during the mild weather.—G. LUMSDEN.

Thames (Pangbourne).—Water getting in first rate order for all-round fishing. There are a great many fish being taken now.—W. H.

Thames (Windsor).—The water here, which has considerably subsided since my last, is, at time of writing, looking in capital condition for jack fishing, having a very slight colour in it. Next week, if weather remains favourable, quantities of jack will be caught throughout the Upper Thames. During the past week many barbel have been caught, but water getting now too clear and weather oo cold for them. Mr. Young of Windsor, has had nine during the week, largest, 4lb., one fish which broke away, he caught half an hour after with the first hook in his lips. Mr. Carey, of Windsor, has had four barbel. Some very handsome roach have recently been caught, the best falling to the rod of Mr. A. Brown, of Eton, who had four, going a little over 4lb., besides many others. The Royal Windsor and District Piscatorial Society gave a smoking concert at their rendezvous, the New Inn, Eton, on the 24th inst., when just upon ninety anglers of the neighbourhood and friends sat down and listened to some excellent songs, recitations, and instrumental pieces, dispersing at eleven p.m., after having spent a most enjoyable evening.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—It has now come in quite raw and cold, attended by a slight frost and fog, which make it quite unpleasant by the waterside. Anglers have, therefore, been taking holiday indoors this week.

Brighton.—(SEA FISHING).—We have had a fairly calm sea during the present week, and Markwick (boatman, of White Hawk-road, Kemptown) has been catching some very nice cod fish on herring bait, some two miles off "Black Rock." I have weighed several of the fish he has taken, and find they run from 9lb. to 12½lb. each, and in splendid condition. A few small conger, silver whiting, and plaice are also being caught. It is, however, cold work for boat angling just now.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—The Canal at Chichester, one of the best angling waters in the south, bids fair to change ownership, as an application will be made to Parliament in the ensuing Session for a Bill to transfer and vest that portion of the canal. from Chichester to the sea—in the Corporation's hands. Whether arrangements can be made for the preservation of fish and restocking it, is a matter for future consideration. The water is now overstocked, but all classes of fish, bar carp, seem to deteriorate year by year, and fresh stock would doubtless prove beneficial. The water is now in excellent condition. Quantities of small roach and bream have been taken, but the four-pounders are not now met with. The rivers have run down considerably, and at present there is every prospect of the closing competition at Pulborough on the 29th being brought off successfully. A few bream and fine roach have been taken from the Arun during the week, and from the Rother; both at Selham and Fittleworth, good takes of roach are reported. The Adur is in good order and will repay a visit among the dace and roach in the Steyning district. The recent frosts have put the pike on feed. A few good fish have been taken from the Ouse, near Isfield, the heaviest 9¼lb. Roach have given sport, several fish weighing upwards of 1lb. A few chub have been taken with pith and brains. As I write (Thursday), there are indications of a change in the weather.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—I am sorry not to be able to report such a grand haul (not of fish but of poachers) as I did in your last issue. Thanks for giving Mr. Caley's clever capture such prominence in the *F. G.*, he well deserved it. He has his eye on several more of the fraternity, who will perhaps spend their Christmas in gaol. Salmon unfit for human food would be a good Christmas dinner for them. SEA FISHING.—Much improved, plenty of bait, and big pollack, and coal-fish, although a trifle scarce are taking well. I hope to be able ere long, to send Mr. Hearder, of Plymouth, a pollack of 30lb., to prove the *F. G.* reports (at all events, from the Isle of Man) are accurate.—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—This week has proved Novemberish so far as winter has been concerned; but at midday we have had several hours of brightness and freedom from mist, and what few fishermen have been out have not done amiss on the Birdsgrove and Uttoxeter lengths. The latter club have just had their half-yearly meet, and the association has been just given a new lease of life—a new secretary has been appointed, and a stock of trout fry are about to be put in the water, at the private cost of the newly-formed club.—D. & W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourne.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—There is still a good deal of water about the Fen district, and in the Cowbit Wash and other similar localities it is seldom that there exists so much water as at the present time. This speaks well for the skaters, for these stretches of water are utilised by them as soon as frost sets in to make them bearable. Last year the Cowbit Wash was almost without water at this time. Among anglers, chief attention has been devoted to trolling. Some have spent considerable time at it, and some very good fish have been landed. A fish of 12lb. was taken from the Fortyfoot Drain, south of Swineshead Bridge; and another farther down the water, in the direction of Donington Bridge. In the neighbourhood of Billingborough, local anglers have done very well, chiefly with natural bait. Mr. Dunn, last week, secured a brace of fish, 4lb. and 3½lb. respectively; and Mr. Smith caught four, scaling in the aggregate 14lb. Some of the Fen waters have been in heavy flood, but the sport has not been largely interrupted, as on the rivers. On the contrary, the discolouring of the water has improved the roach fishing. Perch fishing is also pretty good.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—The recent storms have kept the river up at flood level for some time, and in some places there have been fears of disaster. Gradually, however, the waters are falling, and are toning down in colour, and as a consequence prospects are improving. Possibly by the end of this week fishing will have become good. After floods like those passing away there is always a chance of getting some good fish, as the flush brings many fish from the carefully preserved waters up stream, in spite of all that can be done to keep them at home. This is one reason why the Idle affords such good fishing when in anything like decent condition. As soon as the drains or dykes are available, trolling will recommence with spirit. There are plenty of fish, and we are now having the requisite frost to stir up the heavier ones.—L.

Ilfracombe.—SEA FISHING.—There has not been so many herrings caught this week owing to the clearness of the water. A quantity of large fish has been caught, one boat hauled in their nets and to their surprise they hauled nearly four hundred dog fish. Those fishing with ground lines have had fine sport, each boat bringing large quantities of prime cod and conger. The best catch of herrings for the season was 7,500 at one haul. Anglers have had very poor sport from the jetties, the weather being too cold for them to stand the bleak east wind. Weather squally.—E. COMER.

Leicester.—The weather this week has been quite up to the November standard, rain and fogs predominating most days, rendering fishing anything but a pleasant vocation. The continuous rains kept the waters at a great height, although near the town the facilities are so good for getting heavy volumes of water away, that fishing can be indulged in under almost any circumstances. Anglers have been out in good numbers, and have met with decent sport among the roach, two fine lots being shown by Messrs. H. Prime and W. Pinnock, and Mr. J. Castle was fortunate in securing three score of nice dace. Two and a-half brace of chub fell to the share of Mr. W. South, and the best lot of perch landed this week from the L. A. S. waters, were those taken by Mr. J. Parsons, being close upon 1lb. Pike fishing has not been to the mark, and sport away from the town has been but moderate, the majority of the baskets being light. The waters showed greatly improved condition on Thursday.

Loddon (Earley).—The river here has fined down, and is in splendid condition for angling. Some good baskets of roach have been taken up to 25lb. weight. Chub are feeding well, and some fine fish were taken on Wednesday with pith and brain. Mr. Wallace, six jack, the heaviest 10lb., and some fair perch. Several other anglers have done well this week.—J. R. GOULD.

Lea and Stort.—The rivers are now in the best possible fishing condition, and the weather for November has been generally favourable, we have had but a few really foggy days, and the fogs have been partial, as the upper portions of the Lea Valley have escaped the visitation at times when London has been in darkness; this shows fishermen that they ought not to be deterred from going a fishing by adverse weather at their starting point. There is nothing special to report in catches this week, either as to big baskets or large fish, but sport has been fairly good at most places. The roach are now beginning to feed better than they have done for many weeks; the Lea roach fisher will stick to the orthodox paste for bait, and taken altogether it accounts for most of the roach caught; but still some nice fish have been taken with small red worms, and anglers should bear in mind that when fishing with worms, there is always a chance of catching specimens of every other kind of fish. I am glad to notice that spinning for jack seems to be getting more into favour. I have seen several fishermen trying it lately, and I am pleased to be able to say that moderate success has followed their efforts; the great advantages of spinning are, that a far greater extent of water can be covered than by any other means, it is by far the most pleasant, sportsmanlike and artistic style, requiring sufficient exertion to keep the body in a glow during the cold weather; and last but not least, it does less damage to the fish big or little than any other method. Pike and perch have been taken, at most or all of the fishing stations. In the Ware and St. Margaret's districts some good specimens of both kinds have been had; also, at Waltham Abbey, Enfield, Cook's Ferrie, Games, Higham Hill, and Ferry Boat, Tottenham. I am pleased to notice that the question of allowing more than one rod, has again cropped up amongst the clubs. There may be occasions where a roach fisher should be allowed to use a jack rod as well as his pole, but anything beyond this should be barred; last season I heard of a case of a man fishing using no less than five rods at one time; such practices should be stopped.—Thursday evening, the water has cleared nicely, and will be all right on the 29th inst., if no more rain comes. The weather is inclined to be more settled, with prospects of frosty nights.—SPLICED JOINT.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these noted grayling streams are now in good order for angling, being clear and a nice level. The Pinsley is now in good order for grayling fishing.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Rivers sink but slowly. Bottom fishing was resumed on Friday last; each day since very fair baskets have been made, in some cases very good, and the fish large and in prime condition. After three days fine, with sharp frosts at night, this (Thursday) afternoon the wind has suddenly chopped to S.W., with lowering clouds, and every appearance of rain, a little of which has already fallen. With fine weather the chances of sport in the coming week are hopeful. The season is now so far advanced, the fly is good only between eleven and three. Willow, Red Palmer, Red Tag, and Mid Blue should be best.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—Our rivers and broads now at the time of writing are in capital order for angling. I had a try in some of our Norfolk Broads on Thursday and Friday last, and took a nice lot of fish; Thursday I bagged 76lb., principally rudd; and on Friday, 84lb., roach, and rudd, with a few perch. The weather was wet and rather windy, had it been still, I think, I could have taken a boat full. Many of the rudd weighed over 1½lb. I do not remember having a much better day or two than this. I once took ninety-three roach from the Ouse near Prickwillow, that weighed 44½lb.; Andrew Antony fished that day with me. The Ouse at Littleport is now in good order, so is the Lark at Mildenhall and Barton Mills, the Yare, also at Cantley, and Buckenham, is good now for big roach. Red worms are the bait to use, and it does not matter where you try you will get fish, quite different to last year, when everything was frost and snow up to your knees. Pike are fairly well on, I took sixteen on Monday and Tuesday, none over 7lb. Weather at time of writing, clear and mild, wind south-east.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Ouse (Brandon, Norfolk).—The roach are now getting into their winter quarters—viz., the deep holes and the staunches. Woolsey, the waterman, assures me with suitable weather (middle day), for two or three hours good catches are and must be had, for they are there. The dace, which are excellent on this river middle day if the sun is out, should be fished for just at the end of the staunches. The perch are coming well at the gudgeon, and small artificial spoon. Lower down stream a native angler has had them. Now as to the pike, all I can say is during the past two weeks a few stray fish have been had (average 3½lb. each) by the natives. Roach anglers now do not want to go for six or seven good swims with plenty of fish, farther than fifty or sixty yards from the Town Bridge, but it must be fished from the boat; plenty on the spot. Small brandling worms will be useful now. Live-bait for pike can be had at the headquarters of the angling, Ram Hotel. Anglers should be well supplied with gentles, and take them with them, they being scarce here. River and water in good order, with wind time of writing south-west. All free water and gravel bottom. Now a word on the lamprey eel. For some years past in your paper I have mentioned that the North of England (cod fishermen) send for and prefer them from this water; they being a more attractive bait than any to be found, because of their excellent colour. I find ladies as well as gentlemen are coming here catching them, especially for investigation. I should be pleased to give further information respecting this peculiar something which has been said to have killed a king. But allow me to ask the editor of *F. G.* are they good for human food, and would he eat one if sent? There are plenty of them to be had here. Anglers will find the railway service excellent for a few hours middle day on this popular free water.—JOHN O. GEORGE.

Ouso (Huntingdon).—The water has got in prime condition once more, and jack are feeding well after the flood we have had. The locals have been out, and returned with some good fish. Two rods were at work to-day (Wednesday), and killed eleven good ones, and had five more runs, all taken in about three hours. No one should miss this opportunity, as there is every chance of good sport.—H. ROUT.

Ouso (Offord)—At time of writing water in good condition. Jack appear to be well on the feed.—H. COLLINS.

Ouse (St. Noot's).—The water is now in splendid condition for jack fishing, and some good catches have been made. Five fish weighing 2½lb., 6lb., 7lb., 8lb., and 17½lb. respectively have been taken, just opposite the Half Moon by one local angler in the last three days. The largest is just over a yard in length and in splendid condition. Several others up to 13lb. or 14lb. have also been taken lately.

Ouse, &c. (York)—The rivers in this part of Yorkshire are running down fast into a better condition for angling, but perhaps the raw cold weather has prevented many turning out yet. Monday being fine, with pleasant sunshine, saw a fair muster of rods in the Fulford and Bishopthorpe swims, but I saw nothing but a few good roach. The day was a blank for the bream and chub, for which these parts of the Yorkshire Ouse are so famous. Some fair pike fishing is being had in the Pocklington Canal, especially the length rented by the York Angling Society, but nothing of extraordinary size has come under notice yet this season. A few gentlemen have visited the Costa, Rye, and Upper Derwent in quest of the grayling, but somehow with indifferent success of sport. Should these streams continue to fine down, we may expect hearing of good sport, both with the fly and swimming the worm.—RONALD.

Plymouth and the South-West Coast.—PLYMOUTH.—The wind from the north-west always gives us a smooth sea, which is very nice for amateur fishing. The last few days it has been almost like spring weather, fine during the day with sun; and frosty at night. At Plymouth there has been plenty of fish of all sorts, hakes, rays, gurnards, whiting, and conger, on the outer grounds; and mackerel, pilchards, and herrings, on the inner ground. Some of the boats had as many as 60,000 pilchards, and many others nearly the same number; catches of mackerel from 4,000 per boat down, have been very common during the week. Consequently fish has been very cheap.

EXMOUTH.—Here the weather has been dull and bitterly cold, and nothing has been done much, except by the Herring boats and they came in with catches varying from 10,000 to 4,000.

BRIXHAM.—This is a celebrated harbour for trawlers, and there is an old rhyme that—

> "When Brixham men are earning their bread,
> The Plymouth men are home to bed."

They certainly do not mind some dirty weather, for a week or two since, whilst I was at Teignmouth, the seas were so big that the Teignmouth boats could not venture out, yet I counted sixty-eight boats that had come out from Brixham, and they were all rewarded with good catches.

MEVAGISSEY.—These boats seem very fond of using our Plymouth grounds, and they returned with fair catches of pilchards, herrings, mackerel, and whiting, other kinds of fish seem very scarce.

ST. IVES.—The boats here had catches of herrings from 30,000 to 10,000.

FALMOUTH AND PENZANCE.—All kinds of fish have been taken, but in very small quantities. At the former place are the celebrated oyster beds, that provide millions of these delicacies for the various markets.—WILLIAM HEARDER.

Scarborough.—(SEA FISHING).—Pier anglers are again having good sport, and during the past week some heavy takes of billet and plaice have been made. Four score of plaice were landed by three rods the other day, and Mr. Daniel (a local angler) caught over 40lb. in weight of billet, &c., on Monday last. Billet are now in splendid condition, and large in size. Cod run rather small, but continue fairly abundant over the rocky grounds in the bay.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this district is now running in good order for grayling fishing, having lowered and cleared. The weather has been frosty at night, with cold, foggy mornings, and has made the grayling more on the feed. Sport in the Ony has been good.—S. LUDLOW.

Tomo (Tenbury).—The Teme in this part has now run into capital order for fishing. Cold and sharp frosts have been had, which has brought the grayling more on the feed. The fish have been taking the fly, grasshopper, and maggot well, and some very nice grayling landed. The Rea, Kyre, and Ledwyche are all in good order, but very few grayling in them; sport quiet.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).—Genuine November weather, and although the Trent has fallen to near an ordinary winter level, its condition is not indicative of successful bottom fishing, and no lure appears sufficiently tempting. Live-baiting for pike has been the chief pursuit of the angler, and during the week Mr. W. Mountney secured ten fish from these private waters at Balderton. The piscatorial club-room has been all but deserted and accepting a single specimen roach of 1lb. 3oz. by Mr. W. Holme, the book records a blank and angling pursuits were probably never less indulged in in the Newark district than at the present period.—TRENTSIDER.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—The Witham and other streams in connection with it, have been running down gradually, and operations among the pike are possible of being resumed. Fishermen are not very eager to run the risk of travelling twenty, thirty, or even fifty miles, on the off chance of getting fish, and as a consequence visitors are now very scarce. Most of the work is done by local men, or men who come short distances. When the conditions are favourable they often come in force, and I should not be surprised, seeing we have had some keen frosts, if we have a goodly number this week end. I would advise the use of live bait now especially, and anglers should bring them with them, or come prepared to catch them. In their absence, spoons or minnows (artificial) will catch fish as soon as the water clears sufficiently.—LUCI.

Yoro, Wharfc, Nidd, and Swalo.—All the above are now in excellent order for grayling fishing, and some fairly good baskets have been made, chiefly with the worm. Apple Green Dun, Silver Dun, and Blue Hawk are the best flies to use at present.—F. M. WALBRAN.

Usk (at Usk).—Angling for coarse fish is carried on very briskly, and some very large baskets are taken. Mr. J. Pitt, of Usk, has had excellent sport with the gentle, having caught in five days' fishing over 1cwt. of dace. Very few roach are caught here, this specie of fish being nearly extinct, although some years ago it used to be numerous. Here at the present time appears to be numbers of salmon travelling for spawning purposes, and according to report extraordinary quantities are on the redds at Brecon and vicinity.—T.

Scotch Reports.

Doo, Don, &c. (Abordeenshiro).—The distant hills are coated with snow, while a severe frost has succeeded the wet weather of last week. The volume of the rivers, however, has not been much affected, and spawning is progressing favourably. The pollution of the Dee has more than once been forced upon the attention of the County Council by the Aberdeen Town Council, who are interested in securing pure water, as regards the reaches above Cairnton, about twenty miles from the sea. Several schemes, costing in the aggregate thousands of pounds, have been proposed for the various centres of pollution, in order to secure the necessary certificate under the Act. The pollution is really more fanciful than real where these alterations are suggested at such cost; but the Dee Fishery Board might take the matter up at the point where the County Council leave off, and do some real practical good to the lower half of the Dee. It is to be hoped the Donside people will follow suit.—DEESIDER.

South of Scotland.—The Kirkcudbrightshire Urr is the only remaining south of Scotland river that is still open for angling. Some capital sport has been had during the past fortnight with fly. The pools are teeming with fish, and they have been taking pretty well on favourable days. Three or four heavy fish were killed on Tuesday in one pool, and on the previous day, and also on Saturday, other fish fell to the rods. The season closes on Monday night, 30th November.—HEATHERBELL,

Thurso (Halkirk).—There was a high flood in the river on the 12th inst., and it has kept in good volume ever since. The spate did not come a day too soon as the salmon in Lochmore were fully ripe a week prior. As soon as the spate came they made a rush for the redds on the upper reaches, and by the 17th, the greater number had finished spawning. Sufficient ova has now been got for stocking the new hatchery, and the eggs have been successfully laid down in the breeding boxes. A good many spawning fish are still on the redds, on the different sections of the river. Owing to the absence of coarse fish in this county there is no angling of any kind carried on in any of our lochs or streams at this time of year.—A. H.

Irish Reports.

Ballindorry (East Tyrone).—Sport is confined to pike spinning in the tributaries, nothing having been done on the main stream. Last Monday I counted ten very heavy salmon crossing the Lough Carry to the spawning-grounds while there was a slight freshet in the river. At the Barmouth, perch have ceased to feed, and both bream and pike are said to be scarce. The lower and more important reaches are being well watched against the designs of a party of itinerant poachers who are known to be in the locality.—J. A. B.

Lough Noagh.—Eel fishing at the weirs is pretty fair but the takes are diminishing as the floods fall down. The eels run down the inland rivers from the swamps, bogs, and lakes during the autumn freshets to the sea near the Lough. "Night lining" is not doing much. Pollen are reported to be gathering towards the shallows, but it is rather early yet for spawning. In the small burns spawning trout are numerous, and fresh runs of salmon have come up the Bann to the spawning beds in the Blackwater, Ballinderry, Lower Bann, Main, &c. Among the mill owners on the Antrim side of the lough, there is a strong agitation in favour of the assimilation of the Irish Salmon Fisheries Laws with the English Statutes.

Watervillo (County Kerry).—Poaching is reported from the Cummeragh. The other night a gang of poachers attacked the watchers with stones, and drove them off the river. Since then a party of constabulary are stationed at the headwatcher's residence, and nightly guard the river in conjunction with the watchers. Sea fishing has again commenced here. The weather is very favourable, and hand-lines are doing well at whiting, gurnet, and bream.—THOMAS J. DENNEHY.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE READING OF PAPERS AT ANGLING CLUBS.

LAST Monday evening, at the Causton Angling Society, the Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, City, Mr. Edgar Shrubsole read a paper under the auspices of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs, entitled "Fly-Fishing for Chub and Dace." The chair was taken by Mr. W. H. Beckett, who, in introducing Mr. Shrubsole to the meeting, said he was a member of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs. They proposed to do a little towards raising the tone of angling societies and to show those who belonged to them that there was something better than their harmony and general procedure. The society had already done a great deal of good, and he hoped that it would meet with the support it so thoroughly deserved. (Applause.)

Mr. Shrubsole then delivered his lecture, which proved of a very interesting character. He said that fly-fishing opened out the most fascinating branch of angling; and he believed that if the London club anglers would take out fly tackle with them they would not return with empty baskets so often, but in all probability would be able to show a goodly catch of chub and dace, and very likely roach. The outfit necessary for fly-fishing was obtainable at a small figure, and the lecturer recommended the use of a 10ft. 6in. rod, not too whippy in action, made of greenheart throughout. He preferred flies for chub upon eyed-hooks and for dace upon hooks attached to the finest drawn gut. Mr. Shrubsole told in an entertaining manner of his chub fishing days on the Medway and Beult, and recommended a trial of his Min-flies for those fish on any waters. The best months on the Medway for fly-fishing were July and August. Referring to fly-fishing for dace, Mr. Shrubsole contended that one must use fine tackle, have a keen eye, and a quick hand. The great secret in hooking a dace, he averred, was to have no line under water. His favourite fly was a Black Gnat with light starling wing and white kid tag. In conclusion the lecturer said he had caught perch and bream with a fly; and he urged them to try at their earliest opportunity what fly-fishing was like. (Applause.) If they did he hoped they might derive as much pleasure from it as he had done. (Applause).

Mr. Dunn, as chairman of the Causton Angling Club, proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Shrubsole for his kindness in coming there that evening to read a paper. He felt sure that they would all agree with him that the reader had dealt with his subject in a most effective manner. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Smith, secretary of the club, seconded the proposition, which was unanimously adopted; and

Mr. Shrubsole, in replying, said he was very much obliged for the kind reception they had given him. There were, he said, occasions when the weather was hot and the river stale that they could not catch fish midwater or on the bottom. Then was the time when he could recommend them to bring forth their fly rod and go for the chub, dace, and roach under the bough. (Applause.) He felt sure if they did so they would be well rewarded.

Mr. Manning asked Mr. Shrubsole if he thought his Min-fly would be as successful on the Lea as it had been on the Medway. He had friends who had often whipped the Lea, but seldom caught a chub. They were generally taken with cheese paste on the leger.

Mr. Shrubsole said if anyone would show him some chub in the Lea, he would endeavour to show them how to catch them with his Min-fly.

Mr. G. E. Sims said he was up the Lea recently, and saw a small brown fly on the water, and the chub simply lying under the bough and sucking them down. He believed that if anyone had had a fly rod they would have filled a big creel with the fish.

In the course of the proceedings Messrs. Beckett (the chairman), G. H. Field, Manning, and G. C. Cooper were elected honorary life members of the Causton Club. The meeting was well attended, and an enjoyable "smoker" was held upon the conclusion of the lecture.

THE New Albion Piscatorial Society's club-room, at the Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road, was crowded to its utmost capacity on Thursday night, upon the occasion of a paper by Mr. James Tayler, entitled, "The Humane Angler." The chair was occupied by Mr. W. F. Grimmett, and amongst those present were Messrs. J. P. Wheeldon, R. La Feuillade, W. Bassett, Gilbert, May, Edward, Close, Shonfield, R. Mudd, C. Newbury, J. Read, W. Fowler, R. Turnham, J. H. Pugh, Pyne, Watkins, Hearn, G. E. Simms, H. Dunn, W. J. Crisp, Brown, A. E. Baldwin (secretary New Albion), and Arthur Matthews (assistant hon. sec. Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs, under whose auspices the meeting was called). Mr. Tayler was strongly supported by members of the Gresham Angling Society, of which club he is the hon. sec., and the other club members present included, amongst others, those belonging to the Greenwich, Rodney, Anchor and Hope, Wellington, Marlborough, Causton, Cliftonville, South London, Walworth Waltonians, &c. Prior to the commencement of the meeting the visitors had the opportunity of inspecting the fine collection of specimen fish possessed by the New Albions which, it goes without saying, was greatly admired. Mr. Crisp's three bream—one of which scales 6lb. 4oz.—received special attention, as did also the ferocious bull trout killed by the late lamented Mr. Tom Hughes. Mr. Turnham's 11lb. 12oz. pike, caught this August, likewise came in for a good deal of praise.

The chairman, in opening the proceedings, said the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers was doing a good work. It was showing the London anglers that they had something better to look forward to than pot-hunting, and he was sure that such a social evening as they were about to indulge in would prove as interesting as it would instructive. He strongly condemned the taking of undersized fish, and urged London anglers to raise their standard, as ultimately the law would demand it of them. Mr. Tayler then proceeded to deliver his lecture, and in the course of a most interesting paper spoke of the way in which the angler could make much of the cruelty which attended the taking of fish, not only with regard to the fish themselves, but with reference to the use of particular baits. He contended that live-baiting and live gorge baiting ought to be done away with. In conjunction with the march of civilisation, and the growing tendency to prevent cruelty to animals, he had no doubt that the anglers would become more humane in their pastime. Dog-fighting, cock-fighting, and prize-fighting were now almost defunct, and he trusted that, in the course of a few years, live-baiting by anglers would follow in their trail. In proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Tayler for his excellent paper, the chairman observed that his opinions were well worthy attention, especially with regard to live-baiting with snap tackle and the paternoster, which he considered were very cruel indeed. He very earnestly urged anglers to go in for spinning. (Hear, hear.) Mr. J. P. Wheeldon seconded the vote, which was carried with acclamation. A short discussion followed. Mr. Payne (of the Cliftonville) said he believed fish had no pain. ("Oh!") Mr. J. P. Wheeldon begged to differ. Live gorge baiting was, he contended, the cruellest of sport. (Hear, hear.) The way in which some anglers threaded their bait created excruciating pain to the fish. (Hear, hear.) He also strongly condemned the way in which some barbel fishermen used worms, throwing them down on a punt bottom first, and after threading them up the hook. When barbel fishing himself he used a small roach hook made of stouter wire than usual, and stuck the worm through the centre. Subsequently a grand smoking concert was held in the spacious billiard saloon, which was crowded. Mr. E. Rushton O'Dell accompanied on the piano; and amongst the artistes were Messrs. T. B. Angliss, A. Shonfeld, Arthur Court, Thornton Wynne, Hillier, F. G. Read, G. W. Todd, &c.

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— NOTICE. —

ISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be tained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Book- alls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle ealers in London and the Provinces.

unications relating to the Literary Department Fishing ackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed R. B. MARSTON, the Editor of the FISHING GAZETTE, St. unstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

pondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, d give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signa- res to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless is rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such com- unications.

— The —
ishing Gazette
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH, 1891.

"ANGLING SKETCHES."*

y a fortunate chance I have just had the ortunity of reading these sketches, a book r my own heart, and I am constrained to send a little gossip about it. Of all the men and ıen who have angled, or who have written ıt fishing, from Job to Dame Juliana, to Izaak ton and the Editor of the *F. G.*, there are only to be found who have had the courage of their ost convictions to boldly pronounce themselves ıffers." Of these two men, one is the writer hese lines, who was the first to make this ession in print, and the second is the writer his book.

have mentioned Job. I don't suppose that he the first angler, by any means (for fishing is ve to the human race), but undoubtedly he an ardent fisherman. Many a time and oft he wander with pole and cord and iron hook the side of those lovely streams in the land Jz (wherever that land may be), fishing for athans, for there were giants of fish in those s, but it is not recorded that he ever caught His many comforting friends would call a Duffer as they saw him sitting under a py of wild roses and sweet-scented oleanders ently baiting his hook. It was in those early s, and by those dreamy streams where, for ever ng and never catching, he learnt so well invaluable lesson of *patience*, which in the equent evil days stood him in good stead n his adversaries derided and laughed at . Then it was that in bitterness he cried, that mine adversary had written a book!" that case he says, "I would bind it as a vn to me." A modern critic would have said, ouldn't I slate him!"

any a "Duffer" has written books about ling since those days, and now, last of all, es Andrew Lang, proudly wearing on his t "*The Confessions of a Duffer.*" I do not re- l him as mine adversary for having done it. ould, indeed, be proud to call him my friend; Job, "I would bind his book as a crown tome." ar, indeed, as the Confessional is concerned, I claim him as my brother. "Arcades Ambo," "contented Duffers both." But if my friend is not, or pretends not to be, an expert with the rod, he is a giant with the pen, and, consequently, what a delightful book he has written. "Success with pen" he has long since achieved in every department of literature. There he is far out of my humble reach, but I am with him heart and soul when he says, "Success with rod may be beyond one, but there is the pleasure of the pursuit, the rapture of endeavour, the delight of an impossible chase, the joys of Nature—sky, trees, brooks, and birds."

But what right have I any longer to call myself even a Duffer in the gentle art? It is thirty long months since I last attempted to cast a fly upon the water, and scarcely six times have I done so in the last six years. Now, alas! alas! the years roll on: the grasshopper—though excellent bait as I found in the Rocky Mountains—is gradually becoming a burden. Now, I fear me much, the continued wielding of a ten-foot rod would soon bring me to rheumatic grief. I remember well how, in the days of my boyhood—and this chapter, called "My Border Boyhood," helps me to recall them—my own wanderings by a lovely river, through green woods and bosky dells, with supple rod and dainty killing flies, furnished to me by an old gamekeeper; the ardour with which I thrashed the stream; the rapture of endeavour; the excitement of a rise—always ending in blank failure. How I used to envy that old keeper; the deftness with which he would throw my line across the wide stream, in the teeth of the wind, and right into the mouth of a big trout, just to show me how to do it! How I envied that great lubberly lout, Jack Brunt, who would hide himself up in the thick foliage of an orle (or alder) bush overhanging a deep pool, and with a short stick, two yards of gut, and a bluebottle on his hook, which he *bobbed* gently on and off the water, would pull out half-a-dozen big fat trout in no time. I could never do it, though many a time I've tried to imitate the inimitable Jack, but Jack had a knack —a quick eye, a rapid wrist, and immeasurable patience. I think I am sadly lacking in the last of these qualifications, which is the real cause of my lucklessness. The truth is that I, too, like A. L., am a born angler. I possess the instinct, but the skill is wanting. Here, I think, heredity comes in: somewhere in the remote past I had an ancestor who possessed both skill and instinct —the instinct was born again with me—the skill passed me by, and both have descended to Piscator Major. Thus it comes about that, like the enthusiastic writer of this lovely book, "my labours are devoted to fishing rather than the catching of fish."

But why pursue the subject? Have I not elsewhere told the story of my failures? Let us return from this digression to our book.

Our author's story of his "Border Boyhood" has led me astray. This naughty boy dreamed of catching a trout, and often thought of him in church. In a moment of profane confidence his younger brother asked, "What do *you* do in sermon time?" "*I*," said he, "tell stories to myself about catching trout!"

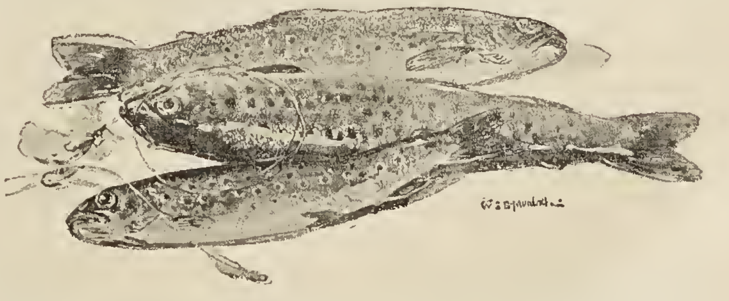
By the time I have got to the end of this boyhood chapter, I begin to perceive that my author has deceived me: we are no longer brethren: he is no such a Duffer, after all: he knows what's what, and is "up to snuff" in all manner of angling matters. During those boyish days on the Ettrick, the Tweed, the Leader, and the Yarrow, and the Lowland burns, he rapidly develops into a skilled fisherman, and it does one good to read so pleasant a story of boyhood. "These," says he, "are the waters with which our boyhood was mainly engaged; it is a pleasure to number and name them. Memory brings vividly back the golden summer evenings by "Tweedside, when the trout began to plash in the stillness, brings back the long, lounging, solitary days beneath the woods of Ashiesteil—days so lonely, that they sometimes in the end begat a superstitious eeriness. One seemed forsaken in an enchanted world. . . . They are all gone now, the old allies and tutors in the angler's art; the kind gardener, who baited our hooks; the good Scotch judge, who took us with him on his salmon fishing expeditions, and made men of us, with real rods and 'pirns' of ancient make. The companions of those days are scattered. . . . But the scene is very little altered, and one is a boy again, in heart, beneath the elms of Yair, or by the gullets at Ashiesteil. However bad the sport, it keeps you young, or makes you young again; and you needn't follow Ponce de Léon to the western wilderness, when, in any river you knew of yore, you can find 'The Fountain of Life.'"

In the following chapters the author has become a man, and has put away boyish things; henceforth he discourses wisely of all that pertains to the angler's art on Loch Awe, Loch Beg, and Loch Leven, and he gracefully seasons the serious part of his discourse with some lively stories of murder and tragedy pertaining to these lochs, together with old-world legends, gathered once more and afresh from the mouth of his faithful boatman, a Highlander (or Lowlander) by the way, who never says "whateffer." This important word has been discussed before, I think, in these columns; it may not be high Scotch nor low Scotch, but scores of times have I heard a Welshman say, "It's a fine day, whateffer!".

It pleases me to find that my "contented" friend is "no salmon fisher"—so he modestly says —but then he discourses as pleasantly and as learnedly on salmon flies and salmon fishing as he does on any other subject; whatsoever he touches, that he adorns. He prefers trout fishing—so do I—but then I never fished for salmon, I never even saw a salmon caught. I remember—it is many months ago—the last time I ever went a-fishing, it was on a lovely curve of the beautiful Herefordshire Wye. I was casting my fly along the fringes of a wide, deep pool, in the careless hope of catching here and there a small trout, or perchance a lively perch or minnow. When suddenly there came up from the great depths of the pool a lordly salmon. A thundering splash, and I caught a glimpse of the "purple and azure," as he flopped down—a forty-pounder if an ounce. I shouted to the major, who hastily made some artful but futile casts, and that is the beginning and the end of my salmon adventures. I may here say that I never go a-fishing without the major. I try his wonderful patience a great deal; when I am dry-fly fishing I have a way of swishing off my flies in trying to dry them, to say nothing of constantly getting caught in the opposite bank, or in a tree, or else I leave my flies a mile or two behind me, stuck fast in thistle or grass, whilst I have steadily fished on, unconscious of my loss. The major always comes to my aid and puts me right for a fresh start, in fact I could never fish at all, but for his ever-ready help at hand.

All this is neither here nor there; let us get back to our book.

There is a delightful chapter called "A Tweedside Sketch," which tells the tragic story of how this truthful narrator hooked and lost his first and second salmon—which whoever wants to know more about must buy the book. To my mind the chief of the many charms of this volume is its artless (*ars celare artem*) transparent truthfulness; and where is the other writer (except myself, be it modestly said) whoever dreams of telling of his defeats and failures? In justification of my own apparent boasting in thus linking my own small efforts with his, I may say that, if I had *not* told the truthful story of my many failures, I might have cried, with Canning's knife grinder, "Story? God bless you, I have none to tell, Sir!"



There are many gems and nuggets in this book, which I have not in this rambling gossip even hinted at; and perhaps not the least thing to be admired about it is the pretty way in which it has been produced. There are a lot of characteristic little wood-cuts, of which the accompanying is a specimen, and quite a number of

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'Angling Sketches," by Andrew Lang. London: Longmans.

full-page wood-cuts, and three most charming etchings by Mr. W. G. Burn-Murdoch. This is a book which no gentleman's or angler's library (the terms are synonymous) should be without.

AMATEUR ANGLER.

IN DAYS BYGONE.

By MAC.

FROM certain positions, and under certain conditions of light, one who fishes a great deal for salmon, grilse, and sea trout cannot, occasionally at least, in water which is clear and not very deep, but have the opportunity of observing how the fish behave when or after the fly passes over them. It is from banks high above the water and when the sun is shining out well that opportunities for such observations most frequently present themselves. This remark, I have no doubt, will be accepted by most anglers as strictly correct; but I hedge myself by stating that it is not put forward as the experience of others but as my own.

Not very often have I seen fish which previously I had noticed in their "lies" in the water come at the fly. Only of two cases of the kind have I a distinct remembrance. But the number of fish that I have put up and distinctly seen come at the fly is very great. To speak, however, at length on their many and varied ways of showing is not my purpose. I remark, however, that in streams it is the rule to see them rise much more smartly than in slack water. In water of any depth, on a dull day, a momentary glimpse of something appearing and disappearing almost before it is seen is usually all that is noticed. But on a bright day a flash of the silvery sides of a fresh-run fish is very discernible, and this may be observed both when he pounces upon the fly and whilst he is making the wriggle after he seizes it. In slow water the rise is often made with great caution. As if to inspect, sometimes the fish come from a good distance; sometimes they follow a long bit; often they up-rise almost straight from the bottom, slowly at times, more quickly at other times; but, as a rule, unless the fly should be dancing merrily or going fast, the lay-hold is not made in such a haste and hurry as it is in streams. That the fish pounce upon the fly because they take it for food, says one; that they wish to *do* for it because it irritates, provokes, annoys them, says another; and that they behave and act from either of the two motives according to their caprice and humour, says a third, with whom I rather incline to agree. On two or three different occasions I have seen a fish come at the fly and go right over it. Twice on one occasion I saw this done by the same fish within a few minutes' time; and observations something similar which must have been made by many others, may account for the idea, widely prevalent, that the fish which swims over, rolls over, or comes with a rush, splash, and smack over (above) the fly, is seeking to drown it and put it out of the way because of the annoyance it has caused him. These remarks having been made by way of preface, I now proceed with my experiences of a still out-of-the-way character.

ONE LOST; ANOTHER CAUGHT.

On a charming summer day I was fishing a model of a mountain stream for grilse and sea trout, and with no small success. The water, still a trifle brown, was in perfect fettle. The best of the season was on, and very plentiful were fresh-run fish which had come up with a heavy flood but a couple of days before. Some eight or nine pools and streams having been gone over, I had arrived at the "Rocks." Here I felt almost certain of scoring. From where I stood, well above the water, I had to pitch my fly into the deep dark part of the pool a score or so of yards off. A rock rising sheer up about twenty feet kept off the sun's rays for more than half-way across, and, besides being into the shade, and looking darker in consequence, the water here was very deep. Moreover, it was quite still. So, as is my custom under such circumstances, I cast to the very farther bank, and having given my fly time to sink, that it might not create a surface wake as I worked it towards me, I began to pull it across, first with moderately long draws, then with somewhat shorter ones, and finally with rapid jerks. Two or three yards I had worked over in these different ways, and was begun with the long, slow, draw style to fish a spot above ledges of rock, with deep, black holes between them, that sloped gradually down outward from the side on which I was standing. I noticed a fish—apparently a grilse of 7lb. or 8lb.—come out from the dark water at the second or third cast and follow my fly. I kept it moving, and for five or six yards the fish followed—as I moved the fly he came at the same pace, but never did he approach nearer than a foot or so, as I judged, and when I halted the fly, he too halted. In this way the interesting performance went on till the fly got into shallow water on the rocky ledge, when the fish turned right round and dived away back down over the ledge into the deep black water whence he came. I cast again, but he did not respond. By fishing the rest of the pool I gave him a rest, and then went back to give him another trial. The result was that he responded in exactly the same way as before. No success for me, and back he went "Scot free" to his hold. Yet another time (after a while) and I tried for him, being determined to catch him. I had made up my mind that I would try new tactics. Over the fly went, and presently I once more saw my fish following it. This time I would avoid bringing him into the shallow water above the rocky ledge, and, instead, would draw the fly slantwise up into one of those rifts in the ledges where the water looked dark and deep, fancying he might take it as I drew it in there. I sunk it more than hitherto, by working it more slowly, and it must have been at least four feet below the surface, just as, with the fish but a foot or so from it, I smartly pulled it in with a long swift draw below the corner of the ledge, when, all of a sudden, seeing this new movement—hurry to escape him—the fish dashed at it and down with it, showing a flash or two of his bright side. But momentary this was, and he was gone. He, however, must with his wriggle have startled another fish, which below the ledge had been unseen by me; for the moment my hold of him gave way, I was tight in something else, which in a second came to the surface with a splutter, and revealed a good fish, which turned out to be foul-hooked by the side. Some may incline to believe that the fish I saw close on the fly was the fish I got out, that he shook the fly out of his mouth only to hook himself by the side; but this idea I demur to *in toto*, since the two fish appeared to be not at all of a size.

"KEEPING HIM COMPANY."

Pretty clearly two things, not uninteresting to anglers, are proved by the foregoing. In the first place, that an entire change of the fly's motion, or rate of travelling, from slow to quick, will sometimes make a fish, which before had only followed the fly, come at it briskly and lay hold. In the second place, that many fish never seen by the angler follow the fly—probably more than the combined number of those that touch it and are brought to the bank. What rate the fly should travel at or how be worked in order to prove most fatal it is a difficult thing to say. Circumstances operate, of course, and these must be reckoned with. Often I have found it pay to reverse the plan mentioned above, that is to change from working the fly "fast" to working it "slow." Oftenest in spring and autumn have I had evidence of the benefit of such a change. Nor is this at all surprising. In spring—early spring especially—the fish, affected by the very cold water, neither rise very smartly nor play very briskly; and in autumn, heavy with spawn, they are inclined to be sluggish. Any way, the plan of fishing "deep and slow" is generally the most fatal one at these seasons. But that with light tackle, fine—almost surface—fishing, and a quick travelling fly, the active grilse and the lithe salmon of the summer are lured most successfully, the experience of the majority of anglers I doubt not will confirm. As a rule these fish, if fresh run, are extremely lively, and the manner in which they both rise and play is clear proof that from no cause, as in spring or autumn, is their natural activity subdued or impaired. As to the great number of fish that, never seen by the angler, follow the fly, everyone of any experience as a salmon fisher must know a deal more than all I have said. Wading, or when standing about level with the stream, we cannot see what goes on, but from a high bank well above the water sights of interest to the observant angler must frequently present themselves. And not only are they likely to be of interest to him, but he should profit by them. This I would
emphasise, because personally I have turned to g
account many of my observations. One wrinl
would give, with good wishes for luck to those
are limited in the extent of their fishing wate
is: fish in different ways the whole water o
The hooking of the fish mentioned above is t
mony to the value of this advice. From
positions sufficiently high above the water to
the fish come at, or follow the fly (or other lu
anglers should constantly keep on the outl
From such a position, what I am about to re
was noted by me in days no longer bygone t
the summer before last. On a very bright c
forenoon in June, I was fishing a clear-botto
sharp run of one of the best of our larger sum
rivers in the north. For most of the other cas
the fishery the water was too low, and no cle
than it looked to me, is the supply from a m
tain spring. Yet I had "moved" a fish, and
I had come to this, the best, cast in the wate
the time—a dashing rapid run, bottomed
boulders and flagstones of a lightish colour
the most part, like the pebble shingle and
about them. I had not long fished before I
on a "beastie," which took me, after a tur
two through the stream and up it a bit, awa
down into the shallow quiet water of the
below, probably over two hundred yards.
I played him about for a while, all the
distinctly seeing him, and the more easily
he was not going fast. After this he made
stream, as if to return to the "lie" he had
in before rising to the fly. A little dark, or de
bit of water than the rest of the pool, he cro
when on this tack, and now as he bore steadil
stream like a fish on the run, I observed ano
fish, to appearance about the same size, kee
him company. Seeing this I did not strain
and up and up stream they travelled toget
sometimes side by side, and sometimes one a
ahead of the other till they had gone qui
hundred yards, when putting on strain the fi
had on was caused to show "signs" which
the other move off a bit. Yet though the ho
fish struggled his companion twice came
quite close to him, and not until the one
turned and worked down-stream by me did
other part company with him and altogether
appear. As when not numerous, fish often ru
pairs, what I deduce from this incident is that
played fish, working as he was steadily up-str
started the other one, which had been waitin
run, to head up along with him as a compa
fish.

The substance of two more observations, br
related, and I shall bring to an end my rem
about seeing or sighting fish after the fly.

"UP IN THE MORNING EARLY."

A fortnight I fished a piece of water on a s
river which regularly every morning had the cr
taken off it by my neighbours on the other
Never a fish did they take that I could see, y
a few days I came to learn that almost every
they had something. Inquiring further I g
know that it was always in the morning befo
got out that their sport was obtained. Us
when I got to the water there was nobody o
but in half-an-hour after two rods generally c
on on the other side. It did look selfish of m
be always the *first* rod to run over the whol
the pools, and had I not become aware of
facts I should have accused myself on this s
but as it was there was no need. Hints ha
effect with my neighbours—they went on as be
Now, I would call over to them; "well, it is
bad of me to be always the first to run over
whole water"; then I would suggest that we m
arrange for turns of the pools, but they were
deucedly generous, unselfish, good fellows,
they would not hear of this at all. "Go you
they would say, "come whenever you like,
are quite pleased." "We should like you to
some fish." "*In the evening* after you leave
generally get a fish, so it's hard *you* don't get
thing. Pray do not think of waiting for us in
morning." This was so plausible and so
but I was determined that next week I woul
upsides down with them. An immense advant
however, they had over me in that they hung
close by the banks of the river, whereas I ha
drive a distance of six miles to get to the
pools. Sunday came round at length, when
a slight rise of the water and a strong br
down-stream all day, a grand head of fish
to the river. In the evening I arranged with

to awaken me at 4.30 next morning, and to the hotel dog-cart ready to start with me ive prompt. Duly as arranged everything about. At twenty minutes to six we had n to fish. It was a nice grey morning with a breeze. The first pool—not a pool but a m—was the Crags Pool, so-called from the h precipitous crags on either side of it. A here came at my fly just at the overgo of the r, where commenced a rough seething, ng, tumbling rapid. When he rose, though id not break the surface, he was distinctly both by my gillie and myself. Old Rory ously "titted" at my jacket tail, saying, ere he was, rest him a moment, sir; that's the , sir." "It puzzles me," I replied, "how can be the place for him, as I cannot see a fish could hold himself there—the current very powerful." "That's verra true, sir," ed Rory, "but the 'oer-gang' has aye been the e place here. Let's rest him a moment and try him again." Presently I was told by my uctor to start again. Obeying him I worked and again the fish came exactly as before. e more times the performance was repeated oth angler and fish in every way exactly ical. I now changed my fly—a Durham ger—for a Jock Scott of the same size, and more worked down on the fish when smartly fore he came up *yet* again to miss the fly. trials, now," I said; "I'll have a seventh; d, I'll cast for him as long as he continues se." Saying this I started still another time ver him. He had got the same rest as before, t a minute and a half, and I began the usual or four yards above him. These with a few I fished and now I was over him. He did ome. I was past him with my next cast t half-a-yard and was saying so to Rory, and rking "He won't come now—I have put him at last," when he flashed through the water aught the fly just as I was in the act of ing it up finally, previous to leaving the pool y neighbours. In all my experience, I never nother such keen rising fish. I've seen one as often, but never so boldly each time or n a space of time double the length. There not have been much over ten minutes een the time when I first rose him and when ked him—and each of the seven rises within time looked a bold meaning rise.

"HE WOULD HAVE IT."

out noon on a scorching July day I was sit- n the grateful shade of some "arns," watching nd, who was not beyond need of a little in- tion in salmon fishing, fish a broad, flat stretch ter with a fairish current. The tyro tired at h, and asked me to take his rod, and give a hint or two. I complied, and started at ead of the cast, using a pretty long line, was necessary. I fished carefully, though no belief that I would do anything, as the had been most unmercifully thrashed. Yet the same fly as had done all the pelting, I ar out, after a few casts, a good grilse. He d; but I did not pull away the fly, kept it moving away, fishing properly. most marvellous, that fish followed, uring the one sweep of the fly rose no than six times, hooking at the sixth Each time, as I was fishing light, he broke rface when he made the rise. When he did he hooked well—only too well—for he ran ith the fly and most of the gut. But it was ult of mine. The rod of my friend's, the el, who, alas! no more is an angler, was but altogether out of keeping was the line, was only 40yds. in length! After a few quite within the line's compass, the fish full tilt down a rush on the opposite side river, and smashed the whole rick-ma-tick.

(To be continued.)

A FORTNIGHT'S HOLIDAY.

By Francis M. Walbran.

(Continued from page 318.)

N our return to Leeds, on Saturday night, nd that a friend of mine from the Midlands rived, and intended to accompany us to the and it is unnecessary for me to say that we relate to him all the proceedings of the week, and give graphic descriptions of our sport. That department I assigned to "Redspinner," and right well he performed the task. After that, friend W. gave us the details of a great day's sport he once had on the Costa. It appears that he and a friend were staying in the district, and obtained a ticket each for a day's fishing. The Green Drake was just beginning to show, but only a few stragglers, and the fish would not look at the artificial. W. mounted, therefore, a couple of small flies, one of which was a Blue Upright, and immediately began to catch both trout and grayling, eventually filling his pannier and several of his pockets as well. This led to the narration of other record day's sport in various parts of the country, the time passing so quickly that Monday morning came before we were hardly aware of the fact. Now, up to then, the weather had been perfect, but on looking at the glass in the hall before retiring on Sunday night, we saw a change was indicated. During the night I awoke to hear the pattering of rain against the window-panes, and when I drew up the blind, on Monday morning, it was to gaze upon a prospect blurred and blotted, with the rain descending in torrents. However, that was not going to deter us, and assuming the most cheerful aspect we could under the circumstances, we left Leeds at 9.5 a.m., *en route* for Leyburn. The weather brightened up a little after we passed Bedale, and by the time we reached our destination it was almost fine, for which small mercy we were devoutly thankful, as we had a two miles drive thence to Middleham, noted for its training stables and also its castle. Middleham Castle is far more picturesque than the neighbouring one of Bolton. The inner portion is older and more varied in its structure, more beautifully designed and built, though not so large In this castle Falconbridge, captain of the Earl of Warwick's navy, was beheaded by an order of Richard, in September, 1471, although he had King Edward's pardon, for an act of treason. In 1484 Richard visited Middleham for the last time, and at Bosworth, on the 22nd of August, 1485, manfully fighting in the midst of his enemies, Richard fell in the field, as the old chronicle says "like a bravo and most valiant prince." On our way from Leyburn to Middleham we crossed the Yore, and saw at once that it was rising fast from the effects of the heavy rains overnight; this caused me some little uneasiness, as I never like an unsettled state of the water for grayling fishing. After planting our *impedimenta* at the White Swan, arranged for beds, &c., I sallied forth to interview friend J. E. M., who is the local correspondent to the *Field*, and ask his opinion as to what we should do that afternoon. I found him at home, and in his hearty way he insisted on me returning for my companions, and bringing them in for a bit of lunch. We also had a look round his gardens, which, even at that late season, were bright with flowers, and then I ventured to hint to my friends that our ostensible object in coming to Middleham was to fish, and that nothing had yet been decided respecting that afternoon's work. It had now commenced once more to rain, and appeared likely to continue. "Redspinner," therefore, avowed his intention of taking an umbrella in place of his fishing-rod, and watching the performance of myself and W., J. E. M. said the Yore would not do, but he thought one of the tributaries might. So after donning our waterproofs, we set off across the fields under his guidance. "Just right height and colour," exclaimed our guide, as we descended a somewhat steep hill, and came to a narrow wooded stream, which was running what I term "a pale ale water." "Why, the grayling are actually rising," exclaimed "Redspinner," as a nice fish came up at the edge of the pool below where we were standing. "Just like my luck to leave my rod behind," he continued. I decided to commence with the fly, and W. said he would try the maggot in the eddies. I accordingly mounted a cast of three flies—viz., Red Tag for point fly; Blue Hawk, first dropper; and Brown Ant at the top. My very first cast over the rising fish settled his fate, and three or four minutes later he was reposing in my creel, a nice grayling, about ¾lb. Another soon followed, and then it became apparent that we were going to have some fun. A row of stepping-stones crossed the river just above where I was fishing, and by the advice of J. E. M., I crossed the stream, and commenced fishing a long deep flat, overhung with trees, wading carefully along the edge, and throwing underhand towards the opposite bank. Not knowing the kind of place I was going to fish, I had brought my 12ft. fly-rod, which was rather too long for that kind of work. I rose a great number of fish; but, owing to the branches overhead, could not strike them properly. I killed four more grayling and a trout before I came to another open space, and there I found W. swimming the maggot, and two nice ¾lb. grayling laid on the bank beside him. J. E. M. now appeared at the other side of the stream, in a little coppice of nut bushes, and shouted to me to make my way through the wood, until I came to a pool at the head of a stream, in the centre of which was an island. He added that it was round the next corner, a quarter of a mile farther up. I have done some pretty rough bits of wading in my life, but I do not remember anything much worse than the length that intervened between me and the aforesaid pool; now in the waters tumbling about all round, slippery boulders which afforded anything but secure foothold, now struggling along the bank through a perfect network of branches; but there was this comfort, I met with my reward when I did get there. The pool at last, and before commencing work on it, I laid down my rod and net on the gravel bed, lit my pipe and repaired a damage to my cast of flies which had occurred through getting hung up in the wood. I then looked around me to take stock of the situation. It was indeed a lovely spot; the pool itself was about fifty yards in length, and at the head of it a strong rushing stream, with a vista of overhanging greenery beyond; below was a splendid rapid trout stream, with the island in the centre of it; on the opposite side of the river a row of willows fringed the edge, with an opening through which I could see an expanse of open ground covered with nut bushes and bracken; at my own side was a gravel bed on which I was standing, and a mass of towering foliage came down right to the margin of it. Suddenly I heard a shout, and looking up-stream, I could see that "Redspinner" was using W.'s rod, and was evidently contending with a heavy fish. At the conclusion of the encounter, he said it was a grayling over a pound, and that he was just "swimming the worm" for a short time; he added that as he and W. passed the pool I was going to fish, the grayling were rising well. Upon turning my attention to my own fishing again, I found such was the case, and for the last hour of that wet September afternoon I was kept busy; almost every cast that I made towards the deeper water under the willows I either hooked or rose a fish, and some of them really good ones. The last that I hooked led to disaster. I just hooked this fish as "Redspinner" and W. came up behind the willows to watch me, and I found at once that he was a good-un. At first he dived in under the willow branches and sulked, shaking his head occasionally, after the manner of his kind, then all at once he ran down-stream, taking fully fifteen yards of line off the reel, and luckily for me just stopping before he reached the rough water; then he came back again and turned gyratory somersaults all over the pool. All at once I saw that he meant making another rush down-stream, and shouted to W., who had his waders on, to come in and net him as he passed. This he did, but just at the critical time his foot slipped on a round stone, and the next moment he was laid full length in the river. He soon was up, however, and was just in time to net the fish, which proved to be a fine grayling, 1lb. 3oz. It was now almost dark, and as the road home was a rough one, we thought it best to retrace our steps; besides, both my companions were fairly well soaked, one by his immersion in the river, and the other by the long, wet grass and brushwood that he had passed through. Before starting I turned out the contents of my basket, and found that between two o'clock and 4.30 I had killed twelve grayling and a brace of trout, besides losing at least another dozen after hooking them. My friends had taken half-a-dozen, all good ones, with maggot and worm. We were none of us sorry when we saw the lights of Middleham twinkling below us, and entering the market-place by a lane leading past the Castle, we were soon ensconced before a good fire, and forgot our troubles, when doing justice to a substantial dinner, which was awaiting us.

(To be continued.)

Notes

THE salmon fishing in the river Tees during the past season with rod and line has proved the most successful for some eight years past; a total of six hundred and fifty-two fish have been caught. The largest single fish weighed 23lb. Three hundred and eleven were caught above the tidal water, between Yarm, Darlington and Gainford; above Gainford to High Force, three hundred and forty-one.

THE new harbour at the mouth of the river Thurso is progressing rapidly towards completion. The river, owing to the new building, is now confined to its proper channel, and the recent high spate swept away all the stones and gravel which had been accumulating there for years, making a fair passage for salmon, even at ebb tide. It cannot get silted up again while the harbour stands tho storms of the North Sea, thus leaving a "fair way" for the salmon coming up at any time, independent of high tides, if there is enough water in the river to take them over the shallows.

To prevent the pollution of the mouth of the river Thurso by the sewage of the town of that name entering the river (as it has been doing for the time gone by), the superior (Sir J. G. T. Sinclair) has given legal notice to the authorities to divert the sewage from the river to the back of the town, where it would enter the bay at the back of the new harbour. This step will be a benefit to the fishery of the river Thurso.

DOUBTLESS many of our readers remember Alfred Jarvis, a very civil man, who was for many years foreman to Messrs. G. Little and Co., fishing-tackle makers, when that firm was in Fetter-lane. Jarvis was for over forty years employed by the late Mr. G. Little and his successor, Mr. Richardson. For the last few years he has had very bad health, and he died at the end of last month. His widow "appeals to members of the trade and others to send her a little assistance, to get a few things together, having lost her home (after being tenant for thirty-one years) through arrears of rent, caused by her husband's want of employment and long and painful illness." Mr. H. Westbury, 1, Watson-street, South Hornsey, London, has kindly consented to receive any sum sent for Mrs. Jarvis. We shall subscribe, and hope others will do the same. We notice Mr. Samuel Allcock has already done so.

MR. JAMES MCRAE, who lives on the banks of the river Wandle, at Beddington, writes: "My dear Marston,—The fish are looking wonderfully well, but not yet spawning. I thought they had gone mad about ten days ago. I was by the upper water near the mill when I saw quite a commotion on the water, just as if the fish were rising in all directions. I soon discovered it was a flight of swallows—I suppose on their journey to a warmer clime—and, crossing the river, they stopped to have a drink. They then went nearly out of sight and away. It struck me that they were unusually late, and only a few days ago there were a few about. The thrushes, too, are singing every day. Arkcoll thought you would like to hear this. On Sunday morning I was crossing the bridge in the garden, and saw a lot of fly on the water—quite as many as our best day in the summer. How do you account for it?"

BY means of figures indicating the takes obtained on most of the fisheries, and an approximate in cases where returns were not to be had, it has been ascertained that nearly seven thousand fish (salmon and grilse) were killed by rod on the Aberdeenshire Dee during the angling year now ended. This beats all recent years, and even 1883, when the number somewhat exceeded six thousand.

THERE having been many and frequent complaints from proprietors, lessees, and tacksmen, of salmon fishings about the paidle and other nets, in the Solway, used for the capture of white fish, injuring the salmon fishings of the districts by catching salmon, a Commission of Inquiry, presided over by Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart., M.P., was held last week, when the evidence of a large number of witnesses was taken. One of the principal spokesmen for the fishermen said it was desirable to have somebody with power to regulate the position of the paidle-nets, but that it would be difficult to find an authority that would command the confidence of the fishermen and of the salmon proprietors. Several women who have personally followed the fishing, were examined, when some amusing evidence was given. One deposed she had fished a paidle-net for about thirty years, and never saw more than one or two salmon in it. She had also used the shrimp and sparling nets, and had fished with a halve-net. The Chairman: "What, yourself?" Witness: "Yes." The Chairman: "Standing up to your middle in water?" Witness: "I did that, sir; and I catched a good big sawmon, too, betimes. I had the sawmon leecense." The Chairman: "It was cold work, was it not?" Witness: "Oh, no; it was nice wark." Truly the salmon is an *animal* that creates much rumpus among people. Never have the men of the Solway been at peace about him. Sir Walter Scott, in "Red Gauntlet," gives some superb descriptions of Solway salmon spearing, and fishing riots.

ANGLING on Tweed and Urr, the latest in closing of Scotch salmon rivers, was wound up for the season on Monday last.

WE gave, in our issue of November 14, a notice of the death of Mr. Henry Dickinson, of Kingston-on-Thames, member of the Thames Angling Preservation Society. We now give a portrait of the deceased gentleman, kindly furnished by his son, Mr. Harry Dickinson.

MR. IRVINE, younger, of Drum, on Drum Castle Water of the Dee, had two grand days' fishing one week in October, killing each day twelve fish, while other days of the same week he ran these scores pretty close. From the bank or wading, and with the fly, the whole of his fish were caught.

NOTWITHSTANDING that the water was a trifle unsettled, the angling last week on the Tweed proved very good. Takes by individual rods of ten, ten, ten, nine, nine, eight, eight, seven, seven, seven fish in a day were got. The largest fish—a thirty-one-pounder—fell to the rod whose catch, including this fish, was the heaviest obtained by any angler in one day during the week—viz., nine fish, 182lb., average about 20¼lb. Lady Marjoribanks one day had three fish; but few were the lady anglers that were out, the colder weather not being inviting to them to visit the river. Mr. Forrest, the tackle maker at Kelso, was amongst the successful rods, getting ten fish in two days. It is reported that a grilse of 1lb. weight was caught during the week. For such a fish to be got at this time of the year is passing strange. It must be pronounced a dwarf of its kind!

WITH reference to the disappearance of Loch Leven trout from rivers and lochs, between which and the sea there is no obstacle to prevent free passage of fish either way, a correspon writes: "The embankment of an artificial l whose overflow runs into the river Ythan, b some five or six years ago, and a great many of Loch Leven trout passed out and went down the river. The same year anglers on many p of the river frequently had a few Loch Le trout making up part of their takes. The fol ing year captures were also effected along greater extent of the fishery, although much frequently. The year following that not m than half-a-dozen trout that could be identifie Loch Levens were got. Whether the Loch Le have lost their identity by crossing with the trout and yellow trout, or whether they hav turned migratory, it is not for me to prono the opinion; but certain it is that for two y past not one Loch Leven trout, actually pr to be such, has been got from the Ythan. may afford some assistance to the fish scien who will take up and so thoroughly investi this important and vexed subject as to arriv facts enabling him to give an authorita pronouncement."

SOME years ago it was proposed by severa the Deveron proprietors and members of Deveron Fishery Board to have a large nu of Loch Levens put into the river Deveron, the idea, after a time, was abandoned in co quence of objections being put forward by ot interested.

GOOD work has been done by the water ba on the Don in staking and otherwise renderin capable of being netted, during the close seaso nets, a number of the pools on the lower rea of the rivers, where, in former years, poachin a frightful extent of clean as well as gravid went on, despite all the precautions then exis Mauch hunters are still on the go; and those diseased fish they carry away "do fine," as say, "mashed up with fried potatoes!"

FULL returns of the autumn angling on North Esk, Forfarshire, show that from a nine miles of water (to which the fishing confined because of the barrier called the "L of Aigel,") 1,432 fish were taken by rod du the months of September and October; that five heaviest fish weighed 42lb., 39lb., 35lb., and 33lb. respectively; and that from the and wading one angler had sixteen fish in day. Far and away the heaviest fishing yielded by the Morphie beat, fished by Sir Gladstone, Bart., of Fasque, who was the successful rod on the whole river, and to w fell the sixteen fish mentioned. Not for very m years has the "Northie" fished anything so well.

THE Aberdeen Amateur Rock Fishers Ass tion must have had a successful season. the annual gathering—a social meeting concert—held one evening last week, it stated that the fish caught at competit that were weighed in for prizes, came to weight of 11cwt. 93lb. The successful rods handsome prizes, of which there were abo score, including silver cup, silver medals, s tea service, &c., with tackle galore. The ass tion, formed three years ago, has now one hun and fifty of a membership.

HALF-A-DOZEN proprietors in Aberdeen have artificially formed lakes stocked with t and the enterprise in nearly every case proved successful beyond expectation. Of being quite aware, several other proprie it is pleasing to know, have resolved to f suit this coming year or the following.

EITHER of spring fish, or of fish barren fo year, two captures were effected on Tay Tweed by the rod before the season e Several such fish were caught in the Dee d the last week of the rod-fishing.

OVER most of the Highlands of Scotland the first time this winter, the higher moun last week had a real wintry look, and s frost, for several days in succession, prevai

SUNDAY SALMON; OR, THE FIFTY-POUNDER.

FEW years ago I was proceeding home ı India on three months' privilege leave. ent private affairs called me to the old country, I calculated on settling the purely business of them in a few days, and on having five ks of fun and amusement. The only thing I etted was that I should be at home in the ng, and not in the autumn, when I might have some sport.

n mentioning this to my chum, Jack McAlister, said: "You'll come in for the best of the ıon fishing; but I forgot you were a Cockney, I suppose never saw a line thrown. It's not ing you can pick up in a day; no fluking about ike letting off a gun and chancing the bird to e down." Jack had been an enthusiastic ler at home, and out in India the *mahseer* had the dire consequences of his skill and perse- ınce. He was a Scotchman to the backbone l cheek-bones too), and could not believe in a tsman coming out of any other country but own. We were great friends, and had made ıy shooting expeditions together; but I was led at the tone in which he spoke. True, I a Londoner, and had never seen a salmon ooked) away from the fishmonger's slabs; but ncied I could hatch one in its own element, if d the chance, and set my heart on it. I told k so, and he replied by a scornful laugh, and aying I had better try when I was at home, ing that if I were to fish till I succeeded, don and its delights would not see much of during my leave. I answered that I would k myself for £50 to catch a salmon in any ıted river he liked to name before my return. snapped up my bet at once, and named the dy, a stream of renown, as he said, in the tern wilds of Scotland. He added dryly that ight invest the £50 for him in a new double xpress," by Henry. Then we turned in for night, after an extra whisky and soda, to wish a pleasant voyage. The next day I started old England.

ome was reached without adventure, and my iness was soon transacted. Then I was free enjoy myself as I pleased. The season was ımencing, and for an idle man with money in pockets, and to whom, after a long exile, the pleasures and amusements of home were bly attractive, London was a paradise.

he weeks slipped away, and so, in truth, did eal of money, and I had almost forgotten my ı wager. I had said to myself, when any ught of it crossed my mind, that there was e enough. Any fool could catch a salmon if ıad the mind to, whenever he wanted.

t last I found myself within ten days of the iration of my leave, and still detained in town. ained! did I say? No! that implies con- int, and few young and healthy Anglo-Indians d much pressure to make them stay there. I uld have said I was still linked to London with light-lying chains of gaiety and pleasure. But id not like to return without some effort to ke good my undertaking. I did not relish the of having to listen to McAlister's grim ıour, as he chaffed me dryly on the difficulties salmon fishing, and especially on the im- sibility of a Cockney learning to throw a fly cessfully unless *entered* young. Besides, was £50 fifty pounds?—goodness knows how ıy hundreds of the retrograde rupee!

ccordingly I started for the North without her delay. At Edinburgh I equipped myself h a salmon rod and tackle. I got a book stling with flies with all sorts of queer names, ch sounded strange to my unaccustomed ears. seemed a tremendous number wherewith to ıpass the death of a solitary fish, but the shop- a told me that I must have a large variety if I hed to be successful. So I bought in faith, soling myself with the thought that the £50 ıld cover all expenses and leave me to the good.

t last I started for the Highlands by the early l. The only other occupant of my carriage a girl. I had seen her walking on the plat- n before the train came up, and I had hoped t we were to be travelling companions, for was very nice-looking. I was delighted when ıw her come to my carriage and have her ps placed on the seat opposite mine. I flattered myself that she wanted my company, as there were many empty carriages into which she might have gone. Farewell was said to the friends who had come to see her off, the whistle sounded, and we moved out of the station. I was able to have a good look at her as she put her face against the window for a last smile to those she had left behind.

She was a tall, straight girl, of about twenty, with fair hair and blue eyes. Blue was evidently her favourite colour, for she wore a travelling dress of blue serge; her tie was blue; and she had a turquoise ring on her finger. I could also see a very nice ankle and instep sheathed in the same hue—sheathed I think is a good word, for what a dangerous weapon, when properly wielded, is a pretty foot and ankle!

But, despite the colour of her hose, I was sure my travelling companion was no blue stocking. Her face was full of good-temper and mischief, and her healthy colour and lithe vigorous frame showed that she lived a country life and rejoiced in an out-door breezy existence.

So we travelled on for some hours, and nothing had happened to better our acquaintance. I was not shy with women, but hesitated to speak to one who was a stranger to me, unless I could do her some service. At last I took courage and made a beginning. I had noticed that she had begun to be very restless, as though the confinement of the carriage was irksome to her. Her hands kept pulling at the buttons of her dress; she put on her gloves, and then took them off; she examined the contents of her hand-bag, and then shut it with a snap; her feet kept posing about here and there as if longing to break into a reel step; in fact, she evidently was tired of doing nothing. Finally, I saw her—over my newspaper—take up the label of my hat-box, which was in the compartment next her and read the name. She smiled. Now, my name is an uncommon one, but not, I thought, so ridiculous as to make a girl laugh to herself. It is "Bohemian Jones." I believe it was originally "Bohea Jones," from an ancestor who made money in the tea trade and laid the foundations of our fortunes, but some later descendant had improved it into its present form.

"Well," I thought, "she has chosen to know my name, perhaps she'll like to become acquainted with its owner." So I offered her a bundle of illustrated papers to read. She accepted them with a gracious smile and was deep in the pictures at once. Suddenly she bent over towards me and pointing to one, said: "Isn't that splendid? Just like the reality!" I looked at the picture. It represented a man bringing a salmon to the bank, while the gillie bent over the edge of the stream watching for a chance to let it have the gaff. I knew nothing about the subject in those days, so made some general reply, being unwilling to show my utter ignorance.

"But," she persisted, "isn't it natural, the way the fish is lashing with its tail and the gillie holding on to the bush with one hand? I don't much like the gaff myself. I think a man should *tail* his fish. What do you think?"

Luckily, I had the courage to speak the truth and confess that I knew nothing about salmon fishing. Otherwise, I should probably have made myself ridiculous by saying that I recommended a frequent change of the gaff, believing it to be a name for one of the many lures with which the tackle-maker had bewildered me.

"Oh! I thought you were a fisherman on your way North," she said, looking at the netting where my rod and other piscatorial paraphernalia were placed.

"Well! I'm not exactly an angler; but I hope to catch a salmon," I replied.

"You ought to get plenty at this time of year, if you can throw a straight line. But do you mean that you've never fished before?"

"Never," I said, "and one fish will be enough for me; I don't want any more."

"Oh! wait till you've caught one and you'll want to go on fishing for ever; you don't know how exciting it is."

"I couldn't, even if I wished, for I have to sail for India next week."

"You've put off your sport till very late, sir," said she; "it was hardly worth while buying a new rod and tackle on chance, especially when you are only a beginner"—the last sentence with a slight look of disdain,

Now, I didn't care about being called "only a beginner" by a young girl, however pretty, so I replied that I fancied I could catch a salmon as soon as most people, and as to its not being worth while, I thought £50 was a good price for a fish.

"£50! who'd give that? Is he a fishmonger? Where does he live?"

"No, he's not a fishmonger; and he lives in India."

"What in all the earth does he want with it? It would never keep good all that distance!"

"Oh! he doesn't care about the fish. It was only a friend who bet me £50 that I wouldn't catch a salmon in a stream he would name before I returned to India."

"What fun! What river did he say?"

"The Ruddy; a very good one, isn't it?"

"Yes! a very good one. May I ask your friend's name?"

"Jack McAlister; he's stationed at Whisoda."

"Oh!"

"Do you know him?" said I.

"I've relations of that name. We're all cousins in Scotland, you know."

Then she went on, "And he bet you £50 you wouldn't catch a salmon in the Ruddy? How much time have you got?"

"I must leave the first thing on Monday morning. This is Wednesday, so I have only three days clear, as I shan't arrive in time to-day to have a cast."

"If I were a man," she replied, "I shouldn't mind making you the same bet over again."

Then she rose up, and, taking down my new rod from the netting, pulled it out of its cover, and after examining it, said, "I think this rod would suit me; would you like to lay it that you'll win your bet? Anyhow, it won't be much use to you when you go back to India."

"Certainly," I said, entering into the spirit of the thing. "I don't mind at all, but against what am I to lay the rod?"

"We'll, I've a new fly-book, if you like that, or here is a silver-mounted flask," and she took one out of her bag. "Or perhaps you'd prefer a sky terrier pup?"

I said I didn't care for them, but would stake the rod against the blue ribbon she was wearing round her neck. I thought, perhaps, I had gone too far, for the girl coloured and drew herself up, and seemed about to drop the subject altogether. However, she pulled a small pocket book out of her bag, and without looking at me, said coolly: "We'll book the bet."

Then she began to write down, speaking as she did so: "Mr.——?"

"Jones," I said.

"Mr. Jones lays his salmon-rod against my tie that he will catch a salmon in the Ruddy before he returns to India."

"That's all right," I replied. "I've only got till Monday morning."

"Sunday doesn't count."

"Of course not," said I.

Then she closed the book with a business-like snap, and remarked: "You'll put up at the Royal Hotel, I suppose, at Crankie?" I said that was my destination.

"Then you can leave the rod there when you go. I'll send for it."

I wanted to know her name, and remarked that if she gave me her address I would send it, and save her the trouble—that is, supposing I failed in my attempt.

She only replied that it was no trouble, and then drew herself up into her corner, and kept looking out of the window till the train stopped at the station for Crankie.

There was a waggonette and pair waiting for her with an elderly gentleman in it. As she approached he got out and embraced her. I could hear him say: "Glad to see you again, Mary." Then they drove off, and I was left to put my things in the dog-cart, which had come for me from the hotel at Crankie, where I found myself after a long drive.

I found three anglers besides myself at the hotel. We had a snug little dinner together and a quiet rubber afterwards, and when, a stiff tumbler of toddy finished, I went to bed, everything seemed to be going smoothly, and I was soon dreaming of monster fish lying in heaps by the river's edge. But, alas! for my dreams. Soon after midnight the rain began and continued to come down in floods. I knew nothing of it till morning, and when I woke, my eyes were greeted by rain driving in sheets past the window, and my ears by the hoarse roar of the Ruddy in spate.

Nothing but rueful faces inside and draggled gillies waiting at the door scanning the heavens in hope of seeing some sign of the weather clearing up. Breakfast was eaten in mournful silence—a prolonged meal, for, in the first place, it was very good; in the second, we feared all hope of fishing that day was over, and were unwilling to withdraw from the pleasure and sociableness of being together round the table when there was nothing to look forward to except the resourceless hours in a Highland inn. Shon, the oldest of the gillies, and reputed the most weatherwise, was called into council, but gave us no hope whatever of sport that day. "The water's clean ower the yellow stane," he said, "an' ye might as weel fush in a toddy ladle as cast a flee the day." So there was nothing to be done but to comfort ourselves with hope and tobacco and to wait for the morrow. If the rain were to stop, the stream would go down as quickly as it had risen.

By nightfall the weather had greatly improved, and when we went to rest the stars were beginning to peep out. This was some satisfaction; but I had lost a day, and the odds against winning my bet were increased.

Friday morning was fine—at any rate, the rain had stopped. Breakfast was soon over, for the welcome news had come that the river was rapidly falling, and that the "yellow stone" was already half uncovered. Rods and gear were quickly got together, lunches prepared, and flasks and bottles filled. Soon we were off in a large waggonette bound for the stretch of water over which the hotel-guests had the right of fishing. Each angler had a gillie told off to him for special service. My retainer was a crabbed-looking old fellow, with a blue nose and a very austere, perpetual-Sabbath-looking countenance. He was a poor hand at talking, but had an excellent taste for whisky. He was commonly called "Blue Peter," why, I know not, unless from the colour of his nose.

When we reached the fishing ground, we found the stream still running rather heavy; but I was anxious to begin, in order to get some practice in throwing the line. Accordingly my rod was put up, and I marched down to the water's edge, with Peter behind me carrying the gaff. If I had been wise, I should have waited till the others had commenced, for then I should have been able to see how a fly ought to be cast; but I foresaw no difficulty about it, and was eager to make my bet safe as soon as possible.

Well! I made my first throw, and the result was horrible to contemplate. Imagine a dozen snakes in different styles of knots and combinations of coils falling splash on the surface of the water. Again and again the same result, and the more force I used the greater the number, and the more fearsome were the gyrations and convolutions of the line. At last I had to desist, in order to allow the tangles to be unravelled, Peter meanwhile preserving an unbroken silence, but with *such* a look of grim contempt on his features, that I could not help making excuses for myself, saying that I had been a long time in India, and was out of practice. He then showed me how to do it—he seemed to make no effort—he allowed the line to go well behind him; then it appeared to come back almost of its own accord, as straight as a telegraph-wire, and as light as a snow-flake. I improved under his teaching, and after whipping off some half-dozen flies, I was getting along pretty fairly. Indeed, in the *drumlie* swollen state of the river, I had almost as good a chance as anyone of *hooking* a fish. To land him would be a different thing.

But I flogged on the whole day without any result. Fish came tumbling over in the water near my fly, but would not take it. They were still on the move up-stream, and had not settled down to business. My companions were more fortunate, for one of them had two salmon, and both the others one a-piece. I was grievously disappointed at my own non-success, and drove home not in the best of tempers, for the chance of winning my wager was again much diminished. If the next day were wet and the river in flood, I might as well calculate on a certain loss.

Next morning, however, dawned most propitiously, mild and not too bright, with a gentle breeze from the west. We were all in high spirits as we bustled round the waggonette, putting our rods and gear into it, and congratulating ourselves on the fineness of the weather. At the last moment I found I had forgotten my tobacco-pouch, and went to my bedroom to get it. Just as I was taking it up, I heard the sound of wheels below. Thinking that the party were leaving without me, I rushed to the window and looked out. It was a carriage which had just arrived, and which, I saw, contained my young companion of the train. The same elderly gentleman was with her who had been at the station to receive her. He got out and commenced chatting with the landlord, while the girl beckoned to Blue Peter and began talking to him. Whatever they might have said, they seemed to be in earnest about something. Of course, I could not hear at the distance I was from them, and when I came downstairs the carriage was gone. We started for the river immediately afterwards. It was in splendid order, having that ruddy tinge which is so dear to the fisher's eye. As Peter was putting up my rod, I asked him who the gentleman in the carriage was. He replied in his usual short manner:—

"The laird."

"Who's he?"

"Sir John."

"Sir John who?"

"Oo! we just ca' him Sir John."

"And who was the young lady with him?"

"The laird's niece."

"Do you know her name?"

"Miss Mary."

"What's her other name?"

"Oo! we just ca' her Miss Mary," said Peter, who was evidently getting irritated under my cross-examination, and he added, with emphasis:—

"*She* knows how to throw a line."

He then remarked that I had better be quick and begin fishing if I wanted to get a *fush*, and took me down to a place where he said I should commence.

It was a stream past which, on the preceding day, Peter had hurried me, saying it was of no use at all. However, I followed his advice and fished it, supposing that its merits might depend on the volume of water in the river. I did not stir a fin. Peter made me fish it again and again, and I did so in blind faith, but with no better result. He then took me on to other casts, at which also I had no success, and by lunch-time I was in despair, especially as the others had been very lucky, all having got more than one fish. One of them asked me why I had missed over a certain pool, naming it, and I told him that Peter had taken me past it, saying there was a better cast above. He replied that Peter ought to know best, as he had lived all his life on the river, but that he himself had always considered it one of the most likely places on the stream.

I mentioned this to Peter when we resumed work, but he only snorted angrily and spoke about *fule* strangers and Englishers presuming to know better than himself how to fish the Ruddy. I subsided at once, and threw my fly wherever he told me—but no salmon ever came near it.

Half-past five and no result! The waggonette would be here in another hour, and my £50 would be nowhere, not to mention my fishing rod. I was desperate. I sat down to think and have a meditative pipe. I had a long pull at my flask; I offered none to Peter, I thought he ought to have got me some sport; I was disgusted with him and everything and everybody. But I resolved to make a last effort, and, in spite of Peter's protestations, I stopped at a stream where I had seen a salmon landed the day before. It was just at a bend of the river where it almost touched the road, which was the principal thoroughfare of the district. At my second cast I saw a dash of something silvery, and the line began to race out of the reel, while my rod was bent into a semi-circle. At last the great moment had come! Luckily I kept my head, and remembered to hold the point of the rod well up, while the fish dashed about and performed all sorts of vagaries. Peter looked on sulky and silent, and never offered me a word of advice. I supposed he was annoyed at my having hooked the beast at a spot where he had said there was no use in trying. The salmon never seemed to tire, and I was getting quite exhausted with the excitement and the struggle. Another gillie came up, and, after a few minutes, suggested that it was time to try to land it. Foot by foot I brought it near the bank; now we could see the brute; it was getting, tired and maki great *swirls* with its tail, and rolling about in a he less fashion.

"Twenty pund good!" said the gillie.

"Fifty!" I ejaculated in my excitement, thinki of my money and watching Peter as he stoop over the edge of the stream waiting for a char to use the gaff. There was no quiet nook i which to lead the fish, the stream was runni pretty swiftly, and it needed a practised hand strike with certainty. But now the brute is his feet, almost motionless. "Quick," I shout and Peter made a plunge with the iron. I felt line slacken; I saw a wild wallop and splash the water, and my salmon—my fifty-pounde was gone, after being so nearly *spent*—or earne

"Ye daft fule," cried the other gillie to Pe "ye catched the line. I never see ye do before."

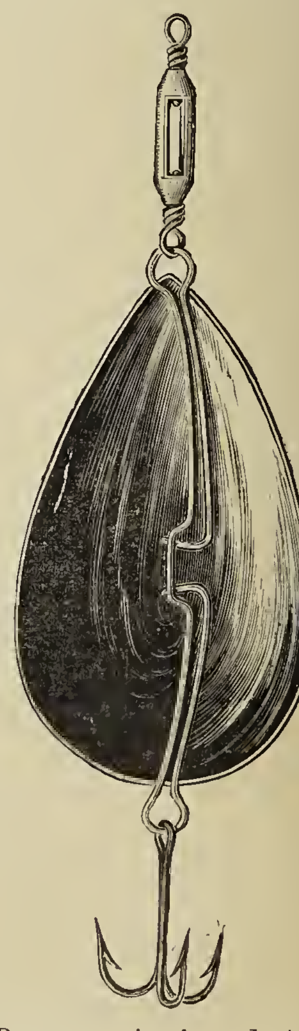
Sickened with disappointment I turned to cli the bank, and saw on the road just above m carriage which had stopped there. "Miss Ma as Peter had called her, was in it, accompan by the same gentleman as I had seen her w before. Both were standing up. They eviden had been watching me playing the fish.

As I came near, Sir John—I shall call him after this—stepped out and said to me: "H lines losing a fish like that!" Then he walke few paces aside to ask how it happened and ab Peter, who was well known to be an extra cle man with the gaff at ordinary times. I was standing beside the carriage, where my you friend remained regarding me with a look of m chievous delight. She was about to speak f when I interrupted her, and said:—

"You needn't say you're sorry, for I see you very glad. Here's your rod; you've won the b and I took it to pieces and placed it under box-seat before Sir John had turned round come back to the carriage. Then I lifted hat, and walked away without giving her a cha of replying. (*To be continued.*)

AN IMPROVED SPOON.

MR. E. FENN, of Highland Cottage, Reddit sends us a new spoon bait of his make, " Heureka," which we like very much indeed, can strongly recommend to all who use spinn



baits. By a very simple and strong contrivan which entirely does away with the danger split-rings, one can change the swivels and angles very easily, and yet they are perfec secure when in use. The price of the bait is o one-shilling, trout or pike size.

THE MANUFACTURE OF ARTIFICIAL FLIES IN REDDITCH,

AND

MESSRS. J. WARNER AND SONS' SPECIALITIES.

BY EDGAR S. SHRUBSOLE.

I SUPPOSE it is because many neatly "got up" cards of absurd productions of the fly-dresser's art (!) are still sent out from the important Worcester village, and accepted and stocked as correct patterns by some tackle sellers, who hardly know a May-fly from a milk-can, that, when particularly bad artificial flies are exposed for sale, some knowing anglers are wont to remark, "Oh! they were made in Redditch, I presume!" And yet those "in the know" are perfectly aware of the fact that many really excellent specimens of artificial flies quite "up to date," and correctly dressed, are turned out daily from several Redditch houses.

Messrs. J. Warner and Sons, whose specialities I propose to draw attention to in this article, are noted for the all-round excellence of the goods manufactured by them in their extensive factory *yclept* Hewell Works; but especially are they deservedly famous for the neatness, strength, and artistic finish of their salmon and trout flies. Their floating flies for the modern style of dry-fly fishing are especially good; no *wholesale* house in the world produces better; and many well-known retail dressers have admired the workmanship and material employed in their production. For many years past Messrs. Warner have made these flies, and although other houses now are vastly improving their productions, those sent from Hewell Works still hold a position in the front rank of all the markets in the world. Their salmon, grilse, and sea trout flies have been favourably noticed again and again, as have also their flies for the Continental and Colonial markets. I purpose making a few remarks about their trout flies, as dressed for the "home" trade.

First of all, then, I would draw attention to the excellence of the hooks. They are *all* tested before being handed to the fly-dresser, and a keen eye is kept upon their shape. It is very seldom indeed that you see any of Warner's flies dressed upon malformed or badly-tempered hooks. Why on earth some firms still allow badly-shaped and brittle or soft hooks to be used by their fly-dressers I am totally at a loss to understand. The cost of a hook is very small indeed compared with the cost of dressing a fly on it, and yet how often is it the case that a really well-dressed fly is of no use to the angler because the hook is a "wrong 'un"! Far better condemn a gross of hooks than send out a gross of flies dressed on them that are sure to gain for the firm they come from an unenviable reputation. Too much stress cannot be laid upon the importance of *really* testing hooks before the fly-dresser's time and materials are *wasted* upon them, and I was very pleased to notice this was done in Messrs. Warner's case.

Secondly, the gut attached to the flies. Although eyed-hooks have found favour with many fishermen of late years, anglers by hundreds still have a sneaking fondness for hooks to gut, and in my opinion the day is very far distant when they will be entirely discarded, even if it should ever be. Frequently it is the case that flies, excellent in other respects, are attached to gut that no decent fish would get within a mile of, or it may be that if a silly one took it on, a smash would be inevitable. Too much care cannot be taken in the selection of the strands of gut, too little is far too often taken. As in the case of the hooks, if the gut is not right the hook and the fly are absolutely *wasted*, no matter how good they may be. In this matter Messrs. Warner are as careful as they are about their hooks, and their flies will be found to be attached to gut of a suitable thickness and of excellent quality. Of course if their clients give special instructions, Messrs. Warner act up to them; what I wish to draw attention to, is the general excellence and usefulness (*from an angler's point of view*) of their, what I believe is known in the trade as, "stock orders."

Thirdly, the material, and with this I shall also include the dyeing of the various feathers, silks, &c. Many of us know the importance of having good quality hackles and wings to our flies. I verily believe a nice glossy hackle has an extra attraction for a wary fish, and certainly if we wish our floating flies to really float, superior feathers are of first importance. Messrs. Warner use excellent materials and they are constantly on the look-out for feathers, &c., of a superior quality. They can always "do" with some, but it is no use communicating with them with the idea of selling feathers of an inferior quality. Of equal importance to the quality of the materials is the manner in which—when necessary—they are dyed. I have seen Olive Duns that had the appearance of having been dipped in some patent park paling paint, and Yellow Duns that positively must have been immersed in some chrome yellow dye *after they were dressed*. And in this connection I will tell you a little story, although it scores a chalk against myself.

Two summers ago I invited an enthusiastic amateur to accompany me upon a day's trout fishing. The offer was accepted and he wrote asking what flies he should bring with him. I sent him a list of a few I thought would be useful, and emphasised the fact that he should not forget some Yellow Duns. When I met him upon the water he proceeded to show me his purchases, and you never saw such an array in your life. I've seen a few flies in my time, but never a collection to approach that! "Where are the Yellow Duns?" I queried; and he produced some flies that fairly dazzled my eyes. "But they're not Yellow Duns," I remarked. "Well, they're yellow enough, I reckon (and Great Scott, they were too!) But if they are not Yellow Duns, what do you call them?" he returned. "Oh!" I answered; "there are so many different fancy flies, one gets a bit mixed with their names, but I believe that is 'Colman's Fancy.'" He didn't see the joke, and after I had fitted him up with a few of the "right sort," we proceeded on the war-path. Towards the middle of the day I tried several changes over a good fish, without any result, and just as I was shifting ahead my friend came up on the opposite bank and smacked his fly bang at the fish I had been unsuccessfully trying my most delicate Yellows and Olives over. I saw something bright fall with a "flop" within a yard of the fish, and the next instant there was a rush. My friend struck and was into a pound and a-half trout, which he soon after had in the net and on the bank. The river at that part was broad and deep, so that I could not wade over to him, but I shouted my congratulations and inquired what fly he had on; the reply came back—"Colman's Fancy!" And so he had!

But of course ninety-nine times out of a hundred the correct yellow would be taken by the fish and not the one of mustard hue. It is the same with most of our English trout flies. Messrs. Warner have carefully studied the art of dyeing their hackles, &c., and their colours are not only delicately correct but also *fast*.

So far as the dressing of the flies is concerned, especially the winging, several Redditch houses have some capital dressers. Messrs. Warner have some in their employ that would be very hard to beat, and as I have pointed out, careful attention being also paid to the hooks, gut, materials and dyeing, the result is eminently satisfactory. Two other little things and then I am done with the flies. So many dressers wing some of their flies all a-one-side, and these specimens never float as they should do—with their wings cocked up. It is also frequently found that far too much hackle is employed—good quality and less of it is the right thing. I am quite aware that a little extra hackle is necessary for floating flies, but then, as our Editor once happily put it to me, "Some fly-dressers seem to think a fly should have as many legs as a centipede!"

Tackle sellers generally drive off ordering their flies until the spring, and then they have a trouble in getting them. Messrs. Warner inform me that this is a matter they would like me to draw attention to; all I can say is, now is the time stock orders should be placed with the wholesale houses, and with every confidence I recommend Messrs. Warner for artificial flies and the few other specialities I shall now proceed to draw attention to.

The firm have been at some pains to work out the ideas and improvements of that well-known and excellent angler whose *nom de plume*, "John Bickerdyke," is familiar to my readers. These include the "Bickerdyke" rod-end rings, creel, fly rod, combination rod, pike rod, adjustable snap tackle, triangle snap hook, &c. The rod-end rings, creel, fly rod, pike rod, and combination "All-round Angler's" rod have already been noticed favourably. I merely wish to say that the "Bickerdyke" combination rod is one of the best of its sort I have ever seen; the difficulty in getting a really good rod to answer several purposes is well known, and Messrs. Warner (acting under instructions received from the designer of the rod) have certainly succeeded admirably in doing so.

The adjustable snap tackle (Fig. 1) is *the* tackle in my estimation. The illustration speaks for itself; in practice I prefer this to the Jardine Snap, or Jardine Bickerdyke Snap. The triangle snap hook, in which a long thin barbed wire is gently inserted beneath the skin of the bait (Fig. 2) is also a good idea. The hook lies so beautifully close and snug to the bait, and remains far more secure than the one fitted with the tiny ordinary hook, as in the Jardine Snap. Messrs. Warner make some grand May-fly hooks, and one of the best patterns of May-fly I know of is the "Bickerdyke" Wet May-fly, as made by them.

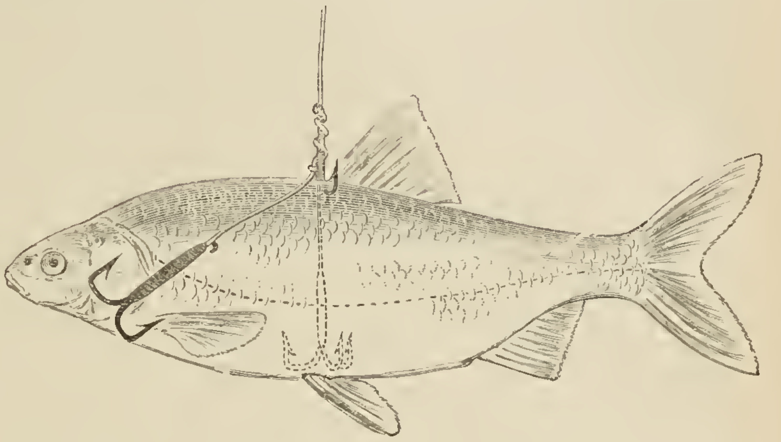


FIG. 1.

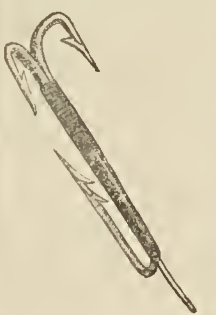


FIG. 2.

The "Geen" patent Combination swivel and lead is probably well known to my readers; those who have not used it should give it a trial, its simplicity and perfect action stamp it as one of the best ever produced, and in combination with Messrs. Warner's new spring link swivel (Fig. 3), it is very easily attached to the spinning trace and flight. These new links take my fancy wonderfully, as I believe they will anyone's. The old spring hook swivel is a fearful nuisance, and many of the modern so-called improvements are very little better. This one is attached *instantly* by passing the gimp or gut loop down between the spring loops, and is detached just as easily; further, the risk of fraying or cutting of gut or gimp is reduced to a minimum.

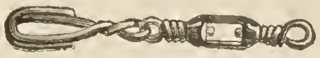


FIG. 3.

By-the-by, speaking of gimp, Messrs. Warner have an excellent stain they use. It is their secret, and as it is done in a dry composition, it does not penetrate to the silk, and only colours the outer coating of wire. Most gimp-stains either rot the inner core of silk, soon wear off, or get rusty. This is about the best, so far, brought out; but even this is by no means perfect. The real means of permanently staining gimp without rotting the silk core has yet to be devised.

Warner's patent brazed-eyed salmon-hooks, single and double (Fig. 4), are really splendid specimens of the hook-makers' art. The makers claim for them that they are the very best and most perfect eyed-hook in the world, and, further,

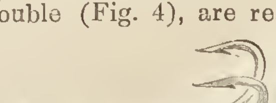


FIG. 4.

that they have brought them as near to perfection as possible. I have never seen better-made hooks, and probably it requires no word of mine to recommend them to salmon fishermen generally. The hooks recommend themselves, and from all parts of the world the makers are constantly receiving unlimited praise for their production. They say, "You should never prophecy unless you know"; but in this case I dare assert that now Messrs. Warner are prepared to supply these hooks in large quantities, they will soon find innumerable friends. These hooks are also supplied with extra long shanks, specially made for short-rising fish, and, I am given to understand, they answer the purpose admirably.

Messrs. Warner supply a dropper cast for white trout fishing. There is nothing very taking about it, but a well-known sea trout fisherman, who used it through a season's salmon and white trout fishing in Ireland, spoke very highly of it. The parts are simply looped together and the fly inserted between the ends of the loops. The advantages claimed are: by pushing the loops apart a new fly can be instantly inserted, and will never draw out in use, and the fly is kept well out from the cast. Whether it would answer as well for *fine* trout and grayling casts I don't know, but see no particular reason why it should not.

In addition to the ordinary spinning flights for pike, this firm make a capital one, which they call the "Davies." I am a rare supporter of the ordinary Thames flight, I can always make a bait spin with it to suit me, and its a dead certainty on hooking a fish that strikes it. Still, there are undoubtedly many anglers who prefer others, and they should at any rate give the "Davies" a trial.

Messrs. Warner mount all their pike tackles on either the ordinary stained gimp, or their patent phosphor bronze wire centred gimp. The latter is marvellously strong, and you can use it much smaller in size with confidence. It is very little stiffer than ordinary gimp, in fact the difference is hardly noticeable. They also send out pike tackles with wire whippings; "the only fault," they assert, "of which is the dealers' complaint that 'they last too long.'" These wire whippings Messrs. Warner have taken a lot of pains with; as now done, *i.e.*, with a whipping of fine silk first, so that the wire has something to cling to, they are certainly very neat, and without doubt form a protection against the teeth of *Esox Lucius*.

Other specialities of this firm are the "Kelsou Gaff," "Warner's Wedgefast Fitting," "Patent Brake Reel," "Registered Dry Fly Case, 'The Test'" (a very neat and excellent arrangement for carrying eyed-flies), the "Carlisle Wood Case" (made from the original pattern carried by old Dicky Routledge, and which I include in my collection of baskets, bags, and creels), the "Hi Regan" landing-net and handle, several new artificial baits, and last, but not least, some very handsome angler's badges, and lady angler's brooches; the last-named being a well-tied salmon fly (generally, but not necessarily, a Jock Scott), dressed upon a silver or gold hook, with a safety pin attached; the point of the hook is protected with a small knob, and the brooch makes a very handsome present for an angler's wife. I shall get it warm for making this suggestion, so close for fear if I go on longer matters will only be made worse.

A complete One-volume Story, entitled "Wyhola; the Rose of Corve Dale," by Evelyn Everett Greeu, author of "Dorothy's Vocation," &c., is the *pièce de resistance* in *The Quiver* Annual, "Christmas Arrows," to which the Rev. P. B. Power and the Dean of Ripon also furnish seasonable papers.

L. T. Meade has written a new serial story, entitled "Out of Fashion," which will be commenced in the December Part of *Cassell's Magazine*, forming the first part of a new volume. The same number will contain the first instalments of two other serial stories, entitled "You'll Love Me Yet," by Francis Haswell, and "Had He Known," a story of the New Zealand Gold Thirst. The author of "How to be Happy though Married" will furnish a paper "In Praise of the Early Worm;" "A Trip to Jupiter's Moonlet," is the subject of another illustrated contribution; and Mr. J. F. Sullivan provides drawings for a complete story, entitled "The Woes of Mrs. Caractacus Brown,"

Waltoniana

I am sorry to say that the heavy rains of last Saturday night again threw the Thames out of order. At the time of writing it is a bad colour, and only fit for worm fishing. The weather appears so unsettled that it is hard to say whether it will be worth fishing for some days to come.

Here is an interesting fact, or I prefer to call it a statement, not having taken the measurements myself. The Thames drains an area of sixty-five square miles. When an inch of rain falls, an acre of land receives one hundred tons of water. Sixty-five square miles of land, therefore, receives four million tons of water when an inch of rain falls, and as that amount of rainfall sometimes occurs in one day, it is easy to understand why we occasionally have a considerable flood in our chief river. Our rainfall is nothing to what they have in India, where in certain districts as much as fifty feet of rain has been known to fall in the year. Something under thirty inches is, I believe, what we may reasonably expect in England during the year.

Anglers should watch the progress of the American rainmakers with peculiar interest. Imagine what the power of bringing rain means for us. No more low water and sickly bad-rising fish; no more "gin clear" streams in which the finest tackle is observed and remarked on by the fish; no more money wasted in Scotch hotel bills while waiting for the water to rise; and, above all, a thorough defeat of the netsmen in a manner I will presently explain. Everyone who knows anything about netting for salmon knows that once a week the nets have to be taken off to allow a few fish to ascend the river for breeding purposes, and to afford sport to the upper proprietors. In that weekly close-time, or just previous to it, anglers with fiendish glee will set the rainmaker at work, down will come the spate and every fish lying in the estuary will pass to the upper reaches, and during the rest of the week the netsmen will have less and the anglers more. I declare I ought to have kept this idea to myself and patented it. It might bring in a princely fortune. There are many who would give a great deal sometimes to get a few fish past those deadly nets.

But—alas! that there is always a 'but' in these happy auguries—in many places the "rainmakers" have signally failed, and the idea of making a big noise in the sky and so causing the heavens to weep, has not been a signal success. I read indeed of rain being brought down in the neighbourhood of the Croton reservoir, which is somewhere in America, and live in hopes that the story is true. Two hundred pounds of dynamite were sent up into the clouds by means of a balloon, and there exploded, and according to the telegram which was sent two hours afterwards, rain fell and was still falling. At least, that is part of the telegram, for at the end of the message is the statement that James Pain and Son conducted the experiment with their own patent rainmaker, a bomb filled with a new explosive, and weighing 5lb. It makes one's head go round to read telegrams of this kind. Let us hope that there were two successful experiments. By the way, the rainmaker will surely give work to the lawyers. Doe will certainly be bringing actions against Roe for intercepting clouds which were passing over Doe's land, and would have emptied themselves on Roe's estate had not Doe sent up a new explosive and taken all the rain out of them.

Politics are very properly barred in these columns, but, without infringing rules, I think I may venture to advise all our readers who care twopence about the welfare of our fisheries to obtain, whenever they can, pledges from those foolish persons who seek the doubtful honour of representing us in Parliament concerning the support they will give to much-needed legislation respecting our fisheries. For instance, there is the river pollution question. Most stringent laws are required to save our rivers from destruction. I say destruction advisedly, for after a stream becomes badly polluted it no longer remains a river, but at once becomes a drain or sewer. Then there is the Thames question, which urgently requires settling, and public fishing rights should be assured in many waters, where they have been enjoyed unquestioned for ages. Many alterations are required in our salmon and other fishery laws. Now is the time, remember, to obtain pledges. It is much easier to get what you want from the candidate than the member.

Among the various suggestions which have been made recently on the subject of typhoid, are two which should certainly be encouraged. One writer attributes autumnal typhoid to Thames water, which in autumn is a saturated solution of decayed leaves. We should encourage that idea, because two much water is stolen from the Thames, and if it can only be proved that one of the results of the theft is typhoid, water may be obtained elsewhere. Another theory is that many cases of typhoid might be traced to sewage-fed oysters, and a physician who withholds his name (being anxious to "avoid the appearance of courting notoriety") has come forward with remarkable evidence on the subject. He says that a friend of his traced a most grave attack of typhoid fever to a luncheon of oysters served to him in a well-known tavern in Dublin. The oysters were, it seems, brought from a distance and "set forth upon a bank" a few miles from the city. The sewage of a certain town is carried over the bank, with the result that the usually wholesome and dainty shell-fish were dangerously affected. Now this second theory is also one to encourage, for if we can only show that all the famous oysters in the famous beds lying in the mouth of the Thames are more or less infected with the germs of fever, we shall very quickly see "something done;" something effective, I mean, for the great ones of the earth love oysters—particularly natives. Templar.

The Late William Henderson.—A correspondent who read our notice of the late Mr. William Henderson, an old acquaintance of his, with sympathetic interest, agrees with the writer of the genial article that anglers frequently have curious adventures, especially at country inns, where they occasionally have to pass the night. Many years ago our correspondent formed one of a holiday fishing party which fished up to the head of the Wear, and then crossed over the mountains to the head of the Tees. There were four of them—he, a comparative novice in the sport, acting as secretary and paymaster for the company. On Teesside they repaired to a lonely public and farmhouse in Forrest-of-Teesdale, for the purpose of procuring the necessary tickets issued by the Duke of Cleveland's steward, without which they were liable to be treated as poachers. At this—surely the most hospitable inn at which travellers were ever entertained!—they had tea, a whole boiled ham being placed before them. The good host and hostess were "fat sonsy folk," and treated them royally with "the best they had," and were genuinely grieved that they could only "put up" three of their guests. It was arranged that these three should sleep in a double-bedded room, and the other at the schoolmaster's. The evening was spent together very jovially over their whisky, the old gentleman joining in the festivity with honest heartiness; but as ten struck the old lady told them they must all go to bed, "like good bairns," allowing them, however, to sup off the remains of her delicious boiled ham. The next morning they had breakfast together, and succeeded in demolishing the ham, and the three more eager sportsmen left to fish down the river, leaving their accountant to "settle up." On inquiry of the buxom servant lass, it was found that the landlady was "upstairs making the beds," and on her coming down to see "what was the matter," she exclaimed: "Bill, hinny—there's nae bill at aall; for ye've been very welcome to the best we had, all on ye; for ye've kept us all alive, aa's sure." And nothing would the good dame take, either — the old fellow beaming approval upon her from his chair at the "door-cheek"; and a half-crown slipped into the girl's hand was all these travellers paid for their comfortable night's lodging and sumptuous entertainment—the whisky, of course, being "an extra." That fishing party never found any more resting-places like that.—*Newcastle Journal*,

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. Pritt.

PIKE FISHING EXTRAORDINARY.

Sir,—I am pleased to find that Mr. Jardine has followed up my analysis of Mr. Andrews's miraculous draught of fish, and clearly proved, from an experienced angler's point of view, the impossibility of such a number (irrespective of weight) being caught in the time specified; and I am much surprised that Mr. Andrews should still persist that there was "no mistake" in his figures, and that every fish taken averaged 6lb. *when first weighed.* These figures were: one hundred and ninety-six fish, 1,033lb., together with one each 15lb., 13lb., and 16lb.; giving an average of only 5lb. 5½oz. each, not including the three specially referred to. A 6lb. fish must be kept a very long while before weighing to lose nearly ¾lb. But apart from this he does not say why the seventy-eight fish caught on the third day, and averaging 4lb. 10½oz. each, were included in the take, if, as he asserted, all fish under 5lb. were returned to the water. If these weighed 6lb. each when first taken, they were past being fly-blown when weighed to have lost 1lb. 5½oz. each.—Yours faithfully, G. R. Hunt.

Dear Sir,—I have been very much interested with the correspondence relating to the great take of pike and perch by Mr. Andrews, of Maidenhead, and particularly with Mr. Jardine's letter in the *F. G.* of Nov. 28. I look upon Mr. Andrews's take of pike as a "miraculous one." Only fancy! two hundred and thirty-four fish, in fourteen and a-half hours, and a lot of jack returned to the water beside. Mr. Andrews must be a past and present grand master of the gentle art, to be able to bait the hook, make a cast, play a jack, and land it in two minutes.

I have the credit of knowing how to fish; the best bit of jack fishing I ever did was with my old friend, Mr. Tucker, fishing in the great Ouse, near St. Neot's, when in one hour and thirty minutes I caught twelve jack, paternostering. This was one in every seven minutes; I can assure you I had not a moment to spare. I have thought many times I should be a good candidate for honours, but now, having seen Mr. Andrews's reply to Mr. Jardine, I have comfortably settled myself in a back seat.—Yours very truly,

Alfred Mackrill.

P.S.—Will Mr. A. now go in for the cake and copper kettle?

FISHING IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

Dear Sir,—I purpose spending the first three months of next year in the Mediterranean, calling at most of the principal ports. If any of your readers would give me some information about the fishing to be done (fresh and salt water), I shall feel very grateful. I am anxious to limit my luggage as far as possible, so do not want to take a lot of rods and tackle, and find there is no use for them; at the same time I would not like to miss a chance of sport.—Yours faithfully, C.

Constitutional Club.

A CORRECTION.

Sir,—Your correspondent who supplies the "Notes from Lancashire" got rather mixed in his kindly description of my lecture to the members of the Northern Anglers' Association on Nov. 12, as reported in your issue of Nov. 21. It was a *trout* (not a salmon) which I landed between two perch whilst fishing with fly in Loch *Leven* (not Loch Awe); and it was a salmon only which I landed on a small fly with fine trout tackle in Loch Awe, an account of which appeared in the *F. G.* of June 20.

Ananias is credited with having many direct descendants amongst anglers. If the above incidents, which your correspondent rolled into one, are allowed to go unexplained as reported, I am afraid that I may be credited with an ancestor in my pedigree whom I am anxious to disclaim.—I am, yours, &c., C. P. Roberts.

St. John's Rectory, Longsight, Manchester.

RE SLAUGHTER OF JACK IN THE THAMES.

Sir,—In reply to "Anti-Esox Lucius," I do not think myself that the extermination of pike in the Thames would make any noticeable difference in the number of roach, &c., in the river; and even if it did, surely the addition of a few roach, &c., would not compensate us for the loss of so game a fish. Your correspondent says, "that given a hungry jack, any novice can kill it;" that may be so when the fish is mad on the feed, but does not that apply to most other fish? And, after all, if the fish are not feeding well, I think that there is quite as much credit in taking a good basket of pike, as there is in making a good catch of roach, &c. We do not want to exterminate any of our fish, but increase them by every means in our power.—I remain, Sir, yours truly,

Esox Lucius.

[And so say most of us.—Ed.]

Dear Sir,—If all the pike in the Thames are to be exterminated because "Anti-Esox Lucius" has so low an opinion of pike fishing, we shall have the late Frank Buckland's mighty salmon-fisher, who declared there were only two kinds of angling—salmon and gudgeon—insisting, if he be yet alive, on the destruction of all the trout and perch as well. Surely we may be thankful that in this wicked world there are pike as well as carp and gray mullet.—Yours, truly,

Plymouth. C. G. D.

Sir,—"Anti-Esox Lucius" wishes to know why trouble to protect pike or jack in the Thames which affords sport for better fish. I think the pike is one of the best to give sport, and should be protected quite as much as any other class. The pike in a river like the Thames does not destroy the number of trout that it is given credit for, as it does not frequent in any number the same haunts as a trout; and even supposing it did, being a well-known fact, the trout is one of the quickest fish we have, and given the space of water the Thames affords it is long odds on the trout escaping if pursued by a pike. Referring to the remark that, given a hungry pike, any novice can kill it, that may be true should the novice be successful in getting a run with tackle that would tow a small boat; but let a novice try and kill a pike of 9lb. or 10lb. spinning with a single-gut trace and hooks dressed on finest gimp, and he will find he will have some good work, not mentioning sport, to laud it.—Yours faithfully,

Eton. J. C. Howlett.

EELS.

Dear Sir,—Would not Stewart tackle with the three hooks on the same side, be more killing for eels than a single large one, baited in either case with a lob-worm? It seems to me that small fish have a great difficulty in getting the large hook into their mouths. By small fish, I don't mean mere boot-laces, but any eel up to ½lb. I should say that bristles would do well for mounting such Stewart tackle.

It is perhaps curious that in Suffolk "bobbing" for eels is called "babbing," whilst in Devonshire "clotting" is called "clatting."

Books on sea fishing insist that baits for conger must be soft, the backbone and principal bones of fish-baits to be taken out, and so on. If a conger draws the line at the rib of a herring, how is it he doesn't draw it at the big hook partially concealed in the bait? As a matter of fact, we know he swallows the hook first, and then begins to draw the line! A large hook, baited with beaten squid, hardly looks a soft morsel, and the conger who takes it is the soft, to the thinking of yours truly,

Plymouth. C. G. D.

[The great objection to the Stewart tackle for eel fishing is the difficulty of getting even one hook out of the mouth of an eel.—Ed.]

LARGE ROACH.

Dear Sir,—In reply to "Inquirer" of last week's *Fishing Gazette*, I beg to state that the Sussex Piscatorial Society have in their possession a roach weighing 2lb. 3oz. It was caught by Mr. W. J. Holland (one of our members) on the 4th of February, 1889, in the Ouse, whilst legering with lob-worm. The river was in heavy flood at the time.—Yours very truly, W. C. F. Gillam,

Assistant Hon. Sec. S.P.S.

THE POULTRY SHOW AT BIDEFORD.

Dear Sir,—In answer to your correspondence in the last two weeks' *Gazette*, there were seven entries in Class 35 for fowls, the plumage of which is suitable for manufacturing flies. J. D. Bastard, Torrington, took the first prize with a cock and hen slate colour Blue Duns. They were bought by Mr. Thornton. Mr. Bastard has six pullets, splendid birds; and two cockerels, bred from the first prize Stag. The best colour young Stag in the show was in the selling class, which has since been purchased by

Practical Angler.

STEEL FISHING RODS.

Sir,—I have been looking anxiously in the *Fishing Gazette* for some time past for some notice or correspondence about steel rods, but have been disappointed to see no mention of them. They have already appeared in Vienna, and are of American make, and as far as I could judge from handling them in the shop, have many good points. They are made from the small-sized fly rods to the larger-sized spinning rods. The parts are of steel tubing, and are extremely light. The spinning rods are telescopic, with the line running through the middle. The fly rods are joined in the ordinary way, and have rings for the running line.

I should be extremely obliged if you, or one of your correspondents, would inform me how these rods behave in practice.—I am, &c., W.

[We have used an American steel rod once or twice this season as a fly rod. We found it not so bad as might be expected, but not to be named with wood rods for this purpose. An English gentleman called on us recently with a steel rod of his design, which we consider the best thing of the kind we have yet seen.—Ed.]

FLIES FOR CEYLON FISH.

Sir,—A friend, who is stationed in *Ceylon*, writes to ask me if I can procure for him flies suitable for catching a fish there called "lulee," also another somewhat like a grayling.

He says in a river near where he is these two fish rise well to a fly, and are good eating.

I have never heard of them; therefore I venture to ask if you, or any of the numerous readers of the *Fishing Gazette*, can help a fellow fisherman in that far-off country by informing me what *pattern* and *size* of fly is most suitable for the rivers of Ceylon, and *for these fish in particular*, and where I can procure them.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

A. B. Wallis.

50, Forest-road, West Nottingham.

NOTES FROM WORCESTER AND DISTRICT.

The Severn is in good order for fishing, and during the week many anglers have been out, and had good sport among the coarse fish. Some capital baskets of roach have been taken, and a grand lot of flounders, many of them 8oz. to 12oz. weight; the pike also have been going well at both artificial and natural baits, no doubt being hungry after the late floods.

Foggy nights, with frosts, and a bit of sunshine in the middle of the day, have just suited the grayling, and sport in the Teme has been good, though no great takes have been made, about three brace of grayling being about the average, with some fine dace in addition.

The decision of the Severn Fishery Board, at their recent meeting, not to extend the close time of salmon, has given great satisfaction in this neighbourhood, as it was felt that it would be wrong to deprive the public of this splendid fish when in its best condition, while it would be most disastrous to the welfare of that needy body of men, the fishermen, whose condition in the last few years has been far from good.

The Worcester United Angling Society held their sixth annual dinner at the Union Inn on Friday, when a capital spread was provided by Host Halley, to which about fifty members sat down, the duties of the chair being divided between Mr. Haycox and Mr. R. Wingfield, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. E. H. Bowen, the president of the district, who was to have presided. The secretary (Mr. A. Glover) looked well after the comfort of those present. A letter of apology was received from the Hon. G. H. Allsop, M.P., who enclosed a cheque for a guinea. The usual toasts followed. The chairman gave "Success to the Worcester United Angling Society," which was responded to by the hon. sec., who said the club had had a very successful season, and was in a flourishing condition. He thanked Mr. Bowen for his splendid present to the club, through the district secretary, and referred to the competitions they had enjoyed through the Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*. Mr. Wingfield distributed the prizes. Among the winners were Messrs. R. Gardner, T. Williams, and J. Slade, the former taking the challenge cup for the second season. Some excellent harmony was contributed by several of the members, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

ON Saturday the heart of many a gallant angler beat high for the Yorkshire streams—which have of late been in a somewhat adverse condition to good fishing—were reported, on every side, to be in "right trim." The grayling season is, indeed, quickly slipping away, and so far, taken as a whole, it cannot correctly be said to have "broken the record." However, on the two or three closing days of last week, the rivers for a brief period assumed, once more, their normal level, and anglers "turned out" to their favourite pastime. Grayling and pike fishing on the Yore has been fairly satisfactory, although in some instances the former fish has been somewhat backward at allurement. Two or three slight frosts have also materially improved matters. The Swale, at Richmond; the Nidd, at Pateley Bridge; and the Derwent, at Hackness and Malton, have also been productive of better sport. More heavy rains have, unfortunately, this week again interferred with our chances of any very exceptional sport with the grayling, for with flood after flood the fishing is absolutely worthless.

As regards the Ouse, it cannot be said that the latter part of the season has been successful. But then there has been an exceptionally heavy time for roach, and many are the baskets which had been taken by local piscators. I would not like to give an estimate of the amount of fish which have been extracted during the last three months, but I should confidently state that it would go into tons. Of course during the period that floods have been on the rise—and there have been many this year—coarse fishing had to be practically suspended; but, taken altogether, the season 1891 can boast as being the best on record as regards roach, and a fairly good one in respect of other kinds.

THE Wharfe was evidently in capital trim on the closing days of last week, and the fish in an equally amiable mood. The following very interesting paragraph, as evident proof of my statement, I abstract from Tuesday's *Yorkshire Evening Post*, the authenticity of which no angler who knows the gentleman concerned will, I think, be inclined to doubt. "That well-known Yorkshire angler, 'Max' Walbran," says the paper, "seems to be just at present amusing himself by breaking angling records. After visiting the famous club water in Hampshire and catching their heaviest fish, he returns to Yorkshire, and on Friday last, on the Upper Wharfe, takes twenty-eight grayling, weighing 23¼lb.; following this up the next day with ten more fish, scaling 8lb.; making 31¼lb. in two days. A curious coincidence is that on the same water, on the corresponding two days in the same month two years ago, he caught forty-four grayling, weighing 28½lb."

THE memorials which have been signed by nearly all York anglers, with reference to anglers' fares on the Lancashire and Yorkshire, and London and North-Western Railways, were discussed at a meeting of the Northern Anglers' Association, held on Saturday last at Manchester. Amongst those present were Messrs. J. W. Addyman, Leeds; J. Walter Sykes, Huddersfield; and J. W. Blakey, Scarborough. It was pleasing to find that the memorials had been signed by 5,791 anglers residing chiefly in Lancashire and Yorkshire, as it shows that great interest was taken in the movement. The three schemes, which have been given at length in the *F. G.*, were discussed, and will be laid before the officials of the companies. Under them the society will become responsible for the honesty of the rodster who travels at special rates, and I shall be glad to hear of either one of them being adopted.

THE salmon fishing season in the river Esk this year would seem unprecedented in local annals, for, according to the report presented at a statutory meeting of the Board of Conservators for the Whitby Esk fishery division, held on Saturday, no less than 1,316 salmon has been taken out of the river by the rod; one angler being credited with having himself caught one hundred. This is the largest number ever known, and about four times more than that of last season. Large quantities have also been taken at sea by net fishermen. Mr. W. H. Rhodes rose to move a resolution restricting the time of the weekly close season for net fishing at sea. In doing so he said that the Whitby Esk as a salmon river was now second to none in the north of England, and, unlike so many of the great rivers, quite free from pollution. It was their duty as a board to protect the fishery as much as possible, both in the interests of the sea fishermen themselves, of the visitors, of anglers generally, and of owners. Certain concessions had been allowed to sea fishermen, but, as had been proved in the Police Court, they had been abused. He therefore moved that the concession granted last year be withdrawn. As against the motion, it was argued that the river was never more plentifully stocked with fish than at the present time, and as only one isolated case of poaching had been proved, it would be a pity to punish the whole of the fishermen for the delinquencies of one or two. On a vote being taken the motion was lost by a majority of one. Mr. Rhodes further proposed to prohibit the use of nets on each side of Whitby Harbour, measuring a mile each way. The motion was again lost, but it was generally conceded that there should be some restriction in this direction, and Mr. Robinson gave notice that at the next meeting he should move that a playground of 400yds. be reserved for sea salmon. Mr. J. H. Barry was appointed to represent the board on the North-Eastern Sea Fisheries Board.

AT a meeting of the Tees Fishery Board, held at the Darlington Police Court, on Monday, the Right Hon. James Lowther, M.P., in the chair, the question of repairing Dinsdale Dam came up for consideration. Plans had, it was stated, been laid for the removal of the timber, &c., in the existing pass, and it was considered to be an experiment worth trying. A letter, however, had been received from Messrs. Surtees, approving the suggested experiment, subject to the Board being responsible for damage direct or indirect, and the renewal of the work if required, if the timber and steps were removed. The finance and watch committee, however, thought if the work were carried out, it should be at the expense and risk of the owners of the dam. Some considerable discussion followed. Mr. J. H. Bell explained that the committee were anxious not to commit themselves in regard to the matter, seeing that the dam was such a detriment to the river. They hoped to get it swept away altogether, and therefore were anxious not to compromise their position. Mr. Brewis stated that the committee were under the impression that Messrs. Surtees were bound to provide such a pass as the Board of Trade wished. He thought they had got nearly to the time when negotiations should cease. The chairman doubted whether they should give up all attempts at negotiation, and embark on a litigious process. He should be sorry if that were done. It was ultimately resolved to leave the matter open by withdrawing the latter part of the committee's resolution. The chairman next called attention to the financial position of the Board. They must either raise the income or lessen the expenditure, and he suggested they should lessen the paid watchers on the river. A circular had been sent requesting the co-operation of riparian owners, by means of their gamekeepers, and this plan, he said, was adopted on the Derwent and other rivers. Mr. Chayton was of opinion that private watching was not effective, and preferred higher licence rates for rod and line to dismissing watchers. Colonel Scurfield said that formerly fish could get up. Now the Dinsdale Dam prevented them, and they could not get up to spawn. They wanted the dam away and the sewage kept out of the river, to improve fishing. Mr. Brewis thought that they might right themselves without diminishing their watchers, and after further discussion the matter dropped. Mr. Chayton was re-elected on the North-Eastern Sea Fisheries Committee, and the Board adjourned.

NOTES FROM TYRONE.

THE frequent and heavy rains have raised all the rivers, and so discoloured them that pike spinning is impossible.

ON the Lakes Roan, Carnteel, Eskeragh, Farlough, &c., very little has been done among the perch and pike, both at present being feeding very indifferently.

AT the last Crumlin Petty Sessions, two fishermen named Andrew Moore and John O'Hare, respectively, were prosecuted by Mr. William Savage, Inspector of Fisheries, for that on the 9th ult., they had a number of stake nets set on the shores of Lough Neah, for the purpose of taking fish during the annual close season. Evidence of the case having been given, the Bench fined the defendants in £2 each. At the same Court, George McCord, Ballinderry, was fined in £2 10s. for carrying a gun without a licence.

THERE is no accounting for the taste of trout in taking lures. Some time ago I heard the following anecdote. An angler, Mr. Robert Simpson, who, I regret to say, has passed over to the great majority, was fishing the Kingsmill tributary of the Ballinderry. Several times he rose a heavy fish at a small blue fly at the tail of his cast, but he failed to hook it. Finally, losing patience, he plucked a full-blown *Pea Blossom*, and put it on, and at the first cast fastened into the trout. A sharp five minutes' play followed, and at the expiration of that time, Mr. Simpson landed his fish, which proved to be a prime ten-pounder. Often and often afterwards, he tried to induce the trout in the Kingsmill Brook to take the Pea Blossom, but never was successful.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly meeting of the General Committee will take place on Monday evening next, Dec. 7, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Association. — VISITING LIST, EASTERN DISTRICT NO. 2.—A return visit on the above list was paid the St. John's Angling Society on Monday, Nov. 30, and was a success, as twenty-eight clubs were well represented. Many had come a long journey to hear Mr. Howard read his promised paper, but unfortunately Mr. Howard was too unwell to attend, so the promised treat is still in store. Mr. Simms kindly gave an interesting lecture on "Coarse Fish Hatching," which was listened to very attentively by the company, after which the remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony. A vote of thanks, with musical honours, to the chairman, Mr. Tibbatts, brought a most enjoyable evening to a close.—F. THORLING, visiting officer.

Anglers' Association.—SOUTHERN DISTRICT VISITING LIST.—The next visit on the above list will take place on Tuesday next, the 8th inst., at the Blackfriars A.S., Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Southwark Bridge-road, where I hope to see a good muster of brother anglers.—G. W. ARMSTRONG, District Officer.

Anglers' Association. — WESTERN DISTRICT. — A successful visit was paid to the Bostonians on the 23rd ult. Upon the roll being called, twenty-two clubs responded. The A. B. box was opened, and found to contain £1 15s. The next visit will be paid to the Camden Angling Society, on Monday week, Dec. 14, at the Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Camden Town, when I hope to see a good muster.—J. JENNINGS.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of £1 15s. from the Bostonian, and 14s. from the St. John's Angling Society from their donation boxes; also a donation of 2s. 6d. from the North Lambeth Angling Society. The next meeting of the committee will take place on Friday evening, Dec. 11, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

THE LONDON UNITED ANGLERS' SOCIETIES' FOURTH ANNUAL ANGLING COMPETITION, in aid of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society.—On Thursday, the 10th, the prizes will be distributed at the Foresters' Hall, E.C., after the lecture by Mr. F. M. Walbran. Gentlemen who have won a prize must attend by eight o'clock. Winners to have their choice by rotation. Any winner absent will lose his choice; the next one present to choose. List of prizes: A tackle case (fitted), presented by Mr. Sowerbutt; a roach rod, presented by the late Mr. Sowerbutt; porcelain figure, presented by Mr. G. Wood, Hoxton Bros. A.S.; helmet (under shade), presented by Mr. C. Slade, Dalston A.S.; fishing box, presented by Mr. Webbe, Dalston A.S.; marble clock, presented by the Globe A.S.; a tobacco stand, presented by Mr. Hewett, Good Intent A.S.; ebony walking-stick, presented by Mr. Abrahams; gold signet ring, presented by Mr. Abrahams; roach box, presented by Mr. Medcalf; gold pin, presented by Mr. Farebrother; cardigan jacket, inkstand, electro biscuit box, electro butter dish, album, twelve spoons, carving knife and fork, and tobacco stand, presented by the Langley Competition Committee; hook book (fitted), presented by Mr. P. Wood, of Huntingdon; ink stand, presented by the Sociable Bros. A.S.; half-a-dozen knives and forks, presented by the Prince Arthur A.S.; telescope handle net and ring, presented by Mr. Patman; electro coffee service, presented by the South London A.S.; electro tea-pot, presented by the Dalston A.S.; electro cruet, presented by the Dalston A.S.; silver watch, presented by the Izaak Walton A.S.; cardigan jacket, presented by the Bermondsey Bros. A.S.; a pair of fret cut brackets, presented by Mr. Smith; prize, presented by Mr. Teazle; a walking-stick, presented by Mr. Titford; set of carvers in case, presented by the Campbell United A.S.; a tea urn, presented by Mr. Levett; prize, presented by Mr. Shrubsole; prize, presented by a Friend; a pair of lustres, presented by the Hoxton Bros. A.S.; pair of boots (to measure), presented by the Original Alexandria A.S.; a bottle of whisky, presented by Mr. Carter; reel and line, presented by the Ealing A.S.; gentleman's umbrella, presented by the Royal Small Arms A.S.; a tackle case, presented by Mr. Burwash; prize (value 10s. 6d.), presented by the North London A.S.; jack rod, presented by the Marylebone A.S.; marble clock, presented by the Good Intent A.S.; prize (value 5s.), presented by Mr. Cuthbert. The committee to be present at 6.30 p.m. P.O.s received from Marylebone, Hoxton Bros., Convivial, Havelock, and Camden Angling Societies.—S. MALBY, sec.

Aberdeen Amateur Rock Fishers Association.—This most interesting association of sea anglers held their annual social meeting and distribution of prizes on Saturday last, under the presidency of Mr. Worling. The association numbers one hundred and fifty members, and they had secured many mutual advantages such as reduced railway fares, fortnightly competitions, &c. The weight of baskets sent in for competition last year aggregated 1,323lb., or 11cwt. 93lb., and this is only a part of the produce, and a very small one gathered from the sea off the rocks round the Aberdeen Coast by artizans and others chiefly on Saturday afternoons. Such a large addition to the dietary of the working man deserves every encouragement over and above the other advantages which accrue to the toiler in the mill, &c., by having his sporting proclivities indulged in without let or hindrance. Next year there is to be a new departure, and the prizes given at the fortnightly competitions are to be shared with the ladies. The prizes won last season were distributed as follows: Silver cup, presented by Mr. R. Bruce, St. Andrew's, to James Wilson; silver medal, by Mrs. Falconer, to George M'Leod; silver medal, by Mr. Bruce, to Alexander Moir; silver medal, by Mr. W. Laing, tacklemaker, to Mr. Andrew Angus; silver tea service (four pieces), by the association, to Mr. P. Robertson, along with a tablecloth and hook-book; silver albert and reel by the association to Mr. James Robertson; hook-book and hooks to Mr. Charles Massie; fishing basket, &c., to Mr. J. Woodman; horn jug and hooks to Mr. P. Webster; reel and line, to Mr. J. Brown; basket and hooks, to Mr. G. Ritchie; walking-stick and hooks, to Mr. E. Riddel; fishing-rod and bait can, to Mr. J. Campbell; hook-book, to Mr. Andrew Mackie; fishing lines, to Mr. William Geddes; hook-book, to Mr. George Garvie, &c,—G. M.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting Hill-gate, W. —Several members met as usual, and it was announced by the secretary to meet next Wednesday at nine p.m. sharp, to arrange a match for our Christmas prizes, and also we form a slate club the same evening; any member can join. There is a silver cup under shade for a specimen jack. Hoping the dear old disciples of Old Izaak will be on them. Several out at Langley on the 29th ult., but no luck. Don't forget Forester's Hall on the 10th December. A grand night; all be there in shoals.—B. ABRAHAMS, hon. secretary.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—On the 29th ult., H. Wilson saved us from a blank with jack. I wish to remind members that we hold a special meeting on Tuesday, December 8, when some special business will be brought forward. Also that our next outing takes place on the 13th, at Ware, from the engine house to the bridge; one rod to be used.—J. PAILES, secretary.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—I wish to remind members that the business relating to our proposed match at Byfleet, which should have taken place on Dec. 6, will stand over till Wednesday next, when I trust some of the members will try and put in an appearance.—W. H. POTTER, secretary.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Members are requested to attend next Wednesday to arrange our next outing. Several of ours were out on Nov. 29, the most successful of them being Mr. D. Cooper, who took the 3rd prize at Pulborough, also taking a special prize for the largest bream. The smoking concert, which took place on Tuesday last for the benefit of Mr. H. Lovett, was a grand succes.—J. RICH, secretary.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 29th inst. several of our members were out, and a very good show of fish being the result. Mr. Reed had a very nice show of roach, dace, and chub; Mr. Humphreys, bream; Mr. Embleton, junr., bream; Mr. Lambarth, junr., bream; Mr. Whitebread, bream; Mr. C. Irwin, roach, dace, and bream; and Mr. Loosly, a very nice show of dace; Messrs. Humphreys, Whitebread, Irwin, and Lambarth, junr., being the successful members in the Pulborough Competition.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The special general meeting was held on Wednesday, with a full room. Members are notified that we shall decide next Wednesday where to fish for the December series of prizes, so I hope they will attend early. The next visit on the South London United Visiting List, will be to the above society on Monday, December 14, when I hope to have the pleasure of a good reply to the roll-call.—A. G. SMITH, sec.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, Great Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—Several members were out on Nov. 29, but the show of fish was not great. I wish the members would strive to attend more regular on meeting nights. I hope they will bear in mind Dec. 16, quarterly night, when books must be cleared, or be fined. We fish for our monthly prizes on Dec. 13, at Windsor, all to start by first train.—J. TUCKER, hon. sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The members of this club will fish a punt match, at Staines, on the 6th inst.; all to go down by the train leaving Clapham Junction at 8.45; five prizes. The Christmas prizes will be fished on Dec. 20, and those not taken will be drawn for; open to honorary members.—GEO. MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—Several of our members took part in Mr. A. A. Eldridge's Competition, at Pulborough, on Nov. 29, two of them (Mr. H. Patman and Mr. D. Dodson) being successful. On the same date Mr. J. Warman weighed in a nice show of roach, 10lb. 2oz., largest fish, 1lb. 5½oz. The competition for the December series of prizes will take place on the 6th inst.; place and conditions to be decided at the meeting on the 4th inst.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—Only a few of our members, ten in number, went to the match at Sunbury on the 29th ult., with the following results: Messrs. Foster, Farmer, and Hacker, trying for first prize with roach, dace, and perch; Mr. F. Barker, dace, and Mr. J. Barker, roach and dace. On Wednesday we started with our list of Christmas prizes to be fished for on the 20th December. I hope to see a good muster next Wednesday to settle one or two questions. The next visit on the Anglers' Association List (Southern District) takes place on Tuesday, Dec. 8, at this society.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the 29th ult., the following weighed in: Mr. T. Davis, jack and perch, heaviest perch 1lb. 6oz. I hope the anglers on the Clerkenwell District Visiting List will not forget that it is our return visit on Monday next, Dec. 7, as I see there is another club enrolled on the Clerkenwell. Our members will fish for Christmas prizes at Windsor, from Boveney Lock to Surly Hall, on Dec. 13. All those who wish to compete must put their names down on Wednesday next.—D. WARREN.

Brompton Angling Society, Grove Tavern, Beauchamp-place, S.W.—On Nov. 29, the competition for the brewers' prizes took place at Cookham, only fourteen members turning up. The result was as follows: Myself first, Mr. F. Briggs second, Mr. Robson third, and Mr. Coombes fourth. I saved a blank this evening, with a few roach and perch.—H. ROACH, sec.

Brothers Well-Met Angling Society, Berkeley Castle, Rahare-street, Goswell-road.—Some of our members competed on Nov. 29 for our daily prize, which was won by Mr. Elderton, with 10lb. 8oz. of roach and perch; Mr. Harris being second with 5lb. 2½oz. of roach and dace. The concert on behalf of the widow of the late Mr. Sutcliff did not turn out as well as I expected. I did not see any of his old angling friends there. We have not been able to settle the gifts, as of the tickets sent out hardly any have been returned. If any club or friends have any they must be sent in to the Berkeley Castle by Tuesday evening, Dec. 8, or they will not be entitled to the gifts, which will be ready for the winners by Thursday evening, Dec. 10, after nine o'clock.—HY. TAME, sec.

Brunswick Brothers Angling Society, Cherry Tree, Brunswick-road, Bromley, E.—Since last report Mr. Watkins has weighed in chub, roach and dace. Mr. J. Mearring, jack, and Mr. Wilson, perch. We fish for six Christmas prizes on Dec. 6, on the Chelmer, from Little Baddow Mead to Boucham Bridge; all to leave Stratford by 7.45 train.—T. HAWKES, sec.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—Only two of our members weighed-in, on Nov. 29, several of our members were out, but met with bad luck. Mr. D. Flint had 7lb. of jack, and Mr. W. Eaton had a very fine chub, weighing 2lb. 12½oz., and in its prime. Our distribution night is on Dec. 16. I hope members won't forget.—J. PETHER, sec.

Burton Piscatorials, Globe, Derby-street, King's-cross.—The sweepstakes at Cookham on Nov. 29 were a decided success. All the prizes were won with an excellent show of fine roach and dace, contributed by the following winners: C. Roberts, 1st, 1lb. 10¼oz.; W. Hill, 2nd, 1lb. 12¾oz.; A. Richards, 3rd, 1lb. 10½oz.; J. Wilson taking 4th prize. Messrs. Field and Sturman also weighed in. The handsome book presented by Mr. J. Roach, the esteemed secretary of the Golden Barbel A.S., was won by C. Roberts; and a bound volume of the *Fishing Gazette* by A. Richards, for the best two roach taken during the day.—C. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On 29th November, Mr. King had a nice show of roach; Mr. Sartain, roach. Members will greatly oblige by showing up in full force on Wednesday next, as we have some very important business to dispose of. The next return visit on the Western District Anglers' Association, will take place at the above, on Monday, Dec. 14, when we shall be pleased to welcome all anglers and friends that can make it convenient.—E. T. WHITE, sec.

Canning Town Angling Society, Marquis of Salisbury, Hermit-road, Canning Town, E.—Several of our members were out on Nov. 29, but met with poor sport, Mr. G. Cooper, jun., saving us from a blank with a nice little tray of roach from the Stort. I should like to see our members attend the meetings a little more regularly. I should like to see a good muster on next meeting night, to arrange for our Christmas prizes.—O. JONES, sec.

Central Association.—The monthly delegate meeting will take place at the Bedford Head Hotel, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden, W.C., on Monday next, 7th inst., at 8 30 p.m.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—On Nov. 29 the following members weighed in fish: Messrs. A. Turner, 11lb. roach; T. Jameson, 1lb. 6½oz. roach; A. Chapman, 2lb. 9oz. roach; and A. Painter, 4lb. ½oz. On the 26th ult. we sat down to a supper which was competed for on the 15th ult., and am pleased to say it was a success. Members are requested not to forget the Christmas outing.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clerkenwell and District United.—The next visit on the above will be to the Bloomsbury Brothers, held at the Rose and Crown, High-street, Bloomsbury, on Monday evening next, December 7, they deserve a good meeting as they are one of our best visiting clubs. I beg to call the attention of the Barbican Angling Society to the fact that this date was published in *Fishing Gazette*, on Nov. 21.—F. CASTELL, hon. sec.

Cliftonville Angling Society, Cliftonville Hotel, Ilderton-road, South Bermondsey.—The visit on the S.L.U. List on Tuesday last was a grand success, fourteen clubs being represented notwithstanding the bad weather. The committee wish me to express their thanks to those gentlemen who so kindly gave their services, especially Mr. Pinchback, who presided at the pianoforte; also, to Dr. Dugon for his violin solo.—G. GARDNER, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—The following members weighed in on the 29th inst.: Messrs. G. Percival, roach, 2lb. 12oz.; A. Duncan, roach, 1lb 12oz.; T. Twyman and A. Smith, dace, Mr. G. Percival winning the November gross weight of roach from the Thames, total weight, 11lb. 6oz. I hope members will attend and settle up for concert tickets.—A. SMITH, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 29th ult., several of our members were out, but the only gentlemen who had any sport were Messrs. Webber, Legge, Parram, Wild, and Wright, who had a very nice show of roach, perch, and dace.—S. MALBY, secretary.

Epsom Angling Society, The Wellington, High-street.—Two of our members were out on Tuesday, and weighed in a nice take of roach and two bream, weighing 23lb. We are looking forward to a good muster on Monday evening next, when Mr. G. E. Simms will read a paper on "Coarse Fish Hatching." The chair will be taken at 8.30 by Mr. E. S. Shrubsole, and several gentlemen, well-known in the angling world, will be present. An instructive and enjoyable evening may be anticipated.—G. M.

Eustonian Angling Society, King's Head, Swinton-street, King's Cross.—On the 6th inst. we fish at Cookham for two prizes, first ten shillings and sixpence given by Mr. Farner; second, a handsome cup given by Mr. E. Marshall, sen. On Nov. 29th, very little fish was weighed in.—R. NEALL, sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On Nov. 29, four of members weighed in the Pulborough Competition, Mr. G. Watling winning first prize, and Mr. F. Vanhegan last. Mr. S. Hill would have won the first, but was too late to weigh in. This makes the fourth first prize that has come to this club this year. Mr. G. Watling wishes to thank those anglers and friends who so kindly assisted him on the occasion of his benefit. There are still two or three prizes not claimed, and if not owned by Dec. 12 will be forfeited.—J. W. BIGGS, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, We were saved from a blank, on Nov. 29, with a few roach, taken by Mr. Stebbings. Other members were out, but no luck. Monday next, Dec. 7, is quarterly night, when I hope to see a good muster.—A. P., sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road, W.—The following members weighed in on November 29: Mr. J. Porter, a fine show of roach; Mr. Jones, roach and dace; Mr. Bryant, roach, chub, and dace; Mr. Stokes, roach; Mr. Ellins, a fine show of roach, dace, and chub; Mr. Deperron, jack; Mr. Monk, dace; and Messrs. Clark, Chapman, Fellons, Green, and Park, roach, perch, and dace. On Tuesday it was decided to go by the nine o'clock train to fish for our Christmas sweepstake; one rod only to be taken, and all to meet at Bolter's Lock on Dec. 6.—J. STOKES.

Good Intent Angling Society, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch.—The members will fish for ten prizes on December 6, at St. Margaret's; all start by the nine o'clock train a.m. On the 1st inst. Mr. Edgar S. Shrubsole gave a very interesting lecture on creels, bags, and baskets, at our club. Our large room was filled with a very attentive audience, the lecture lasted over an hour, there was a large quantity of bags and baskets and creels, close on one hundred in number displayed on a raised platform that showed them off very nicely. At the finish a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer, who under the auspices of the Society for the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs, was highly appreciated by all present. Mr. H. J. Tibbatts presided in his usual able manner, and was also accorded a very hearty vote of thanks; also Mr. Simms of the *Rod and Gun*, who is also doing such good work among angling clubs, was accorded a hearty vote of thanks. Everyone was highly pleased, with the interesting proceedings.—R. MURPHY.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—Several members of the above club were out on Nov. 29, but sport was bad. Mr. J. Grande only weighed perch and roach, saving a blank.—G. F. WEAVER, sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Tuesday, with Mr. G. H. Field in the chair. A new member was elected. Mr. Close reported having fished at Flander's Weir, and Dr. Davidson at Deal. Mr. Gilbert weighed in twenty-one roach, caught in the Thames, one weighing over 1lb.; and Mr. Parker had been having some sport with whiting and flounders at Burnham. Mr. Close informed the meeting that the late exhibition of mounted fish tackle held at this society had been so much appreciated by some of the visitors, that an effort was about to be made by some other societies to get up a similar exhibition, which might remain open for a considerable period, probably three months. Mr. E. H. Bramley, on behalf of the subscribers, presented the society with a splendid album, designed to contain two hundred and fifty-four portraits, and on the motion of Dr. Brunton, the secretary was desired to ask the president, vice-presidents, and other officers and members, to send in their photographs for insertion. A unanimous vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Bramley for the trouble he had taken in getting such a magnificent book at a very small cost. Next Tuesday, the 8th, there will be a paper by Messrs. Norman and Fletcher, on "Angler's Dodges and Contrivances;" and on Tuesday, the 15th, a smoking concert.—JAMES TAYLER, sec.

Havelock Angling Society, Royal Oak, Whiston-street, Haggerston.—*Re* prize competition on December 6, Rye House to St. Margarets Bridge. All members competing in the above to be eligible must meet by 10.30 a.m., at the Old Highway Tavern before starting to fish; also return to same house by five p.m. to show all fish that may have been taken.—W. YOUNG, sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On Nov. 29 several of our members were out for the Christmas prizes at Rye House, ten of them being taken, all with perch. Messrs. Blink, first; Bagshaw, sen., second; Hunter, third; Holt, fourth; Pleydell, fifth; Russell, sixth; Rider, seventh; Davis, eighth; Geeves, ninth; Bagshaw, jun., tenth. Not much chance left for the poor secretary.—W. H. F.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—On Nov. 29 our trays were well filled with chub from the Thames by Mr. Monte, the largest weighing 4lb. 13oz., in all five fish; Mr. Rutherford, a fine show of roach, 7lb.; Messrs. Shaw and Giles, some roach and dace; Messrs. Glover and Webb and several others were out, and met with some fine sport.—J. F. GRIFFITHS, sec.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—A few members were out on Nov. 29. Messrs. J. Row weighed in 13lb. 3½oz. jack; G. H. Wood, a nice show of perch, 6lb. 9½oz.; J. Dingley, a show of roach; heaviest fish, 1lb. 2½oz.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—Weighed in on November 22: Mr. Croker, 7lb. 11oz. of roach; Mr. Leach, 1lb. 12oz., roach and dace; Mr. Willsher, 1lb. 8¼oz., roach; Mr. Holder, perch and dace. On November 29, Mr. H. Herbert, 3lb. 13¼oz., roach, dace, and perch; Mr. Willsher, 3lb. 6oz. of roach; Mr. Leach, 1lb. 12oz., roach. We have a smoking concert on Monday, December 14, in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Fund, when I hope to have a good muster of anglers and friends.—J. H. HERBERT, hon. sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members will compete for three special prizes on Wednesday, the 9th inst., also for four special prizes on the 13th inst. Competitors may choose their own fishing waters for these prizes, but must not leave London before the morning on the days of the competitions. There are still six special Wednesday Christmas prizes not taken. Mr. N. Martin weighed in jack on the 29th; Mr. G. Washington had roach and perch; Mr. T. Harris had bream on the same day.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—On November 28, Mr. Wheeler weighed in 7lb. of nice roach from Bures, and on the 29th, Messrs. Warner and Sadgrove weighed in roach and chub from the Thames.—A. IDE, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—Members are reminded of the following competition—viz., for the heaviest fish weighed in between 1st November and 31st January, 1892. First prize, value £3 3s.; for the second ditto, £1 1s.; third ditto, £1 1s. The following members have weighed in during the week: Messrs. C. J. Carter, 15lb. 12oz. roach and dace; T. Salter, 9lb. 14oz. roach and dace; Mason, 5lb. 7oz. roach and dace; and Newcombe, 3lb. 9oz. roach and dace.—T. SALTER, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road, N.—On the 29th ult. several members of the above fished in the competition at Pulborough, Mr. More and Mr. Watling each taking a prize; the following also having fish from other waters: Messrs. Belton and J. White, roach and dace. I hope to see a good muster of members on Wednesday next—quarterly night. Some good prizes have been added to our list, all to be decided next week.—W. WATLING, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association, held at the Bee Hotel, 5, Queen's-square, Liverpool.—A party of our members had a few hours' jack fishing the other day in a private water. The weather was fine and warm, and twenty-one jack and five perch were taken. Strange to say, two days afterwards another party of members fished the same water, and did not get a fish. On this latter occasion the weather was also fine, but the wind was bitterly cold from the north-east, whilst on the first occasion a soft southerly breeze was blowing, and this apparently made all the difference.—R. WOOLFALL.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On Nov. 29th our members were at various stations on the Thames, when the sport was better than the previous weeks; Messrs. Sansom, Penfold, A. Clark, and Bartlett, weighing in some fine roach over 1lb. in weight.—W. F. PEARCE, sec.

Midland Angling Society, Prince of Wales, King's-road, St. Pancras, N.W.—At our pegged-down match at Windsor, on November 29, the following gentlemen weighed in for prizes: T. Hull, roach, chub, and dace; W. Westmore, roach and dace; G. Wright, a very nice show of roach, weighing 5lb. We fish for the remaining prizes on December 6.—A. APPLEBY, sec.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk, Balls Pond-road.—Several members fished for prizes on November 29, at Hatfield Peverel, but did not take any fish up to our club standard. Messrs. Jermy and J. Osborne were out on Tuesday, and weighed in a very fine show of roach, some of the fish scaling over 1lb. each. I wish to remind the members that we fish for Christmas prizes at Pangbourne, on Dec. 13, all to start by the first train from Paddington on the morning. I hope all members will show up on Tuesday next as there is a little matter to settle.—J. COMBER, sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 108, Westminster Bridge-road.—The competition for Christmas prizes will commence on December 6 and finish December 20, on which night all prizes will be paid. Conditions of match—roving.—F. WALLIS, sec.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway-road.—On Tuesday, December 15, Mr. G. E. Simms will read a paper at the above on "Coarse Fish Hatching," after which there will be a smoking concert, Mr. F. Thorling in the chair; vice, Mr. W. Stretch.—H. STRETCH, hon. sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton, Southampton-road, Maitland-park, N.W.—On Nov. 19, Messrs. Billings and Schultz, jun., weighed in a nice lot of roach, several scaling 1lb. each. On the 22nd, Mr. Holman, jack, 2lb. 4½oz. On Nov. 26 our half-yearly supper and distribution of prizes took place, Messrs. Billings and Schultz, jun., having a fine show of roach that night, the former having 3lb. 7½oz., the latter 13lb. 13½oz., several fish going 1lb. each. The supper turned out a grand success; harmony reigned supreme, and great credit is due to our pianist, Mr. Frood. The principal toasts were, "Success to the North-Western Angling Society," "Our Worthy Host," "The Press," and "The Visitors," all being most ably responded to by the following gentlemen: Messrs. Weaver, H. Roper, Smythe, Crumplen, &c. The prize winners were Messrs. Billings (winning two), Goodman (one), Schultz, jun. (two), Lambert (two), and one other member a prize. We have prizes for the coming half to the value of £20 9s. 6d., for which I hope our members will be more successful, and do credit to our old standing motto, "Go in and Win." Members please attend to arrange the prizes, so as to enable us to get the list out.—G. S.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—On Nov. 15, from the Rye House, Messrs. Neville and Harrison secured fish, when each obtained a prize; Mr. Bygrave also a few dace from elsewhere. On Nov. 22, Mr. Neville brought in a couple of small dace, saving us from a blank. On Nov. 29, however, we had no fish brought in, none of our members going out.—J. CUTHBERT, sec.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, Rosemary-road, Peckham.—The match that was proposed to take place at Reading, on Dec. 6, is cancelled, and will take place at Staines, from the railway bridge to Laleham Ferry; the hook to be included.—E. A. FAUTLEY, sec.

Prince Albert Angling Society, Prince Albert, Lincoln-street, Bow-road.—Our members were out on the 29th ult., with the following result: Mr. E. Impey, weighed in 3lb. 2oz. of roach; Mr. C. Toye, roach. Any gentleman wishing to join will be heartily received by the brother members.—F. PIGNATELLI, hon. sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—On Nov. 29, several members went out to try their luck, when the following weighed in: Mr. J. Isaacs, a nice specimen roach, 1lb. 1½oz.; and several others. I beg to remind members that a match has been arranged to take place at Windsor for six prizes on Jan. 10.—J. W. HARRIS, sec.

Prince of Wales Angling Society, the Globe, Lisson-grove.—There were splendid shows of roach on Nov. 29, by the following members: Messrs. Porter, Hayden, Robbins, Brett; and jack by Mr. Twomey. We intend having an outing on Dec. 20, in aid of the A.B.S., with a small entrance fee, the whole of the proceeds going to that deserving society.—W. B.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—A special meeting is called for Monday, the 7th inst., when I hope to see all members present as something of great importance will be brought before them.—F. Bradley, sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—The supper takes place on Thursday evening, 10th inst., all members that wish to join us will give their names in as soon as possible. I hope members will note that last Wednesday was quarterly night. Mr. Davis was elected chairman for the month. A committee meeting will take place on Wednesday, 9th inst., when I hope all the committeemen will be present, as there is some special business to go through. Mr. E. Pyne weighed in a splendid show of roach, winning the silver cup for gross weight for the month. The result of the outing at Henley, on 29th ult. was a success. All the prizes being taken as follows:—Messrs. W. Lamberton, roach, 1st; T. Lines, roach, 2nd; H. Mitchell, roach, 3rd; F. Lamherton, roach, 4th; F. L. Lamherton, roach; G. Best, roach; J. Wigley, roach. J. Davis weighed in dace on Wednesday.—F. T. Lamberton, secretary.

Royal George Angling Society, Queen's Arms, Bateman-street, Soho-square, W.—On Nov. 29 several of our members were out, but only Messrs. Holder (roach and dace), Harris (roach and dace), and Jerquit (jack) weighed in. On Dec. 6 we fish an outing at Cookham for our Christmas prizes. Tow-path; one rod; jack barred.—F. C. Longland.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Coborn Arms, Coborn-road, Bow, E.—On the 29th ult., we competed for five prizes at Roydon, the successful competitors were Mr. Stanley, largest roach, and first gross weight of roach; Mr. Day, second, gross weight of roach; and Mr. G. Yeo took first gross weight of jack; Mr. I. Yeo, also weighed in roach; Mr. A. Barclay, roach and dace; Mr. Holden also had roach in the competition, but did not weigh in. On Tuesday we made two new members.—A. Barclay, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lamheth.—We fish for the remaining five prizes on Dec. 6, roving from Kingston Bridge to the Lock at Teddington; no member to go before the first train on that date from Waterloo.—J. Wright, sec.

Serapis Angling Society, Nevill Arms, Nevill-road, N. The above newly-established club celebrated their first outing on Nov. 29 at Pangbourne, where some fairly decent roach were taken, the first prize falling to Mr. Tilbury, sen., second to Mr. H. Gaffer, and third to Mr. G. Orchard.—John Peck, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 29th, Nov. several members were out, and weighed in some nice fish Messrs. J. Petrie, roach, 8lb. 10½oz.; W. North, roach, 13lb. 14oz.; H. Bigsby, roach, 9lb. 15½oz.; (one roach 1lb. 4¼oz.); G. Giles, jack. On Tuesday last we had a far better attendance of members than of late. A Christmas outing will take place on the 15th December, at Pangbourne, when three prizes will be fished for, given by our Hostess, Mrs. C. Brown. Members must attend for further particulars.—S. E. Cane, sec.

Sheffield Anglers' Association.—The annual meeting of this body was held in the Co-operative Hall, Sheffield, on Wednesday night, Mr. C. Styring, the president, occupied the chair, and there was a large gathering of the more active members of the clubs connected with the association, as well as the officers and committee. The chairman, in opening the meeting, referred to the past as a most successful season, in respect of finances and the number of members, but as far as sport went, he believed it was below the average. There were upwards of eight thousand members' tickets issued to the different clubs, and the association had, on behalf of clubs and others, supplied upwards of twenty thousand excursion tickets. The railway company were to be congratulated on having taken these, and perhaps an even larger number of the general public to and fro without accident or hitch. Allusion was also made to extended facilities for fishing, and it was stated that an effort had been made to take the friends of the association on two or three occasions to waters in the neighbourhood of Wisbech and Lydd, on the borders of South Lincolnshire. As yet the arrangements were scarcely so satisfactory as they should like them, the railway journey being too long, but if they could get to this district and back in reasonable time, the society would arrange for more extended fishings in that locality. The district was known to be a good one. After referring to some other matters, the chairman moved that the thanks of the meeting be given to the patrons of the association, the owners of fishing rights, &c., for their privileges, and to all who had contributed to the enjoyment of the members. This was carried amid applause. The secretary, Mr. T. Walker, read the report and statement of accounts, both of which were deemed satisfactory; the auditors stating that the books were well kept and the meeting adopted them. The chief features in the latter were £3,282 18s. 3d. received for railway excursion tickets, which seem to have cost the association £3,211 18s. 2d., thus giving a profit to the association of £71. £129 14s. 8d. had been received from members for privilege tickets, and £64 15s. had been paid for angling privileges. Over the annual match the members got £32 more than they paid in entrance fees, and the balance in hand had been increased from £170 to £208. The chief officers were afterwards re-appointed, as well as the committee, and during the evening several matters interesting to the association were discussed, the meeting ending with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—At the meeting on the 29th of November, a specimen jack of 10lb. from the Thames, in first-class condition, was weighed in by Mr Collins. Mr. Josiffe, who was with Mr. Collins, caught a small one; they both had the misfortune to be smashed up, losing their tackle. Messrs. J. Warsap and Edwards went to Moulsford, but had poor sport owing to the state of the water. Mr. Parkhurst weighed in two jack, 6lb. 14oz.

Silver Trout Anglers' Association, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.—On November 29, several of our members were down for the outing at Moulsford, but in consequence of the state of the water no competition took place. Mr. Clark weighed in dace, from the tidal waters; Mr. Smales also had about 4lb. of roach, from the Thames. Tuesday last being quarterly night, the election of officers took place, Mr. O'Callaghan was elected president; Mr. Williams, vice-president; and the retiring auditors, Messrs. Phillips, Kelly, and Black, were re-elected; Messrs. Mann and Abbott were elected unanimously.—Pelican.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—Our return visit on Monday was a success, eighteen clubs responding to the roll call. Members showing fish on November 29, were Mr. Manning, with a splendid show of bream and roach; T. Jones, bream and roach; Mr. Rigg, bream; Mr. Pleydell, a handsome show of perch.—R. Spencely, sec.

South London Angling Society, George and Dragon, 235, Camberwell-road, S.E.—On November 29, a fine show of roach and bream from Richmond, totalled 16lb. First prize was taken by Mr. Boorman. On Wednesday next we fish at Dorking for two prizes, go by first train in the morning.—J. J. F., sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—A return visit of the clubs on the above list was paid to the Cliftonville Angling Society on the 1st inst., when their spacious clubroom was fairly well filled, and I think all present spent a most enjoyable evening. On the roll being called at eleven o'clock by Mr. J. Wright, vice-president of the list, the following fourteen clubs responded: Bermondsey Bros., Second Surrey, Rodney, Anchor and Hope, Peckham Bros, Wellington, United Bros., Anglers' Pride, St. Albans and Excelsior, Blackfriars, St. George's, North Lambeth, Marlborough, and Cliftonville. The next visit will be to the Anchor and Hope, held at the William the Fourth, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road; due notice of date next week.—A. Conn, hon. sec.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—The members of the above visited Harlow on Nov. 29 to fish for their club prizes, but unfortunately returned with empty baskets, so have decided to fish at Kingston (roving) on Dec. 6, when it is trusted that the members will be more successful than last week.—G. Morton, sec.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, Hammersmith, W.—The punt match postponed from November 22, will take place at Staines on December 6. We had a full meeting on Tuesday, December 1. Mr. Couldrey was unanimously elected an honorary member.—H. Reaves, sec.

Sussex Piscatorial Society, Arch 104, King's-road, Brighton.—During the last few days members have been fairly successful, Mr. W. Fry weighing in three pike from club waters, 11½lb., 6lb. 10½oz., and 4lb. (spinning with spoon); Mr. W. C. F. Gillam, three pike, from private waters, 5¾lb., 5lb., and 3¾lb.; Mr. W. J. Holland, from the Ouse, two bream, 2¼lb. and 3¼lb., and one roach, 1¼lb.; Mr. E. J. Ash, also from the Ouse, three bream, 3lb. 14oz., 2lb. 2oz., and 1lb. 8oz. The club water is now in grand condition for pike fishing. Weeds are well rotten.—W. C. F. Gillam, assistant hon. sec.

United Brothers, Deptford.—On November 22, Mr. W. Windred weighed in some roach and a nice chub weighing 3lb. 8oz.; F. Beak, roach and perch; and F. Drage, bream. Several members of the above were out on the 29th, with the following result: Mr. W. Windred, roach; Mr. W. Bennett, roach; Mr. W. Tyler, roach. The members of the above have voted one guinea to the Thames Angling Preservation Society.—H. Tyler, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—Several members were out on Nov. 29, the following weighed in, Mr. Petty, roach; Mr. Bird, sen., roach and dace, the later taking second prize in the Pulborough Match, on the 29th Nov., Mr. Bird, jun., a prize in the same match with roach. Nothing of importance was done on Dec. 1, owing to members being away. I wish to remind members that only those will be able to compete in our next match when arranged who are eligible.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—I hope all members will attend on Wednesday next to make arrangements for the next competition, which takes place on December 13.—R. Bailey.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On Nov. 29, Mr. G. Boyd weighed in dace; Mr. W. H. Bryant, bream; and Mr. W. Gordon, roach. Mr. Bryant took the fourth prize in the Competition promoted by Mr. A. Eldridge, at Pulborough. Wednesday last was half-yearly night, when the balance-sheet was presented and passed. The officers elected to serve for the ensuing quarter were: Mr. C. Wright, chairman; Mr. C. Groom, vice-chairman; Messrs. C. Wyer and R. Dartnall, delegates to Anglers' Association. Mr. G. Calder was proposed as a member; ballot to take place on Wednesday next. The December competition will take place on Dec. 6; from Staines Bridge to Chertsey Bridge; all to go by 8.35 train, Waterloo; 8.40, Vauxhall; show fish at Pigeon and Wheatsheaf at four o'clock; return from Staines at 5.17; all fish to weigh.—R. J. Dartnall, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—On Nov. 29 we had several members in the competition at Pulhorough, but were unsuccessful. Mr. Mercer weighed in jack, thus saving us from having a blank. Our Christmas competition will take place at Witham on the 13th inst., all to go by the first train from Liverpool-street, returning by the 6.48 train home.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on Nov. 29 to take part in the match, but it turned out a failure. The following weighed in: Mr. Hunt, two jack, weighing 13lb. 8oz., one fish weighing 8lb.; Mr. R. Lowther, one jack, weighing 5lb. 13½oz.; Mr. Bickell, jack and roach; Mr. J. Newton, roach and dace. I wish to remind our members that it is quarter-night on Wednesday, the 9th instant.—R. Lowther, sec.

West London Angling Club, Dartmouth Castle, Hammersmith.—Our quarterly meeting took place on Thursday last, a large muster of members attending. Mr. Rogers was elected chairman and Mr. Lidgard, vice-chairman for the ensuing three months. The members voted that the sum of 2s. 6d. should be sent to Mr. Brougham for the Thames River Keepers' dinner entertainment. Arrangements were made for the last match of the season, to take place on the same conditions as before. The meeting adjourned after a unanimous vote of thanks to the chairman and vice chairman for their past services to the club.—J. J. Hunter, hon. sec.

Wear Angling Association.—This association has now fairly got on its legs, and bids to be one of the most energetic in the county. It has done considerable good so far in checking the wholesale poaching on its waters, which reach from Stanhope to Newfield Crag. It has also staked the pools and streams for some miles, and is encouraging in every way fair and legitimate angling. Mr. James Widdas, one of its members, is at present erecting a fish hatchery for the purpose of putting some thousands of young salmon in the streams. The society have a balance in hand, and are working with the Wear Fishery Board to bring the Wear into its former condition. It may be interesting to mention the late W. Henderson, whose death was recorded in the columns of the *Fishing Gazette*, first learnt the art of angling on the banks of the Wear.—Blue Dun (Bishop Auckland).

⁂ Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE READING OF PAPERS AT ANGLING CLUBS.

For some weeks an announcement has appeared in the *Fishing Gazette* to the effect that a paper would be read by Mr. G. H. Howard, at the St. John's Angling Society, the Skinners' Arms, Coburg-street, Clerkenwell. Last Monday night was the date fixed, and a crowded audience assembled, anticipatory of hearing some highly amusing and entertaining things, as the title of the paper was "An Amateur's Experiences:" but we regret to state that Mr. Howard was attacked with bronchitis a day or two previous to the meeting and lost his voice, and was unfortunately prevented from fulfilling his engagement. Mr. Howard wrote apologising to the meeting for his absence, and expressing his intention of reading the paper as soon as he had recovered his voice. The chair was taken by Mr. H. J. Tibbatts, who was supported by, amongst others, Messrs. W. H. Beckett (vice-president Anglers' Association), Ghurney, Murphy, O'Callaghan, G. E. Simms, J. Close, MacDermott, Smith, Malby, Thorling, Jennings, Wood, Butler, &c. During the evening Mr. G. E. Simms gave an interesting address on coarse fish hatching, and received a hearty vote of thanks for the same. A "visit" was paid to the society in the course of the proceedings, the Eastern District (No. 2) clubs being well represented. An excellent programme of songs and recitations had been arranged in connection with Mr. Howard's paper and the "visit," and a most enjoyable time was passed. The proceedings eventually closed with a vote of thanks to Mr. Tibbatts for presiding.

A paper was read by Mr. E. S. Shrubsole, at the Good Intent Angling Society, on Tuesday evening last, entitled "Fishing Bags, Baskets, and Creels." Mr. H. J. Tibbatts, trustee of the Anglers' Association, occupied the chair. The large club-room was crowded, and amongst those present we noticed Mr. R. Murphy (sec.), Mr. R. Ghurney (sec., Anglers' Association), Mr. Wood (Hoxton Brothers), Mr. Midson (Dalston), Mr. Thorling, Mr. Pattison, sen., and Mr. Pattison, jun. (St. John's), Mr. Imey da Costa (Hoxton Brothers); &c. The chairman, in opening the proceedings, said there was very little need for him to introduce Mr. Shrubsole, as he was already very well known to the members of the Good Intent having been present in the club on many previous occasions. Mr. Shrubsole, who was received with cheers, said he had been accused of organising a big advertisement for the tackle-makers, but he could conscientiously say this was not the case. He was actuated with a genuine desire to get at the best creel or basket for the benefit of anglers, and, he thought, by a careful study of the exhibit, it might be possible to suggest improvement on improvements. He considered creels with separate compartments for lunch, tackle, and fish a desideratum. A simple, but valuable, suggestion was thrown out as to carrying either creel, basket, or box knapsack fashion, the wonder being that it had not been universally adopted long before, as by this method the weight is equally distributed, and there is the great advantage of having both hands free. Wicker creels, with tin linings and india-rubber linings, were shown, the owners of each claiming that the arrangement kept fish fresh and bright. Creels also with the lid opening on the opposite side to those usually made were shown, and it was generally agreed this was a great advance on the old style, also with the tackle-hook fitted on the inside of the lid. Bags of all sorts, kinds, and materials—some with inside linings, some with internal bags easily detachable—were handed round for inspection, the comments upon them being very original. Altogether the reading was most instructive and amusing. At the close the chairman invited anyone present to put questions to Mr. Shrubsole. Mr. Murphy (secretary, Good Intent) said he was delighted with the reading, and he was sure everyone present would join with him in thanking Mr. Shrubsole for his valuable paper. On looking at the exhibit in the early part of the evening, he had wondered how it would be possible for anyone to give such an interesting lecture as they had just listened to, and he begged to propose a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Shrubsole for the trouble he had taken in coming there and delivering the lecture. Mr. Ghurney seconded, and the vote was carried with acclamation. Mr. Shrubsole, in reply, said he was pleased and proud to come to a *bonâ fide* working-men's club and read a paper, as only two years ago he was told he would find it impossible to get an audience; but the crowded state of that room, and the rivetted attention of those present, showed that working-men did thoroughly appreciate any really good effort that was made for their benefit. He explained in detail the objects of the Society for the Promotion of Reading Papers, and begged of them to encourage the members of their clubs to read papers, and so earn the medal which the society proposes to offer for the best papers. He invited anyone present to attend the committee meetings held on the first and third Fridays in the month, at the Citizen, 70, Houndsditch, opposite Bishopsgate Church, assuring them of a hearty welcome. Mr. Simms *(Rod and Gun)* proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, which brought a most enjoyable evening to a termination.

NEW PATENTS.

The following is a list of Piscatorial Patents, which is supplied to us by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Registered Patent Agents and Attorneys for Colonial and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks, 76, Chancery-lane, Holborn, W.C., All inquiries answered by them free of charge to our readers:—

19,949.—Henry Angus Murton, of London, for "Improvements in and relating to fishing creels."

20,169.—Joseph Ball, of London, for "Improvements in the construction of ground ropes for trawl nets for deep sea fishing."

20,276.—Paul Gerhardt, of London, for "Improvements in fishway, especially suitable for eels and the like."

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Dangerous Chest Complaints.—The enumeration of these diseases is scarcely necessary, as, unfortunately, most Englishmen know them to their cost. Coughs, common colds, influenza, bronchitis, asthma, pleurisy, inflammation of the lungs, and even consumption in its early stages, are best treated by rubbing Holloway's Ointment upon the chest and upon the back between the shoulders. It penetrates internally, checks the cold shiverings, relieves the over-gorged lungs, gradually removes the oppression from the chest, and restores the obstructed respiration, hitherto so distressingly disagreeable and highly dangerous. In treating this class of diseases, Holloway's Pills should always be taken while using his Ointment; they purify the blood, promote perspiration, and allay dangerous irritations.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1891.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

THE monthly meeting of the Birmingham Anglers' Benevolent Society was held on Friday evening last, Nov. 27, at the headquarters of the association. Mr. T. Coles presided, and Mr. C. White occupied the vice-chair. The attendance of the committee was not up to the average, which was commented upon by the chairman. Mr. White stated that he had succeeded in coming to terms with Mr. Hall, and that that gentleman was willing to grant the free use of the Museum Music Hall band and company, to be used for the purpose of a concert on behalf of the society, for the small sum of two guineas. The secretary was requested to write to Mr. Hall, thanking him for his generous offer. The date of the concert was fixed for the third Thursday in February. This will allow the people to get over the holidays. Popular prices will be charged for admission, and as the hall will accommodate near eighteen hundred people, the committee look forward to a golden harvest, and nothing will be left undone in order to make the concert a gigantic success.

A SPECIAL committee meeting of the Birmingham St. George's Society was held at their club-house on Nov. 26, when some very important business was transacted. The first item on the agenda was to fix a date for the general meeting, when Monday evening, Dec. 7, was decided upon, when the election of officers will take place, and also certain recommendations made by the committee will be brought forward, the chief items being that a certain portion of the river Auker, which is rented by the club, be re-stocked. Another important matter will be the proposed increase in the fortnightly subscriptions, in order to establish a fund for the preservation of specimen fish. The committee were unanimous upon both these important matters, and will use their best endeavours to get the two motions carried, which will make the club rank as one of the foremost in the city. A further recommendation from the committee was to the effect that a contest take place during the Christmas holidays (Dec. 28) in the upper water of the Auker, at Amington, the other arrangements to be left over until the general meeting, on Monday evening next.

MR. T. ROBINSON, the proprietor of the Fox and Dogs Inn, Princess-street, called upon me, on Thursday last, to explain his position with the Belmont Club, which has lately removed from his house through a misunderstanding between him and certain officers of the society. He informs me that the club left his house without taking the books, and had they have asked for them he would have given them up at the time. The deputation appointed by the society to wait upon Mr. Robinson have received the books and the other properties of the club, and everything is amicably settled, to the satisfaction of all concerned.

A GENERAL meeting of the Birmingham Angling Association will be held at the headquarters on Thursday evening next, Dec. 10, for the election of the working committee for the ensuing year. The minutes of the committee meetings held during the quarter will also be read for confirmation, together with the last quarter's balance-sheet. The chair will be taken at 8.15 prompt, when the executive hope to see the whole of the delegates in their places, as there will be a great amount of business to be got through.

I BEG to inform the secretaries of the Birmingham Angling Association that the half-yearly subscription will become due on Saturday, Dec. 12 next, when the general secretary will attend at the Birmingham Arms Hotel, Smithfield, between the hours of 7.30 and ten o'clock, for the purpose of receiving the same. Any club failing to forward their subscription on or before the date mentioned, will be fined two shillings and sixpence. Secretaries who live at a distance will oblige by sending postal orders, upon receipt of which an acknowledgment will be forwarded.

MR. THOMAS COLES, the president of the Provincial and Birmingham Associations, desires me to inform the members that he has removed from Vaughton-street South, to 86, Belgrave-street, Balsall Heath, where in future all communications are to be addressed.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

THE General Council of the Northern Anglers' Association held a meeting at the Grand Hotel, Aytoun-street, Manchester, on Nov. 28. The principal business before the council was the memorial to the various railway companies on the question of greater facilities for travelling, which now lies ready for presentation. This duty has been entrusted to the principal officers, viz., Mr. Pritt (president) Rev. C. P. Roberts (vice-president), and Messrs. Addyman, Burn, and Paley, the joint hon. secs., who well have added to their number Mr. T. W. Redford, of Bolton. The result of this united effort of the anglers in the North of England cannot with any certainty be foreshadowed, but in the interests of those on whose behalf such strenuous exertions have been made, we cordially wish success to the undertaking.

AN attempt to draw the "red herring" across the question now before the members of the Manchester District should end in a failure to the instigators. The simple question is, whether to continue membership of the amalgamation or not. If the members think their interests are served, and they are getting value for their money, by all means let them remain where they are now; if not, then follow Bolton's example.

A SHORT time since, a 26lb. pike was reported as taken in Poynton Pool. All particulars as to capture and captor were missing. Now, the said fish is reported as on view at Stockport. Can any reader of these Notes give reliable information as to captor, method of capture, and when captured?

CANAL fishing is certainly not of an attractive kind, and, with the exception of a few places, no sport worth mentioning has been obtained for some little time; even bait-fishing is disappointing.

REFERRING to the various streams in Cheshire, locally popular, we would remind anglers that streams like these, which daily receive more or less attention, are not to be expected as providing really good sport whenever a demand is made upon their resources.

HEAVY fishing in the meres is again being left severely alone; only one decent fish is so far reported killed.

CLUB meetings in Manchester are numerous and lively. The Wellington, Merry Anglers, and Openshaw are three very strong clubs in numbers, and their double-voting power at the adjourned meeting on the 17th inst. may largely influence the various decisions. It is to be hoped that the good order now so prominent at these meetings will continue to be present, and that the future meetings will be marked by active measures in favour of working men.

THE first of the series of smoking concerts was held at the Hop Pole Inn, Warrington, on Friday, November 27, as a means of uniting the anglers of the district in one body. Songs, comic sketches, violin solos, and selections of music were contributed by members and friends, and a very enjoyable evening was spent by the large audience present. A second concert will in all probability be held before Christmas, and steps will also be taken to induce many anglers in the district who are not members to become supporters of the parent association for the coming year. The splendid work being undertaken by the Central Council for the benefit of northern fishermen, ought to ensure the hearty co-operation of every angler in the northern counties. A present of a valuable timepiece and bronze figures was made to Mr. Peter Knight for his services as secretary since the formation of the centre.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

ANGLING pursuits in our district have of late suffered to some extent through the inclemency of the weather, combined with the fluctuating state of the Trent and its tributaries. On Tuesday the water was beginning to fine down nicely, and both pike and chub anglers were busying themselves with obtaining a supply of baits; but in the evening more rain fell, and when writing these Notes (on Wednesday night) the river was again rising rapidly. The weather, however, was beautifully fine, and during the day roach and dace fishermen were active, especially in the free waters of the Borough. What is better, roach were found to accept maggots and bread-paste freely. Several very good takes were made, the best being that obtained by Mr. George Hall. Last week I called attention to the splendid lot of chub killed by Mr. Walter Marshall, of West Bridgford, in the King's Mills Fishery, and on Thursday he again tried the same stretch of water with Mr. George Wood, of Nottingham. The two were armed with a plentiful supply of bullock's pith and brains, and the very first swim Mr. Marshall hooked and landed a very game fish of 3¼lb. This augured well; but singular to say, the two throughout the day only succeeded in getting another, which weighed something like 2¾lb. They had the privilege of a punt, and my experience of chub-fishing is that one can kill a greater quantity of fish without one. Chub, as is well known, are one of the shyest fish that swims, and the least vibration in a boat drives them away in an instant. At Wilford the veteran, Mr. John Boyd, of Nottingham, bagged several heavy fish (chub) at Wilford, on Saturday morning; and on the previous day a number of pike were taken with the live-bait in the grove above. Pike of small size were also taken in the Stoke and Shelford subscription waters. Roach and bream fishing does not seem to have engaged much attention at Weston, and of late very few subscribers have taken the trouble to patronise the Shardlow length. Here, however, one cannot have the water too low. Sundry lots of roach have come to hand from Barton and Trent Lock, and whilst the river continues discoloured, both these places ought to turn out fish. Lamprey catching is being actively carried on above Colwick Weir head, and I learn that during the last few weeks large quantities of these valuable fish have been consigned to Grimsby and Hull, there to be used for bait for taking cod, ling, &c.

I MUST, through the columns of the *F. G.*, publicly congratulate Mr. Harry Spray, the popular and hard-working hon. sec. of the Nottingham Wellington Angling Society, on the capture of an extraordinary pike. I am not permitted to divulge the scene of the capture beyond stating that the lake is situated on the confines of South Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire. Privilege permits are rarely issued, but a friend of Mr. Spray used sufficient influence to obtain one. The outing was celebrated on Thursday, Nov. 26, and, soon after getting to work, Mr. Spray's float disappeared with a perfect thud. Due time being given, he struck, and found himself fast in a big 'un. The party were in a boat, and the task of getting the fish near the side was no light one, and, to add to the difficulty, the lower part of the rod gave way. Skill, however, gradually prevailed, and finally the fish was hauled into the boat by the aid of the gaff. In the evening it was weighed at the Wellington Society's rooms, and was found to exceed 18lb. It was, I learn, 39in. in length, and measured 19in. round the girth. "Our Harry" was warmly congratulated on his success, and the fish is pretty certain to secure the leading prize of its class, in the society. Others were caught during the day, but none ran into the teens. The next day another gentleman killed one, 8¼lb.

WHILST pike fishing with a neighbour (Mr. J. Taylor), the other day, I enjoyed a very novel experience with a small fish. We were trying a narrow backwater with live-bait, and during the afternoon a fish suddenly began to chase the fry above us. I threw my bait over it, but to no purpose. Presently I noticed a tail flopping upright in the water near the side. I approached it quietly, and then discovered a pike endeavouring to gorge a small fish on the bottom amongst some weeds. Waiting until the fish had been gorged, and standing perfectly still I dropped my bait behind the pike, and in a second it turned round and "set" it with a glaring pair of eyes. Then darting at it the fish seized the head and shoulders and remained motionless. Finally, I stamped my foot on the bank, and in an instant it disgorged the bait and dashed away. I was using the Jardine snap tackle and plainly saw the first set of hooks had disappeared with the head and shoulders of my bait.

I LEARN from a report published by the secretary of the Nottinghamshire Piscatorial Society, which is held at the Alexandra Inn, Carrington-street, Nottingham, that of late the members have been weighing in pike from 10lb. downwards. Unfortunately for the travelling members of this society they have not the winter privilege tickets. I am responsible for the issue of these tickets; and some time before the summer clubs expired I notified the various secretaries by post-card as to their requirements for the winter, or present travelling term. The secretary of the Piscatorials was amongst the number, but from some cause or other I failed to receive his order until it was too late to comply with it. A limit line must be drawn; and if the members think that I have been hard upon them, they will now know where the blame lies. The railway companies are not likely to entertain single fishing club applications every day. They have something better to do. We, as anglers, must feel deeply grateful to both Midland and Great Northern for what they concede already.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

DECEMBER opened with milder weather, and there has been an absence of the keen frosts which characterised the close of dull November. That Shrewsbury anglers are fine-weather fishermen, there seems to be little doubt, for very few are to be seen on the river banks.

A REWARD! consisting of the thanks of Shropshire anglers and readers of the *Fishing Gazette* will be given to any person or persons who can give any information as to the whereabouts of the mysterious body, y-cleped "The Shropshire Severn Angling Association, a society which was formed with every promise of success to promote trout and grayling fishing in the Severn within the limits of the County of Salop. Ushered into the world with a flourish of trumpets, and an abundance of press notices, with a number of influential county gentlemen at its head, it was thought that the new body would become a power for good to anglers; but alas! the whole thing seems to have died and been forgotten, without even having had a decent burial. At least that is the conclusion that Shropshire anglers have arrived at. The last they heard of the new society was that the executive was busily engaged in obtaining the consent of the riparian owners to the preservation of the river, and the protection of their angling rights. In the hands of a body which had the welfare of the angling public at heart, and not the hidden motive of seizing and defending the rights of riparian owners to the detriment of anglers, such power could have been used for the common good, and the fishing of the river greatly benefitted thereby, but, unfortunately the new body seems to have departed this life without a kick or a struggle; without an eddy to mark the spot where it disappeared, for not a word has been heard for months of its existence. However, as far as the anglers of Shrewsbury and Ironbridge are concerned, the need of a body like this will not be felt while they have such institutions as their respective angling societies to guard their interests.

IT is proposed that a joint conference of the members of the Severn Board of Conservators who represent the upper waters, and those who guard the interests of the fishermen around Gloucester and below for the purpose of discussing the question of the decrease of salmon, and if possible to come to some amicable arrangement, which while enabling the upper water anglers and fishermen to obtain their fair share of fish will at the same time act beneficially to the whole of the river, by allowing the fish greater facilities for spawning in the more favourable reaches in the Upper Severn and its tributaries, and giving them and the fry a better protection than heretofore. It is obvious that the more fish reach the splendid spawning grounds of the upper reaches, the better it will be for all interests. It is to be regretted that the lower water representatives could not agree to extend the close-time for salmon fishing, as this would have given the mature fish a far better opportunity to reach the upper waters, and by the increased number of fry, they would in a few years reap an abundant reward. Their present policy of taking "all fish that come to the net," cannot but act disastrously to the whole of the river. The members of the Montgomeryshire and Shropshire County Councils, as well as those members of the Board who represent the Upper Severn, are in one accord as to the necessity for taking immediate steps to remedy the evil, and there is no doubt they will leave no stone unturned to secure for those whom they represent a fair proportion of the fish that they now practically breed for the benefit of the netters below. Not a few of those interested simply desire rod and line salmon fishing in the upper reaches, and it is by no means the desire as has been suggested, that the riparian owners desire to make a clean sweep with their nets as soon as the fish are allowed to make their appearance up-stream. In fact this, from the peculiarly broken nature of the river-bed, and the many natural obstructions that exist in the upper waters—difficulties which do not beset the fishermen of the estuary—would be an impossibility. The salmon fishing by nets in the upper reaches could scarcely be made a profitable pursuit, were the fish ever so abundant, and at the present time there are not half-a-dozen fishermen who obtain their livelihood by this means above Shrewsbury.

CLUB FIXTURES.

Dec. 7.—Paper by G. E. Simms, at Epsom, Wellington, High-street, Epsom. Subject: "Coarse Fish Hatching." Chairman, E. S. Shrubsole.—Central Association visit to Barbican, White Bear, St. John-street, Smithfield.

Dec. 8.—Anglers' Association Southern District visit to Blackfriars, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—Half-yearly distribution of prizes at the Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.

Dec. 10.—Lecture upon "Two Yorkshire Rivers," by F. M. Walbran, illustrated with one hundred dissolving views. Distribution of prizes in connection with the Anglers' Benevolent Competition at Rye House same evening, at the Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell. Chairman, R. B. Marston, Esq.—Paper at Liverpool Angling Association, Bee Hotel, Queen's-square, Liverpool.

Dec. 15.—Paper at North London, Tap House, Holloway, by G. E. Simms. Chairman, F. Thorling.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for Chelsea.	Add	55 min. for Kew.
	40 " " Putney.		75 " " Richmond.
	45 " " Hammersmith.		80 " " Twickenham.
	50 " " Barnes.		85 " " Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

	Morning.	Evening.
Saturday, Dec. 5	4. 2	4.23
Sunday, " 6	4.43	5. 5
Monday, " 7	5.29	5.55
Tuesday, " 8	6.24	6.56
Wednesday " 9	7.27	8. 2
Thursday, " 10	8.36	9.15
Friday, " 11	9.50	10.23

English and Welsh Reports.

Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—When I was over at Hampton Court and Kingston on Monday last I found the water in capital condition for angling, and during the progress of my visit I heard nothing but exclamations about the good sport of the bank anglers amongst the roach. On arriving at Hampton Court Station, one of the Conservancy river-keepers came out of the same train, and he was full of the sport the bank anglers had been getting. He said he had seen a youth at Thames Ditton, the previous day, with a barbel of about 5lb., and a splendid roach of 2lb. I was also told by another person who had been watching the bank anglers on the Sunbury side of Hampton, and had seen the bank anglers getting such fine roach, they had their nets constantly in the water to land them. In other places it is reported this class of anglers have been doing some good business, and, as I expect most of them are members of angling clubs, there will be some good news from the club-rooms, and I hope the claims of the Thames Angling Preservation Society will not be forgotten. I have received a long and interesting letter from our good friend, Mr. James Howard, of the Sundial Angling Society, on the subject of supporting Thames Preservation, and one of his suggestions is that of placing collecting-boxes at some of the river-side hostelries, and this I have for some time been able to carry out. I may as well mention there are collecting-boxes at the Castle Hotel, East Moulsey, for the Hampton Court anglers, the Cricketers Hotel, Chertsey Bridge, the Park House Hotel, Staines, and the Swan Hotel, Egham, Hythe, and I hope anglers after a good take will give one of the houses a call, to drop in a trifle towards Thames Preservation. There are so few river-side houses who support the T.A.P.S., and I would urge upon Thames anglers to support only those who take an interest in the river. There are the Ship Hotel, Halliford, and the Mitre at Hampton Court on the list of our oldest supporters, and I have no doubt when I ask them they will receive a collecting-box. Mr. Harwood is sanguine of his original idea of putting a tax on the takes, which his club has adopted, but that is a matter, not for my dictation, but for the clubs themselves to determine. Anything they may desire to increase our funds will be accepted.—B.

RICHMOND.—Henry Mansell, in four days, 45lb. of roach and dace, and eight bream; Job Brain, during the week, 60lb. of roach and dace; H. Wheeler, in four days, 40lb. of roach and dace; and Christopher Brown, in one day, 17lb.

TWICKENHAM.—Samuel Cole, in three days, 21lb. of roach and dace and two bream; Pert Hammerton, in three days, 8lb. of roach and dace and four bream; C. Brown, in three days, 30lb. of roach and dace and five bream; J. Coxen, in two and a-half days, 27lb. of roach and dace; Richard Coxen, in the same time, 30lb. of roach and dace; George Coxen, in three days, 28lb. of roach and dace; J. Dunn, in two and a-half hours, 8lb. of roach and dace and two bream; John Frost, in three days, 35lb. of roach and dace and two bream; John Spong, in three days, 40lb. of roach and dace, and another day with Mr. Westley and Mr. Hold, members of the Larkhall Angling Society, 30lb. of roach and dace and a carp of 3lb. 6oz. In one of Coxen's punts eighteen of the roach weighed 18lb. Richard Moffatt, in two days, 14lb. of roach and dace and three bream.

TEDDINGTON.—Joseph Baldwin in the day one brace of jack.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, in four days, nine dozen of roach and dace, and twelve bream, most of the latter being 4lb. and 5lb. each, the largest weighed 5¼lb. J. Knight, during the week, thirty dozen of roach and dace. The bank anglers have been doing well with roach, dace, and bream.

THAMES DITTON.—One of the bank anglers in the day caught four barbel.

HAMPTON COURT.—William Melbourne, writes: "The bank anglers have been getting the best of it amongst the roach; the punts have been catching three and four dozen a day. I saw on the 29th ult. some roach caught from the banks facing the waterworks, weighing over 1lb. each. There has been some fine perch taken at Long Ditton, one man got over thirty, some weighing 1¼lb. each. John Poulter one day took over forty, all sizeable fish. We want two or three fine days as the stream at present is very heavy." James Hedger, one day, seven dozen of roach and dace, with Mr. Butterworth; and the same quantity another day with Mr. Horton.

SUNBURY.—Edward Clarke, in one day, five dozen of roach and dace, and three brace of perch. One of the bank anglers got eighteen fine roach.

SHEPPERTON.—George Rosewell, one day with Mr. Porter, three jack, the largest 5lb.; and another day with Mr. W. Yarborough, a fine jack of 11lb.

STAINES.—John Keene, jun., has been out six days and done well with the roach and chub; one of the days with Mr. Wilson, 40lb. of roach, the largest 1½lb., and several of the others weighed over 1lb.; two other days with Mr. Newbury, of the New Albion Piscatorials, 60lb. of roach and chub; and another day with Mr. Moins, 25lb. of roach and chub, many of the roach weighed over 1lb.

Upper Thames.—Very heavy rain fell on Tuesday night, and again on Wednesday. This downpour has had the unfortunate effect of again popping up the Thames to flood height. The ground in the Thames Valley is so thoroughly saturated, that the slightest downpour has an immediate effect upon the river. The present influx of water may be gleaned from the fact that on Wednesday in twelve hours the gauges at the various locks registered a rise of nine inches. The river at the end of last and the commencement of the present week was in fair winter angling trim and fish on the feed, but now the water is getting over the banks, and for days or weeks all will again be chaos; and my advice to anglers Thamesward-inclined is to stay at home, and as Old Izaak has it, "mend their tackling." At Marlow, Mr. R. Shaw has lately been very busy amid the jack but babies only were in the ascendant, the paters and maters declining to be beguiled. In the Medmenham Waters, Bob Young has recently piloted Mr. A. Barnett, and Mr. Lee, amid jack and perch; but even in these excellent domains the infants had it. Thursday Night.—Raining fast as I write, and from barometrical readings likely to keep on-long to rain over us. Thames out of all comfortable and successful angling order.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Windsor).—As I look from my window on to the river what a change from yesterday, when it was perfect for jack, but is now like soup. The earth being so saturated with water can hold no more, and like a Scotch river, receives the water directly after rain. Anglers for barbel are perhaps in the best spirits over this sudden change, as this fish, whilst thick water and mild weather continues, will be caught under the banks in eddies and lay-bys near a good stream. I omitted, in a previous report, just before water cleared, to mention thirty-nine barbel, which were caught by Messrs. Stewart and Cowling, of Windsor, and eleven by Mr. W. E. Major, of Windsor, the largest, by the latter angler, going 4½lb. Roach are now in fine condition and inclined to feed, at least were before this very thick water, Mr. Snow, of Windsor, in two hours and a quarter, having a fine dish, comprising forty fish from the neighbourhood of Surly Hall. Jack, too, are looking well, and I can hear of none diseased, as was the case last winter. Mr. H. Manning, the well-known local pikeist, started his winter campaign on the 25th ult., and in three days had seven fish, going 23lb., four 18lb., and four 14lb., having to return only one undersized. What may almost be termed as an angling *feat* was performed on the 27th ult. by Mr. Elliott, of Eton, who hooked, on roach tackle, and landed a fine-conditioned jack of 5½lb.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—Waters greatly discoloured by recent rains, and nothing doing.—THOMAS FORD.

Brighton.—(SEA FISHING).—A few nice-sized cod fish were taken early in the week on herring bait. The sea is rough again to-day (3rd) and half a gale blowing from the south-west. A porbeagle shark, about seven feet in length, was caught off Brighton in a herring net on Tuesday last.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—With the wretched weather we have experienced during the week the angling record is but meagre. The thermometer has rarely been up to 50degs., and cold damp fogs have prevailed. The closing competition at Pulborough was brought off on the 29th; over one hundred and thirty members competed in a roving contest, and all the prizes were taken, but the weather must be accountable for the light baskets. A few enthusiasts have tried the Rother, and secured a good few roach, both in the Selham and Fittleworth portions of the river. Bream and roach have been taken from the Arun. But few anglers have tried the Adur or Ouse, but on the 29th ult. several good roach were taken above Barcombe. Fish are feeding badly at Chichester, and the recent rain storms have clouded rivers considerably, and the water is again rising.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—The rivers are in good order for spawning purposes, and there is no doubt that most of the fish up have already done their duty. The trout (particularly in the streams on the south of the island) are usually somewhat earlier, but as there have been no heavy floods, and always a fair amount of water, future seasons should benefit. A consignment of poachers who are anxious to enjoy cheap lodgings and the *warmest* of welcomes would be thankfully received, as nearly all ours are used up and their working capital confiscated. Poachers please copy. Sea Fishing.—The weather is rather unsettled and but little can be done. However, the tides are good, and bait plentiful.—STORMY PETREL.

Dove and Tributaries.—Weather still wet every other day about. Mr. Holmes got a few fish with a hackle made of Little Pale Blue tied with a quill body. We hear of good sport amongst the bottom fishers down stream. We also hear rumours of another club being formed to fish the side of the river between Rocester and Uttoxeter not owned by the Uttoxeter water, of which more later.—D. and W. H. FOSTER, Ashbourne.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire).—During the past week the waters in the Fen district have been in splendid condition, and anglers have had the chance of doing well. Unfortunately the number of visitors, and even anglers generally, are only limited, and doubtless that is one reason why roach and perch are the more easily caught. Time, however, is also limited, and the days are but small ones. Pike fishing is the great attraction, and those trying livebait do well. But artificial baits are not to be despised. Among the captures mentioned was a pike, among others, from the Fortyfoot, scaling 10lb., caught by Mr. Green, and on the same water, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Dexter, and Mr. Smith have done well. On Aslackby Fen, Mr. Meach and a friend have been pretty lucky. One afternoon they caught four pike and also a perch of 1¼lb. among other fish. The pike and perch were taken with artificial spinning tackle. Prospects are capital owing to the frost, which at one time threatened to seal up the drains, but it has all gone now.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—Anglers are scarce, the majority of visitors being detained at home by press of business for Christmas. The water has during the last few days run into fine condition, and those gentlemen who did try their luck had no cause to grumble. The frost should have improved the pike fishing of the lower waters as well as the grayling higher up. The present is perhaps the best for catching grayling, and it is rather unfortunate they are so scarce in the water where the general public may fish. Each flood brings some down, however, and these often fall to those who try at this season with the small worm for roach or chub.—L.

Lea.—The recent rains which have occurred principally during the hours of darkness have of course brought down a push of water, but nothing to seriously interfere with angling interests; for a couple of days will most certainly find the river in fishable order, that is of course if we do not have any more serious downpours. There is nothing special to record in the shape of heavy takes this week, although fair sport has been the rule by those fishermen who have braved the elements. November went out in a fog on Monday night, and it is devoutly to be hoped that we have seen about the last of this detestable weather; for of all sorts and conditions of afflictions that beset the path of the patient angler, there is nothing more to be dreaded than a dense fog, which so suddenly comes on, on the low lying grounds of the Lea valley; true it is, that it is not the blackness that pervades that which envelopes the city and suburbs, but it is by no means pleasant to find oneself lost in a white fog in the marshes; a circumstance which has happened to me this season already. The Hounsfield Otters had a crowded smoker on the 2nd inst., the same being their annual one for the benefit of the funds of the Anglers' Benevolent Society; Mr. Ghurney stated that the A. B. S. were in such a prosperous state as to have a sum of no less than £335 on the credit side. Numerous clubs were represented, amongst them being the Eagle, whose vice-president, Mr. Haslewood, was well to the fore; Mr. Harrington, the treasurer, and genial host of the Edmonton and Tottenham Angling Society's house of meeting, the Bell at Edmonton; Mr. Hasler, the chairman of the above, and a host of other well-known anglers and club representatives. I cannot give a list as the roll was not called.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—At the time of writing (late on Thursday) floods are again out in this locality, and the waters are rushing down in immense volume. Evidently there is not chance for successful angling. For some days it has only been in the sheltered spots that any fishing has been done. The continuous demand keeps the bait fishers out daily despite the miserably bad weather, and some few have managed to take fair average baskets of fish. Mr. Hobbs was again conspicuous with a decent basket of roach, and Messrs. Castle and Prime have also shown good lots of this specie. Mr. Rylott succeeded in getting a few chub from the Aylestone Brook, best fish, 2½lb., and Mr. W. South also landed a brace. The resorts in the surrounding district have met with but scant attention, the waters everywhere being in a constant state of flood.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—At the end of last week these rivers were getting into good order for grasshopper and bottom fishing, with which baits some fair baskets of fine fish were made—saw several grayling 1½lb. each, and the average size was large. On Tuesday rain again set in, rising the waters about nine inches, which, in the soddened state of the ground, that causes all falling rain to find its way into the watercourses, will take till the beginning of the coming week to lower sufficiently for bottom fishing. Fly-fishing may be said to have ended for this season. Weather this (Thursday) evening: wind strong S.W.; squally; rain at intervals.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—The river is again in good fishing condition, and anglers have been having some good catches of roach with the worm. An angler took a jack of 3lb., and run a large one, but lost it through fouling a bush. Prospects are good for all-round fishing under present state of weather.—WM. SHRUBSOLE.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—All our rivers are now in a good state for pike, the floods have cleared away the weeds and fish are very well on the feed. Good pike can now be taken along the Brandon River, also the Lark, from Mildenhall to Prickwillow. The Yare is now in capital order, some good fish were taken at Buckenham and Cantley on Tuesday last. I hope some of our London anglers will have a turn in the Waveney, at Eccles, shoals of big perch there and plenty of good pike. I took a nice lot of dace at Westrom, on Thursday, on the river Lark. Roach are feeding fairly well. I took a basket of 13lb. this day from Barton Mills. Weather mild, and wind south-west.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Ouse, Derwent, &c. (York). — The more settled weather continues, and the rivers in this part of Yorkshire are showing fair trim for the time of year. Some good kills of coarse fish continue to be made in the Ouse, particularly of roach. On the lower lengths of the river between Naburn Lock and Fulford, on Monday, I managed to basket a fine sample of these fish in about two hours, with small red worm and maggot, and using very fine tackle. The Derwent fished well up to Saturday, when a heavy shower of rain altered matters a bit. Several journeys have been made to the Derwent and Rye districts with fair results. A few good grayling and jack pike have been taken in the Malton district.—RONALD.

Plymouth.—SEA FISHING.—The weather has been very changeable, but still we have had some good takes of various fish. I don't know that I remember such fine cod being taken. I suppose they come closer inshore, after the shoals of herring and pilchards that abound on our coast at this time of the year. The pollack fishing has dropped because they are out of season at this time of the year, and our fishermen, both amateur and professional, are getting alive to the fact that fish out of season is very tasteless stuff. The "store pots" for lobsters and crabs, are pretty full, and still we are taking large numbers in the trawls daily. I saw some nice crabs last week in a shop in our principal thoroughfare, marked eight-pence each. The rod fishermen off the piers and jetties, are still catching bass and mullet, and they are taken at night principally. Smelt are taken in the same way at the Commercial Wharfe and at the exit of the Waste Teat, where also some very fine fresh-water eels can be had with bottom lines, baited with large lob-worms.—WILLIAM HEARDER.

Scarborough.—Good catches of billet are being made by pier anglers, and parr (young billet) abound, and afford good sport to those who care to fish for them. They are just now taking the small white fly very freely. Small cod are plentiful in the bay, and are generally taken on mussel bait. Intending sea anglers on a temporary visit to Scarborough would do well to give Messrs. Jones, fishing tackle makers, Eastboro', a call. They keep a large stock of sea tackle, and Mr. William Jones is a thoroughly practical sea angler, and always ready to give a novice the best advice in his power.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—The damp and dreary weather that we have experienced during the last week has deterred anglers from seeking the river-side; but those who have braved the elements have been fairly well rewarded. Mr. Edwards, of Pride-hill, has recently had some successful pike fishing, the best of his captures weighing 14lb. This fish, together with a few smaller ones, was taken in the Tern. A Midland workman has had some excellent takes of roach, while fishing with paste at Underdale. The secret of his success has been the use of fine horse-hair tackle and good judgment in the choice of swims.—PISCATOR.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this part is now running coloured, and has rose considerably since last week. The

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weather has been changeable, and heavy rain fell on Tuesday. Before Tuesday, the water was in good order, and the fish moving well at the fly and taking grasshopper and maggot well. The flies used were the Green Insect, Willow, Red Tag, and Silver Twisted Blue. The water above the Castle was fished on Saturday, and some fine perch were landed with the maggot. On Monday, Mr. Pratt tried the water at Burway, and with the grasshopper and maggot landed thirty-four good perch and grayling. Mr. J. Pugh caught some good grayling with the maggot. The Ony, Corve, Clun, and Ledwyche are all stained since the rain at the beginning of the week; fishing in them quiet. In the Corve some good grayling were landed on Monday with the grasshopper.—S. LUDLOW.

Trent (Newark).—The Trent rose rapidly yesterday, and is now on the verge of overflowing its banks, and again rendering a cessation of angling compulsory. Roach and dace have succumbed to worms and gentles, and on Wednesday morning, Mr. W. Mountney secured over forty of the latter; but the rapid flush proved a spoil-sport for the fish ceased to feed. A good bag of roach came from the top length of Mr. David Slater's, Rolleston water, on Monday, and one of the Nottingham subscribers is credited with a brace of excellent pike from the same length; but the fluctuating waters have given this latter class of anglers but few opportunities so far as the season has progressed.—TRENTSIDER.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—Very few people are now going into the Witham district, and particularly to the waters below Lincoln; but any one desiring good sport with the Witham pike should not let the present opportunities pass. The weather has now turned mild after the unsettlement, but the few nights frost have had the effect it is said of setting the heavier fish on the move. Big pike 16lb. and upwarps say, are now getting very scarce in the Witham, though they may be occasionally met with. I understand, however, that there are fish of fine quality in some preserved water not far from Boston, and reachable through tickets, which I think are moderate in price. —LUCI.

Yare (Norwich).—I suppose my two last reports have been late, but each contained items of interest relating to jack fishing. Since last week several parties have been out, and some more good fish have been captured. I had the pleasure of seeing some of 9lb., 10½lb., and 12½lb. I heard of a good catch one day of five jack, 11lb., 8lb., 8lb., 7½lb., and 6lb.; and also another catch, number not stated, but largest fish about 14lb. The foregoing will show that sport still continues good, and pike seem very plentiful on most of our waters, though not always to be caught. Advantage should now be taken of the open weather, as it is quite possible we may have a repetition of last winter's severe and continued frost. To-day (Thursday) it is quite warm; wind, south, fine. A few frosts would do good in killing the weeds.—ROBERT MOLL.

Yore, Wharfe, Nidd, and Swale.—The weather and water was perfect for grayling fishing during the early portion of the past week, and the hopes of anglers were in the ascendant. On Friday and Saturday, November 27 and 28, fishing a preserved length on the Wharfe, I killed thirty-eight grayling, weighing altogether 31¼lb. On Saturday a well-known Yorkshire angler had six fish about ¾lb. each, and another, fishing the Ripon Club Water, had fifteen, weighing 5lb. All these were taken by swimming the worm. The weather has again broken and prospects look very poor for the next week.—FRANCIS M. WALBRAN.

Tenby (South Wales).—Some good takes of cod, conger, and sea bream have been made; but both takes and weather are variable.—H. S. HARLAND.

Scotch Reports.

Dee, (Aberdeenshire).—The spawning season is now well finished on the upper reaches, and a very good one it has been all through. The river is smaller in volume than is usually the case. There is a grand show of fish on the mid reaches, but the numbers of diseased fish are on the increase, while a very high percentage of dead fish are also being met with. The Durris Hatchery is giving ample satisfaction, 500,000 ova having now been deposited on the grills. A new hatchery is being spoken of lower down the river, and this in all probability will take shape before long. Admiral Fane will not now fish the Borrowstone Water, having recently received an appointment at Portsmouth, and leaves in January.—DEESIDER.

Deveron (Banffshire).—Some time must elapse before it can be ascertained how the spawning season will turn out on the river Deveron. Owing to the spates since the net and rod fishing ceased, it is impossible to estimate the number of fish on the some six hundred beds in the river. From reports, however, it is clear that there are more fish in the river than there were the previous year, which was considered a good one. In the upper part of the Cabrach spawning has been proceeding for some time, and is almost at a close. From Glass to the mouth of the river, it is only in its embryo stage. In the middle sections, a good commencement has been made, but on the lower sections, although there are plenty of gravid fish, it will be some time before spawning is general. Lately, frost has been pretty severe; but little harm is expected, and, with the fine weather at present experienced, and favourable size of the river, good prospects are looked forward to in the meantime. Disease has not been very prevalent on the whole course of the river. A few dead fish have been taken from the water and buried, but nothing to what have been taken by the bailies on former years. Mr. Bisset, lessee of the fishings, is preparing his hatchery on the banks of the river with the intention of carrying on the experiments in salmon culture, which he has been doing for the past four seasons. Some hundred thousand ova are secured every season, and when maturity is reached, they are put into the river, which, of course, cannot fail to have a beneficial effect on the supply of fish.—H. W.

South of Scotland.—URR.—Salmon angling in the South of Scotland closed on Monday, when the Urr (Kirkcudbrightshire), brought the season to a close. The Urr is a small and unimportant river, and affords little sport until November. It opens for angling far on in the season, and goes out along with the Tweed. During the past fortnight some good heavy salmon were landed with fly. The fish, however, are not such handsome looking salmon as some of the other Solway rivers. Last week the river was disturbed with a flood, otherwise the sport would have been better. Among a few of those who had catches were several Annan anglers, and mention may be made of Mr. Boyd, Annan, who landed one of 10lb; Mr. Swanson had one of similar weight; Mr. Coburn, Barnbarroch, one of 5½lb.; Mr. Sinclair, one of 21lb.; Mr. J. Ferguson, one of 16lb.; Sergeant Ferguson landed a good fish of 24lb.; Mr. James Johnstone, one of 20lb.; Sergeant Flynn, one of 20lb.; Mr. Thomas Johnstone, a capital salmon of 26lb., and another of 18lb.; two other gentlemen had fish of 20lb. and 17lb.; while one hooked seven or eight fish and lost everyone. On the closing day a good number of anglers were out, and a few salmon were killed in the different pools. The salmon disease is reported as having made its appearance in some of the district rivers.—HEATHERBELL.

Thurso (Halkirk).—An extremely favourable spawning season is now drawing to a close. There are still a few fish on the redds, but by the end of this week they will probably all have finished spawning. The ova is well deposited in the bed of the river, so that it is pretty safe from severe frost; and, seeing that the number of spawning fish this year is considerably above the average of the past ten years at least, the improvement ought to be very marked within a few years. Some of the earlier spawned fish have already gone down to the sea, and allowing them three months to make up their lost condition, they ought to be ascending the river again in Feb. and March in prime condition, and afford good sport to the early spring anglers. The fish on the upper reaches of the river above Lochmore have quite finished spawning operations, and have dropped back to the loch where they usually remain all winter, and do not migrate to the sea till April or May according to the state of the weather; if mild they go earlier, if cold and stormy they remain later. When they remain late they play havoc among their own offspring (the smolts), and devour great numbers of them. Haddock fishing has proved a failure on the Caithness coast. This is all the worse owing to the herring fishing having been a failure last year. It is to be hoped the winter herring and cod fishing will turn out better. A number of unusually large salmon for this river were seen on the redds lately.—ARCHIBALD HARPER.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—The Ballinderry and its tributaries are greatly swollen by the heavy rains, which have rendered the water so muddy as to effectually put a stop to all kinds of fishing for this week. However, no one regrets the losing of a brace of pike, or a few perch or bream, when these floods bring up runs of fresh salmon to the spawning beds above the villages of Coagh and Ardtrea. Axcept when the river is high, spawners cannot cross the "carries," which bar the course of the stream. No perch or bream are found above Coagh as the falls prevent them from ascending to the higher reaches. Both keepers and constabulary are watching the river closely against the designs of the poachers.—J. A. B.

Waterville (County Kerry).—A large number of the earlier salmon have spawned and are now returning to the lake. So far the spawning season has been satisfactory, if a little poaching be not taken into account. Sea angling has been very good during the week, and some phenomenal scores for this time of the year have been made at whiting. Gurnet and bream also have afforded much sport.—T. J. DENNEHY.

MATLOCK AND CROMFORD ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

THE above flourishing association held their annual dinner on Friday, Nov. 27, at the new Bath Hotel. The dinner was laid in the new ball-room, and was attended by some fifty or sixty members and friends of the association. An interesting feature in the programme of the evening was the introduction of a party of trained vocalists: Messrs. Melrose, Bambridge, Dodd, Lazenby, and B. Prince, who, with Mr. A. J. Stoneman, contributed an excellent and choice selection of glees, duets, and songs in a most artistic and enjoyable style. A most excellent dinner was provided by Mr. Tyack, and was thoroughly enjoyed. After the cloth was withdrawn, Mr. F. C. Arkwright took the chair, and proposed the usual loyal toasts, which were duly honoured. Mr. Eddowes, of the Trent Board of Conservators, then proposed the toast of "The Matlock and Cromford Angling Association," remarking that the association possessed within itself all the essentials of success, though he thought the chief drawback, perhaps, was the deficiency of feeding streams for spawning purposes. He believed that one of the chief objects of the association was the artificial breeding of fish to assist in stocking the river, and further to protect the fish from poachers, and thus to provide sport for the members of the club and their friends. He could see no reason why the Cromford and Matlock Water should not become one of the very best angling streams in the kingdom, and at the same time be a distinct benefit to the neighbourhood of Matlock.

Another useful object of the association was the weeding out of coarse fish, such as the pike, so destructive to small and also sizeable fish. The association should become one of the most successful institutions of its kind in the kingdom. (Applause.)

Mr. Hodson, of Derby, responded, saying that it was unfortunate the tributary streams for breeding purposes were few, and these more or less polluted, hence the importance of the operations of the association in providing at their model hatchery thousands of young fish to replenish the river, and provide good honest sport for the lovers of angling. During the last few years tens of thousands of young fish had been reared at their hatchery and turned into the Derwent, thus very appreciably improving the sport for their members and friends. The balance-sheet showed they were £1 2s. 11d. on the right side, and that they had a reserve fund of £28 12s.

Mr. T. Clark proposed the health of "The Trent Conservators," and Mr. Eddowes responded.

Mr. Hodson, at the invitation of the chairman, then rose and said that he had a most pleasing duty to perform in asking their secretary, Mr. Arthur Clark, to accept a testimonial, consisting of a chaste and valuable silver tankard, and a purse containing £50, as a recognition of his many acts of kindness towards the members of the association and their friends of the angling fraternity, as also of the assiduous and unselfish attention he had given to the duties of his secretaryship during the time he had been connected with the association. This testimonial had been subscribed by a few friends and admirers, and he was sure that all present would join with him in hearty good wishes to Mr. Clark, along with the presentation.

The President said he had very great pleasure in asking Mr. Clark to accept this testimonial to his sterling worth as hon. secretary of the association, and it was contributed by a few sincere friends in this locality and other parts of the country, who were most happy to testify to the excellent work Mr. Clark had accomplished for the association.

Mr. Arkwright having handed the testimonial to Mr. Clark, the latter, in feeling terms, returned his sincere acknowledgements to the contributors, and said that whatever he had done had been done without expectation of fee or reward, and in the interests of sport. He would highly value this substantial mark of their esteem, and referred to the pleasant manner in which he had at all times been treated by the members of the association. The tankard bore the following inscription: "Presented with a purse of gold to Arthur Clark in appreciation of his valuable services as secretary to the Matlock and Cromford Angling Association, by a few members and friends, 27th November, 1891."

The Rev. R. M. Jones then proposed the health of the president. In very feeling and impressive terms he spoke of the Arkwright family, and bore eloquent and well-merited testimony to the many sterling qualities of the president of the association.

Mr. Arkwright returned his sincere thanks for the generous and kindly way Mr. Jones had proposed the toast of his health, and said that he should be glad at all times to do all he could to improve the sport and to further the best interests of the Matlock and Cromford Angling Association.

FISHING MATCH ON THE ARUN.

LIST OF THE PRIZE WINNERS.

ON the 29th ult., Pulborough, Sussex, was again visited by a considerable number of London anglers, who assembled there for the purpose of taking part in Mr. A. A. Eldridge's competition. The contest, which was the last of a series of three, was originally fixed for Oct. 25, but on account of the heavy floods it had to be postponed until the day named Almost every day last week news was received in London as to the condition of the river Arun; and on Friday the report was to the effect that it was never looking better for winter angling. Between Friday night and Sunday morning, however, a remarkable change took place. Rain fell heavily during Saturday night, and another high tide prevailed. The result was that when the London fishermen made an inspection of the river on Sunday morning, instead of finding the clean, mignonette-looking water of Friday and its quiet eddies, they were treated to a stream running like a mill-race, whilst the water was the colour of mud, and from the first a poor day's sport was prognosticated.

The visitors arrived at Pulborough, by special train about 10 o'clock, and as soon as the tickets were stamped the competitors were started. They numbered about 130, but the rainy unsettled weather on Saturday deterred many from entering. The conditions of the match were that only one rod was to be used, and that all jack, eels, pope, bleak, dabs, and gudgeon would not be recognised at the scales. The weighing in commenced at the Swan Hotel, at four o'clock, but owing to the unfavourable conditions small baskets were the order of the day. Mr. Charles Watling officiated as clerk of the scales, assisted by Mr. Vaneghan (Funny Folks Club), Mr. Phillips, Mr. Taekley, and Mr. Reynolds. There were also present Mr. T. Crumplen (of the Piscatorial Society), Mr. E. L. Nutt, Mr. Hoyle (President of the North London Angling Society) and Mr. Arthur Matthews (assistant hon. sec. of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs.) In all thirty dishes of fish were weighed in, including a fine specimen of the Pomeranian bream or "bream-roach." It was noticed that the majority of the fish were alive when placed on the scales and inquiries elicited the fact that many of the anglers had only succeeded in scoring during the last hour, when the water commenced to go down and the tide to change. There were no specimen bream or roach caught. The largest bream was a fish of 1lb. 14oz., which secured the "special bream prize" (a fishing rod) for Mr. S. Cooper. Mr. Sam Hill (Funny Folks Club), would have carried off first honours with 4lb. of roach and bream, but he arrived too late to weigh in, after running all the way from Amberley, a distance of about five miles. The prizes, numbering twenty, ranged in value from £2 2s. to 3s. 6d. The largest catch was 3lb. 6¼oz.; the smallest 14½oz. The prize list is appended:—1, G. Watling, Funny Folks, 3lb. 6½oz.; 2, Bird, sen., Waggoners', 2lb. 11½oz.; 3, S. Cooper, Amicable Excelsior, 2lb. 5¾oz.; 4, Bryant, Wellington, 2lb. 3oz.; 5, H. Watling, Gt. Northern Bros., 1lb. 15¼oz.; 6, C. Russell, do., 1lb. 13oz.; 7, Whitehead, Amicable Waltonians, 1lb. 11½oz.; 8, Lamburth, do., 1lb. 11½oz.; 9, Humphreys, do., 1lb. 11½oz.; 10, Pattman, Bermondsey Bros., 1lb. 11¼oz.; 11, Irwin, Amicable Waltonians, 1lb. 10¼oz.; 12, Cartwright, Gt. Northern Bros., 1lb. 7½oz.; 13, W. Watling, do., 1lb. 7¼oz.; 14, W. Bird, jun., Waggoners, 1lb. 7oz.; 15, T. Moore, Lincoln, 1lb. 5½oz.; 16, Richardson, Dalston, 1lb. 4¼oz.; 17, Socks Bermondsey Bros., 1lb.; 18, Porter, Izaac Walton, 15oz.; 19, Vaneghan, Funny Folks, 14½oz.

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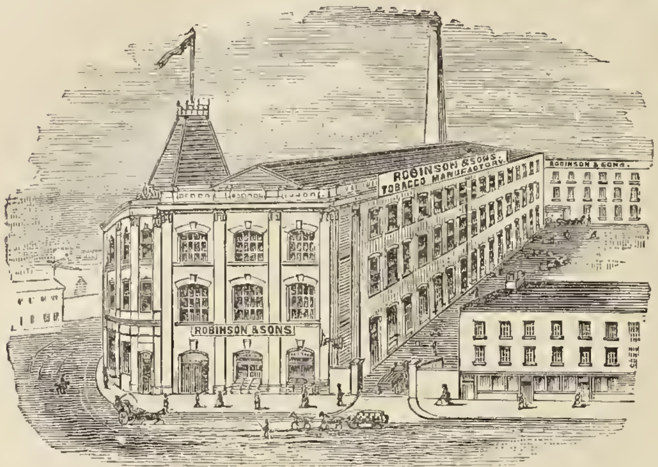

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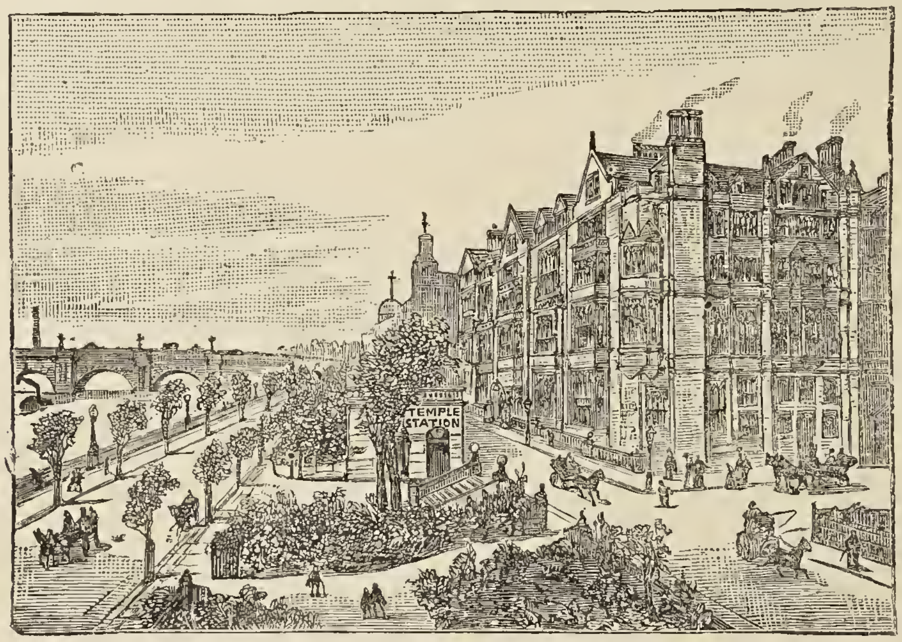

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— NOTICE. —

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Communications relating to the Literary Department Fishing Tackle for Notice, Books for Review, &c., must be addressed to R. B. Marston, the Editor of the Fishing Gazette, St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, E.C.

Correspondents are requested to write on one side of the paper only, and give their real names and addresses, not necessarily as signatures to their letters, but as a guarantee of good faith. Unless this rule be adhered to, no notice will be taken of such communications.

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— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12TH, 1891.

IN DAYS BYGONE.

By Mac.

That many a time fish give evidence of a taste which like the Heathen Chinee "is peculiar" there is no gainsaying; and that often for their preferences and dislikes no reason nothing more satisfactory than mere conjecture, can be assigned by us is equally indisputable. At least we imagine that most anglers who have for long gone after the *Salmonidæ*, must some time or other have had some experiences in this way which all their powers of reasoning were unable satisfactorily to account for. Everything decidedly outside the compass of the usual order of things is more or less remarkable. But what would strike the novice or the non-angling individual as something remarkable—nay, perhaps, wonderful—would be considered by the experienced as nothing at all unusual. We think nothing about a small salmon ignoring a small fly in spring, and taking a huge fly in preference; nor do we wonder why a large salmon lets a large fly pass him in summer, and comes with such keenness to "collar" a small fly. And why? Because it is the usual order of things. Then again it is not thought at all strange by those who have moved about a good deal that—in summer especially—larger flies are required to bring up the fish in many small streams than are needed in the case of some large rivers. Facts like these, all which would seem wonderful to the stranger to the rod, could be strung out at great length; but for our purpose the foregoing, merely given by way of illustration, are sufficient.

In the earlier part of spring, kelts in many rivers have a particular liking for very gaudy flies, usually of a large size. My most common experience has been that a real dandy, more yellow than anything else, is the deadliest. Generally, when sport with clean fish is not forthcoming and I want, for some amusement, to get on a kelt for a run I mount first of all a fly of this description. But as spring wears on, getting into April, when the kelts, still in the fresh water, are lying waiting for the first "rise," occasioned by fresh rain, to let them get away down to the sea, I seldom find it of much use to use such a fly in order to secure a run. Yet why it is so I cannot tell. I, however, venture to think it not improbable that it may arise from a taste developing in them to prey keenly upon natural food then becoming abundant. While they took the fly, there was as yet nothing else—or little, at least—to attract them; but now the minnow goes more abroad, the smolt having donned its silvery coat becomes more alluring, and the early flies come out in swarms on mild days. The clean fish still take the fly, but for the minnow and gudgeon they are far more keen. But the most singular thing of all is, that while both kelt and clean fish can readily be caught with these lures, clean fish, in the case of flies, will seldom take anything but the salmon size of fly for the time of the year, whereas kelts often very greedily "go" for the natural size imitations of the flies on the water. In my own experience, only one imitation of the natural fly do the clean fish look at—to wit, the March Brown, and even in its case the size has to be larger than that of the natural insect. Often on mild evenings in April and early in May, hours after all the flies had disappeared for the day, have I hooked in dead-calm pools kelt after kelt, fishing with artificial flies of even a smaller size than the natural ones for the season. Yet during this time of the year fishing such water—or any water—and with such flies, it has never but once been my luck to hook a clean fish. And this naturally leads me to ask—Have kelts a greater discrimination than clean fish in respect of fly food? So far as my own experience goes, it would look that they have—in spring, at all events—since they take the trout fly representing the natural insect, whereas the clean fish take much more readily a salmon fly representing nothing in insect life found on the water at the time.

When fish have been long in the fresh water (and especially about one place) and a great deal fished over, it is generally necessary, in order to secure sport, to keep, as time moves on, reducing the size of the fly. Yet this, like many others. is not a rule to which there are no exceptions. Now and again everyone of us must have had our preconceived notions of what was the correct thing upset in such a way as to cause us to wonder, and if of an inquiring turn of mind, to seek for a reason. Sometimes we find wonderful changes brought about in the course of a day or two, and this too in the absence of any appreciable alteration in the volume of water. Such changes, for example, as the fish turning from having anything to do with large flies, go in for nothing over half the same size, and *vice versa*. On large early rivers, about April, this caprice (or call it what we may) on the part of the fish, is most frequently and commonly observed, and is due I should imagine to a sudden change of temperature. But from the very fact of its being general in its scope nothing is thought about it by those anglers used to it. Far different, however, is it when we find a fish taking a lure which we know is nothing like the correct size for the time of the season—a lure for instance many times larger or many times smaller than those of the same nature, which is doing all the killing work along the same river. We then experience something to cause us surprise, and set us casting about in our mind for a reason. An example or two to show exactly what I mean I may here give.

Once for the better part of June and July, I fished a stretch of water, which (when in its normal volume) I did best on by using flies about inch-size. Different patterns, of course, I had, and used, according to my fancy, to suit the lighting conditions. As to size, however, a fly about an inch proved all round the best. Inch and a quarter I sometimes used in the evenings after eight o'clock, and it was while evening fishing that I first moved a fish, which, by his curious behaviour, led to the somewhat novel (to me) experience to be mentioned. I cannot remember the evening of the week that I had the first rise from this fish, but I recollect distinctly that five evenings in succession I rose him in identically the one spot. Every time he came at my fly with a boil, just as I was about to draw it out of the water from behind a big boulder, part of which only was covered. But once I got a rise from him during the day; his nightly movement was a dead certainty: still merely the one time would he come, no matter how long or with what variety of flies I tried him. The last evening of the performance I went down, and, as previously, got him, when the fly came to the right spot, to show that he was still there by making the well-known boil behind the boulder. The few more tries I made for him were useless; apparently he had sulked, and would not come again. I then sat down on the green grassy bank to smoke a pipe, gaze on the beauties of the evening sky, and the charming effect thrown on the landscape by the now low westering sun; drink in with my ears the music of the woods and the waters, and have the pleasure of receiving the very desirable attention of myriads of midges! Soon of the latter I had quite enough, and I started to my pins. I cannot tell what made me think of it—the absurdity of the thing was so apparent; but I put on a fly about three inches in length—a great, gaudy Brown Eagle—and stepped down the bank, and threw it over the part where my cunning fish I knew was lying. Like the angler who, when he couldn't get a fish, got mad, and pitched his fly-book and fly-filled cap into the river, I said, or perhaps I did not say, "Take that." I forget now; but certain, whether I said anything or nothing, when I got to the right spot, my erstwhile so 'cute fish came bouncing at the huge fly, and nicked it neatly.

Not so remarkable (in my estimation) as the foregoing, but, as illustrative of *Salmonidæ* caprice, still a bit out of the common order of experiences, are the particulars now to be given concerning the two following catches.

Fishing for a "mixed basket" on a grilse, sea trout, and trout stream which was in good order, I once killed two grilse and three sea trout in a forenoon with the very smallest of flies. Had the stream been low, which it was far from being, my getting of those five fish with such tiny fly would not have surprised me a bit. But as I had on three kinds of flies—all real nailers and the very best size each of them at the time for the three different kinds of fish—it was indeed surprising to me that not the fly intended for the grilse nor that intended for the sea trout did either of these fish take but the tiny fly—a black hackle with silver body, for which the yellow trout had a special liking. Another time (on a different river) I had an experience of something of a like nature, fishing with very wee flies, when I caught in succession within half-an-hour a sea trout and a couple of grilse—all fresh-run. But on this occasion the pattern of fly was different—pale wing and gold body. Lots of fish were in the water and rising according to angler's idea, in a taking manner. Yet for a couple of hours, though I fished with the right sizes of the approved local patterns, I could not move a fin. Neither was the water low nor the fish long up and potted, and this considered such a departure from the "use and wont" of the stream was rendered all the more remarkable.

Not often in streams which are running a good size—say their best fishing size for the migratory fishes—do grilse or sea trout, more particularly the former, deign when they are fresh-run to seize anything so insignificant as a small trout fly. But get the water low and clear, and the fish long up, brown, and stale, and then more likely with tiny fly than anything else will captures both of grilse and sea trout be effected. Accordingly, I ask, do the potted fish feed more on the natural food, insect food, found about the waters where they sojourn—strictly speaking, feed more like the yellow trout than do their fresh-run brethren? It seems to me that in this respect there is some parity between them and the kelts. The remarks made in this paper and in the two preceding ones, will, I venture to hope, lead to some interesting and useful discussion. The more freely opinions are exchanged, and the more closely matters looking puzzling or mysterious are inquired into, the more do we get—or ought to get—enlightened.

Notes

REQUISITIONS numerously signed by ratepayers in Earlston, and anglers in the neighbourhood, have been presented to several of the landed proprietors in the district, requesting them to put in fish passes at certain points in the Leader in accordance with the Tweed Act of 1860. Lady Reay, Carolside, has favourably considered the matter, and others, says the *Kelso Mail*, are taking it into consideration.

SOME parties are agitating for getting minnow, gudgeon, and other spinning, and bottom fishing for salmon made lawful on the Tweed in autumn.

FOR a good while now both Tay and Dee have been running rather on the high side, for the spawning of the fish being done in the safest redds.

ON tributaries and upland reaches of Scottish North East coast rivers, "black fishing" raids have been pretty frequent of late. The sturdy hielanmen with blackened faces go out in bands, and on these nights the one or two local bailiffs think it wise enough policy not to be too officious in the exercise of their duties. They know that come what will, the glen and hillmen *must* become possessed of the kipper necessary to tide over the long winter before them, and they have hair enough on their heads not to put themselves in the way of getting a "crackit croon."

WITH regard to the Spey Salmon Hatchery, at the Railway Bridge, near Garmouth, we have been informed that "The reports reaching the public of the small attempt at artificial salmon propagation were of quite an exaggerated nature. The hatchery was put together in the very crudest form, and was designed simply to experiment with, and see if it would be practicable and desirable to proceed in this direction, in order to increase the supply of fish in the Spey. The attempt last year—under the care of Mr. John Rae, of Tugnet—proved, however, a success, and he is of opinion that some fifty thousand young fish were added to the Spey stock from this source. This season the experiment is to be repeated in the same hatchery; but there is a proposal to have a far more elaborate establishment set up at Fochabers, where the process can be carried out with greater care, and with greater attention."

SOME heavy floods towards the end of last month swilled away out of sight and probably out of the river a great many of the North Esk diseased fish. Up to the middle of November five hundred diseased fish had been taken out of this river by the water-bailiffs. And *still* the whole of the spawning-beds are perfectly crowded with fish.

A LOCH TAY correspondent writes regarding the Loch Tay salmon, which we think may rightly be called "winter salmon": "My observations incline me to believe that the fish that come up into Loch Tay in January and February, go up the Dochart in May and June, spawn there late in November and during December, leave the Dochart with the floods early in the year, get to the sea in spring and the beginning of summer, and return to the river in November, December, and January, making their way back to Loch Tay. It takes the bulk of them nigh two months to get from the foot of the loch to the top."

FROM the Laxford and Loch Stack we hear that there is a better stock of spawning fish this year than there has been for several years back, which is no doubt due to the bagnet fishing of the Laxford estuary having been bought up by his Grace the Duke of Westminster and discontinued. "The season, too," our correspondent remarks, "has been very favourable, so far, the water being neither too high nor too low, hence the beds ought to return a good percentage. Salmon, grilse, sea trout, and yellow trout, are all but little more than about half-spawned out yet. The Badcall Hatchery has been stocked with imported ova."

MR. DONALD WATSON, tackle maker, 19, Inglis-street, Inverness, writes, saying: "I am pleased to say the fishing on the river Ness, during the past season, proved the best we have had for twenty years. Upwards of seven hundred and fifty salmon and grilse were taken from middle of July to close of season (October 15), all with the rod." This is very good when we consider that there is not more than one and a-half miles of fishing water.

THIS past autumn, the only important salmon rivers in Scotland that did not fish better than during their best autumn season of comparatively recent years were Spey and Findhorn. Alas for the poor Findhorn!—once so famous. It seems going to crockaneeshing.

THE Don spawn-beds, for over thirty miles, are packed with fish; the like has not been seen for full a dozen years past. To this the improved facilities for the fish getting up must have largely contributed.

WE are informed that some time ago, when the Tay was being netted for gravid fish to procure ova from for the Dupplin Hatchery, a clean-run fish of over 40lb. was brought ashore. Of course it was returned to the river, and by this time it may be in Loch Tay.

LOCH TAY, Loch Ness, and Loch Oich are the only lochs in Scotland for very heavy salmon early in spring. The latter, for its size, affords much the best angling, which now, through the death of Mr. Wilson, for many years lessee, has passed into the hands of Mr. John Balfour, of Balbirnie, Fife.

FOR the back-end season, the Duke of Roxburghe's Floors Castle Water of the Tweed, gave between seven hundred and eight hundred fish, and the Birgham Dub over three hundred. The Tweed fisheries, taking them all round, have not done so well for twenty years. The only beats that did not show up to the standard were Sprouston Dub and Ednam House. The season was notable as being one for scarcity of very big fish; 41lb. was the weight of the heaviest caught; 39½lb. of the second heaviest. It is believed that the river's total yield of salmon and grilse during the autumn exceeded three thousand. As a one day's score, the Duke of Roxburghe's seventeen fish stands unsurpassed. Two rods on the Floors Castle lower water—one fishing twenty days, the other fourteen and a-half days—accounted for one hundred and ninety-four fish, which is reported as the best that was done in such a short time.

Notes and Queries

THE EVOLUTION IN PRIZE OFFERING.—Probably before the end of the century the young club anglers who have become expert wielders of the fishing-rod might deem the sport its best reward. The "gentle art" is comparatively new to many Londoners proper; and we cannot expect that when young men subscribe to an angling club, and incur the extra expense of joining in distant fishing trips by railway, that these aspirants shall become so enthusiastic as those who as mere boys went down to the local stream with a lithe stick and a little bit of line as naturally as newly-hatched ducks take to water. Things must settle down in modern angling clubs, as in other forms of sport which have become popular. The time will be pretty sure to come when amateur fishermen will decline to contest for articles for the kitchen, or even for money prizes. When a few leaders "look up," so to speak, other clubmen will follow their example; and the outcome might be in the London as well as that leading Provincial Angling Clubs, that "Challenge Cups," emblematical of the art, might be paid for out of the common fund of each club, and be competed for as the majority in each case might determine. For London anglers, and those provincial angling clubs, the members of which fish the Thames, a gold cup for trout would naturally arise. The Lea and the Colne might be included; and the angler who was successful in winning the first "Challenge Cup" for the best trout taken in either river might indeed be proud of such a prize; then a cup might be given for pike, for perch, and barbel—in short, for each fresh-water specimen fish, because each club might fix the weights below which fish were not eligible for the challenge cups. The Midland and Northern city and large town angling clubs would of course offer the best cup of all for salmon; the next challenge cup for trout, and so on. Then if the condition precedent were made that the fish which won the respective challenge cups be "set up" at the club's expense, the club-rooms would in time become ornaments to the cities and towns. Something analogous to the scheme suggested would be the means of improving the *status* of each angling club; each member would also feel his *prestige* improved; and if any friends and sympathisers of anglers who, in addition to offers of valuable tackle as additional prizes, might even still further extend their generosity by adorning the annual dinner and supper tables with presents of "feather and fur," after the good custom which years back was common among noble lords and cheery squires at the annual dinners after the ploughing matches and such like events.—*W. F.*

GILLIES' "DRAMS."—It would be interesting at this juncture to know what is the death-rate of Scotch gillies, who act as boatmen, &c., to anglers, in view of the movement promoted by Mr. Auberon Herbert and his friends to induce the hotel-keepers at Loch Awe to commute the "dram-sum" into a money-payment of eightpence, one shilling per day being the usual charge for the whisky. M. Bertillon says that gamekeepers are the longest livers in France. Does the like rule apply to the angling gillies of Scotland? However this might be, a good many English anglers who annually repair to the rivers and lochs of Scotland—many for their holiday—might question whether some intermediate plan would not be more likely to promote Temperance than stopping Sandy's whisky while "afloat," with which to "toast" the first good fish, or to drink with his luncheon. English mowers in the hot weather in the hay-fields have been given a mixture of thin oatmeal, milk, sugar, and water, and this, taken to the field warm in biggish jars, is drunk by the men, and carefully wrapped up, so as to keep the mixture "mulled." The writer had himself found that very weak cold gin and water was a good drink in the hot days early in September. Tea, again, is exhilarating; but from whisky to cold tea is a "drop" which would be scarcely acceptable to the intelligent boatmen, while some fly-fishers were drinking whisky; because it can hardly be expected that all gentlemen fishing Loch Awe will themselves observe the rule laid down by Mr. Herbert, or any other person, however well-intentioned their motives might be. Besides, if the change were to be carried to its logical conclusion, steps might in time be taken to induce hotel-keepers to refuse to serve the gillies with the national spirit after the day's sport was over. Nothing short of chronic intemperance on the part of those most concerned would justify such an interference with the liberty of the subject; indeed, some gentlemen, observers of moderation themselves, might take this new departure as an indirect reflection on themselves; and when "toasting" a good capture, naturally desire that their intelligent pilot and friend for the nonce should share in the success. Sandy is the last man to be urged to be economical; and where he is also a moderate drinker, might deem the change an intrusion, while being perhaps indifferent to a certain extent, for few hotel-keepers at Loch Awe, and beside any other Scotch loch, could consistently refuse to serve boatmen in the evening, or it might drive the men to illicit sources for their tipple, without the restraining influence of a "licensed victualler."—*F.*

[When salmon fishing in the Highlands last spring, we one day tried the experiment of taking a flask of cold tea, and our experience is that it's very bad stuff to fish on; in fact, if we had not prudently taken a flask of whisky also, which counteracted the effect of the tea, we should have been poisoned, and our gillie would have died of thirst. The time when Scotch gillies will prefer cold tea or barley-water to whisky will not be before the Millennium—if then.—ED.]

HOW TO BREED AND REAR TROUT.

By T. Andrews, Guildford.

SECOND PAPER.

Now, I have occasionally heard it hinted that trout bred and reared artificially are useless for turning out into rivers and lakes where there would be no possibility of feeding them by the same means; and I have been told that the fish having been accustomed to have their food brought to them for a year or so, will not care to look for natural food and so will not rise to the fly. There never was a greater mistake. I have introduced very many millions of trout into various waters, and I could give endless instances of the fish thriving well on the natural food, and affording splendid sport with the fly when they attain a killable size. Turn a well-fed fish out from a nursery, and his past experience will have shown him what a comfortable state of things a tolerably full stomach will induce, and if there is food in the water his instinct will teach him to find his "daily bread"; but a few days "out in the world" will very soon make him uncommon wild, and it would be a difficult matter to persuade him to come close enough to take any more artificial food. A few trout in the open are often tamed and fed at some *favourite spot;* but I am speaking of the impracticability of feeding trout artificially on the *entire length of a stream, or over the whole area of a large pond.*

There are very few sections of any of our trout streams which have not been stocked during the last ten or fifteen years with artificially-bred fish by some pisciculturist or other; and I think one reason why there is not such sport now as there was twenty to thirty years ago is simply that there are so many more fishermen after them, and so their education is now of a higher standard. Does not this plainly suggest some kind of *memory* in a trout? The increase in the number of anglers can surely have but this effect on the fish—viz., to make them more chary of feeding when they see the human form divine by the river-side, or of feeding *on the surface* at all. Perhaps a trout has the power of remembering the struggles he has had to free himself from something (he knows not what) by which he was ruthlessly dragged twenty yards down-stream and on to the bank, to be not over gently unhooked and returned to the water, having been admired—perhaps execrated for not being sizeable. I am strongly inclined to believe that a trout *has a memory*—or, at all events, a very strong power of observation and discrimination—which is retainable in some instances for a considerable length of time. I am not going to say how long; as it has often happened that a fish which was hooked in the morning, and broke away with a foot or more of gut, has been taken in the evening with the fly and gut still in him. And will not this call to mind many a story of the enormous fish of at least 5lb. which was lost by one angler, and caught a few hours after by another weighing just 1½lb.? But the fish we lose are *always* so much bigger than any we have landed until a few days have passed, when those we have killed seem to have grown remarkably. This may be only "artist's licence"; but a steel-yard and a little memorandum-book will stop this sudden growth in a very effectual manner.

I was saying that the power of observation in a trout is very strong, and it is more readily seen in a trout-breeding farm than in the wild state. If I catch a fish or two with a rod or a net to examine its condition, or to show friends, the others in the same pond most undoubtedly profit by the experience; and my keeper often remarks that I have been "hooking on 'em," as they will not collect to feed or show themselves for some time after: and this is peculiar to fry of three months old, as well as to mature fish. There *is* a device whereby a great number of the fish can be tempted; but I have discontinued the practice, and am not going to divulge the secret, as it has nothing to do with trout rearing. There are times, too, when trout get exceedingly silly, and will rise madly at anything.

Without going further into the causes of fish becoming more shy after being pricked occasionally, and only noting the fact that there are fewer fish to a rod—or rather *more rods to a fish*—on some waters than there used to be, I will leave the matter to abler brains than mine to clear up, and proceed to give some account of the commencement and development of my trout fishery.

About the year 1866 our annual invitations to fish fell off very considerably, so much so that I began to think my trouting days were gone for ever. Letter after letter came, saying, "The fishing is now let, so that I shall be unable to ask you to come in future"; or, "I have transferred my right of fishing to So-and-so," &c. With these pleasant reflections I prepared to "hang my harp—no, my rod—on a willow tree," when my amiable and practical life-partner hinted that I should "make my own trout fishing, by breeding some fish and finding some water to stock." Happy thought! I was not long in acting on the suggestion, and purchased a book or two on the subject—one in French, which puzzled me fearfully, as I had allowed my knowledge of the language to get exceeding rusty; I also went to the South Kensington Museum, and spent a few hours at Frank Buckland's hatching trays; and from what I saw and read I felt quite sure that I could do a little in that way myself.

By-the-by, I wonder what Frank Buckland would think if he could see Howietoun or Crichmere now. His idea of economic fishculture would surely be realised! Not that these are by any means the only places in Great Britain where fishculture has been carried right through to self-supporting fish-farms, as there are several other establishments (both amateur and professional), where highly satisfactory results have been obtained. Mr. Armistead, Mr. Ford, the Marquis of Exeter, the late General Goodlake, Colonel Custance, Colonel Hood, Mr. Grenville Neville, Mr. T. Mann, Dr. Wickham (at Houghton), and many others whom I have not the pleasure of knowing, have done excellent practical work; and have not such men as Mr. R. B. Marston, Mr. W. Senior, Mr. H. Ffennell, &c., by their writings, and admission into the press of all matters connected with fishculture, done an immense service?

I soon fitted up half-a-dozen slate boxes and the necessary water supply; but my first difficulty (in 1867) was to obtain permission to take ova, as I found owners of fisheries very unwilling to allow their fish to be handled, a good many accidents having already occurred in the artificial spawning operations. At last, after much coaxing, I prevailed upon the late Lord G. to allow me to take ova from trout in his lovely ponds near Guildford. I never liked the idea of netting a stream, as I saw at once the uncertainty of hitting the exact time, and the risk of finding the water too big or nets unsuitable. I saw, too, after one or two attempts, that river netting was very expensive, and that it was necessary for me to be economical; for about five thousand ova which I took from a celebrated little stream near Odiham cost me very nearly £20, as many as three journeys having to be undertaken.

There was great fun over my first attempt at trout spawning. The keepers were sceptical, and their remarks discouraging in the extreme. One man who had looked after his master's fishing for over fifty years worked himself up to a fearful pitch of excitement when we ran the pond off for the first time, observing that he was sure his lordship would be very angry if he knew I was going to take *all his fish away.* I kept the game alive till we had stripped the pond of every fish; and separating males from females in large tubs, I said to my assistants, "Now we'll begin!" and our beginning was comical. It was nearly dark when the water had run off. We had to fetch each other out of the mud. The fish were slippery; they would not stay still to be operated upon; they wriggled out of our hands, and fell about everywhere, and in the attempt to pick them up the eggs poured from them on to the grass and mud. We scraped the eggs up with our numbed hands as we best could—mud and all. In carrying the egg-can across a soft place I got mired and fell over, the eggs, of course, being spilt. We lost one of my assistants—he had turned faint, and we found him with his head in a ditch; fortunately I had asked a medical friend to go with us, and he was promptly shouldered and taken into the keeper's cottage and restored. But we managed to take home about forty thousand eggs on my first day's spawning, which everyone considered a very good beginning. The keeper's facial expression while we were spawning the fish was like no other I have ever witnessed; and after we had taken some ten thousand or fifteen thousand eggs, he remarked that he "knowed summat about trouts, and it worn't no use telling he that them eggs was a-going to 'atch, 'cos he knowed better." I invited him to come and have a look at them in my hatchery after six weeks had elapsed, and he then repeated his former belief that they would not come to trout. Yet another six weeks passed, and he paid me a second visit at the time when the fish were just hatching. Still "they worn't trout. He didn't know wot they wos, only they worn't trout—that's all." And so, in a few weeks more, I sent (as I had promised) his lordship about five thousand fry, and the poor old fellow was obliged to admit then that "they moved like trouts." These five thousand fry were placed according to my instructions in a nice place prepared for them, and I went over in August to see how they were getting on; and on my taking a couple of three-inch fish with a small fly the old gentleman candidly expressed his belief that "they wos trout, but he would never have beleft it." From that year to last season—with the exception of one year, when the ice in that neighbourhood completely beat us—I have spawned the fish every winter and returned fry or yearlings and a very pretty stock of trout those ponds now contain.

No sooner had I made a good start than there were many people interested in the work, who begged to be allowed to see my eggs; and amongst the first was a servant of the late General Goodlake, who came one day to see if I would part with some. I said I should be very happy to give him some; but he replied, "I think, sir, that I want more than you would care to give me." "How many do you want?" I said. "Twenty thousand," said he. "Oh, I am sorry I cannot give you so many as that," I replied; and he then said that he was prepared to pay me for them. But I was ignorant of the market value at that time, never having sold or bought any; so I asked him what he proposed to pay for them. "Three pounds per thousand, sir, I am to offer you." So, in 1867 my first little business transaction was effected, and I thought I could not do better than lay out the money in extending my hatchery. Since 1873 till the present time (and I do not suppose I have done yet) I have been digging ponds and extending my fishery until I have possibly as pretty and as useful a place as one would wish to see. I always regret that I did not from the very first make rearing-ponds, as time has shown that yearlings are the mainstay of a pisciculturist's business, and the demand for these and two-year-old fish is constantly increasing; and I may as well confess at once that I do not remember the season from the time I made the first sales of my fish that I could not have sold many thousands more than I had reared.

There used to be, until later years, some known causes (which, however, we *did not know in time to prevent*) which seriously affected the numbers of the fish in various stages. Sometimes my hatching water would play tricks, or someone about me would be careless; at another time we did not succeed in clearing a pond from every yearling, and the loss of next year's stock was too dreadful to think of. And one peculiarity of fish breeding is that if any such accident does happen the produce of many seasons is seriously affected. It is as fatal as the loss of a big tree in the park. No writing a cheque for another, and "have done with it," will avail. Nothing but years of waiting will replace the tree; and nothing but waiting (perhaps several seasons) will do in the case of loss of a trout breeder's stock. But by degrees we ascertain the cause of the losses, and endeavour to prevent them in the future; still there are plenty (too many) which *will* crop up with all our care, and although one fault is corrected, another can soon be found. It is, therefore, necessary that a man who contemplates going in for trout breeding on an extensive scale—or, in fact, at all—should be prepared to hold himself ready at a moment's notice to "tackle" anything which may be going wrong, and also to make up his mind that nothing will prevent him or his qualified manager (when he can find one) from giving his whole time when necessary to the subject; for that which we have read in almost all works on fishculture is perfectly true—viz., that failure to be on the spot at the critical time (and there are several such) may be the means of losing a very large proportion, if not the whole lot, of eggs, fry, yearlings, or older fish. As in the case of fire, a bucket of water at hand may be worth untold gold; but a few moments later all the water in the Thames may be of no avail.

I remember a very narrow escape I had some years ago with five thousand yearlings in one of my dispatching tanks on account of one pipe robbing another, and yet we had used the same for years and it had never occurred before. I think if I had not been on the spot (and it was nearly midnight) I should have lost nearly the whole of the fish. Ten minutes later the greater part would have died. A small proportion would not have been affected, as there was still sufficient water passing through the tanks to supply the necessary oxygen to a few, as the numbers decreased through death. On my turning on a greater volume of water, and getting rid of the *air in the pipe* which I found was the cause of the stoppage, the fish, of course, very quickly recovered, and next morning were none the worse. A trout will recover with proper attention, although to all appearance it is too far gone. If there has been no injury through rough handling the fish will in most cases come round, as in the case of a drowning man; but the only restorative applicable to a fish is to hold it with its head upstream in fresh water, first ascertaining that no foreign substance is in the gills or throat. If a fish is partially suffocated with mud or weed it is a good plan to hold it in the air for a few seconds, when anything not absolutely fixed in the throat is generally expelled.

In the early days of my spawning I once found that a huge male fish had been left in a can while we went a few yards higher up the stream to look for his wife. I suppose we were gone half-an-hour, and I repeatedly begged one of the keepers to go back and see how that fish was getting on. The keeper assured me that he would be all right; but on my return to the bait-can I found him "all wrong"—viz., wrong side uppermost, gills extended, colour changed, and to all appearance dead. I fancied, however, that I saw a spasmodic movement of the mouth, and I instantly went into the river with him (*à la* Briggs), and there I stayed for an hour nursing the fish. At the end of that time I noticed that his nose regained colour, and after a while I saw him draw one breath. The end of it was that the fish swam out of my hands on to the shallows. I went after him; but—"No, thank you! I feel extremely obliged for your careful nursing for the last three hours, but I have no wish to renew your acquaintance." There had been a little crowd of villagers watching, and some of them were not indisposed to taunt me, and to cast ridicule on the whole thing; but the inn was close at hand, and most of my audience retired to get a warm, for there were ten degrees of frost at the time. Now and then one would come out to see how I was getting on; but all had come to the conclusion that I might stay there till Doomsday, but "that fish was a gone-er." I got them all out of the public-house in time to show them the fast-recovering fish, and was rewarded by a hearty "Bravo!" and "You *did* stick to him, sir!"

And I may say that it is the sticking to most matters—fishculture not excepted—which in the end means success. By "sticking," I mean a persistence and determination to persevere, even though a succession of failures may occur and it may seem waste of time to continue. Sometimes it may be hopeless and useless to continue under the existing arrangement of water or (more likely still) *management;* but if it is found that the appliances or the water are not suitable, all this may be altered in the future. But this often means beginning all over again, which sickens some men; and sooner or later (usually *sooner*) the operations are discontinued—perhaps just at the point when a trifle more "sticking" would lead to success. Yet with fishculture how few have succeeded so far as to warrant a continuance and enlargement of the work. An eminent American fishculturist (Seth Green) is said to have remarked (on the very first page of Livingston Stone's "Domesticated Trout") that "one man in a million would succeed." These are great odds, and the words can scarcely have been intended in a literal sense; and Stone, in the next few pages of his excellent book, gives distinctly the reasons why success in fishculture is so difficult to command—viz., the dealing with *running water*—"to make it go *as* you would have it, and *where* you would have it, from one year's end to another." Water being possibly the most important factor in fishculture, I will endeavour to give, for the guidance of any who feel disposed to practise the art, some of my experience with regard to it.

(To be continued.)

A TREATYSE OF FYSSHYNGE WYTH AN ANGLE.

BY DAME JULIANA BERNERS.

WRITTEN FOUR HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

(*Continued from page 218.*)

NOW I haue lernyd you to make all your harnays. Here I woll tell you how ye shall angle. Ye shall angle: vnderstande that there is vj. manere of anglying. That one is at the grounde for the troughte and other fisshe. A nother is at y^e grounde at an arche, or at a stange where it ebbyth and flowyth: for bleke: roche: and darse. The thyrde is wyth a flote for all manere of fysshe. The fourth wyth a menow for y^e troughte wythout plumbe or flote. The fyfth is rennynge in y^e same wyse for roche and darse wyth one or two heeres and a flye. The syxte is wyth a dubbyd hoke for the troughte and graylyng. And for the fyrst and pryncypall poynt in anglynge: kepe y^e euer fro the water fro the syghte of the fysshe: other wyse kneele on the londe: or ellys behynde a busshe that the fysshe se you not. For yf they doo they wol not byte. Also loke that ye shadow not the water as moche as ye may. For it is that thynge that woll soone fraye the fysshe. And yf a fysshe be afrayed he woll not bite longe after. For alle manere fysshe that fede by the grounde ye shall angle for theym to the botom. Soo that your hokys shall renne or lye on the grounde. And for alle other fysshe that fede aboue ye shall angle to theym in the myddes of the water or somdeale byneth or somdeale aboue. For euer the gretter fysshe ther nerer he lyeth the botom of the water. And euer the smaller fysshe the more he swymmyth aboue. The thyrde good poynt is whan the fysshe bytyth that ye be not to hasty to smyte nor to late, For ye must abide tyll ye suppose that the bayte be toke in the mouth of the fysshe, and thenne abyde noo longer. And this is for the grounde. And for the flote whan ye se it pullyd softly vnder the water: or elles caryed vpon the water softly: thenne smyte. And loke that ye neuer ouersmyte the strengthe of your lyne for brekynge. And yf it fortune you to smyte a grete fysshe wyth a smalle harnays: thenne ye must lede hym in the water and labour hym there tyll he be drownyd and ouercome. Thenne take hym as well as ye can or maye, and euer bewaar that ye holde not ouer the strengthe of your lyne. And as moche as ye may lete hym not come out of your lynes ende streyghte from you: But kepe hym euer vnder the rodde, and euermore holde hym streyghte: soo that your lyne may susteyne and beere his lepys and his plungys wyth the helpe of your croppe and of your honde.

Here I woll declare vnto you in what place of the water ye shall angle. Ye shall angle in a pole or in a stondinge water in euery place where it is onythynge depe. There is not grete choyse of ony places where it is onythynge depe in a pole. For it is but a pryson to fysshe and they lyne for y^e more parte in hungre lyke prisoners; and therefore it is the lesse maystry to take theym. But in a ryuer ye shall angle in euery place where it is depe and clere by the grounde: as grauell or claye wythout mudde or wedyse. And in especyall yf that there be a manere whyrlynge of water or a couert. As an holow—bake: or grete rotys of trees: or longe wedes flortyng aboue in the water where the fysshe may couere and hyde theymself at certayn tymes whan they lyste. Also it is good for to angle styffe stremys and also in fallys of waters and weares: and in floode gatys and myllepyttes; And it is good for to angle, where, as the water restyth by the banke: and where the streme rennyth nyghe thereby: and is depe and clere by the grounde and mony other placys where ye may se any fyssh houe or haue ony fedynge.

Now we shall wyte what time of the daye ye shall angle. From the begynnynge of May vntyll it be Septembre the mornynge tyme is erly by the morowe from foure of y^e clocke vnto eyghte of the clocke: And at after none from foure of the clock vnto eyghte of the clocke: but not soo good as in the mornynge. And yf it be a colde whystelyng wynde and a derke lowrynge daye. For a derke daye is moche better to angle in than a clere daye. From the begynnynge of Septembre vnto the ende of Apryll spare noo tyme of the daye.

Also many pole fysshes woll byte in the nonetyde, and yf ye se ony tyme of the daye the trought or graylynge lepe: angle to hym wyth a dubbe acordynge to the same month. And where the water ebbyth and flowyth the fysshe woll byte in some place at the ebbe: and in some place at the flood. After y^t they haue restynge behynde stangnys and archys of brydgs and other suche maner places.

Here ye shall wyte in what weder ye shall angle, as I sayd before in a derke lowrynge daye whanne the wynde blowyth softly. And in somer season whan it is brennynge hote it is nought. From Septembre vnto Apryll in a fayr sonny daye is ryght good to angle. And yf the wynde in that season haue ony parte of the Oryent: the wedyr thenne is nought. And whan it is a grete wynde. And whan it snowith reynth or hayllyth, or is a grete tempeste, as thondyr or lightenynge: or a swoly hote weder: thenne it is noughte for to angle.

Now shall ye wyte that there ben twelve manere of ympedymentes whyche cause a man to take noo fysshe w^t other corayn that maye casuelly happe. The fyrst is yf your harnays be not mete nor fetly made. The seconde is yf your baytes be not good nor fyne. The thyrde is yf that ye angle not in bytynge tyme. The fourth is yf that the fysshe be frayed w^t the syghte of a man. The fyfth yf the water be very thycke: whyte or redde of ony floode late fallen. The syxte yt the fysshe move not for colde. The seventh yf that the wedyr be hote. The eyght yf it rayne. The nynthe yf it hayll or snow falle. The tenth is yf it be a tempeste. The eleventh is yf it be a grete wynde. The twelfyfth yf the wynde be in the east, and that is worste. For comynly neyther wynter nor somer ye fisshe woll not byte thenne. The weste and northe wyndes ben good, but the south is beste.

And now I haue tolde you how to make your harnays: And how ye shall fisshe therewyth in alpoyntes. Reason woll that ye knowe wyth what baytes ye shall angle to every manere of fysshe in euery moneth of the yere, whyche is all the effecte of the crafte. And wythout whyche baytes knowen well by you all your other crafte here to form anayllyth you not to purpose. For ye can not brynge an hoke in to a fysshe mouth wythout a bayte. Which baytes for every manere of fysshe and for euery moneth here folowyth in this wyse.

For by cause that the samon is the moost stately fyssh that ony man maye angle to in fresshe water. Therfore I purpose to begynne at hym. The samon is a gentyll fysshe: but he is comborous for to take. For comynly he is best in depe places of grete ryuers: And for the more parte he holdyth the myddys of it: that a man maye not come at hym. And he is in season from Marche unto Myghelmas. In wyche season ye shall angle to yx hym wyth thyse baytes whan ye maye gete theym. Fyrste wyth a redde worme in the begynnynge and endynge of the season. And also wyth a bobbe that bredyth in a dunghyll. And specyally wyth a souerayn bayte that bredyth on a water docke. And he bytith not at the grounde: but at ye flote. Also ye may take hym but it is seldom seen with a dubbe at such tyme as whan he lepith in lyke fourme and manere as ye doo take a troughte or a graylynge. And thyse baytes ben well prouyd baytes for the samon.

THREE DELIGHTFUL DAYS.

BY EDGAR S. SHRUBSOLE.

THE first of the three occurred several years ago, the second only a few short months back, and the third within twenty-four hours of the second. How the first led to the second and third, and why the three stand out so prominently from among the many pleasant days I have spent by the river side, intent upon the sport that (in my estimation) is far superior to all others—I allude to fly-fishing for trout—I will endeavour to tell in this article.

I was sitting at home one morning satisfying an appetite that is enjoyed by those young men who live in the country, and think nothing of a ten-mile run with the "Hare and Hounds" Club, a long day's cricket under a broiling sun, a two-miles spin in an out-rigged sculling boat, a rough-and-tumble at a game of football, or a twenty-five or thirty mile walk on a "day off," and having disposed of a breakfast that would well serve me twice now, I turned my attention to an important letter lying by my side. It *was* an important one, and no mistake. Looking back through the years that have passed, I would emphasise this assertion, and say it was a *very* important letter, and being of such importance it is necessary I should tell how it came to be sent to me.

Notwithstanding my great love for cricket, &c., I had developed an enthusiasm for trout fishing, and being happily privileged to fish a well-stocked preserve, my opportunities for "trying my hand" were many. But somehow I could not get on to my satisfaction—something always went wrong, and I had seldom more than a brace of trout to take home after a hard day's fishing. The fish were there, it was no use disputing that fact, but, as the keeper frequently told me, "They are artful, they are, sir, and very sly." Thus, probably unconsciously, repeating the words of one famous Joey B.; Sir! True, very frequently a silly 4oz. fish would dash at my fly, and shortly after lie quivering upon the bank; but the owner of the water had informed me very emphatically that no small fish might be retained, and so the troutlings had to be returned to their native element. Nothing but the artificial fly was allowed, so I was debarred the satisfaction of luring pound trout to their death by means of the humble worm.

My want of success would not have "needled" me so much, had others, who also had the privilege of fishing, been equally unsuccessful; but this was not the case. Although the water was kept very select, I, at times, met others upon it, and, in one or two cases, the easy manner in which these individuals managed to successfully negotiate the capture of those fish it was only my privilege to gaze upon with longing eyes and inward conviction of never-ending non-success, fairly maddened me. My applications for information and instruction, made humbly to these successful anglers, were generally received with a pitiful shrug of the shoulders, sometimes the gift of a fly, and occasionally with a few really useful hints. But I soon became convinced that if I ever acquired the art of fly-fishing for trout it would not be through their kindness or consideration of the woes of a beginner, and the hunger he has for instruction.

Books I devoured eagerly, but their assistance was limited; a book upon trout fishing is of use *after* you have gained the knowledge of how to cast a fly decently, &c., but the one has yet to be written from which a *bonâ fide* beginner can gain the knowledge necessary in the preliminary stages. I consulted with boon companions, and tried to learn something from their conversation, but mostly they were wrapped up in recounting their own exploits, they either could not or would not explain to me "how to do it." In this connection I would remark that I was not *quite* a duffer, but such skill as I possessed was not sufficient for the purpose I had in view, and it was a matter of important consideration with me how I was to acquire that coveted preliminary knowledge of the never-completed art of fly-fishing for wary trout. But all this was shortly to be altered. In the course of a conversation I had with a bosom friend of mine, who knew no more about fishing than a garden rake does, but was otherwise anything but "dull," I detailed to him my difficulties, and he struck a very happy idea.

"That bit of water you fish," said he, "is one of the best in the South of England, you say. Now plenty of really good fishermen would avail themselves of the offer of a day or so's fishing on it. And wouldn't they in return show you a few wrinkles?"

It did not take me long to arrive at the conclusion that this was not only possible, but very probable; and having satisfied myself upon this point, I determined that I would approach some master in the gentle art, and trust to the enjoyment he got out of the day's fishing inducing him to take pity upon me. The owner of the water was communicated with and the necessary permission for myself and a friend obtained. Armed with this document, I wrote to one who, at that time, held a position of prominence in the angling world, and who has since become more and more popular each succeeding year as a right good sportsman and successful angler. In my letter I explained just how matters stood, and, as I had determined to leave no stone unturned that would be likely to assist me in gaining a knowledge of the art, I further requested him to provide me with an outfit that he could recommend, "as I fancied the one I had was not just the thing for the purpose."

It was a bold stroke, and I awaited with some eagerness the reply to my communication. At that time I little knew the kindly consideration the angler I had approached had for every amateur; and so I was agreeably surprised when I received a letter informing me he would be very pleased to join me for a day and that he would bring down a rod, &c., that would doubtless suit me. This was the letter I alluded to in the opening of this article, and it helped me to make a good breakfast! The instant I read it, I felt assured that at last I should meet an angler who *would* show me "how to do it." There was a genuine ring about it; and I may add here, that I have had cause since to know that in this estimation of my new friend, I was not mistaken. I date from the receipt of that letter my success in fly-fishing for trout, and I would further assert that very few fishermen would trouble with an amateur as he has done with scores; for I am not the only one who has to thank him for many useful lessons and thoroughly enjoyable days "on the warpath."

The arrangements for time and place of meeting were made, and a delightful June morning found me at the little local station adjacent to the water we were to fish. My train arrived a few minutes after his, and I caught a glimpse of him awaiting my arrival. As soon as the train had cleared away from the platform on its journey to London I crossed the line.

"Mr. Shrubsole?"

"Yes. Mr. Marston?"

"Yes."

And the next instant I warmly wrung the hand of the Editor of the *Fishing Gazette* for the first time.

In one of his delightful gossips about angling, the "Amateur Angler" thus speaks of Mr. Marston ("Piscator Major," as he happily styles him): "I may here say that I never go a-fishing without the Major. I try his wonderful patience a great deal. When I am dry-fly fishing I have a way of swishing off my flies in trying to dry them, to say nothing of constantly getting caught in the opposite bank, or in a tree; or else I leave my flies a mile or two behind me, stuck fast in thistle or grass, whilst I have steadily fished on, unconscious of my loss. The Major always comes to my aid, and puts me right for a fresh start; in fact, I could never fish at all, but for his ever-ready help at hand."

This is certainly my experience; and I am sure I never can sufficiently thank him for his "wonderful patience" and "ever-ready help," not only upon my first day with him, but upon many subsequent occasions also.

We left the pretty little railway station and made our way towards the water, chatting as we went. Arrived at the spot where we intended to start our day's sport, my companion soon had "my" rod put together, and a little beauty it proved to be. I have since killed many trout with it, and it is still brought into requisition at times, and has a place of honour in the room I pen this article in. The winch, line, cast, and a fly were attached, and then my friend remarked, "I think it will do; shall I christen it for you?"

I nodded, and in a few seconds about fifteen yards of line shot straight as a gun-barrel in the direction of a rising fish. As soon as the fly got within feeding distance there was a quiet movement on the part of the trout, just a perceptible response from the angler; and turning round with the quiet but well-satisfied smile I now know so well, he remarked—

"He's there; take hold!"

I accepted the rod from his hand, and with a quickly palpitating heart, played and ultimately landed a pound fish.

"Well done!" exclaimed my companion, "*very* well, done; you must not call yourself a duffer after that!"

And the hearty tone of his congratulations half-convinced me that I *had really caught that fish myself!*

I do not propose to tire my readers by detailing the many hints and the kindly advice I received from Mr. Marston that day. Sufficient it is for me to say, that he soon put me into "the way to do it;" quietly corrected my erratic casting. and showed me "how not to do it"; and that as I had ample opportunity of watching "how he did it," when the evening came I joyfully realised that at last I had a chance of becoming a fly-fisherman.

Not until he had seen me fitted out did my companion start to put his own rod together, and then we strolled by the side of the river some distance, he on the way picking out a trout or two which he returned to the water, tutoring me the while. I was not so selfish as to wish to occupy the whole of his time and spoil the day; so at my urgent request he went to a part of the river that I knew held big fish and plenty of them (had I not looked at and longed for them many a time?), and I started seriously to work with a better heart, and more hope of success than had hitherto possessed me.

This was not only my first day with Mr. Marston, but also my introduction to the remarkable killing powers of the Yellow Dun. It was the Yellow that the fish I played succumbed to, and I still had it attached to the end of my cast; I also had a few spare ones that had been handed to me with the characteristic smile of my friend, and the quiet remark, "Perhaps you will want them!"

Presently I noticed a fish rise just outside an overhanging bush, and with the confidence of a veteran I proceeded to work out the necessary length of line and cast my fly in the desired direction. The Yellow Dun alighted with the gentleness of a flake of snow on the bush. Instead of losing my temper and tugging fiercely at the fly, I adopted the advice of my new friend and *very gently* whisked it free. It fell softly upon the water, and in a tick was seized by a trout, who, before I had time to realise the fact, had *hooked himself*, and with a rush gone into a bed of weed. I lost my head, tugged hard at the line, and lost my fish.

My friend had told me to "take it quietly" if I lost a fish; in fact, "never to get flurried" Very good advice, but very difficult to follow under these circumstances! However, I sufficiently controlled my feelings, and with a sigh of resignation, proceeded to repair my dilapidated cast and attach another Yellow from my reserve stock.

I had not long to wait before another of the rising fish I had been particularly instructed to "spot" showed upon the scene. Very carefully this time did I approach my quarry. This part of the river was rather open, and I had to "lay low" for fear of disturbing the trout. To my delight, I managed to work out the right length of line quite to my own satisfaction, and then, bracing myself for the effort, I made the cast—or rather half of it. The second half did not "come off," for the fly had firmly embedded itself in a "horse daisy" behind me! I am afraid the expression I made use of is not generally heard in a drawing-room—more frequently probably it proceeds from a sufferer from the gout—but it came with emphasis from me then! I resumed an upright position, scared all the trout in the river for a hundred yards, disengaged my fly from the daisy, and resumed my journey up-stream, whistling a stave of—

"If you don't at first succeed, try, try, try again."

In the distance I saw my friend's rod bending to the fruitless efforts of a big fish to escape. I saw him stoop down, and knew that fish was in the net, and fired with fresh enthusiasm I once more watched the surface of the stream for the tell-tale rings.

In an open piece of water at the tail of a rather strong stream a fish rose, and after a few preliminary preparations I made a cast over him. It was *not* a successful cast, in fact it was a "wrong un;" the line fell in coils upon the water, but I noticed the gut extended itself decently, and the fly came floating down with the stream. Now, my friend had told me when a fly was coming down like that to let well alone; so I let it float. Not so the trout. He came at it with a rush, and I struck, and could not help shouting loudly, "I've got him!" although at that very minute I had by no means made sure of my capture. In the end, though, I proved too much for his troutship, and when he lay gasping on the bank my cup of happiness was brimming over.

And so I went on, scaring a fish here, hooking and losing one there; still by mid-day I had something to look at, and when I overtook my friend, who was lying upon the bank enjoying a pipe, in answer to his inquiry, "How have you got on?" I turned out my creel—four fish, from three-quarters of a pound to a pound each, and eyed my catch proudly.

"What have you done?" I queried.

"Oh! I've caught a few," he answered, the while he shut one eye and looked comically at me out of the other—another little way he has, by-the-by—and turning out *his* creel he exposed to my astonished gaze four brace of trout, every fish evidently being well over a pound, and three weighing at least 1½lb. each.

"I have had to turn back a rare lot of half-pounders," he remarked. "Where *are* the big fish?"

But the merry twinkle in his eye betrayed the fact that he was satisfied with his sport so far. He had been using the Yellow Dun; and I may here remark that we used no other fly throughout the day. The day was very hot in the mid-part, and being bright as well, we gave the fish a rest, and lolled on the bank, chatting over matters appertaining to fly-fishing. We also discussed a very fine and large veal and ham pie. My companion took a great fancy to the pie, in fact, and upon subsequent occasions he has had the coolness to assert that if it wasn't for the pie that usually accompanies me upon fishing excursions, he should stop away! Be this as it may, I am convinced of the vast importance of a properly-made pie; without it I never consider a day's fishing perfect. The right place to eat a pie is by the water-side. Who dares assert that a pie at home tastes as nice as it does when the river runs murmuringly by your feet, and the plash of a rising fish divides your attention?

We lit our pipes, and my companion showed and told me many wrinkles in connection with the art of dry-fly fishing. In the midst of our conversation a splendid trout started feeding, about 30yds. up the river. My friend soon had the Yellow over him, and a few minutes later a 1¼lb. fish was added to our catch. At my suggestion, I walked by my friend's side and watched him as he neatly put his fly over the rising fish we met with in the next mile of the river. I should think that more than half-a-dozen fish, well over half-a-pound were returned to the water during the next hour or so, and two of about 1¼lb. each were retained. You may be sure I closely watched "how it was done"; and without doubt, that afternoon was a very instructive one to me. When we reached a part of the river that runs slow and deep, and is fearfully weedy—where the angler must fish very fine and far off to be successful—then did my companion prove himself a master hand. Then also did we find the big fish. In an hour's fishing at this part, Mr. Marston had two brace of trout, between 1¼lb. and 1½lb.; and they had to be *fished* for! When hooked—and this had to be done at from 15yds. to 20yds. distance—the way they bolted into the weeds was a caution. But the angler knew what he was up to, and being handled as they should be, all their efforts availed them nothing. At the present time I can remember no better fishing than I saw that afternoon and evening.

So far my companion had seven and a-half brace of fish; the evening was drawing near, and so we put our rods at rest, and retraced our steps. Much as I had seen and learned that day, the "staggerer" was yet to come! Arrived at a very fine pool, we noticed several good fish rising in one particular part of it. I knew the spot well, and knew it was deep there. Mr. Marston wanted me to have a cast over them, but I preferred to watch him. Quietly he waded out through the shallow water, and put the Yellow over the rising fish, and then occurred one of the finest exhibitions of fly-fishing it has ever been my lot to behold, and one of the best bits of sport I can remember. My readers must not forget that my companion had a very fine cast on, and that the evening was far advanced.

(To be continued.)

SALMON disease is said to be making headway in the Aberdeenshire Dee. As yet it seems to be pretty much confined to kelts of the small spring fish, known locally as "supples," or "slingers."

THE FLYFISHERS' CLUB.

ANNUAL DINNER.

MR. BASIL FIELD presided, on Wednesday night, at the annual dinner of the Flyfishers' Club, which was held in the Royal Venetian Chamber, at the Holborn Restaurant. The vice-chairmen were Mr. R. B. Marston and, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. W. Senior, Mr. C. H. Cook. There was a large attendance of the members of the club, and the visitors also showed up in large numbers, amongst the company being Sir J. R. Somers Vine, Mr. T. E. Pritt, Mr. G. J. Chatterton, Mr. John Paterson, Mr. E. Marston ("The Amateur Angler"), Captain Thackeray, Mr. W. T. Boydell, Mr. W. Rowley, Mr. G. L. Dickson, Dr. Wyman, Dr. Brunton, M.D., Mr. H. E. Gribble, Mr. J. W. Willis Bund (Chairman of the Salmon Fishery Board), Dr. Hamilton (author of the "Riverside Naturalist"), Mr. Wm. Black (the novelist), Mr. F. G. Morten, Mr. W. Q. Orchardson, R.A., Mr. P. St. Quinton, Mr. R. C. Blundell, Dr. Orton, Mr. F. M. Halford ("Detached Badger"), the Rev. H. G. J. Veitch, the Rev. E. Mackie, Mr. F. R. Ohlson, Mr. J. R. Boyd, Mr. H. H. Holt, Mr. J. H. Poulter, Mr. D. Wilson (hon. secretary of the club), Mr. R. B. Marston (Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*, and treasurer of the club), Mr. J. G. Bolding, Mr. N. Lloyd, Mr. R. W. Walker, Mr. Watson Lyall, Mr. W. Earl Hodgson (*Rod and Gun*), Mr. L. W. Bangs, Mr. W. F. Lawrie, Mr. H. Coulter, Mr. J. T. McLachlan, Mr. A. Strachey, Mr. J. McLaren Smith, Major Sergeant, Mr. R. B. Lee, Major Carlisle ("South West"), Mr. G. E. Cook, Mr. F. M. Walbran, Mr. H. F. Norris, Mr. Arthur Price, Mr. J. Wilson, Mr. W. T. P. Pechey, Mr. F. Howse, Mr. M. W. Morton, Mr. R H. W. Leach, Mr. C. L. Nichols, Mr. J. Welch, Mr. J. T. Shaw, Mr. C. F. Clay, Mr. H. E. Gilman, Mr. R. Pinkney, Mr. J. Wilkinson, Mr. W. Thomas, Mr. R. A. Smith, M.D., Mr. G. Pritchard, Mr. H. W. Seaton-Karr, Mr. A. W. Cooper, Captain Dunne ("Hi Regan"), Mr. T. Andrews, Mr. H. Landan, Mr. John Pettie, Mr. C. T. Todd, Mr. D. N. Samson, Mr. J. S. Halliday, Mr. A. Paget, Mr. L. B. Sedway, Mr. H. Mackrell, Mr. H. M. Pike, Mr. J. W. A. Calkin, Mr. Radcliffe Walters, Mr. J. H. Easterbrook, Mr. Francis R. Russell, Mr. W. G. Sribble, Mr. Thomas Ruston, Mr. F. H. King-Hall, Mr. A. B. Winstone, Mr. W. J. Shaw, Mr. W. J. Thompson, Mr. J. Henderson, Mr. Thomas W. White, Mr. H. Hay Stuart, Mr. H. R. Ker, Mr. A. Sclanders, Colonel Bolton, Mr. Anthony Carlisle, Mr. C. Michell, &c., &c.

After grace had been said by the Rev. H. G. J. Veitch,

The Chairman proposed "The Queen and the Royal Family." He said: Gentlemen,—Loyalty to Crown and Throne is a monopoly of no one nation, but the characteristic of British loyalty is the strong personal affection we feel towards the Sovereign who rules over us. (Cheers.) This sentiment, however, is too delicate for my rough and untutored tongue—(cries of "No, no")—it is best expressed by "magic numbers and persuasive sound," and cannot be better expressed than in the words and melody of our National Anthem—(cheers)—which, I am sure, Mr. William Nicholl (whether it be in obedience to Royal commands at Windsor, or in obedience to his own good nature to oblige his friends here) is ever ready to give. Gentlemen, I give you the "Queen and the Royal Family." (Cheers.)

The toast was drank with enthusiasm, amid the singing of the National Anthem, the solo part being taken by Mr. W. Nicholl.

The Chairman next rose to propose the toast of "The Flyfishers' Club." He said: Gentlemen,—I now rise to propose the toast of the evening, and to ask you to join me in drinking success to the Flyfishers' Club—(cheers)—and, paradoxical as it may appear, the chief difficulty with which I have to contend is the transparent simplicity of my task. The success of the Flyfishers' Club is as certain as death and taxes; and is as sure to increase as the rates under the London County Council. (More laughter.) And what more can be said on the subject? If proof be required of our social success, look round this room. (Cheers, and a voice: "Good!") If proof be required of our financial success, my appearance in the chair to-night affords that proof, for if the careful custodians of the club's welfare had foreseen the slightest danger or difficulty in the near future, this chair would have been occupied by one of those happy men who can at will—by a pleasant gift of speech and charm, and by a sympathetic voice—rouse to enthusiasm, provoke a smile, beguile a tear, and even search the hidden depths of our breeches pockets. (Cheers and laughter.) But, gentlemen, with a good balance at the banker's and a steadily-increasing number of members, our committee consider that they may economise their available stock of eloquence, reserve their skilled orators for some other time, and give respectable mediocrity a chance. (Cheers and laughter.) Now, as to the success of the club. No doubt you will listen to me with the proverbial patience of anglers. (A laugh.) If I were to reiterate the early history of this club, it would be as tedious as a twice-told tale, dull as ditch water, flat as a flounder—(laughter)—and as unprofitable to you as it is for an angler to watch his float when every morsel of bait has been taken off the hook. (Laughter.) We all know that gallant little band of men to whose enthusiasm and great patience we owe the existence of this club—men in whose vocabulary failure was not to be found. (Cheers.) We know their names, all of us here. In our hearts we cherish those names, and with all our hearts we thank them. (Cheers.) But behind them lies a power greater than their own power—the power of love, of infinite, irresistible love—the power of love the angler has for his charming and enchanting sport. (Cheers.) Charming!—Why, he who has never felt that charm is not a true angler. Is not a fly-rod ten times more potent than the wizard's rod of old? It is to this mysterious magnetic power—a power which I most sincerely hope will draw us together like the roach are drawn together by a ball of ground-bait—(laughter)—that we most look to the future of our club. (Hear, hear.) It becomes, I think, a matter of necessity to us to know what this mysterious instinct must be that prompts us all to meet together. And now I come to the proudest part of my subject. I have a revelation to make, a mystery to announce, a great truth to proclaim. I am dying to impart this great secret to you, and to do so I must give you some small outline of the circumstances which led to this great discovery. I will give it in a dramatic way. (Laughter.) Scene: Second-class compartment in an express train on the L. and S. W. Ry., supposed to be a through train between Putney and Waterloo, but actually stopping nowhere in particular, yet somewhere between the stations to give the engine an opportunity of whistling at leisure. (Laughter.) The characters are a patriarchal professor of mental philosophy—(laughter)—and metaphysics, a small boy, and myself, with the butt-end of a fly rod, taking it to Farlow's, to have new winch fittings put on it. The professor looked with considerable curiosity on the rod, and I ventured to waive the usual conversation about the weather and plunged *in medias res* at once. (Laughter.) I said, "Sir, I am an angler." (Laughter.) He bowed stiffly. "The angler is by nature shy and retiring," I said. "Obviously," remarked the professor. "Do you know," I asked the professor, "what this mysterious agency is that draws together those who by nature shun society?" "Certainly," said the professor; "it is the attraction of cohesion between piscatorial affinities.' (Laughter.) What a wonderful thing is science. (Laughter.) Well, this was all very beautiful; but, after all, it was only the definition of a force. It gave me no information what brought this force into activity; so appealing to unsophisticated nature. I asked the little boy if he knew what it was that made the shy and timid angler go to his noisy and crowded club. He replied: "It's cos he wants to meet some other Johnnies to tell his lies to." (Loud laughter and cheers.) I think, gentlemen, that it was very shocking that this little boy's mind should have been thus poisoned by base calumny originally invented by a bungler, who found it easier to throw mud than to cast a fly. (Hear and laughter.) But there is a higher power of nature working within us, as anglers, gentlemen. It soothes, elevates, and refines us; it subdues the bitterness of party politics; it silences the strife for greed; and it softens social prejudices. (Cheers.) Under its influence have I not heard a clergyman of the Church of England listening to an Irish Roman Catholic Home Ruler on the union of two strands of salmon gut? (Laughter.) After some further humorous remarks, the Chairman proceeded: Such is our club; such may it long remain. Our local habitation may change; our *personnel*, alas! must change, for that grim fisherman, Old Father Time, is ever and ever winding us all surely and steadily in, nearer and nearer to the fatal landing-net of death; but the Flyfishers' Club, satisfying and fulfilling an instinctive want, must go on for ever. (Loud cheers.) Gentlemen, I ask you to join me in wishing continued success and prosperity to the club—(cheers)—and to associate with the toast two typical members, one who we are all glad to see—a member whose name has been, from the very first, most intimately connected, not only with the success of the club, but with the existence of the club—our excellent hon. treasurer—Mr. R. B. Marston. (Cheers.) The other gentleman is a country member—(hear, hear)—a staunch and sturdy supporter of our club, who has never deserted his post here, at least, though he may have been missed elsewhere at times. Need I say I mean Mr. Pritt? (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I give you the "Flyfishers' Club," coupled with the names of Mr. R. B. Marston and Mr. T. E. Pritt. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

The toast was most enthusiastically pledged; and, in replying for the club,

Mr. R. B. Marston, who was very cordially received, said: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I shall not detain you very long, as I am suffering from a cold, besides which we have some excellent musical talent with us. As regards the position of the Flyfishers' Club, I am sure the chairman told you all about it, and I can only repeat that the club is going along very favourably. (Cheers.) We have more than three hundred members—(cheers)—and at the bank we have a balance of over £300. (More cheers.) As long as we have a balance in hand, I have, as honorary treasurer, got an easy place, but I pity the poor treasurer when the balance comes to be on the wrong side. (Laughter, and voice, "It never will.") I should like here to refer to our last dinner, which was of a very successful character, especially with regard to the making of new members. We then secured, amongst others, Mr. William Black—(cheers)—and Mr. W. Q. Orchardson, R.A., and I have heard a whisper to night that another eminent gentleman connected with the art-world desires to join us, and I hope, before the evening is over, that he will do so. (Cheers.) I regret that a number of gentlemen have been prevented from being with us through illness or other causes. Among them are the Hon. Sir Ford North and Mr. Senior, of *The Field*, gentlemen who have always supported this club in a very handsome manner. We are all deeply indebted to them for their splendid assistance, and we all feel extremely sorry they cannot be with us to-night. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, I should not like to sit down without referring to the work performed by our hon. sec., Mr. Wilson. (Cheers.) He is really the man who ought to respond to this toast, as he does most for the club. We all know how he sends out these notices, inviting us to dinners and smoking concerts, and how he informs us when our subscriptions are in arrear. (Laughter.) As regards the club meeting nights last season, when they were not so successful as they might have been, I should like to say that is to be entirely put down to the influenza. (Laughter.) At least that is what a well-known physician says—that the influenza chiefly affects those who belong to clubs, and don't go home till late at night. I now beg to thank you most heartily for the way in which you have received this toast. (Cheers.)

Mr. T. E. Pritt, who was received with loud cheers, said: Gentlemen, our chairman has made it pretty warm for me. (Laughter.) I can also say something about the work of Mr. Wilson, and when I received a letter from him informing me that the toast of the "Country Members" to which I have responded more or less for a generation—(laughter)—had been eliminated from this year's programme, I felt considerably relieved. He said I was instead to inflict upon you the response for the Flyfishers' Club. Well, I felt like the man who lost half-a-sovereign and found sixpence. (Laughter.) It reminds me of the words of a distinguished clergyman which I heard at a dinner in the North. He said that when a man was called upon to say something without notice he could only make a fool of himself, but when he had had ample notice he could make fools of the whole company. (Laughter.) On that account I wish our friend Wilson had given me a more limited warning. (Laughter.) Well, I can assure you, I find it as difficult to say anything new as it would be to reduce the hump on a dromedary's back by putting a linseed poultice on it. (Laughter.) It is said that it is an angler's bounden duty to believe everything that a brother angler tells him. I recollect that at a recent dinner, a gentleman who had been fishing in Norway, told how he used a salmon fly with a tag, on which were his name and address. (Laughter.) A salmon rose, was hooked, and went off with the fly. Two years afterward the same angler hooked the same salmon, having in its possession the same fly with the same tag on, twenty-five miles from the original spot. (Laughter.) An old gentleman who was amongst the company sighed deeply, but no one questioned the thing. (Laughter.) A rev. canon then rose, and he told us that whilst he was fishing an Irish lake he hooked a salmon 24lb. He played it for some time, but at length it made one last, despairing rush and ran off the line, which it was found had not been fastened to the roller. Four hours later, at a spot ten miles distant, some weed was seen to move, and the line with the salmon still on was found to be entangled. The line was secured, passed down the rings to the reel, after which he said he played the fish for one and a-half hours and then landed it. (Laughter.) A youthful angler challenged this; but the business proceeded as usual. (Laughter.) The clergyman also told us that they rose a very fine trout about 15yds. from the boat, and into the circle made by the fish one of the anglers threw his tail-fly; but the angler badly missed his fish. Said the boatman: "There be a foine fish for you; you'll not see the likes on him again; he was a good fish." The clergyman asked the boatman, "Well, how big about do you think the fish was?" "Truth, I can't tell," replied the boatman. "Well, tell me the weight, then," added the clergyman. "Oh," replied the man, "yer honour's clothes wouldn't fit it." (Laughter.) It seems to me that there is no pleasanter thing than to meet at these annual gatherings to talk about catching fish or to exchange one's views. I have very many happy reminiscences of annual gatherings in many pleasant places; and is there anything more delightful than to see that the old angler, with the snows of many winters in his hair, still carries with him the sunshine of eternal spring wherever he goes (Cheers.) Something there is in the sport of angling which keeps these men like merry-hearted boys to the finish. (Hear, hear.) The very last thing they do is to die. (Laughter.) Then there is the delight of getting away from town life, and from the rush for gold, to some place where you may exist without the restraints of civilisation, and do as you like—where top hats are unknown, and you can wear knickerbockers without having unkind remarks made about the size of your calves. (Laughter.) Solitude is part of the stock-in-trade of the angler, in spite of the fact that commerce is extending up the valleys and the remotest of water-courses. The angler still pursues his recreation in the country as God makes it, and long may it be before there remains only the practical side of it. (Cheers.) I should like before concluding to call your attention to what Richard Jefferies said of the country-side: "I linger," he says, "in the midst of the long grass, the luxury of the leaves, and the song in the very air. I seem as if I could feel all the glowing life the sunshine gives, and the south wind calls to being. The endless grass, the endless leaves, the immense strength of the oak expanding, the unalloyed joy of finch and blackbird; from all of them I receive a little. . . In the blackbirds' melody one note is mine; in the dance of the leaf shadows the formed maze is for me, though the motion is theirs: the flowers with a thousand faces have collected the kisses of the morning. Feeling with them, I receive some at least of their fulness of life. Never could I have enough, never stay long enough. . . . The hours when the mind is absorbed by beauty are the only hours when we really live. So that the longer we can stay among these things, so much the more is snatched from inevitable Time." (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I thank you for giving me the privilege of responding to this toast. Long may we flourish to sustain, through advancing years, the best traditions of the gentle craft which is our true heritage. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. C. H. Cook next submitted the healths of "The Visitors," from the vice-chair. He said: It is my pleasant duty, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Senior, to propose this toast. Mr. Senior has asked me to express his great regret—a regret that we all share, too—at his being unable to be present at our annual dinner. Amongst our guests, whom we right gladly welcome, I see many connected with science, art, literature, and law. There is a great bond of sympathy between artists and flyfishers. (Hear, hear.) Both are lovers of Nature; and the only difference between us is, that whilst they work their oils, we work our waters. (Laughter and cheers.) I say, on behalf of the members of the club, that we don't want to see the same visitors here next year, because we hope that the visitors on the present occasion will have joined the Flyfishers' Club by the time the next annual dinner is held. (Cheers.) I can assure you it is a great pleasure to me to give the toast, and to couple with it the name of Sir J. R. Somers Vine, the secretary of the Savage Club. (Cheers.)

Sir J. R Somers Vine, in acknowledging the toast, said: Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, I am feigned to think that as time rolls on, I find it increasingly difficult to reply to this toast. ("No.") I respond to-night for the second time this week to the toast of the visitors, and I should not be surprised if I had not to respond a third, if not a fourth time. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) I thank you for inviting me to come to your hospitable board. Since I sat down at this table and discovered, by the agency of my dear old friend Wilson that I had to have my digestion impaired, and that I had to speak when I had no thought of being called upon, I have been developing in my own mind—and painfully so—in what way I shall so garnish this reply as to make it appropriate to the gathering I see before me; and I am sure I shall have your commiseration when I have utterly failed to produce one single qualification in justification of me being placed in the position I now find myself. (Cheers and laughter.) I bethought, in the first instance, of ingratiating your sympathies if I alluded to the pleasure which it gives the other visitors and me to dine amongst "a multitude of enthusiastic disciples of Izaak Walton." (Laughter.) Well, I thought you might think that a little far-fetched, if not a little ancient, so I was inclined to say that I would describe you as "a band of devotees of the gentle craft." (Renewed laughter.) Then it occurred to me that you had seen that in print before, and that there was nothing in it. (Laughter and cheers.) Very luckily for me, Mr. Cook has supplied me with the very material which I was lacking when he was good enough to speak of my earnest support of all that appertains to fishing. Not that he spoke a great truth. (Laughter.) The Alpha belongs to that period when, about the age of nine years, I purloined, without shame, the family clothes-prop, appropriated my father's best ball of twine, and, without any attempt at remorse, confiscated my mother's best wire pin for the purpose of becoming acquainted with the art of knowing how to barbarously impale a worm upon a bent pin. (Laughter and cheers.) The Omega must be relegated to a date within the last eighteen months, when I languidly dropped over the side of a ship in the tropics a lump of fat pork for the purpose of beguiling the wily shark. (Loud laughter.) Of the interregnum between those periods I would prefer not to speak. (Laughter.) I think I should consult your feelings if I say, on behalf of the visitors, that we have had a most excellent dinner, agreeable companionship, and a delightful entertainment. I don't know what more the visitors can want, except that they hope you will give them the opportunity of coming again to share in all these good things. (Cheers and laughter.)

The toast of "The Artistes," proposed by Mr. G. J. Chatterton, followed. He said: It goes without saying that we are immensely obliged to the gentlemen who have treated us to such excellent musical talent this evening. (Hear, hear.) The members of the Flyfishers' Club are always famous for the harmonic song—(hear, hear)—and I think I may safely say that on no previous occasion have we had such an excellent entertainment vouchsafed as we have had this evening. (Hear, hear.) The songs and music have a particular charm and a particular value for us flyfishers, in that they have afforded us reminiscences of that great symphony of Nature which we anglers appreciate—a symphony that has for its primary movement hope; for its middle movement joy; and for its *finale* thankfulness. (Cheers.) May they be yours for many years to come, and may grace be vouchsafed to us to acquire all three by means of a well-spent life. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Remember, a good day's fishing is the forerunner of a good life. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, by way of a peroration, I will read to you a few words; they apply to the sentiment: "And the briefer you make your speech, the better the company will like it." (Loud laughter and cheers) Gentlemen, with these few words, I will ask you to drink to the health of the artistes, and to couple with the toast the name of Mr. William Nicholl. (Cheers.)

Replying on behalf of his *confrères*, Mr. William Nicholl said: I know that whatever pleasure we may have given you, we have enjoyed our evening most thoroughly, and I beg to thank you for your very enthusiastic response. (Cheers.)

Mr. John Paterson next rose, and said: Gentlemen, the last (but not the least) toast I have now the pleasure of proposing, it is that of our worthy chairman. (Cheers.) In his speech he reminded me very much of our old friend, Izaak Walton. We don't know him personally; we have never seen him except in his book. But one thing about Izaak Walton struck me. It is said that although he lived in Charles First's time, if you read his book there was not the slightest allusion to it. He was such a philosophic fellow that he did not care a jot for politics. The chairman is just such another philosophic angler; he is also a jolly good fellow—(hear, hear)—and it is on that account that I ask you to drink his health. (Cheers.) To me a yellow trout is a yellow trout—(laughter)—and nothing more, but to our chairman it is something far different. (Laughter.) He has written all kinds of articles upon invisible bodies. He tells us of invisible bodies of trout. When I go out to a particular river I certainly know where to expect to find the trout, but the chairman tells me something more—that the trout move in an invisible line. He also tells me about the birds that fly in the air and move in an invisible line. (Laughter.) Well, gentlemen, I don't know anything about the matter, but I ask you to read the article by our worthy chairman in the *Gentleman's Magazine*. He is a good angler, scientific, spiritualistic, jolly, and nice; therefore I ask you to be upstanding and to heartily drink his health. (Cheers)

The Chairman, who was enthusiastically received, in acknowledging the compliment, said: Gentlemen, the first unwritten law of all true sport forbids us to inflict unnecessary pain—(hear, hear)—so I shall spare you the pain of listening to a second speech from me. I trust, therefore, that the depth of my gratitude may not be measured by the number of the words in which it is expressed. (Cheers.) I thank Mr. Paterson for the kindly way in which he has proposed the toast, and I thank you one and all, visitors as well as members, for the way in which you have received my health, and still more for the kind indulgence—sorely needed by me, and so readily accorded by you—for all my shortcomings in the chair to-night. Gentlemen, I thank you. (Loud cheers.)

During the evening a capital programme of music, recitations, and violincello solos was rendered, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Septimus Webbe made a really brilliant pianist, and the musical and dramatic treat furnished by Messrs. William Nicoll, Arthur Oswald, Charles Harding, Bantock Pierpont, H. A. Bronsil, and E. J. Odell, received the highest praise at the hands of both members and visitors; but where each and everyone of the artistes excelled themselves, it would be invidious to particularise. We may add that the dinner was again an unqualified success.

FROM several districts in the Northern Highlands come reports that the trout spawning season is about over, and that there has been no better one for five or six years. Generally fish, apparently somewhat more numerous than in average years, were forward, and most of the time the water kept a fine height,

Waltoniana

FISHING may be possible in the Thames by the time these lines are read, but the prospect at present is not an inviting one. The water is still bank high, and more in places, but the nasty muddy colour has almost disappeared.

IT is proposed to send a memorial, signed by English anglers who fish in Norway, to the Norwegian Storthing, on the subject of salmon river preservation. Last year the Storthing passed a Bill which provided for a weekly close-time of three days, and for larger meshed nets than some of those which have hitherto been used. The netsmen are up in arms, and are likely to make a determined attempt to induce the Storthing to repeal their excellent measure. The memorial is to beg them to do nothing of the kind; and those who wish to sign it should communicate with Mr. F. A. Wolryche Whitmore, Kingslee, Farndon, Chester.

A WRITER in *The Field* opines that one of the chief advantages of being Governor-General of Canada is the excellent opportunity afforded by the country for salmon and trout fishing. How Lord and Lady Dufferin availed themselves of those advantages may be gathered from the recently published journal of their experiences, written by Lady Dufferin. Therein is related their first attempt at salmon fishing and many other interesting incidents of the sport. Lord Dufferin, after hooking a salmon, fell into the water, but pluckily held on to the rod, and landed the fish. Lady Dufferin showed herself a thorough sportswoman, camping out with the rest, and in her own words, getting "up at seven, had a cup of tea and a bit of bread, and went out fishing."

THE journal contains a very curious instance of clairvoyance. A footman went out fishing and was drowned. Lord and Lady Dufferin hurried up to the spot and only to see lying on a rock the remains of the poor fellow's luncheon. On that very day the man's sweetheart, who was living in quite another part of the dominion, dreamed that her lover was drowned, and eight days afterwards a letter came from her to the deceased man describing her dream. Lord Dufferin opened and read the letter, and the incident seems to be well authenticated. The body of the unfortunate man was found upright in the water, the hand still clutching the fishing rod.

THE question of the desirability of pike in rivers containing trout, is a very interesting one. Where there are practically no other fish in a river, except pike and trout, the pike should, as far as possible, be exterminated, but it is not clear to me that in large rivers, like the Thames, which swarm with all kinds of coarse fish, that to get rid of the pike would so vastly improve the trout fishing as some people imagine. The suggestion that pike injure the roach fishing, is absolutely without foundation. As a matter of fact, our best roach waters are also our best pike waters. Two instances which occur to me, on the spur of the moment, are the Bedfordshire Ouse and the Hampshire Avon. I should say that both those streams, in parts, hold their full limit of roach, and that if there were more of those fish there might not be a sufficient supply of food for them, and a result would be a falling-off in the average size of the fish after a few years. Beyond question, pike take a certain number of trout in any stream containing both species; but I believe that in a river like the Thames, where the small trout live for the most part in rapid, shallow water, the pike do not feed on them to any appreciable extent. Perch and chub, and probably barbel, in the spring of the year, seem to me (from what I know of their habits) more likely to destroy a large number of young trout in the Thames than are pike.

IN the case of streams like the Test, Itchen, Lambourne, and Upper Kennet, there is only one good word to be said for master pike—he destroys the weakly and sickly fish. But a good river-keeper can do that almost equally well. I can, however, imagine a stretch of a chalk stream, a piece of private water—very rarely fished, and swarming with trout, where the presence of a few pike would be a decided advantage; but the same advantage could be obtained by a little judicious netting occasionally. In big rivers and lakes where there are pike, the trout nearly always run large; and from my experience of such waters as the Thames and Shannon, it seems to me that pike eat many more coarse fish than they do trout. For these reasons a general war of extermination against such a fine sporting fish is surely undesirable.

TRANSVAAL justice is a peculiar thing. According to our views on the subject, it may almost be said not to exist. A Dutch woman and a Kaffir girl tied a girl to a tree, and kept her there for two days, varying the monotony of the position by occasional lashings. The girl died, and the two brutes were tried for murder. The jury found the prisoners guilty of a common assault (such assaults appear to be "common" in the Transvaal), and the sentence was three months' imprisonment. A day or two before the trial, a Bill was passed for the protection of fish from dynamite (a truly laudable proceeding), which gave rise to the following rhyming comment on Transvaal justice:—

"If you slaughter with dynamite one or two fish
Six months, with hard labour, your portion must be;
But if only to wallop your nigger you wish,
Three months (if you kill him) you serve, and you're free."

TEMPLAR.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

G. MASSY: The grayling is a distinct species, and is not found in Ireland—as far as we know.

Correspondence

[*We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*]

"*One of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment.*"—T. E. PRITT.

FLY-CASTING TOURNAMENT AT THE CHICAGO WORLD'S FAIR.

DEAR SIR,—Having read in the *Fishing Gazette* the week before last, an article by J. W. Collins, on the Fisheries at the World's Fair, especially concerning the facilities for holding a fly and bait-casting tournament there, I think a word from you to the United States Fish Commission would go far to further that object, as you know exactly how to advise on such matters. If substantial prizes were offered so as to induce competitors from all nations, it would be a sight well worth seeing, and no doubt would be a great attraction in the exhibition.

I hear a casting tournament is to be held at Perth next year.—Yours truly,

Sprouston-on-Tweed. JAMES A. KERSS.

[We have no doubt Dr. Henshall, who has charge of the angling department of the Exhibition, will do all he can to induce competitors from Great Britain and Ireland to take part in the fly-casting.—ED.]

PIKE FISHING AT KILLALOE.

SIR,—"Pike Fishing at Killaloe" is the title of a full-page sketch (or rather sketches—for there are five pictures in all) in the issue of *The Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News* for Nov. 21, from the pencil of that genial and accomplished artist, Mr. James Temple. More truthful or more charming pictures of pike fishing scenes on our lovely lake I have never beheld. I think the picture, "The Monster Nearly Done For," is simply perfect; whilst "Guessing Weight" is beyond all conception delightful. What can equal the beauty of the scene where the boat is drawn up on the shore of the island, the anglers handling and admiring the big pike, the group of boat attendants doing the looking on, the lake, the hills, &c.? I have, during a long lifetime, spent many happy days on Lough Derg, along whose fascinating shores I have met anglers from almost every clime; but never have I so thoroughly enjoyed myself as I did in the company of the distinguished artist, Mr. Temple, during his visit to the Shannon at Killaloe.—Yours truly,

S. J. HURLEY.

SALMON TROUT.

SIR,—A good specimen of a salmon trout was caught in the river Waveney, some distance above Beccles, on December 3, weight 14½lb., length 35in., girth 18in., sex female. The fish is now in the hands of Mr. Harry Tilney, Beccles, for preservation.—Yours faithfully,

KENNETH METCALFE.

DEAR SIR,—We have an exceeding fine specimen of a *Salmo ferox* on view at our establishment; its weight is 16lb., taken on Lough Neagh (near Belfast) last April by one of our customers.—Yours faithfully, F. T. WILLIAMS & CO.

10, Great Queen-street, W.C.

ROLFE'S PICTURES.

SIR,—I do not gather from your answer to your correspondent, "E. Carnegie," in last week's *Fishing Gazette*, whether you wish to have photos of Rolfe's paintings. I have two signed pictures by this artist, which are considered good specimens of his work, and have been much admired. They have not been photographed, but if you would like to have photo reproductions, I would have them done and send you copies. Do you not think it would be of considerable interest if the Flyfishers' Club would form a loan collection of the artists' works and exhibit them for say a month, in the club-room? If this suggestion should meet with approval, I should be happy to send my pictures for exhibition for that time.—I am, Sir, yours, &c, HENRY G. GREEN.

Southampton.

[We shall be very glad to have the photographs. Doubtless the hon. sec. of the Flyfishers' Club will note Mr. Green's suggestion.—ED.]

A LEA EXPERIENCE.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—I should much like to be informed whether you have ever had, or heard of any one having, an experience like unto that which, with your kind indulgence, I will proceed to relate to you. I am in the practice perhaps twice a week during the season of roaching in the Lea, and sometimes have tolerable sport; but last week I caught nothing. The day (Tuesday) was foggy, and although I caught the early train to Waltham, and thought I should be the first to get among them, I found a gentleman already hard at it about fifty yards off my favourite swim. Observing that he was a comparatively young man, and probably very amateurish, I passed him without remark, and duly commenced operations on my own account. As before stated, nothing resulted from these, as during the whole day I didn't have a knock; it was therefore only natural, that getting rather tired of it, I should knock off, and as I could not get a rise out of the roach, I should go and try to obtain one out of my young friend on the bank. I walked up to him and asked him, "What luck?" He said, "Only a small deformed perch." Feeling much relieved that his fortune was so little better than mine, I went back to my rod, and fished on; but with no better success, however, until it began to get dark, when I packed up and began making tracks for the station. Passing my brother of the rod on my way, I found him just in the act of landing a good-sized fish (about three-quarters of a pound), and to my surprise it had only half a tail; the part that was left having a creamy appearance. I said to this piscator, "How is it you catch fish like that?" He said, "Oh, it's my luck; I always catch that sort of fish." I observed that in my experience it was very unusual, but he replied that it was not so in his, as all the fish he caught were more or less damaged or deformed.

I thought it very singular; but, as it was then getting dark, and the fog thickening every moment, I felt too "mistified," if I may say so, to make any comments upon this gentleman's strange experience; and leaving him to it, pursued my way to the station. Having (as I knew) plenty of time for my train, and naturally needing refreshment, I turned into the house facing the station, to wile away the time, and fortify the inner man against the insidious attacks of the fog fiend now pervading the whole country-side. Here I was presently joined by my friend of the Lea side, and after a friendly glass or two together we both journeyed home in the same compartment, which we had to ourselves. On the way he retailed various anecdotes and stories, all more or less marvellous, of his angling experiences, all of which he assured me had been of the same kind as I had witnessed that afternoon. This, indeed, constrained me to believe his statements, although I must admit they fairly knocked me.

Their result, however, has been to leave me in a rather uncomfortable state of doubt upon the following points, that is to say—supposing all is true as this brother of the craft relates, ought he to be allowed or encouraged to fish at all? Looking at it from one point of view I should say that he ought, for he catches all the bad fish, and leaves the good for somebody else. But, regarded in another light, it seems to me that his strange fortune on the bank is calculated to have a depressing effect upon some of his brother rodmen, and to spoil their taste for our popular river, the Lea. And, above all, I "want to know, you know," if he is altogether singular in his strange persistency in landing ill-shaped fish? or whether a similar experience in some remote time gave rise to that familiar and hackneyed phrase—

"ODD FISH."

"OLD HAND'S" ARTICLE.

SIR,—It has given me much pleasure in reading the letters of "Old Hand" on the Ouse. In his description of the river at Holywell, he alludes to a piece of water near that place, which has had my name given to it. The cause was as follows: The late Mr. Thomas Metcalf, of Holywell, was netting that piece of water one Friday afternoon, thirty-six years ago, when I was walking on the bank. He said he expected to catch a ton of fish, principally pike and bream, for "the hole is full of them." When he drew the net to the bank, the expression of his countenance was something to be remembered, for he had not five shillings' worth of fish in the net. I bought some baits of him, and went the next day to spin the same water, when I killed twenty good fish, and during that winter I took out of the same place a little over two hundred jack. Ever after that he called it "Ducker's Hole."—Yours, &c.,

W. DUCKER.

THE TROUT AND THE PEA BLOSSOM.

SIR,—In "Notes from Tyrone," in last week's *F.G.*, I notice an account of a 10lb. trout taking a pea blossom, which was the means of luring him to his end. It reminds me of a story which an old companion of mine was in the habit of relating with great earnestness. It was as follows: "While standing on a bridge which spanned a famous river (Thurso) he saw several salmon in the pool below. 'Sniggling' was soon the ruling thought, and home he went for the poaching tackle, which consisted of a strong line and reel, and three strong hooks tied back to back and made fast to the line. The water being deep and not very clear, a piece of white cotton rag was tied to the hooks so as to show when they were across the fish's back. The murderous tackle was thrown out in the pool and was being drawn slowly towards one of the fish, when another salmon which was lying farther down the pool, seeing the strange thing (as it were) crawling along the bottom, made a sudden rush, seized and swallowed the three hooks and the rag! A lively fight followed, but the fish was soon landed, much to the surprise of the captor and others. The dodge was tried repeatedly with the other fish, but without success."—Yours, &c.,

Halkirk, N.B. ARCHD. HARPER.

LOCH LEVEN TROUT.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your correspondent, Mr. W. Woodward, I think Loch Leven trout will do very well in the Teme; but it will depend in what part of the river they are placed. Should it be in the Worcester division, I am afraid that many of them will go down to the Severn after a time.—Yours, &c., EDWARD HAMILTON.

RE PIKE FROM POYNTON POOL (26LB.) ON VIEW AT STOCKPORT.

DEAR SIR,—I am informed that this fish weighed nearer 16lb. than 26lb., and that the keeper saw it on the surface of the water (apparently dead) and intended to take it out, but was forestalled by some "enthusiastic anglers," who were not angling, but using trimmers.—Yours truly,

MEMBER OF THE STOKE ANGLING SOCIETY.

THE GREAT TAKE OF PIKE.

SIR,—In his letter on the great take of pike by Mr. Andrews, my friend, Mr. Alfred Mackrill has made three mistakes. It was not Mr. "Tucker" who was with him, but myself. It was not near St. Neot's where he caught his twelve pike, but near Great Paxton; and it was not one hour and thirty minutes, but one hour and fifteen minutes. It was near St. Neot's where he caught twenty good jack in five hours. I was with him on both occasions, and they were all caught in the open river by fair, good fishing. I think the above is a better record than fishing in a pond, or small lake, where they are as thick as cocks and hens in a farmyard.—Yours, &c., W. DUCKER.

["Tucker" was a printer's error.—ED.]

AN OBVIOUS ERROR.

DEAR SIR,—There is an obvious error in your second par of "Waltoniana," in which it is stated "the Thames drains an area of sixty-five square miles." What was doubtless intended is *six thousand five hundred square miles*, a sum not greatly in excess of the figures usually given. According to Professor Huxley, the Thames really drains six thousand one hundred and sixty square miles, or more than one-seventh of all England, and the average rainfall over the area affected by it, is twenty-six inches per annum.—I am, yours faithfully, T. CRUMPLEN.

DEAR SIR,—I notice that "Templar," in his article in this week's *Fishing Gazette*, makes a statement that the *Thames drains an area of sixty-five square miles*. This is incorrect, as it drains about six thousand one hundred and sixty square miles; therefore, supposing that all the water found its way into the Thames, one inch of rain would mean three hundred and ninety-four million two hundred and forty thousand tons.—Yours truly, A. E. WILSON BROWNE.

Dec. 7, 1891.

ANNUAL DINNER OF RIVER AND LOCK-KEEPERS.

SIR,—I would now venture to make my annual appeal to the readers of the *Fishing Gazette* towards the above entertainment, and as it includes fishermen and others who have assisted in the preservation of the fishery, I hope the response will be more general, as I think from the recent convictions, and preventing the river from being netted during the recognised poaching season, there is a claim for more extended support.

I only ask for half-a-crown, although some contribute larger amounts, and the forthcoming dinner, which will take place at the Castle Hotel, close to Hampton Court Station, on Friday, February 5, 1892, will not only complete my thirty-third year in connection with the society, but be the twenty-fifth anniversary of the dinner which I first originated.

I have already to acknowledge the receipt of contributions from the following of sums from half-a-crown to half-a-guinea each: The Lord Mayor of London, the Piscatorial Society, West London Angling Club, Capt. H. B. Scrivener, Dr. Coates, Messrs. Alfred Northall, J.P., W. A. Crump, H. Calcutt, J. T. Davenport, Montague Davenport, T. Plews, R. S. Fennings, E. Clarke and Sons, W. M. Johnson, Edward Foreman, Arthur Price, Capt. Harrison, H. W. Davis, W. E. Edwards, W. A. Herring, C. H. Woodall, A. Woodroof, W H. Jackson, H. Ellis, W. A. Mitchison, John Mazo, Curtis and Harvey, W. H. Nichols, G. Bishop, W. G. Barnes, George Evans, George Newson, Gurney and Co., T. Hiscock, James Powell, and Thomas Crumplen.—Yours truly, W. H. BROUGHAM,

Pownall Gardens, Secretary.

Hounslow, Dec. 8, 1891.

⁂ Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.

Holloway's Pills.—This purifying and regulating Medicine should occasionally be had recourse to during foggy, cold, and wet weather. These Pills are the best preventive of hoarseness, sore throat, diphtheria, pleurisy, and asthma, and are sure remedies for congestion, bronchitis and inflammation. A moderate attention to the directions folded round each box will enable every invalid to take the Pills in the most advantageous manner; they will be taught the proper doses, and the circumstances under which they must be increased or diminished. Holloway's Pills act as alteratives, aperients and tonics. Whenever these Pills have been taken as the last resource, the result has always been gratifying. Even when they fail to cure, they always assuage the severity of the symptoms and diminish the danger.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, E.C.—The general committee met at the Foresters' Hall, on Monday last. The vice-president, Mr. W. H. Beckett, occupied the chair. A letter was read from the Thames Angling Preservation Society with regard to the annual dinner to be given to their keepers, and it was resolved to refer it to the next delegate meeting. The secretary announced that three substantial bridges, with hand-rails, had been fixed at Enfield Lock Fishery, which will afford greater facilities to those members who desire to fish there. —HON. REPORTER.

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly meeting of the Renting and Preservation Committee will take place on Monday evening next, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Association.—NO. 1 EASTERN DISTRICT VISITING LIST.—The next return visit will be to the Stoke Newington Angling Society, Mr. Godfrey's, Dun Horse, Kingsland-road, on Wednesday next. This being the last visit this year, I hope we shall have a big meeting.—G. MANNING.

Anglers' Association.—SOUTHERN DISTRICT VISITING LIST.—A return visit on the above list took place on Tuesday, the 8th inst., at the Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, S.E. On the roll being called, the following ten clubs answered: Anglers' Pride, Bermondsey Brothers, Blackfriars, North Lambeth, Rodney, Second Surrey, St. George's, Causton, City of London, and Eustonians. The next visit will take place at the North Lambeth Angling Society; the date I will give next week.—G. W. ARMSTRONG, district officer.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting Hill-gate, W.—We had a good show of members present, and we fish for six prizes till won, in December, roving. E. Gibbs weighed in perch and bream, on the 6th inst. We formed our slate club on the 9th, and we had the good fortune to make thirty-two members, and a greater number are going to join next Monday; we meet at eight p.m. All fishing club members can join, entrance fee one shilling, sevenpence per week; share out at end of year. All particulars at the above club. All gentlemen are welcome.—B. ABRAHAMS, sec.

Alma Angling Society, Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market.—On Tuesday we had a good muster of members present, when some important business was gone through. On the 6th inst., W. Thornett weighed in jack; and H. Jefferies, roach. I wish to remind members that we fish for five prizes at Ware, on the 13th.—J. PAILES, secretary.

Amicable Excelsior Angling Society, the Greyhound Hotel, High-street, Battersea.—Several of our members were out on the 6th inst., and the following weighed in: Mr. D. Cooper, roach and dace, and a nice little barbel of 2½lb.; Mr. J. Bell, 3lb. 14oz. of roach and dace; Mr. Jones, 2½lb., roach and dace; Mr. King, roach and dace, largest roach, 1¼lb.; Mr. Roberts, roach and dace; Mr. A. Knowles, roach and dace. Our next match will take place at Windsor, on Dec. 20; tow-path only; jack barred; all to go over-night.—J. RICH, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 6th inst. a few of our members were out, and succeeded in putting on the trays a very fine show of fish, Mr. Whitebread having a very fine show of roach and bream; Mr. J. Nunn, sen., having a fine show of roach; Mr. Wright also having a nice show of roach; Mr. Reeks, with some good roach; and Mr. Dyer with dace. During the evening a friend of Mr. Nunn, sen., placed a nice show of jack on the table, which were much admired by the company present.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday evening with a good attendance. Mr. Wade gave a good report of the business done at the Central Association. I hope the societies will respond to Mr. Brougham's invitation to subscribe to the river-keepers' dinner. I shall have much pleasure to forward the half-crown on behalf of our society, and hope they will enjoy their spread. We hold our visit, on Monday next, Dec. 14, of the clubs enrolled on the South London U.V. List, and I hope we shall have a good muster of clubs on that night. —A. G. SMITH.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, Great Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—Members please note quarterly night is Dec. 16, when important business will be brought forward for members to settle. We fish our monthly prizes on Dec. 13 at Windsor, all to go by first train.—J. TUCKER, hon. sec.

Barbican Angling Club, White Bear, St. John-street, Smithfield.—The return visit on the Central Association took place last Monday, and on the roll being called at 11.30 (rather late in consequence of the non-attendance of the district officer) by the secretary, there were twelve clubs answered to the call, the district officer, Mr. Watling, showed up at 11.45 and two or three others with him. The members of the B.A.C. return their thanks to those that were there on this occasion. We had plenty of talent, and enjoyed a pleasant night. We met with a blank on the 6th inst. at Teddington, and have postponed fishing for the same prizes till after the holidays.—W. RYDER, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The punt competition is postponed until next month. On Dec. 6, Mr. J. W. Hopkins weighed in 9lb. 12oz. roach, one 1lb. 3½oz.; Mr. Hines, roach; Mr. R. Morris, roach. The Christmas prizes, twenty-one in number, will be fished on Dec. 20, at Kingston; train 9.12 from Clapham Junction.—GEORGE MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—Several members weighed in on the 6th inst., but the takes were not up to the average of the preceding weeks: Messrs. H. Patman, J. Smith, P. Allum, G. Hamp, and J. Warman; total gross weight, 30½lb. On Dec. 13 we fish the annual competition for Christmas prizes, at Twickenham; radius, from Eel-pie Island to Teddington Lock; members to leave Waterloo by the eight a.m. train.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—On the 6th inst., some of our members were out, two getting very nice fish, Mr. J. Barker, some beautiful roach and dace, one dace going 13½oz., and Mr. J. Smith had some very nice dace. Last Tuesday the visit on the Anglers' Association was held at this society, ten clubs answering to the roll, and we passed a very enjoyable evening, the following gentlemen contributing to the harmony: Mr. Wallis, of the North Lambeth; Mr. Mitchell, Rodney A. S.; Mr. Lang, St. George's A. S.; Mr. Wheelhouse and Mr. Renzilier, Blackfriars A. S.; Mr. Sharp, pianist; and several other gentlemen. On Wednesday night we agreed to have a match at Windsor from Town Bridge to Surley Hall, one rod only to be carried, all fish recognised by the club, to weigh, leave Waterloo at 8.20 a.m., cease fishing at four o,clock. It was also agreed to that we fish for our Christmas prizes the same day. Honorary members will be invited to participate in the competition for Christmas prizes, only gentlemen giving prizes will be able to compete.—F. ROBERTS. hon. secretary.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C.—On the 6th inst. the following weighed in: Mr. Rich, roach; Mr. Fairhead, dace, heaviest dace 9oz. On the 7th we held our visit on the Clerkenwell list, which was a great success, twenty-two clubs answering the roll. The Silver Trout showed up after the roll was called. I must thank all those who were present on that occasion for contributing to make it a great success.—D. WARREN.

Brothers Well-Met Angling Society, Berkeley Castle, Rahare-street, Goswell-road.—The winning numbers of the gifts for the benefit of the widow of the late Mr. Sutcliff are 938, 207, 995, 835, 1.237, 1,625, 494, 1,287, 998, 209, 931, 1,075, 496, 990, 1,062, 681, 989, 734, 786.—HENRY TAME, secretary.

Burdett Angling Society, 118, Hackney-road.—Our distribution night takes place on Wednesday next, when I hope all members will come up as early as they can. We have had a few fish weighed in, Mr. D. Flint had jack, 6lb. 8oz.; Mr. Gurney, roach and perch 1lb. 4oz.—J. PETHER.

Caledonian Angling Society.—Messrs. A. Knock and W. R. Turner, in spite of the bad state of old Father Thames, have been out trying their luck, the former gentleman weighing in upon one occasion 11½lb. of roach, and upon another occasion 7¾lb. of the same fish, all over our standard of 8in.; the latter gentleman had two barbel from Maidenhead, besides losing several others owing to the foul state of the bottom of the river. He (Mr. Turner) says it is little short of marvellous how the fish find the bait with the water so thick as it then was, and also a terrific stream running.—A. GEORGE, sec.

Cambridge and Ely Angling Society.—The annual dinner and meeting of the members of the Cambridge and Ely Angling Society was held last week at Littleport. Mr. W. Duncan, Conservative candidate for the Ely division of Cambs., attended, and said he possessed that characteristic of Englishmen—love of sport. Angling and other sports contributed to the health and pleasure of mankind, and he most heartily supported them. The chairman (Dr. Cooper, Cambridge) remarked that when the General Election took place, they might find that some other gentleman would land the fish which Mr. Brand caught at the last election. The gathering was a most enjoyable one.—W.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—On the 6th inst., we had a fine show of roach and dace from the Thames. Mr. King, roach; Mr. Longton, roach; Mr. Sharp, dace; Mr. Marshall, dace. On the 13th inst. we fish a match at Cookham, for our Christmas prizes. The next return visit on the Anglers' Western District will take place at the above on Monday next, the 14th inst., when we shall be pleased to welcome all brother anglers. Secretaries, who have not received notice, will please accept this invitation.—E. T. WHITE, sec.

Campbell United Angling Society, Sir Colin Campbell, High-road, Kilburn.—Members will please take notice that our next outing for prizes takes place on the 13th inst., roving from Richmond Railway Bridge to Teddington Lock; two rods; bank only; all fish to weigh. All to start from Brondesbury Station (N.L.R.) first train in the morning or any following train.—E. W. WOOD, hon. secretary.

Canning Town Angling Society, Marquis of Salisbury, Hermit-road, Canning Town, E.—Since last report the following members weighed in: Messrs. O. Jones, J. Riley, and G. Cooper, jun., roach, dace, and bream; Mr. C. Riley, hooking a 5oz. roach foul, which was in good condition, and deficient of a mouth. Our Christmas prizes will be fished for on Dec. 20, where to fish to be decided next meeting night.—O. JONES, sec.

Central Association.—The monthly delegate meeting was held at the headquarters of the Association, Bedford Head, Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, W.C., on Monday last, Mr. John Kelly, V.P. in the chair. There was a good attendance. Mr. C. A. Medcalf, the president was unavoidably absent, suffering from a severe cold. The minutes of the previous meeting having been read and confirmed—a communication from Mr. W. H. Brougham in reference to the river keepers' annual dinner was dealt with, and the usual contribution of half a guinea voted to the fund. The most important feature of the evening's business was the welcome announcement that the association had succeeded in renting a capital stretch of water at Byfleet, near Weybridge, on the S.W.R., and of which very favourable reports were given by several of the delegates. The water is that known as Morris's, about one and a-quarter miles in extent, and the user of additional water in the neighbourhood has been secured, thus making about a couple of miles good fishing open to members of this association, in addition to the splendid fishery they already have at Pulborough. The water just rented is about two miles from Weybridge, which is the best station to alight at, as trains are frequent, and the road to Byfleet very picturesque. Mr. W. H. West, of the Blue Anchor, Byfleet, who is himself a practical angler, will afford every information, and those who are strangers to the locality, cannot do better than give him a call. The new water will be particularly convenient to some of the South London clubs, and promises to become a valuable acquisition to the association in course of time. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. T. Crumplen, and also to Mr. Williams, of the Silver Trout, for the trouble they had taken in the matter, the latter gentleman having first brought the water under notice. Mr. J. Wade made a powerful appeal on behalf of the various preservation societies, particularly the Thames Angling Preservation Society, and quoting some figures furnished by Mr. Brougham, showing how little anglers relatively subscribe to its funds. He was glad to find the collecting boxes were being taken up, and felt sure the clubs belonging to the Central would do their best to fill them, if they did not subscribe in any other way. Mr. George Watling expressed the opinion that much harm was done by professional fishermen, fishing on their own account, as they knew the best spots, and the best time, and very often secured large takes, taking fish from the river, instead of trying to keep them for the angler; which he thought one reason why the preservation societies did not get better support. A general discussion followed, in which Mr. Wade and several delegates took part, Mr. Crumplen remarking that he thought the practice not often indulged in, and only by very few men. Speaking for himself he thought it very reprehensible, and he was sure the T.A.P.S. committee would gladly prevent it if they could, but it was no reason for withholding funds, as it was a matter they could not possibly control. They were all obliged to Mr. Watling for bringing the question forward, as it was desirable for these matters to be well ventilated. Mr. C. Watling, visiting officer, reported having visited the Anchor and Hope, when twenty-two clubs were represented, and a very enjoyable evening spent. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman and vice-chairman closed the proceedings. Mr. Kelly, in responding, wished the delegates all seasonable happiness, and long continued prosperity to the Association.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—Our complimentary meeting will take place on Monday next. Any angler or friend who can make it convenient to attend will oblige their old friend—CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—We started our first competition on the 6th inst. for Christmas prizes, and nineteen prizes were taken in the following order: Messrs. E. Wilson, A. Bowater, A. Turner, T. Jameson, E. Wakeford, Tringham, jun., C. Cooper, J. Collis, H. Moore, Tringham, sen., R. Chapman, W. May (T. Marchant and E. Pyne, tie) (A. Trowbridge, A. Ellis, and A. Painter, tie), S. Aplin, and J. Willgoss. The remaining prizes will be competed for on the 13th inst. The presentation of prizes will take place on 23rd inst., all prizes to be at club-house by that date. I beg to remind members that the 17th inst. is quarterly night.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clerkenwell and District United.—A successful visit in connection with the above was paid to the Bloomsbury Brothers, on Monday evening, Mr. Wilshaw in the chair, faced by Mr. D. Warren, the following twenty-two clubs being well represented—viz., Great Northern Brothers, Lincoln, Barbican, Crown and Buckland, City of London, Independent Brothers, Seymour Brothers, Eustonians, Amicable Waltonians, Funny Folks, Islington Brothers, Bloomsbury Brothers, Alma, Burton Piscatorials, North London, Camden, Patriotic, Mitre Brothers, Anchor and Hope, Bermondsey Brothers, Golden Barbel, and North Western. We had great difficulty in finding room, the company filling the house. The next visit will be to the Alma Angling Society, held at the Crown Distillery, Vere-street, Clare Market, soon after Christmas.—F. CASTELL, secretary.

Clissold Angling Society, Free Trader, Edwards-lane, Stoke Newington.—A few of our members were out on the 6th inst., but sport was very poor, the club being saved a blank by Mr. Parsons, with roach.—E. J. MALLETT, sec.

Cobden Angling Society, Cobden Club, Kensal-road, W.—We had fish weighed in on the 6th inst. by the following members: Messrs. A. Tucker, barbel, 6lb.; T. Marsh, barbel and chub, 5lb. 15oz.; G. Percival, roach, one specimen fish, 1lb. 4¼oz., from the Thames, total weight, 3lb. 10½oz.; T. Twyman, roach and dace.—A. SMITH, sec.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 6th instant a few members were out, Messrs. Wright, Newsome, Thornton, Killick, Parram, Baldwin, W. Midson, and Legge having a fine show of perch, roach, and dace. On Tuesday, the 8th, our half-yearly distribution of prizes took place. The prizes were taken by the following: Killick, four; Wild, three; Baldwin, three; Webber, three; Freeman, two; Robinson, two; Slade, Eagles, Towndrow, F. Woods, Wright, Pumfrey, C. Richardson, Malby, Spong, Thornton, and Lucas one each. After some excellent harmony was indulged in, all were loth to part.—S. MALBY, sec.

Eustonian Angling Society, King's Head, Swinton-street, King's Cross.—On the 6th inst. we fished at Cookham for two prizes given by Messrs. Tavener and F. Marshall, senr. Mr. Abbott took first prize with a nice show of roach; second taken by Mr. Tavener, with roach; also Mr. Neall and Mr. B. and H. Pitt weighed in from same water. R. NEALL, sec.

Funny Folks Angling Society, Rose and Crown, 21, Goswell-road.—On the 6th inst., we had a nice show of fish. Mr. F. Vanhegan, roach; and Biggs, roach, dace, bream, and perch. Members are requested to attend, as there is a lot of prizes still to be fished for.—J. W. BIGGS, secretary.

Gipping Angling Club.—A smoking concert will take place at the club-house, the Great White Horse Hotel, Ipswich, on Saturday evening next, Dec. 19, the chair to be taken at eight o'clock sharp by Mr. A. Townshend Cobbold. A good programme has been arranged, and the admission is by ticket only, price one shilling.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We had a good show of fish on December 7: 13lb. 4oz. of roach and bream, taken by Mr. Slade; also a few roach taken by Mr. Stebbings.—A. PAYNE, sec.

Golden Barbel Angling Society, York Minster, Foley-street, Portland-road, W.—We had a good muster on the 6th inst., at Tapton, twenty-seven answering the call. The following members were prize winners: Mr. A. Porter, first; Mr. Fowler, second; Mr. Bailey, third; Mr. Clynham, fourth; Mr. Ellins, fifth; Mr. Barnett, sixth; Mr. Hall, seventh; Mr. Roach, eighth; Mr. Bryant, ninth; and Mr. Chambers, tenth. Twenty-three had fish, all prizes being taken.—A. STOKES, sec.

Great Eastern Angling Society, Castle Inn, Leyton-road, Stratford New Town.—On the 6th inst. the trays were again well filled with fish. Mr. F. Bates weighing 27lb. of jack, largest fish, 10lb. 8oz.; Mr. J. Grande, 2lb. 8oz. of dace and roach; Mr. B. Edwards, bream and roach; Mr. A. Wheeler also had roach.—G. F. WEAVER, sec.

Greenwich Angling Society, Prince Albert, Royal-hill, Greenwich.—On Wednesday evening, Dec. 2, there was a crowded attendance of members and friends, the occasion being the first musical evening of the season. An excellent programme was duly carried out. The chair was occupied by Mr G. H. Dowsett, and the vice-chairman was Mr. J. B. Orr. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent. —G. J. TOYNBEE, hon. sec.

Gresham Angling Society.—On Tuesday evening last, under the presidency of Mr. C. H. Bramley, a very able paper—the joint production of Messrs. Norman and Fletcher—was read by Mr. Fletcher. It was full of fun, angling tales and incidents, and gave great delight to a large and appreciative audience; and a hearty vote of thanks was afterwards given them. The Gresham album is now ready for the reception of portraits of the officers and members, and those wishing to appear in it should communicate with the secretary. A smoking concert will take place next Tuesday, at eight p.m.

Havelock Angling Society, Royal Oak, Whiston-street, Haggerston.—The five prizes left over from Dec. 6 will be fished for on Dec. 13; from the Rye House to Ware Bridge. Members, to be eligible, must meet at Mr. Foxall's, St. Margaret's Bridge, by 10.30 a.m., and show fish at same house six o'clock p.m. sharp. We have made fifteen new members since moving to the Royal Oak, and should be much pleased to see our old standards rally around us as in days of old.—W. YOUNG, sec.

Hearts of Oak Angling Society, Portobello, Turville-street, Church-street, E.—On Dec. 6 our members fished for the remainder of the Christmas prizes at the same place and conditions as before, four out of five being taken—viz.: Messrs. Holmes, roach, first; Glover, roach, second; Hart, dace and perch, third; and Jones, perch, fourth. Messrs. Brink also weighed in roach; Rider, perch; Russell, roach and dace; Bagshaw, jun., perch.—W. H. FENNER, sec.

Highbury Angling Society, Hornsey Wood Tavern, Seven Sisters-road, Finsbury Park.—Since my last report several of our members have been out, but owing to the floods, the result has not been up to the average. On the 5th inst., Mr. Rutherford, in the Thames, at Pangbourne, had a few roach; and Mr. Monte, on the 6th inst., 4lb. of roach, from the same place; but the river is too thick to do any good; but we had close on 5lb. of roach, from the Stour, by a friend. The notice for the reading of paper by Mr. Taylor will be announced as soon as possible.—J. F. G.

Hounsfield Otters Angling Society, Lower Edmonton.—Our takes, I regret to say, have not been so good during the past fortnight, and beyond a nice jack (Mr. W. Jones), a chub, 2lb. 6oz. (Mr. J. Cornwell), some good roach and dace (Messrs. W. F. Liddle, Ashwood, Lane, and S. Smith), there has been nothing worth recording since my last report. Our smoking concert on the 2nd inst. was a great success; the Anglers' Benevolent box on being opened producing the respectable sum of £3 towards the funds of this most excellent institution, and I take the present opportunity of thanking the members of those clubs, and other friends, who so kindly supported us on that occasion.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—On the 6th inst., A. Hattemore weighed in a few nice roach from the Lea; S. Cole, roach and dace; and T. Haycox, roach and perch. The presentation of Christmas prizes will take place on Tuesday, Dec. 22.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—On the 6th inst. we fished our Christmas competition, at Kingston, with success, all the prizes being taken. The following were the winners, with bream, roach, dace, and gudgeon: Messrs. A. Pain, Arthur Morgan, W. Gray, Alf. Morgan, A. Pope, and J. Bigsby. The following came close up: Messrs. Wilson, F. Pain, Pocock, Gordon, Norman, Davis, and Liversage. The prizes will be distributed on Christmas Eve. At our last meeting I am pleased to say we proposed four new members, Messrs. O. J. Holder, H. R. Helder, W. D. Holder, and W. Warrell. I shall be glad to nominate any gentleman who wishes to join our society. We have vacancies for a few more.—SNAP.

Islington Brothers Angling Society, Myddelton Arms, Canonbury-road.—We had few fish on our trays on Dec. 6: Mr. Willsher, 4lb. 11¼oz. of very nice roach, saving the club from a blank. I hope anglers and friends will not forget our smoker on Monday next, 14th, when we hope to spend a very enjoyable evening.—J. H. HERBERT, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members will compete for four special prizes on the 13th inst. Competitors may (excepting private waters) go where they choose. A discussion on the last meeting night was upon providing funds for the preservation of different fishing waters. It was resolved that the club have a box for such purpose, and that the result of the collection be disposed of at the discretion of the members. Messrs. H. and D. Auburn weighed in perch on the 6th inst., and Mr. G. Washington had roach, perch and dace. Mr. W. Wilshere had a tray of handsome dace, on Wednesday, the 9th inst., the heaviest one scaled 14½oz. The secretary would esteem it a great favour if all members that can possibly attend on next meeting night will do so, as business of importance will be submitted to the meeting.—H. B.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—Our club-room was very comfortably filled on the 4th inst., when the first smoking concert of the season took place, a very enjoyable evening was spent. Many of our members have been out during the week, the most successful being Messrs. Prole, Carter, and Mason. News has just come to hand that Mr. Tame has successfully landed a very fine specimen of a Thames pike, weighing 18lb., in the pink of condition, which is being set up.—T. SALTER, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road, N.—On the 6th inst., several members were out, Messrs. Wallis having two good jack, largest fish, 9lb. 1oz.; Holmes, 6lb. roach and perch; Webster, Watling, and Belton, roach and dace. On the 13th the above society fish their Christmas outing at Cookham for fourteen prizes. All to start by 8.30 train from Paddington same morning.—W. WATLING, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association, held at the Bee Hotel, 5, Queen's-square, Liverpool.—There was a fairly good muster of members at our last week's meeting. After the business was got through Mr. W. J. Johnson took the chair for the remainder of the evening, being the second of our winter social and harmonic gatherings. The room was now pretty well packed and a couple of hours were very pleasantly passed indeed.—RD. WOOLFALL.

Liverpool East End Friendly Angling Association, 150, West Derby-road, Liverpool.—It was decided at our meeting on the 8th inst. to have our first annual dinner at Eve's Restaurant, Lime-street, on the 17th inst. Several musical gentlemen have promised to be present to make it a most enjoyable evening. Several of our members have been out, and have had fair takes of roach, &c. We have a special meeting on the 15th, when I hope members will clear the books. The distribution of prizes for specimen fish will take place on the 22nd inst.—T. C. SEGAR, sec.

Marylebone Angling Society, Pine Apple, Carlisle-street, Edgware-road, W.—On the 6th inst. our members were at various waters. The only members that weighed in was Messrs. Barnard and A. Clark with some nice roach from the Thames.—W. F. PEARCE.

Mitre Brothers Angling Society. Mitre Tavern, Kingsgate-street, Holborn.—The benefit for Mr. Irish took place on the 30th ult., when it was well represented by the following clubs: Burton Piscatorials, Alma, Wenlock, Seymour Bros., Golden Barbel, and Bloomsbury Bros. Angling Societies. On the 6th inst. Mr. Richardson weighed in a nice show of dace and roach from the Thames; also Mr. Crocker and Mr. W. Talbot; Mr. Ryan, on Monday, roach from the Thames.—J. JOLLIFFE, hon. sec.

New Albion Piscatorial Society, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road, London, S.E. — Several of our members were out on Thursday last, but owing to the gale and floods all over the country, only two were successful, Mr. Hearn winning the first prize, £2 2s., presented by Mr. Baldwin; and Mr. W. F. Grimmett, a box of cigars, given by Mr. J. Cook.—A. E. B., sec.

North Eastern Angling Society, City Arms, 9, Blomfield-street, London-wall, E.C.—On the 6th inst., Mr. Goll had four nice jack from the Thames, weighing a little over 22lb. Thursday next, the 17th, being half-yearly night, all members are earnestly requested to be in attendance by 8.30.—G. T. FLETCHER, sec.

North Lambeth Angling Society, 108, Westminster Bridge-road.—Some of our members were out on the 6th inst. to compete for the Christmas prizes, but on arriving at their destination, unfortunately found the water unfishable. The club wish to return their thanks to those societies who have, up to the present, replied on behalf of Mr. E. Burton. I am sorry to state that letters have been sent, addressed to Mr. E. G. Roe, to the Wellington, South-street, which is the address of the Original North Lambeth, thereby causing great inconvenience to us and to those who sent to us. I hope anglers will in future kindly remember our address, and so save any future *contretemps*.—F. WALLIS, secretary.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway-road, N.—On Tuesday next, Mr. G. E. Simms, of the Gresham Angling Society, will read a paper, entitled "Coarse Fish Hatching," after which a smoking concert will take place. Mr. F. Thorling in the chair; vice, Mr. W. Stretch. Any society not receiving notice please accept this as an invitation.—H. STRETCH, hon. sec.

North-Western Angling Club, Lord Southampton. Southampton-road, Maitland-park, N.W.—On Dec. 6, Mr. Goodman weighed in three jack from the Lea, and Mr. Schultz, jun., roach from the Thames, the heaviest going 1lb. 4¾oz. Members, please note that we have a special general meeting on Dec. 17. I hope members will turn up in full force, as we have business of importance to settle.

Park Angling Society, Tottenham.—The first smoking concert in connection with this society took place at the Park Hotel on Saturday last, and was in every way a success. Other angling societies were well represented, including the Edmonton and Tottenham, Enterprise, Antwerp, and there was, besides, a large gathering of general friends. The duties of chairman were most admirably fulfilled by Mr. C. Roberts, assisted by Mr. J. H. Mackney in the vice-chair. During the evening, the chairman, in a few well-chosen words, pointed out the advantages to all lovers of angling of connecting themselves with societies such as this, and so, through them, the real boon of the railway privilege tickets, the Benevolent Society, &c., secured through affiliation with the parent society. The programme, consisting of songs, humorous speeches, instrumental quartettes, &c., was got through most successfully. The presence of the very genial host and honorary treasurer, Mr. J. G. Finch, was acknowledged with musical honours.

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, Rosemary-road, Peckham.—The members of the above fished their December series of five prizes on Dec. 6, at Staines, from the railway bridge to Laleham Ferry, including Penton Hook; but owing to the river being in flood the takes were not very large. The following successful members were: Mr. Parsons, first, with barbel; Mr. Holt, second, with barbel and dace; Mr. Bonsall, third, with roach and chub; Mr. Steadman, fourth, with barbel. The fifth prize not being taken will be left open for members to go where they please.—E. A. FAUTLEY, secretary.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—On Wednesday we had a very large meeting, when some very important business was done in reference to our next outing. I hope members will attend at the return visit of the Camden Angling Society, on Monday, and give them a bumper.—J. HARRIS, sec.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—On the 6th inst., Messrs. Comley and Afflett had a nice show of roach, I must remind members that we fish for our Christmas prizes on the 20th inst.—F. BRADLEY, sec.

Royal Oak Angling Society, Coborn Arms, Coborn-road, Bow, E.—On the 6th inst. several of our members were out, but the only gentlemen who had any sport were: A. Barclay, 13lb. 8oz. roach; F. Barrow, 7lb. 9oz., roach; J. Yeo, 3lb. 7oz. roach; and Mr. G. Yeo, jack. Mr. Silverlock, of the General Gordon Angling Society favoured us by exhibiting a nice jack, 11lb., which he had taken that day whilst paternostering for perch at St. Margaret's. The fish was taken on fine gut bottom, and fine silk running line, and after thirty minutes' play he had to call the assistance of another angler to gaff it, as a barge was approaching. After gaffing once, and the gaff breaking through the jack's side, another attempt was made, and the fish safely landed. Members please note we compete for three prizes at Harlow on the 13th inst.; all go down by the 7.30 from Coborn-road station; book to Harlow.—A. BARCLAY, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—Result of fishing for the prizes on the 6th inst.: Mr. H. R. R. Wright, sixth prize; Mr. J. Wright, seventh prize; Mr. G. George, eighth prize. The ninth and tenth prizes will be fished for on the 13th inst.; from Rye House to the locks at St. Margaret's. Next Wednesday, Dec. 16, being quarterly night, the prizes will be handed over to the various winners. I hope the members who have promised prizes for this quarter will bring or send them up on that night only.—J. WRIGHT, sec.

Seymour Brothers Angling Society, 32, Chalton-street, Euston-road.—On the 6th inst., a few members were out with the following result: Messrs. J. Petrie, roach; W. North, roach; H. Bigsby, roach. On the 13th Christmas prizes will be fished for at Pangbourn; all to go by first train on the morning only.—S. E. CANE, sec.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—Members are reminded that the competition on the 13th, is between Cookham and Maidenhead Railway Bridge from bank or punt. No competitor to go down except on the day. Prize of £1 1s. for heaviest catch as per rule. There will be a dinner at the club-house for members and friends as usual. I congratulate the members on the increased attendance at the meetings where a pleasant hour or two are spent in discussing fishing matters. Mr. Snell had a grand catch of roach and dace of 20lb. on the 1st inst. since then he has had 6lb. 12oz., and 7lb. On the 6th inst., Mr. Parkhurst weighed in one bream, 1lb. 2oz., roach and dace 3lb. 10¼oz. The president brought in five bream, weighing 8lb. 2oz., the heaviest, 2lb. 6½oz. Mr. J. Warsap, who had been with him, also had five bream, 6lb. 6oz., the heaviest 1lb. 13¼oz.; the trays of fish were much admired. Two members were elected at our last meeting.—C. B.

Silver Trout Anglers' Association, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.—On the 6th inst., Mr. Smales brought up two roach, 1½lb.; Mr. Curtiss had just on 12lb. of barbel, besides roach. I hope members will endeavour to turn up a little earlier next Tuesday, as we have to settle date of smoking concert and reading.—PELICAN.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—The members weighing in on Dec. 6 were: Mr. F. Jones, bream and roach; Mr. Manning, bream and roach; Mr. Stevens, jack; Mr. A. McDunn, roach. All members having promised Christmas prizes will forward name as soon as possible.—R. SPENCELEY, sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on this list will be to the Anchor and Hope A.S., held at the William the Fourth, Canal-bridge, Old Kent-road, on Monday, the 14th inst. As this club is easy of access by tram from all parts of the South of London, I trust they will be well supported, and that every society on the list will do their best to be represented.—A. CONN, hon. secretary.

Stoke Newington Angling Society, the Dun Horse, Kingsland-road, E.—The next return visit of angling clubs (No. 1, Eastern District), will take place to the above society on Wednesday next. The attendance of clubmen and friends on that occasion will be esteemed a favour.—T. GRETTON.

St. Thomas's Angling Society, Waterman's Arms, Paris-street, Lambeth, S.E.—The members visited the Thames from Kingston Bridge to Hampton, on the 6th inst., to fish for their prizes, but was again unsuccessful, and owing to the strong currents have decided to postpone fishing for the prizes until after Christmas.—G. MORTON, secretary.

Sundial Angling Society, Plough and Harrow, King-street, West Hammersmith.—The members of the above fished their punt match as arranged on the 6th inst., at Staines. Twenty took part in the match, but the river being in bad condition very few fish were taken. There were seven prizes, of which six were taken: Mr. Hill, 1st; Mr. Pocock, 2nd; Mr. Lewis, 3rd; Mr. G. Boreham, 4th; Mr. H. Reaves, 5th; Mr. Pocock also took a prize given by Mr. Holmes for the largest dace.—H. REAVES, sec.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—Only a few of our members were out on the 6th inst., and had fish but did not turn up at the club-house. We had a very interesting meeting on the 8th, Mr. Petty in the chair, faced by Mr. Smith. It was proposed and carried that we fish for our Christmas prizes on the 20th, and only those who are eligible will be able to compete. I hope to see all present on Tuesday next to make the final arrangements.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—On Wednesday last it was decided that the outing arranged for the 13th inst. should stand over till the 20th inst., in consequence of the bad state of the weather. Members who have not paid this quarter's subscription, are requested to do so as soon as possible.—R. BAILEY.

Wellington Angling Society, Prince George, Hill-street, Walworth.—On the 6th inst., the December competition was a failure, not any of the prizes being taken; it will be fished over again on December 13, from Richmond to Teddington; bank or punt; members to go to Twickenham by 8.5 from Vauxhall; show fish at the Swan from four until 4.30. Mr. R. J. Dartnall weighed in 6lb. 15oz., roach; Mr. Fred Hailey, 4lb. 15oz., roach.—R. J. DARTNALL, sec.

Wenlock Angling Society, Clothworkers' Arms, Arlington-street, New North-road.—The following members weighed in on the 6th inst.: Messrs. Sullivan, perch; Parslow, roach; and Kirtland, roach. I hope all members will attend, so as to get the books clear for next balance-sheet.—W. M., sec.

West Ham Brothers Angling Society, Swan Hotel, Broadway, Stratford.—Our members were out on the 6th inst., but sport was poor. The following weighed in fish: Mr. Goodrich, 1lb. 6oz. of roach; Mr. Maxted, roach; Mr. G. Bowls, 1lb. 9oz. of roach; but from private waters. I hope our members that are elected for the committee will be in attendance on Monday night next, Dec. 14, at eight p.m.—R. LOWTHER, sec.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE READING OF PAPERS AT ANGLING CLUBS.

LARGE numbers of the London club anglers attended the Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell, on Thursday evening last, to hear Mr. F. M. Walbran, of Leeds, lecture on "Two Yorkshire Rivers." The occasion was also set apart for the distribution of prizes won in connection with the recent competition on the Lea in aid of the Anglers' Benevolent Society. The prizes, consisting of tackle cases, fishing boxes, umbrellas, vases, a handsome roach pole and a serviceable pike rod, a silver-plated tea and coffee service, walking sticks, and the proverbial copper kettle, were displayed on tables, and prior to the meeting commencing they were duly inspected by the audience. In the absence of Mr. R. B. Marston (president of the society) through a cold, Mr. C. H. Cook ("John Bickerdyke") occupied the chair, and amongst those present on the platform were Dr. Brunton, Mr. Medcalfe (president of the Central Association of London Anglers), Mr. R. Ghurney, Mr. G. Murphy, Mr. H. J. Tibbatts (chairman of the society), &c. By the time the meeting was opened the hall was crowded.

The chairman, in opening proceedings, read a letter from Mr. R. B. Marston, expressing his regret at being unable to be present, and the following telegram, which was productive of loud cheering: "Leeds, 7.41 p.m., chairman, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell, London. Hearty good wishes to meeting. Success to southern anglers, not forgetting our Yorkshire representative, 'Max.'—J. Marston for the anglers of Leeds."

In introducing Mr. Walbran to the notice of the meeting, the chairman gave a short history of his angling career, and said that he was one of the most skilful fishermen in the North Country. There was no man who fished finer, and on one occasion using 4/x fine drawn gut he killed twelve grayling, weighing 22lb., and a day or two afterwards a specimen grayling of 3lb. 9oz. (Cheers.) His best basket of trout had been one of 28lb. from the Eden; and his best day with the grayling resulted, rather singularly, in the capture of another 28lb. weight of fish, from the Ure. (Cheers.) The chairman proceeded to refer to the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs, under whose auspices they had met that night, and said that its principal object was to make better men of them as far as was possible. He asked the London anglers not to fish for the sake of catching fish to weigh in for prizes, but for the love of the sport. (Cheers.)

Mr. Walbran then proceeded to deliver his lecture, which was illustrated by one hundred dissolving views. From start to finish it proved of a most interesting and entertaining character, and the audience were unstinted in their applause. Many beautiful scenes on the Wharfe and the Ure were reproduced on the canvas—picturesque waterfalls, charming pools, old ruins, castles, and country seats, and lovely woodland glens, and, in the course of his paper, the famous Yorkshire angler gave some of his experiences when fishing these rivers. He said that the Ure was a dangerous river for waders. Loud applause greeted the lecturer at the conclusion of his address, which has already appeared in the *Fishing Gazette*. Later on it is our intention to reproduce several of the views relating to the Warfe and Ure, in these columns.

Mr. Shrubsole, in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Walbran, who, he said, had come up from Leeds purposely to deliver the lecture, remarked that his presence amongst them was a good augury for the future success of the society. (Hear, hear.) He had endeavoured to interest and help the London working man angler, and he was a right good fellow for so doing. (Cheers.) He thanked him especially for having supported the idea of the reading of papers like one he had just delivered, and he believed the time was not far distant when they would not only receive Yorkshiremen and Northumbrians in London to read papers, but have to consider who they should send back to return the compliment. (Cheers.)

Dr. Brunton seconded the resolution, which was carried with acclamation.

Mr. Walbran, in replying said "he had delivered the lecture in many parts in the North, but he could honestly say that he had never met with a more enthusiastic reception than that which the London anglers had accorded him that night." (Cheers.) In theatrical parlance the present was the first time he had made his appearance on any stage in London—(laughter)— but if they desired it, it should not be the last. (Hear, hear, and loud cheers.) He asked them to always observe the true spirit of angling, and to learn to love it for the sport's sake and not for the sake of greed, or in order to win a prize. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion he again heartily thanked them for the manner in which they had received him. The chairman then proceeded to distribute the prizes in connection with the Rye House Contest, and a list of successful competitors is appended:

1, G. J. Klein, Edmonton and Tottenham, 2lb. 4½oz.; 2, Bird, Waggoners, 2lb. 2½oz.; 3, G. Wood, Hoxton Brothers, 2lb. 2oz.; 4, J. Row, Hoxton Brothers, 1lb. 12¼oz.; 5, E. Dewin, South Belgravia, 13¾oz.; 6, J. Huntly, Hoxton Brothers, 12¾oz.; 7, W. Gordon, Wellington, 12½oz.; 8, W. Bees, Anglers' Pride, 9¾oz.; 9, J. Adkin, Edmonton and Tottenham, 9¼oz.; 10, Menieces, Penge, 8¾oz.; 11, G. Stevens, Social Brothers, 8½oz.; 12, R. Brockett, Great Alexandria, 8¼oz.; 13, Kellick, Dalston, 7¾oz.; 14, Staines, Mildmay, 7¾oz.; 15, Twomer, Prince of Wales, 7¼oz.; 16, Snooks, Good Intent, 7¼oz.; 17, C. Richardson, Dalston, 7¼oz.; 18, G. Rodgers, Crown and Buckland Angling Society, 7oz.; 19, R. Spenceley, Sociable Brothers, 6¾oz.; 20, W. Clark, Crown and Buckland, 6¼oz.; 21, G. Overett, Original Alexandria, 6¼oz.; 22, A. Barclay, Royal Oak, 5¾oz.; 23, Good, Waltonians, 5½oz.; 24, J. Tuthill, Havelock, 5¼oz.; 25, W. Stevens, West Ham, 5¼oz.; 26, Russell, Hearts of Oak, 5¼oz.; 27, Barnes, Wellington, 5oz.; 28, Scultry, Hoxton Brothers, 5oz.; 29, Rider, Hearts of Oak, 4½oz.; 30, T. Harrison, Odds and Evens, 4½oz.; 31, Marks, Sociable Brothers, 4¼oz.; 32, H. Day, Edmonton and Tottenham, 4¼oz.; 33, Brink, Hearts of Oak, 4oz.; 35, Harris, Prince Arthur, 4oz.; 34, A. Petty, Waggoners, 4oz.; 36, E. Pleydell, Sociable Brothers, 3¾oz.; 37, E. Billings, North Western, 3½oz.; 39, B. Dodge, Waltonians, 3½oz.; 38, T. Carter, Burdett, 3½oz.; 40, A. Freeman, Dalston, 3¼oz.; 41, Howel, Buxton Brothers, 3oz.; 42, P. Jucha, Convivial, 3oz.; 43, Hearts, Hearts of Oak, 3oz.; 44, A. Millett, Duke of Norfolk, 2¾oz.; O. Wade, Good Intent, and E. H. Clark, Golden Barbel, tie with 2½oz. each.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Mr. H. J. Tibbatts, and seconded by Mr. Medcalfe, eventually terminated the most successful meeting ever held at the Foresters' Hall.

A MEETING was held on Monday night, at the Wellington, Epsom, the club-house of the Epsom Angling Society, when Mr. G. E. Simms, of London, read a paper on coarse fish hatching. Mr. E. S. Shrubsole presided. The Epsom Angling Society bids fair to have a most flourishing and successful career. Established in October, its sixtieth member was enrolled on Monday night, and other gentlemen have expressed their intention of joining the club. Mr. T. T. Bucknill, Q.C. (the Conservative candidate for the Epsom Division of Surrey) is president of the society, and the club is further influentially supported by Dr. W. C. Daniel and Mr. Pantia Ralli (vice-presidents), and other well-known local gentlemen. In Mr. E. W. Hailes, the club has an excellent secretary, whilst Host Dix, of the Wellington, himself an enthusiastic angler, has provided about one of the snuggest of club-rooms that any gathering of fishermen could meet in. Several fine cases of fish grace the walls of the room, including a brace of perch weighing 8½lb., caught some twenty-five years ago, in a lake on Mr. Brook's Park, at Epsom, by Mr. Puckle, who has kindly lent the fish to the club for exhibition. The other cases contain a carp 7lb. 1oz., taken in Atlee's Mill Pond, Dorking, by Mr. Allan Pagden, a jack 13½lb. caught by Mr. Puckle, in Tring Park, and three good roach hailing from Twickenham, where they were captured by Mr. Dix.

The Chairman, after explaining the object of the meeting, said he felt sure the members of the Epsom Angling Society would find Mr. Simms's paper a very interesting one. It was on a subject well worthy the attention of such a young club, and he sincerely hoped that they would think more of hatching coarse fish, and the culture of fish generally than they would of winning prizes. (Hear, hear.) For himself he had always been one of those to heartily support the prize-list from a sportsmanlike point of view, and he asked them to make it a sportsman's society, not a pot-hunter's. (Hear, hear.) The term "pot-hunter" did not apply to those who occasionally won a copper kettle or a set of jugs; it referred to those individuals who called themselves anglers when they only formed themselves into a club to win prizes. (Hear, hear.) If the club relied on its prize-list alone, then he prophesied for it a short career, but a long life if it was conducted in a sportsmanlike manner. (Applause.) But he believed the Epsom Angling Society would go in for advancing angling as a sport; if they did, then, indeed, would they have done a great and good work, and a permanent one. (Hear, hear.) In conclusion the chairman impressed on his hearers the necessity of fish-stocking and fish-cultivation, for he contended that if something was not soon done, coarse fish would speedily not be worth fishing for. He then introduced the lecturer to the meeting. (Cheers.)

Mr. Simms, who was cordially received, then delivered his interesting paper, and remarked that the depopulation of our inland waters was beginning to slowly force itself on the minds of the angling community. The reader quoted Mr. R. B. Marston's remarks on the increase in the ranks of the anglers, and the consequent immense destruction of fish. He (Mr. Simms) re-echoed that eminent authority's cry, "How can we get fish?" Well, an effectual answer has been given to the query by the salmon and trout anglers, who, by a sportsmanlike standard of size, supplemented by constant re-stocking, had greatly added to the worth of their fisheries. On the other hand, the coarse fishermen had been singularly apathetic after their own interests. They had used every endeavour to catch fish, but had done little or nothing to replace them. He, therefore, urged anglers to increase their standard and constantly re-stock with fish bred from ova produced from other rivers. Unless they did they would soon have to bid a sorrowful farewell to the coarse fishing that had provided them so many pleasant outings in the past. Probably the one cogent reason why greater attention had not been paid to the hatching of such coarse fish as roach and perch, was that people imagined it to be a very difficult operation. There was, he could assure them, no real difficulty in the matter; anyone could compass it. Mr. Simms then passed on to describe the appearance of coarse fish ova, and where it could be found. He said that once, with a dozen common glass pickle jars and a couple of aquariums, he hatched several thousand of roach and perch. He recommended the plant microbe as an admirable food for young roach, and he thought it would prove equally efficacious for perch fry. He contended that with a little care every vestige of spawn in any particular river could be collected and hatched out by the aid of wicker baskets. In conclusion, Mr. Simms trusted he had opened out a new field of thought in connection with their sport, and he urged upon them the necessity of keeping their stock replenished.

Dr. Daniel, in proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer, said he hoped they should be followers of his. (Hear, hear.) The way Mr. Simms had dealt with his subject showed that he was evidently a master of it.

Mr. Bucknill, Q.C., seconded the motion, and said he felt sure the members of the Epsom Angling Society were extremely indebted to Mr. Simms for his very able and interesting paper. (Hear, hear). He quite agreed with the chairman and Mr. Simms that they must do something towards cultivating their fish. They must if they wished to continue to be anglers not delight in catching the shrimps of the present day, but wait till they have grown into respectable specimens. (Hear, hear.) He had lately been spending a holiday at Whitby, and the fishermen had been complaining to him that they were unable to get along nowadays because of the stream trawlers, which ploughed up and down the sand banks and destroyed the spawn and young fish. The consequence was that there had been a great falling-off in the size of soles. If they destroyed their small coarse fish to-day, why next year and the year after they would simply get none at all. If the Eosom Angling Society desired to fish in years to come they must take some means of preserving their quarry. They hoped to get a stretch of water for themselves soon, and he should then look forward to their devoting one part of the year to the pasture of angling and the other to fish hatching. (Applause.) He hoped they would try and increase their knowledge in that direction, though compared with the chairman and Mr. Simms, they were, as Dr. Daniel had said, mere infants; they sat at the feet of Gamaliel. (Laughter.) In conclusion he expressed the great pleasure it gave him to second the resolution.

Mr. Dix supported it, and said he and several others of the club had been out that day. They had caught about four dozen fish, but had returned them all to the river again as there were none worth showing at the club. (Hear, hear.) He said the committee had decided not to give prizes for gross weight. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Connellan, London, would agree with gross weight prizes, if they were given for the heaviest weight of specimen fish.

The resolution was carried amid cheers, and Mr. Simms having replied,

Mr. Bucknill proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was carried with acclamation, after which the proceedings was brought to a conclusion.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS, 1891.—The Great Eastern Railway Company announce that a special booking-office will be opened at the Liverpool-street Station, from the 18th to the 24th December, for the issue of tickets for use from Liverpool-street Station, on any day up to and including the 25th December; also that tickets may be obtained at the Company's West-end offices, at 61, Regent-street, 215, Edgware-road, and 51, New Oxford-street, and at their other City and West-end booking-offices. On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th December, additional trains will be run from Liverpool-street to relieve the principal main line trains. On Christmas Eve, 24th December, special trains will leave Liverpool-street at 1.20 and 8.3 p.m., for Ipswich, Lowestoft, Yarmouth, Norwich, &c.; also for the accommodation of persons detained at business until late on Christmas Eve, special midnight trains will leave Liverpool-street at 11.55 p.m., for Bishop's Stortford, Cambridge, Ely, Dereham, Fakenham, Norwich, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, &c., and at 12.15 a.m., for Colchester, Ipswich, Bury St. Edmund's, Diss, Norwich, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, &c. On Christmas Day a special train will leave Liverpool-street at 9 a.m., for Ipswich, Norwich, Yarmouth, Lowestoft, &c.; and the 8.2 a.m. train from Liverpool-street will be extended to St. Ives, Peterborough, Lynn, Hunstanton, Dereham, Brandon, Norwich, &c. Special trains will be run for the conveyance of Christmas parcels. In order to secure expeditious transit, senders are desired by the Company to fasten the address to each package securely, and as an additional security against loss are recommended to put inside each package another address of the consignee.

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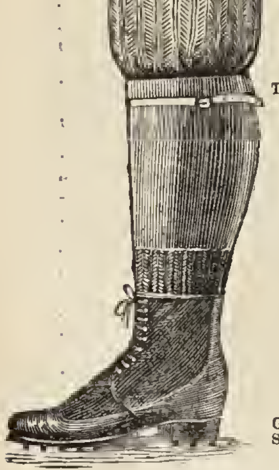

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SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1891.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

A MEETING of the committee of the Birmingham and District Angling Association was held on Thursday evening, last week. An application was received from the Birmingham Piscatorial Society for permission to remove their club from the Bodega, Temple-street, to the Collonade, New-street, the reason given for the removal being that the accommodation at the Bodega was insufficient. No opposition was offered to the removal by any society in the district, so the application was granted. The Belmont asked permission to remain at the Brunswick Hotel, Lancaster-street, and make the hotel their place of meeting; this application was also granted. The Ashted Society, who hold their meetings at the Black Horse Inn, Coleshill-street, made an application to remove their club to the Whittington and Cat, Great Brook-street, but owing to no reason being assigned for the removal, and the clubs in the district not sending replies to the letters sent out by the secretary asking them if they had any objection or not to the removal, it was decided to allow the matter to stand over until the next meeting. Two new societies held in the neighbourhood of Sparkbrook asked for admission into the Birmingham and Provincial Association; the applications were opposed by representatives from the Leopold and Sparkbrook Clubs, who in making their objection pointed out that the clubs were within half a mile of the already established clubs, and that it would be injurious to them if the new societies were admitted. The committee took this into their consideration, together with Mr. Dance's by-law, which expires at the end of the present year, which was to the effect that no new clubs be admitted during the present year. The new clubs were acquainted with this by-law before making their application, but they wished to enter the association at the expiration of the by-law. The committee, after discussing the applications at some length, finally decided not to entertain them. Mr. Dance gave a notice of motion, which was seconded by Mr. Hughes: "That no society be admitted into the Birmingham and District Angling Association within a radius of three miles of Stephenson-place, and that all new societies pay an entrance fee of three guineas."

THE St. George's held their annual meeting at the Waggon and Horses Parade, on Monday evening last. The meeting was convened for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, and to take the opinion of the general body of the members respecting the re-stocking of the club's waters, and other important matters. Mr. A. G. Hall was again elected without opposition to the office of president. Mr. C. White was elected vice-president; and Mr. T. Coles secretary. A committee of seven being required, eleven gentlemen were nominated, and upon the vote being taken, the following gentlemen were duly elected—namely, Messrs. Callaway, King, Beddel, Eccles, Bushell, T. Bayliss, S. Randford; Messrs. Callaway and Cottrell were elected auditors. The two gentlemen appointed as delegates to the Birmingham Association were Mr. T. Bayliss and Mr. J. Eccles. Mr. J. Moore, who was absent through illness, was again elected as treasurer. The question of re-stocking the river Auker was taken and approved of, Mr. Wainwright moving and Mr. G. King seconding the following resolution: "That the St. George's Society accept the offer of the Belmont Society, and buy the whole or portion of the fish offered to them, and that they be placed in the waters of the society, such parts of the water to be decided upon by the committee." A committee was also appointed to carry out the work.

I AM informed through Mr. Rowberry, the secretary of the Sparkbrook Angling Society which is held at the Rose Inn, Henley-street, that the worthy host of the club-house has made an offer to the club of £5 for the purpose of forming a fund for the purchasing of prizes, to be awarded to the members taking specimen fish. The club are to be congratulated upon having such a liberal host.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

"WAITING for the verdict" fully describes the position of things in Lancashire to-day (Tuesday). We have been doing our very best in respect to the great memorial to the railway companies, and doing it honestly, too. Many more signatures could have been obtained, but the promoters strictly objected to any but genuine anglers interested in the question appending their names. Some idea of the undertaking may be formed from the various towns and the signatures obtained in each: Accrington obtained 86; Ashton-under-Lyne, 51; Blackburn, 363; Bolton, 1,114; Bury, 69; Lancaster, 69; Liverpool, 12; Manchester, 1,218; Oldham, 51; Preston, 562; Rochdale, 20; St. Helens, 121; Staleybridge, 45; Warrington, 297; and Wigan, 326. In all there were 5,777, so that the County Palatine certainly has done its duty. Many sheets have since come to hand too late for inclusion in this statement. Should the concessions asked for be granted, a great boon will be conferred on all anglers, and the Northern Anglers' Association will have a great responsibility thrown upon them in seeing to the faithful observance of the conditions laid upon them by the various railway companies.

MANCHESTER is in a state approaching a crisis with regard to the question of withdrawing their delegates from the Amalgamated Anglers' Association. Every club is now discussing the momentous question in anticipation of the meeting to be held on the 17th, when a decision on the matter will be arrived at. From reports to hand there will be a large majority one way.

THE Openshaw Club have just appointed their new committee as follows: Messrs. H. Starkie, E. Tudor, J. Kay, S. Eynes and N. Bowden. Messrs. Starkie and Kay are the appointed delegates to the Manchester district.

THE reported pollution of the Dane around the Middlewich and Northwich district has caused a great amount of regret. The local fishermen claim to be able to trace the cause of the pollution, and it now remains to be seen if any pressure can be brought to bear in order to stop any further pollution. In the meantime the fish are found dead and dying in large quantities in the affected district.

THE New Islington Club is now re-constituted on a firmer basis than before. The future prospects of this club are much better than they have ever been. A really efficient executive is appointed, and new members are being freely enrolled,

A GREAT want is felt in Manchester in the absence of a central place of meeting, where all meetings, both large and small, could be held, and where a library formed of all kinds of literature relating to the sport may find a home easy of access to the great body of anglers residing in or near the city. Several prominent fishermen are giving this question their attention, but the development of the scheme is an item requiring careful consideration.

DURING the past week only a few rods are reported as turning out. Doubtless the unfavourable weather is accountable for this, but those who have braved the elements cannot be said to have had good sport, for the heaviest basket we have heard of is one of 7lb. Many are paying the penalty for their hardihood in severe colds contracted whilst fishing, and the roll of those on the sick list from various causes is extremely heavy.

A NEW movement promoted by a leading and noted local angler in Manchester will shortly be announced, for the benefit of all anglers in this district. In order that no clubs shall be overlooked, it will be advisable that all secretaries in the various Lancashire towns at once send in their names to Mr. Geo, S. Smeeth, 39, Hanging Ditch, Manchester.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

DURING the past week some good takes have been made on some of our famous broads. On Thursday week two gentlemen were fishing on one of these said broads, one with a spoon bait and the other dead bait, spinning—the first securing eight fish (largest, 8½lb.), the second six fish (largest, about 6lb.)

ON Friday, at Wroxham-on-the-Bure, a nice pike of 14½lb. was taken on live bait tackle; and two days later, at the same place, a similar fish, of 14lb., was secured in the same way.

ALL over the Bure and its tributaries sport has been obtained. Barton Broad and Heigham Sounds have both given up some good pike.

ALL the waters in this district are in splendid condition for spinning, and any angler who wishes for good sport can have it for the coming.

ON the Yare, little or no pike fishing has been done, but on the 6th inst., at Langley, one boat had twenty-five nice roach, and another boat at Rockland had thirty-five very good fish.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

SPORT on the Trent has again been greatly interfered with by heavy rain. On Wednesday the river was much swollen, and until we experience a few severe frosts, both pike and chub anglers will be placed at a disadvantage as regards the enjoyment of sport. At this season of the year very little rain brings on a rise. The ground, generally, is thoroughly saturated, and the slightest flush in the tributaries stirs up the river anew and throws it out of condition for the followers of the two fish named. At the time of penning these Notes there was any amount of colour in the river, and very few places were fishable with any prospect of killing fish. In Clifton Grove, on the 4th, Mr. J. Boyd, of Nottingham, caught a surprisingly large number of big bream and roach, and on Tuesday the same angler again excelled amongst the same class of fish. Some of the bream weighed 4lb. a-piece.

AT Wilford, on Monday afternoon, Mr. J. Taylor, Nottingham, landed a decent quantity of chub and roach with the maggot; and above the New Trent Bridge, Mr. Geo. Hall bagged a dozen prime roach with bread paste. Better takes came from the lower reaches last Saturday, roach and bream predominating, and a few large roach came to hand from Shardlow, which of late has been much neglected. There has been no pike fishing, but in private waters in the Mansfield district, two members of the Nottingham Wellington Association have killed eleven handsome fish, weighing in the aggregate something like 70lb.

A FEW weeks ago, Mr. J. Theaker, fishing-tackle dealer, Canal-street, Nottingham, consigned to Mr. Warner, Welsh Harp, Hendon, something like eighty strong and healthy pike, which were turned into the extensive lake adjoining his famous hostelry. So pleased was Mr. Warner with the quality of the fish, that he requested Mr. Theaker to send him a further supply as soon as practicable. On Monday, Mr. Theaker despatched, not only sixty pike, but a large quantity of grand dace and roach. These arrived all safely, and the two consignments ought some day or other to afford sport to the numerous patrons of the Welsh Harp Fishery. I might add that several of the dace exceeded 8oz. each.

LAMPREY fishing on the Trent this season has varied considerably. At King's Mills, very few of the fish have been caught, but at the weir, at Colnick, numbers appear to have been taken. Most of the eels are got by the aid of wicker baskets, which are set at night. The fish are cut up and used as bait at sea. Anglers on the Thames use bits for barbelling; and I cannot see why barbel and chub on our own river should not be tempted by a dainty morsel.

IN conversation, the other day, with a gentleman connected with the Nottingham Shoulder of Mutton Angling Association, I ascertained that just lately the executive have admitted half a score new members, and that, in order to afford greater sport for the society, the committee are trying to secure a further piece of private water, which is known to contain plenty of pike. Several members have recently been trying their hands in the river for coarse fish, and as soon as the water fines down they hope to do something out of the common amongst chub.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

THE streams are in splendid condition for pike fishing. There are an unusually large number of pike in the river in the locality of the town, and anglers will be well rewarded by a day's excursion. Perch and roach fishing is also good, but grayling, on the other hand, are very few and far between. Why this should be the case it is hard to say, for, to all appearance, the Severn in this locality is admirably adapted to their habits. A few fish may be found on some of the fords (notably the Silver Ford), but these are becoming fewer every year.

NOW that so many anglers and those interested in trout-culture are paying so much attention to the question of the migration of Loch Leven trout, it may not be out of place to note the experience of the Shrewsbury Severn Angling Society in this respect. For many years past this body has been endeavouring to re-stock the Severn with trout, and in their earlier attempts in this direction they turned a large number of yearling Loch Levens into the river in the neighbourhood of the town, many of these being generously given by local gentlemen, who were not slow to recognise the valuable work that the society was doing. A few years ago the society, in order to obtain further facilities for re-stocking, established a hatchery in the public grounds of the quarry. Their work here was even more successful than even the most sanguine had been led to expect, and ever since the establishment of this hatchery, the society has been able to turn into the river annually many thousands of fry. Many of these fish are annually captured, and during the last year or two, handsome trout of undoubted Loch Leven breed have been captured, many weighing between 4lb. and 5lb. each. Two taken last year by Mr. H. Brown and Mr. J. Williams (hon. sec. to the society) weighed nearly 6lb. each, and these beyond all doubt were the Loch Leven trout that had been turned in a few years before. But, while the fruits of the society's work were thus apparent, it has been found that the result by no means comes up to the general anticipation, and certain it is that perhaps the majority of the fish turned in either migrate to the other localities and swell the creels of other anglers, or are destroyed by river pollution or by the more rapacious of the fish. The experience of the Severn Angling Society seems to be that while some of the fish they turn in do stay in the locality, the majority are dissatisfied with their surroundings, and seek more favourable localities. It is to be hoped that the society will now turn its attention to grayling-culture, and that even a greater amount of success will attend its efforts in this respect.

NOTES FROM TYRONE.

THE rivers and streams are all two feet above the usual autumn level, from the heavy rains that fell in the latter end of last week and the earlier part of the present week. The floods have completely paralysed sport for the time being.

PERCH fishing on the Tyrone lakes would be very good were it not for the flooded state of the banks and meadows, which renders bank angling far from pleasant. Occasionally your correspondent takes a few brace from Stewartstown Pond, but bottom is rather plenty for brisk biting. On the other lakes—Roan, Carnteel, Farlough, Eskeragh, &c., not much has been done, owing to the floods.

A RATHER curious fishery case is reported from Co. Donegal. At the last Dunfanaghy Petty Sessions, before Colonel Bowlby, R.M., and Mr. Ramsey, J.P., the Earl of Leitrim prosecuted Mr. Charles F. Stewart, J.P., the owner of the Horn Head Fisheries, in that the defendant altered the position of a bag-net, which was prejudicial to complainant's fishery in Jackagh River, although the alleged alteration had been made seven years ago. The bench, after hearing the evidence, fined Mr. Stewart in £10, and with the additional penalty of £1 for thirty-seven days.

A LARGE HALIBUT.—EXCITING CAPTURE.—Alexander Ritchie, an old man belonging to Inverallochy, near Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire, was last week fishing along with a boy in a small boat, in the Fraserburgh Bay, when he hooked a halibut of large dimensions. The old man and his companion had great difficulty in securing the fish, but after an exciting struggle they succeeded in killing it, and hauling it on board their frail craft. It measured 6ft. 11in. long, 3ft. broad, and weighed 1¾cwt. It was in splendid condition. Halibut is very seldom got in northern waters at this season, and the rare thing about it is that such a fish should have been got within a mile of the shore.

OTTER HUNTING EXTRAORDINARY.—The congregation of the parish church o' the "Muckle Toon o' the Langholm were thrown into an unusual state of excitement on Nov. 29, as they emerged from the portals of the sacred edifice, which is situated at the junction of the three rivers—Esk, Ewes, and Wanchope. To the astonishment of the dower, canny, honest, bodies, a shrill whistling noise came skimming up the bed of the Esk, which only could mean one thing, and that was there were otters abroad, not only that, but abroad in braid daylicht. Whew, here's a go! The impressive sermon all had patiently listened to was wiped out in a jiffy; and sportsmen of all denominations—nearly everybody is a sportsman in Langholm—hunters, anglers, cricketers, crack shots, footballers, bowlers, curlers, &c., crowded the banks both of Esk and Wanchope. There were no hounds at hand to follow the trail of the "varmint," indeed, as events proceeded, the hounds were not required, as a couple of otters were found sitting on the wooden cover of a drain at Wanchope Foot, quietly surveying the surrounding scenery, while a third otter was in the water. On the approach of the hunters the two dry-landers took the river and joined their companion. It was now a real bang-up otter hunt, with the exception of the pack and the huntsman's red coat and horn. Down the swift current went the animals, with the "field" in close proximity, while fresh batches of excited "muckle tooners" and "Mucklemholmers" joined eagerly in the chase, until at an opportune moment Mr. J. Ellis rushed in and "tailed" one of the otters. "Tailing" is a hazardous business with an old otter; but this happened to be a young one, and the smallest of the trio. Mr. Ellis is naturally proud of his capture, and purposes taming the animal.—G.

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add 30 min. for Chelsea.
Add 40 ,, ,, Putney.
Add 45 ,, ,, Hammersmith.
Add 50 ,, ,, Barnes.
Add 55 min. for Kew.
Add 75 ,, ,, Richmond.
Add 80 ,, ,, Twickenham.
Add 85 ,, ,, Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Dec.	12	10.53	11.27
Sunday,	,,	13	11.53	—
Monday,	,,	14	0.21	0.45
Tuesday,	,,	15	1.10	1.36
Wednesday	,,	16	2.0	2.22
Thursday,	,,	17	2.46	3.8
Friday,	,,	18	3.29	3.51

English and Welsh Reports.

Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—If it were not for the reading of papers, and smoking concerts, the club-room of our Metropolitan anglers would be almost void of interest and attraction, except in those clubs where the members, as a rule, fish from the banks, and I never remember a season when so many large roach have been taken from the banks, and in numerous instances of fish up to 1½lb. each, and the capture of those of 1lb. each have been pretty general. I have been informed amongst this class of anglers some are now bringing their landing-nets with them to prevent the loss of any good specimens. Since my last report of results there has been some intervals of sport, but at the time I am writing the weather looks like a general upset again, and from Staines and other places I have not received any returns, owing to the total deficiency of sport, I never remember a season when more fine roach have been taken than in the present one, and I am glad of it, because those and the dace are fish most suited to the general body of anglers. There has been an idea suggested of exterminating the jack out of the Thames, and it reminds me of the expression of a similar opinion years ago in the columns of that time of *The Sporting Gazette*, which is now designated the *County Gentleman*: and it gave me considerable trouble, as it was stated on some definite authority; but such a movement was never even hinted at in the meetings of the committee, and I do not think it ever will, as the editor wisely adds: "And so say most of us." There are plenty of fish in the river for the anglers, after satisfying the desires of the hungry jack. Whilst on the subject of jack I would contradict the statement that the large jack recently caught at Hampton was taken out of the Thames, as I have ascertained since it was captured out of one of the reservoirs in that neighbourhood, where we have been refused permission to net. If we could only get that permission we should not lose the chance of increasing both jack and perch. where those fish abound to a great extent; and instead of depleting the rivers of both these fish, we should only be too glad to increase the number.—B.

RICHMOND.—During the week Job Brain, senr., has taken 35lb. weight of roach and dace; and Job Brain, junr., 4lb.; and H. Mansell, 7lb. Some of the roach in the latter take were of a large size, the best fish weighing 1lb. 1loz.

TWICKENHAM.—C. Brown, in one day, three dozen of fine roach and dace, and one bream; George Coxen, during the week, 59lb. of roach and dace, and four bream; John Coxen, in one day, five dozen of roach and dace, and a couple of bream; Richard Coxen, during the week, 52lb. of roach and dace; Pert Hammerton, in two days, 20lb. of roach and dace; Richard Moffatt, in two days, two dozen of roach and dace, and four bream; and John Spong, in four days, 45lb. of roach and dace, and seven bream.

TEDDINGTON.—Ben Stevens, in half-a-day, one barbel and one chub.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, during the week, eleven bream, fourteen barbel, and two and a-half dozen of fine roach and dace, some of the roach weighing from 1lb. to 1½lb. each. John Wright, in one day, seven fine chub.

THAMES DITTON.—One of the bank anglers, in one day, three barbel; and another of this class got two and a-half dozen of fine roach up to 1½lb. each.

HAMPTON COURT.—James Hedger, in one day, three dozen of roach and dace.

SUNBURY.—One of the bank anglers in the day got four barbel.

Upper Thames.—The river during the past week has been quite out of angling trim, and will for days to come be in a worse condition in consequence of the deluge of last night and again (to-day) Thursday. The flood water is pouring over the low lying meadows and arable land, and the old birds of ill-omen at the river-side and in the village pubs, say that a big thing in water is in front of us, but I disregard their croaking, for if a frost supervenes, the "silver streak" will soon again be all there, and in rare winter cleansed-out condition. A few jack and some clinking roach were had early in the week, but since then my report will never become a matter of history.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Windsor).—Water here is in much the same condition as last week, and heavy rains having since fallen it cannot be in condition for jack or chub under ten days allowing we have no more rain. Worm fishing for barbel and roach will be productive of sport and many baskets of these fish have been had since my last. Mr. Carey, sen., of Windsor, has taken several daily; the best day's bag going 19lb., the largest 5lb. by Mr. Groves; Master Hornby, of Eton College, a young enthusiast, has also had five. Several small catches of roach have been made, and these fish are now in fine order. Worm has been the best bait and the small maiden lob the most attractive.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—The water courses are unusually full for the time of year which is very much in favour of the spawning season for trout. The native trout have hardly yet begun operations, but imported strains such as Loch Levens, &c., have well nigh done. Coarse fishing owing to clouded waters is at a low ebb.—THOMAS FORD.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—Heavy gales, rain, and flood is the general record. On Dec. 6 a few anglers were out and from favoured spots on the Ouse a few roach were taken. The weather has not yet favoured pike or perch fishing, but I hear there are some good fish in the upper water. The Adur has not been much patronised, but on Tuesday Mr. Warren and friend landed some good roach, and among 4lb. of dace, one specimen weighed 12½oz. The Rother is high and clouded and the bankside deserted. Chichester Canal is in fair order, but with the exception of a few small bream, roach, and eels, the record of the week is a poor one. The weather remains unsettled; as I write (Thursday) it is blowing half a gale from the south-west with heavy rain showers.—GEORGE F. SALTER.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—Nothing to report except heavy floods and bad weather. There is not, nor has been any fishing worth mentioning during the past week. The annual dinner of the Isle of Man Angling Association was held on December 7, a report of which I will send later.—STORMY PETREL.

Fen Waters (South Lincolnshire). — There is not much to be said for angling in this district, the weather this week proving stormy and unsettled. This was more especially the case yesterday (Wednesday), when the wind was very high, and rain fell heavily. Probably the rivers may rise again as the result; otherwise the prospects are becoming better again. The open weather is very favourable for angling when other things allow of it, but the sport is more confined to only odd members of local clubs and not many of them. We are rapidly approaching the Christmas holidays, and the sparcity of visitors to even the favourite places shows it. Should the holidays remain open there will be plenty to take advantage of them; as for the angler some of the drains about this district afford the best of pike fishing. If live bait is about to be tried and that is much the best, anglers would do well to bring them as they are scarce.—LIMPET.

Idle (North Notts).—A good deal of rain has again fallen in North Notts, and there has been plenty of wind and storm, but it is scarcely likely that the river will be much affected. When the weather allows of it angling is now very good, and people scarcely need fear of getting something so long as they use well-scoured cockspur in the coloured water for bream, perch, grayling, &c.; and bread paste might be useful among roach. Visitors are very scarce, but local anglers in fair numbers were at Bollam and places in that direction. In the lower waters, last week, some are said to have done pretty well among the jack, some of the dykes or drains having a fair number in them, but they run rather small.—L.

Lea and Stort.—Angling has been quite out of the question this week, for no sooner has the river began to clear a little, than down has come another push of water discolouring the rivers, and therefore putting a stop to all chances of sport. I have met with a slight accident, which has prevented me getting about as usual this week, but I have heard sufficient to know that nothing has been done. I notice that the question of pollution by gas-lime is occupying some attention. I have written on this subject for years, and nobody knows much more about the damage done than I do. A correspondent to a contemporary writes about the quantities that are unloaded from barges and left lying on the banks, and that with the heavy rains, a lot of the filth is washed into the river. This is perfectly true, and it is a wonder how barges can be found to carry the filth, for it is well-known that none but nearly worn-out barges will carry it, they of course being so very rotten that a great quantity escapes during transit; until the powers that be absolutely prohibit the carriage of it by water, the dreadful nuisance and destruction of fish will continue. I again repeat, as I have done many times, that the protection of rivers from poaching and pollution is of far greater importance than the question of taking undersized fish, or the enforcing of the present close-times. On the 5th inst., an inaugural smoking concert was held at the Park Hotel, Tottenham, to celebrate the opening of the newly-formed Park Angling Society. With an efficient chairman, an energetic secretary, and an obliging host, the affair was a most decided success, and if only a tithe of those gentlemen present continue their support, there is a brilliant future before the club.—SPLICED JOINT.

Leicester.—Owing to the bad weather, very little in the way of sport with the rod and line has been obtainable lately. With provoking consistency rain has fallen daily, and for miles around Leicester the meadows are covered deeply with water. A few of the fraternity have been out Foxton way, and captured one or two small pike, but all other resorts in the district would appear to have been entirely deserted. Angling has been far from brisk at the waters adjoining Leicester, preserved by the local society, the doings consisting of small takes of roach, perch, and chub. Mr. W. Smith showed one specimen of the last mentioned, 2lb. 8oz.; Mr. Prime had a fair basket of roach and perch; and others who secured lots of roach were Messrs. J. Parsons, J. Hobbs, and W. Manship.

Loddon (Earley).—Just as the river gets in condition for angling down comes the rain and then floods; it will be another three or four days before it will settle down, and I hope then we shall have a good spell of dry weather.—J. R. GOULD.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—No angling has been done this week. Sport will be had with the Grasshopper when the water clears. The Pinsley is coloured.—GWYNNE.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Gales of wind, with deluging storms of rain (at intervals) have prevailed in this district since Sunday night, swelling the rivers bank high of muddy water. They are still rising this (Thursday) evening, and the outlook is as bad as ever. No fishing for at least a week hence.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Medway (Maidstone).—The water of the Medway is again running very thick, too thick to gratify the angler's wish for sport. It really seems we are not to have any settled weather; just when the water is getting in good trim, we get heavy rains. The water comes down more like mud than the river we are used to when it is favourable for the anglers. Some few good roach have been taken with the worm for bait.—W. SHRUBSOLE.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—Last week the floods had so far subsided as to admit of the dredger being at work at the New Cut, but the rains since have caused this to be abandoned, and the floods have considerably increased. Angling proper is, therefore, impracticable, and only eels have been tried for at Peterborough. Some roach averaging 10oz. have been obtained at Castor, a few perch at Peakirk, and a pike or two of 7lb. at Oundle, the latter by Mr. Smith. I hope for the sake of local anglers that this continual wet weather will dry up, and that we shall have more favourable weather, as a few sharp frosts always tickle the appetites of the pike.—NENEBANK.

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters.—We are all in a state of flood, and water very thick. No use thinking of fishing for a few days. The Ouse, Yare, Lark, Cam, Wissey, all in same state. Raining fast here now, and looks like keeping on.—WILLIAM HOWLETT.

Plymouth.—SEA FISHING.—Alternate days of fine weather have given us chances of fishing, and the opportunities thus afforded have been made use of by amateurs and professionals alike. Some friends of mine have had some very good sport with mullet and bass, the former averaging about 2lb. each. These are caught from the Turnchapel Jetty, at about two hours after the young flood. They are caught with a paternoster and rod and line. During this month mackerel very often make their appearance in shoals, being the earliest commencement of the general fishery. Hakes are generally now in great abundance, prior to retiring to deep water to spawn, and they are usually now heavy with roe. The list of fish in season for the month of December are—coal-fish, hake, ling, cod, haddock, pouting, whiting, tub, piper, red gurnard, eel, sprat, pilchard, anchovy, dory, mackerel, smelt, skate, homelyn, ray, sharp-nosed ray, oysters, crabs, lobsters, and shell-fish in general.—WILLIAM HEARDER.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—Anglers have had, perforce, to remain idle during the week, heavy storms of rain and keen and boisterous winds having rendered angling an impossibility. The river has become swollen and discoloured, but when it resumes its normal level pike fishing should be good.—PISCATOR.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this part is now running high and muddy, owing to the heavy falls of rain which have passed over this district. Angling is now stopped, and will be until the water clears again.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this district the water has risen again, and is now muddy and out of fishing order.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).—Wretched angling weather, and with the Trent in one continuous state of fluctuation, its banks are almost deserted. Monday gave promise of sport with the water gradually fining down, but to-day (Thursday) it is again bank full, and boisterous heavy storms leave but scant hopes of success for some days.—TRENTSIDER.

Wimbledon Park Fishery—There were only two jack anglers down on Saturday, Dec. 5, Mr. Woods and Mr. Attwood. The former had a fine jack, weighing about 9lb. It was a handsome, well-fed, female fish, in the pink of condition. The latter gentleman had three nice jack, all taken legering. The wind was very boisterous, and dashed the water some distance on the path way near the cottage. The 6th was a marvellous day, thrushes, starlings, and even blackbirds singing and chattering most sweetly. I have not seen a more splendid sunset this year, and we may not have such another day this winter. The reflection of such a mass of crimson damask, light salmon colour, and gold on the lake, intensified by the undulating water, was simply magnificent, whilst paler clouds and a serener sky to the left, intermixed patches of ethereal green, and grey clouds to the right formed a most charming contrast. A short time back an angler fishing with gentles on one of the stages on the opposite side to the college, was fortunate enough to take a jack 4½lb. with gentles. A capture to be proud of. A large number of jack have been taken this season. All jack under 21in. must be returned, and as no gorge tackle is allowed to be used, there is every chance for this fish to increase and multiply. Over three thousand roach, many pound and half-pounders have been turned in this season. Live-bait can always be obtained, and rods and tackle left at the cottage, and as there is a station within four minutes' walk of the fishery, which is only a few minutes run to Wimbledon Station, this water is very convenient for London and suburban anglers.—VISITOR.

Witham, &c. (Mid-Lincoln).—Angling gossip from the Witham district is very scarce. The work is pretty well left to the home-birds, and will be so, no doubt, up to Christmas. There is a report that the Fossdyke is well worth visiting, as it is not affected by the rains like the river, and now the fish have been left to themselves pretty much of late, they are not too proud to take a well-hung bait, as is sometimes the case. Roach and bream are the chief fish, though perch and a few jack may be landed. Speaking of pike, it may be well to remind those who have friends watching their interests, that this is just the time when the waters are netted by poachers and others. There is growing a good demand for coarse fish for stocking purposes, and as these are supplied by dealers at a distance, it is suspected they are not over scrupulous as to where they come from. It is known that many go from Lincolnshire, and watchers will do well to keep an eye on their fish.—LUCI.

Yare (Norwich).—Very little pike fishing has been attempted since my last report, and with only one or two exceptions have anything been done worth recording; of course pike continue well on feed, and I've heard of one catch of nineteen, amongst which were some good fish, and another catch of nine fish on the Bure, none of which were very large, whilst at the other end of the lock, two rods, in water connected with the Ant, only had one jack of about 8lb. From now till the Christmas holidays it is likely to be slow, but there is usually a good number of anglers out on Boxing-day, and if favourrble weather prevails, we may look for some good fish being taken. Alternate storms of wind and rain have marked the past few days, and at present there is no prospect of improvement.—ROBERT MOLL.

Scotch Reports.

Dee, Don, &c.—The rivers have been in flood during the past week, and spawning on the mid reaches somewhat interrupted. Although verging on freezing point, and sometimes below it, still the weather is wonderfully mild for the time of the year. Diseased fish, both in a dead and dying state, are more numerous this year than has been the case for a number of seasons back. Not only are spent fish being picked out in large numbers, but a good few unspent fresh fish are among them. The spawning season is now drawing to a close, and a more successful one all over has not been experienced within the memory of the oldest angler. This was to be expected from the early volume of water, which permitted fish to ascend to feeders where salmon have not been known to get to for the past twenty years. So much for the future.—DON.

South of Scotland.—The spawning season has been much interrupted during the past fortnight with the heavy floods that have prevailed in the district rivers. This week the floods have overflowed their banks, and a good deal of damage must have been done to the spawning beds. It will be some time before the waters settle down to their normal level, as the barometer is still falling and the rain has not ceased. From every river the reports of the progress of the breeding fish, inform me that the redds were fully occupied a fortnight ago, and the keepers and others write me that they never saw so many fish in the beds in any previous year. Disease has not been very prevalent in the South of Scotland rivers so far; I hear of a few odd fish being marked with the disease.—Heatherbell.

Thurso (Halkirk).—Owing to the fine weather and pretty hard frost at night the river has fallen to a low level, and no fish can leave the sea for the present. The kelts in the river are betaking them to the deepest pools. A large male kelt was found dead in the river the other day, although in low condition he weighed 38lb. What would he have weighed when he left the sea? I believe this is the largest fish ever seen in this river, he was 48in. in length, and except for a curious formation of that part between the ventral fin and the tail he would have measured more. He must have died from exhaustion after his spawning operations. A good many male fish die every year shortly after spawning. I trapped a splendid male otter on the 4th inst., near Brawl Castle, he measured 3ft. 10in. from tip to tip, and weighed 24lb. He had killed a salmon in Halkirk Burn, and eat part of it. I used the remainder as a bait to the trap, and this accomplished Mr. Otter's destruction. The curious part of it is, that when I was giving him the *coup-de-grace*, another otter, probably his mate, came to the surface of the water within ten yards of where I was, but disappeared as soon as he made me out. I expect to get it trapped within the next few days. Mr. Lewis Dunbar, Thurso, is preserving the otter. —Archibald Harper.

Tweed.—Salmon angling on this river, and also on the Teviot, came to a close on Monday week, and the devotees of the gentle art are to be congratulated on all hands on the season that has just terminated, seeing that it has been the best experienced on the Tweed for a good many years back, so far as regards the number of fish killed, as well as the general average weight of the salmon and grilse captured. It is as yet much too early to give full details of the fishing on all the waters, which we hope to do in a future article; but when we state that in all the salmon angling waters of the river, the reports are of the most satisfactory nature, we will have said enough on that score in the meantime. The closing week, which was a good one, was fully in accordance with the excellent fishing obtained during the entire back-end season, and anglers had no cause to grumble, either about the condition of the water or the elements above. The weather during the week was nearly all that could be desired, and not a day's fishing was lost, and the takes got since last report were fully up to the average, while on some waters they were over it. On the Bigham Water, Lord Home and his friends killed close on half a hundred fish from November 23 to the closing day, and one of the fish weighed 39½lb., caught on Saturday by Lieut.-Colonel H. Clinton. Carham Water has a record of over a score since Tuesday of that week. On the Lees Water, Colonel Beven had seventy-four salmon and fifty-seven grilse to his own rod for the back-end season. About a score of salmon and grilse were hooked on the Hendersyde Water; while on those splendid casts on the Lower Floors Castle Waters, Mr. H. Hadden and Lieut.-General A. C. Cook had nearly forty fish from Nov. 25 up to closing day. Eighteen were killed on the Makerstoun Water during the same period, with the exception of Monday, when the take was not recorded. On the Floors Castle Upper Water, about a dozen were got, this water not fishing so well as during some previous weeks. On the Upper Water, the reports to hand show that the sport obtained was all that was expected; while of the other waters in the Coldstream district, not otherwise mentioned, the takes were in good proportion to those got previously. Just as the angling season went out we had a lot of rain, and the Tweed and Teviot, in consequence, were in flood on Tuesday and Wednesday, the gauge at Kelso Bridge reporting a flood of nearly four feet. I am sorry to say that the fungoid disease has already made its appearance in the river, and several fish were observed in the Tweed on Monday and Tuesday, affected with this loathsome pestilence, some with only a spot on them the size of a shilling piece, while others were well covered with the *Saprolegnia ferax*. It is to be hoped, however, that this opportune flood will have had the effect of taking down to the sea all the weakly and diseased fish, and thus prevent the spreading to some degree of this scourge amongst the "silvery kings" of the river Tweed. Since the closing of the fishing season, at end of last month, the river has been more or less flooded, thus giving additional facilities for fish to ascend to the upper spawning grounds. Since the advent of December the weather has been much broken, and it was indeed a lucky circumstance for the Waltonian that the elements remained good till the end of November, thus enabling them to finish the angling season so satisfactorily. Yesterday the river was in flood to the height of five feet; while since the 2nd inst., it has scarcely been much under two and a-half feet above its normal size. I am sorry to have to report that the fungoid disease has again appeared in the river thus early; in fact, during the last week of November a goodly number of fish of all sizes were observed in various stages of the disease. Some had only just begun to show the loathsome white spot; while in other cases the fish were entirely enveloped in the *saprolegnia ferax*, and were throwing themselves about in many of the pools. It is hoped, however, that the floods which have occurred will, to a certain degree, have cleared away the affected salmon and grilse, by rushing them off to the sea, thereby allowing them to again recuperate, and ascend to the spawning beds. The condition of the bed of the river for breeding purposes is this year all that could be desired, the numerous freshets that occurred lately having thoroughly cleared away all refuse and other deleterious matters that may have congregated and lodged in the stream; while all the season through the bottom of the river has been well bedded with nice clean gravel; so that a most satisfactory spawning time is anticipated. Scarcely a trout-angler is seen out on the river-banks now, and this is in great measure due to the action taken by the fishmongers here, who have, since the notice of the close time for trout (amongst the members of the Kelso Angling Association) was published—declined to buy such fish. This is a step in the right direction, and is sure to bear fruit, both as regards quantity and quality of the common trout during the spring months. The following is a return of the fishing got on the Rutherford Water during the last week of November, the list not being to hand in time for last report: Nov. 24, Miss Vickers, one salmon of 28lb.; 25th, Dr. Gibson Dyson, three salmon; and Miss Vickers, two, 16lb. and 15lb., the others being 16lb., 17lb., and 18lb.; Mr. George Forrest, Kelso, on the 26th, one of 16lb.; Dr. Dyson, two, 20lb. and 24lb.; 27th, Dr. Dyson, a 6lb. grilse; 28th, Dr. Dyson, besides being broken by two good fish, killed nine salmon, 12lb., 17lb., 18lb., 19lb., 20lb., 23lb., 24lb., 25lb., and 32lb.; on the 30th, Miss Vickers had one 8lb. grilse; and Dr. Dyson, a salmon of 11lb.—Maxwheel.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—The river is high in flood and and muddy. Lake trout have been observed crossing the carries. The runs of salmon from Lough Neagh have stopped, and only few fish have come up this week as far as Coagh. Small trout have spawned; but the heavier fish are not yet on the redds, nor will not till about Christmas. In the small burns and races, the numbers of spawning trout are unprecedented. Yesterday evening, in the Coagh Mill-race, I saw one trout, which must have been close on 10lb. in weight. On the upper spawning grounds the recent floods are said to have done damage in covering the beds with mud, and sweeping away half-spent trout. —J. A. B.

Waterville (County Kerry).—Good accounts continue to be received from the spawning grounds in this district. All the rivers are flooded, but there has been no violent floods that would do harm on the spawning beds. Sea angling, which was so good recently, has been abruptly brought to a standstill by adverse weather, and may now be considered to be practically over for the year.—T. J. Dennehy.

Westmeath Lakes (Mullingar). — The tributary streams of the Westmeath Lakes, owing to the late incessant rains, have swollen to such an extent that the spawning fish are able to ascend to the higher reaches, where suitable gravel is to be found in which to deposit the ova. At the present time there is a heavy run of trout, many of them being of large size. Immense numbers of salmon have also appeared in the upper portions of the rivers Inny and Brosna and their more important tributaries. The Westmeath Lakes and Rivers Fish Preservation Society are actively engaged in taking every precaution for the due protection of the salmon and trout during the close season in their portion of the Limerick district. A very competent and intelligent staff of water-bailiffs have been organised and appointed, and are ably assisted by the R. I. Constabulary. Poachers are very quiet, the late prosecutions by the assistant secretary having had apparently a very salutary effect; one poacher undergoing at present a term of two months' imprisonment in Tullamore Gaol; another having paid a heavy fine, goes to show that the fish are being well taken care of.—T. J. W.

RICHMOND PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.

Complimentary Supper to the Chairman.

The members of the Richmond Piscatorial Society assembled in good numbers at the Greyhound Hotel, Richmond, on Friday night. For a long time Mr. Davenport had been absent from the meetings of the society and from his other public duties as a member of the Middlesex County Council and the Twickenham Local Board, owing to a severe illness. Happily he had now recovered, and the members decided to give him a cordial welcome upon his return amongst them by arranging a complimentary supper. Mr. Philip Geen was in the chair, having the guest of the evening on his right.

The supper was admirably served, and the proceedings which followed were full of that enjoyment which usually prevails at the meetings of this society. The speeches were short and pointed; and the musical part of the programme, arranged by Mr. Perkins, fully maintained the high reputation of the society in matters of this kind.

The speeches were commenced, as usual, with a toast in honour of "The Queen and Royal Family," and after the expressions of loyalty this permitted had been heartily given, the Chairman proposed the toast of the evening. He said he could not refrain from alluding to the absence of their friend, Mr. R. B. Marston, the talented Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*, who was to have presided that evening, but was unable to be present owing to the serious illness of a child. He was confident that Mr. Marston had the sincere sympathy of every one of them. (Hear, hear.) With regard to the toast he had to propose, he thought the Richmond Piscatorial Society had been extremely fortunate in its selection of chairmen from the very foundation. They had had a series of able and excellent chairmen. He was not going to compare Mr. Davenport with the others, but generally they had been fortunate, and in Mr. Davenport they were most fortunate. (Hear, hear.) For many years he had been a member of the Twickenham Local Board, and a more respected member could not possibly exist. He (the chairman) took great interest in the first election of County Councillors, and he thought it was generally agreed that they now had, throughout the country, such a good average of men filling that position that there was room to fear that they would not again do as well. The very flower of our ablest and most practical men seemed to be members of County Councils at the present time. It said much that one of the men chosen in the important county of Middlesex was their chairman, Mr. Davenport. (Applause.) He was an excellent angler, as his father and his grandfather were before him. He was not surprised at that, for so much excellence could scarcely be developed in one generation. He had much pleasure in proposing the health of the chairman of the society, Mr. Montague Davenport. (Cheers.)

The toast was honoured with the utmost enthusiasm.

Mr. Davenport, who was cordially received, said the magnificent reception they had given him almost took his breath away. He did really appreciate from his heart all their kindness towards him. He certainly had regretted his enforced withdrawal from the society. At one time he almost gave up the hope of seeing them again, but as in angling they sometimes saw the clouds passing by and the sunshine coming again, so the sunshine had come once more to him, and he was able to greet them again. (Applause.) He felt flattered that night because he saw around him not only the members of that society, with Mr. Geen at their head, but his colleague at the Middlesex County Council was present, the Richmond Corporation was represented, and several members of the Twickenham Local Board were also present. They were paying him a compliment which he would never forget. It gave him the greatest pleasure to see them around that table. Many of them were not only comrades in the piscatorial world, but personal friends. Again he thanked them most cordially, and he hoped to deserve their good wishes. (Cheers.)

Mr. Davenport afterwards proposed "The Richmond Piscatorial Society." He was pleased to know that the society was prospering. They were having an influx of new members, and that was always a good sign. They had applied to his Highness the Duke of Teck, as president of the society, to see if he could asssist them to have some restriction placed on Penn Ponds, as to the size of fish taken out. He was glad to say that they had had a reply, in which his Highness said that he would do what he could in that matter, and also to assist them in all their angling pursuits. (Applause.) Mr. Marston had promised to present them with some very fine black bass, the finest sporting fish of America, and if they got the regulations they wanted, so that the fish might be protected, they intended to make Penn Ponds the home of the black bass. (Applause.) It was certainly a very suitable place for them. He thought that was a proof that the society desired to be practical. The black bass was a very fine fish, and would open up a new school of angling. In that society they were proud of being sportsmen of the first degree, and set their faces against anything in the way of a butchery of the fish. To crowd a basket with small fish, to be weighed in just as if they were weighing coals, was to their minds utterly unsportsmanlike. (Applause.) They wanted to get rid of trailling, and he hoped something might be done to induce the Thames Conservators to consider the angling interests of the river, as well as the navigation. When they got the Thames Conservancy represented, and the riparian County Councils represented upon it, they might have some men who were interested in angling as members of the board. He congratulated the committee on the manner in which they carried out the work of the society, and he thought he ought also to mention Mr. Perkins and others, to whom they were indebted for many successful entertainments during the winter months. (Applause.)

Mr. Wright responded, stating that the society was now in a more flourishing condition than it had ever been before. He hoped they would continue to attract new members.

Mr. Davis, whose name also was coupled with the toast, said it had been a pleasure to him to do what he could for the club during the last ten years. It had been whispered about that it was gradually becoming extinct, but he thought a glance into that room would at once dispel the illusion. (Applause.)

Mr. Potter proposed "The Health of the Chairman," complimenting him upon his ability as a speaker, and the toast was duly honoured and acknowledged.

Mr. E. V. Powell proposed "The Visitors," expressing his pleasure at the presence of so many members of the Twickenham Local Board, who had jurisdiction over a large part of the banks of the river in that neighbourhood. It was a part that was frequented by anglers, perhaps, more than any other part of the Thames, and there was certainly more fish taken there than in any other part of England. He calculated that in three months the anglers took 100,000 fish, weighing seven and a-half tons from that part of the river which flowed past the parish of Twickenham. Why did the fish come there in such numbers? He supposed it was on account of the extraordinary purity of the effluent the Twickenham Local Board poured into the Thames from the drainage works. (Laughter.) The society thanked the Board for the care they exercised over the river as far as their powers extended. In conjunction with Richmond, they had fought a good fight for the lock and weir, but their duty did not end there. He hoped they would guard the river as far as they had power, and look upon the anglers as their constituents. (Applause.)

Mr. G. J. Duncan, whose name was coupled with the toast, responded.

The other toasts included "The Press," proposed by Mr. Davis, and coupled with the name of Mr. Dimbleby; "The Vice-chairman," proposed by the Chairman, and responded to by Mr. Perkins.

NEW PATENTS.

The following is a list of Piscatorial Patents, which is supplied to us by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Registered Patent Agents and Attorneys for Colonial and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks, 76, Chancery-lane, Holborn, W.C., All inquiries answered by them free of charge to our readers:—

20,443.—J. Lander, of London, for "Improvements in and relating to fishing floats."

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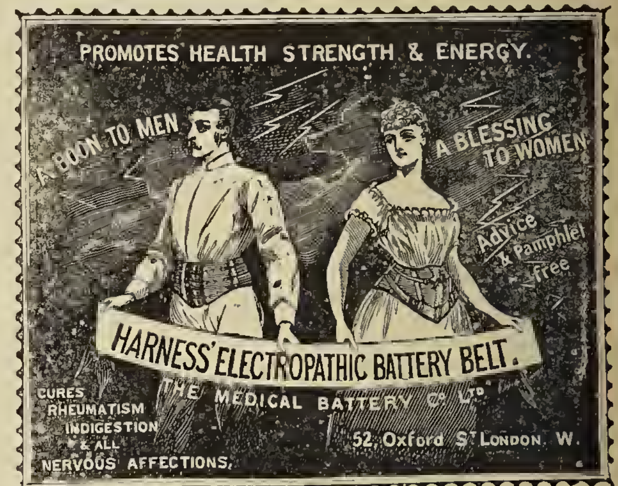
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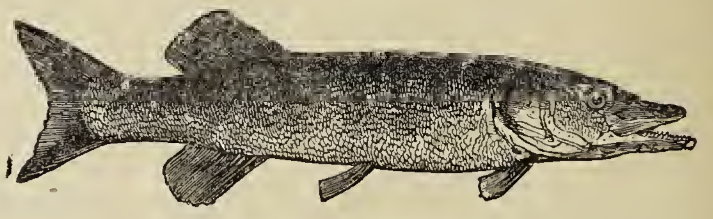

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IN DAYS BYGONE.

By Mac.

Size for size, the fish of every species of the *Salmonidæ* differ greatly in their fighting and staying powers. Some display wonderful pluck and endurance; some get turned up very speedily. The gamest fish, however, need it be said, are those that the angler derives most satisfaction in getting hold of, and eventually bringing to the bank. Such fish make him "feel the wild pulsation," not *before*, but during and after the strife! They are worth fishing for and catching. Scarcely so to my mind are pithless, sluggish fish. Of both kinds I have had a good deal of experience "in days bygone." The gamest, most sporting fish for its size that I ever hooked was a 2½lb. sea trout, and the least troublesome one for its size (and to be fresh-run), was a 10lb. salmon. The former took me with a 12ft. rod and the best of tackle twenty minutes to kill; the latter I banked in under a minute's time. Both were killed by me during summer on the Aberdeenshire Dee—in wide streamy catches. I hooked the sea trout one evening about sundown, and the whole of the time I had him on he ran with a will, leaping repeatedly out of the water, and making the line whiz every time he headed up the strong water. Like Sir Galahad "his strength was as the strength of ten." Such endurance and such sustained activity displayed by such a small fish seemed a marvel to me. I am not one that temporises, handles fish gingerly so to speak, yet all my manœuvres and all the strain I could put on, failed to bring this wonderfully strong and active sea trout to my hand one single minute under the time I have stated. With the 10lb. salmon it was a case of no play at all. I hooked him within a couple of yards of the bank. He rose with a boil, and turning, went out, straight across stream for the matter of fifteen yards at a fair pace. But feeling, as he went on his way, that he was not on for an opening burst, I applied strain, whereupon he came to the surface, when lolloping and rolling he was drawn by me on to the shingle and tailed but a yard or two down from the place where I hooked him. In both cases, which are the extremes—the one of grand and the other of poor—play afforded in my experience by the migratory *Salmonidæ*, the fish were quite fresh-run and hooked inside the mouth.

It is early in spring and late in autumn that the salmon, when new-up and quite bright in appearance, affords as a rule the poorest sport. But no matter what the season, hooked in the gloaming—between half-light and darkness—he generally plays more fiercely than during the day. Many a very sharp and resolute battle have I had with fish which were got "on" just on the eve of the departure of daylight.

In catches at the top of long sweeps of rocky runs and rapids—a fish is often got hold of that gives but little play. This, however, is not difficult of explanation. Exhaustion is brought about by contending with the water. In such catches I have hooked more poor playing, rather I should say short-winded fish, than in the whole combination of all the other kinds of catches I have fished during my many years of angling. I have frequently seen fish come "over," through thin water, into "rock" or "rapid" head catches; and from two to five minutes later I have had hold of them—to find there was scarcely any strength for play left in them. And yet though thus very much exhausted they often take freely when quite fresh-run from the sea.

I have many a time had on fish that ran themselves aground—most frequently on the far side of the stream, and usually upon sand or shingle about level with the water. In this line my most remarkable experience was with a grilse, which I hooked on a small river in the Northern Highlands. Immediately the hook was into him this fish rushed right to the opposite side, and making a first gallant leap landed on the grassy bank quite two feet above the water. But his stay there was short; and back into the water he slid, without damage to my tackle. A wild fish he proved, making several very high leaps when that nasty tail lash to slap the line was performed, but despite this, and the fact that the place was unchancy from stones above water being everywhere tumbled about, I secured him after a most ticklish and exciting run *of short duration*.

When they are right on the take sea trout are remarkably keen and bold risers, but unquestionably they are much more particular in the matter of their food than common trout. The latter, especially when in poor condition, are far from being discriminating feeders. Nor is it little that "sairs" them. Indeed the voracity that some of them show is astonishing. Scarcely anything, possessing motion, that they are fit to gobble up will they allow to escape. I have caught them with almost all the sorts of small fish in them common to Scotch rivers, the eel included. Once I captured one which contained a young bird, and once I got one with a full-grown water shrew (*Scottice*, thraw mouse) in it. Many a time I have found them to be full of regular garbage, but a firm lump of blue cheese, full an ounce weight, was the greatest *solid* that I have ever known to be got in one. This was found in a big trout, caught in the Spey below Craigellachie Bridge. The trout with the "thraw mouse" in it I caught ten years ago in April on the Crathes Water of the Dee when fishing the March Brown. The "dominie's" wife made the discovery when "gutting," and I need hardly say that the trout never reached the frying-pan! The bird-eater I caught on a reach of the Deveron, and also in April.

It is well-known that in summer trout come especially close in to the side, or shore to "grub." They get in the dusk on to the shallows, and in the thin water of pebbly or sandy expansions, bays, and tails of pools and streams they may often be seen, moving about slowly with their back fins above the water. It is then that they are on the hunt—in special quest—for minnow, stickleback, worm, grub; and whether or no they smell it, they certainly are sharp in detecting the whereabouts of their prey. Of this I give an illustration—merely one, which I think will suffice. Many years ago I was spinning for yellow trout one June evening. I had spun my last minnow till it had become somewhat bulgy and broken, and as a very fine trouty run was just in front of me, I wished to go over it with a fresh new bait. My minnow-trap was set near a quarter of a mile down the river, and so to procure what I wanted I went away to draw it and pick the best baits I might find in it. Before going away, however, I laid down my rod, and to keep the gut moist I put the cast with the minnow on it into a little saucer-shaped depression in the gravel close to the bank. Now to this spot where the water was not over half a foot in depth, it would have looked, to any one, impossible for a trout of a decent size to get. Between it and the main stream was a bar which, all along, had not more than one inch of water covering it. Yet over this bar a trout of 3½lbs. had somehow got between the time of my departure for the minnows and my return. This was obvious, for soon after I got back I had effected the capture of a trout of this weight. It was getting pretty dark, and I did not notice till I had lifted the rod and stretched out my hand to catch the line that the minnow was not where I had left it, and that many yards of my line had been run out. Now what I wish to ask is: How did this trout find out the dead minnow? Was it guided to it by the sense of smell? Had the minnow been lying in the main stream I should not have felt a bit surprised. Quite freely get-at-able it would have been there, but lying where it was it was wholly impossible for the trout that took it to get at it without considerable effort, or being more out of the water than in it when crossing the bar.

I have previously remarked on my experience of finding it pretty generally hold good that the kelt of the salmon shows more a discrimination for the natural food of the place and the season than the clean fish. As regards, however, the common *fario* I have found it to be all the other way. Not only the facts I have stated above, but their (the trout) taking quite greedily huge salmon flies when, in October for instance, they are lean and voracious before spawning, demonstrates in quite a thorough manner the truth of this remark.

I have done some queer hooking in my time. Once I hooked a water vole (*Scottice*, water-dog), while fishing the bait in a burn. A trout was "titting," and I struck, but instead of bringing out the trout I brought out a vole, hooked by the side. The vole had been swimming across the stream, and the hook getting hold of the trout had caught in him as I jerked it up. Something like this, but more remarkable, was the experience of a friend with whom I was fishing salmon on a Northern Highland stream. He hooked a duck, which struck his minnow so sharply that he took it for a sudden tug by a salmon. But an instant disabused him of this belief, for the duck came to the surface with a flapper and splutter, and winged off, when the minnow lost its hold. Another time I hooked—well, not hooked, but caught—a salmon with a triangle grapple in his side, and about forty yards of rope at his tail. I was not much puzzled to account for this experience. It proved that there had been some rough work going on. And yet another time I hooked a fish which *was not in the water at all*. I was drawing up my line in the act of preparing for a cast, when the fish leaped right in the line of the fly and got foul-hooked.

In all my fishing experiences I have never once merited by my skill the distinguished honour of hooking any of my companions or gillies. No. But I once, by accident, had the whole clamour of the sleepy village of Kintore roused to its utmost pitch by the very fact of my hooking a huge "stickin" ram. This uncanny animal—a pet of the farmer's, trained to box, and, moreover, the terror of the whole tribe of youngsters in the place—came bouncing at me, apparently to butt me, whilst I was passing through a field to get to the village from the Don. I had to dodge him, run him, and finally to place him on his back to get the hook out of him, before he got fairly played out! The situation must have been very comical! So it was said, at any rate.

A REMINISCENCE OF THE ROD.

Retrospection is not always pleasant, but it is possible sometimes to find among the "annals of the past" the record of a happy experience.

The pessimistic undertone of these words may be forgiven an aged bachelor who has found *his* pathway through the world to be hitherto a continuous piece of "stony ground," broken only at long intervals by small plots of verdure.

Some twenty summers ago I found myself breathing the untainted air of the country. I had bidden a temporary farewell to the cankering cares of business, and "far from the madding crowd" of city life I sought that rest and refreshment which driven nature craves. I had, contrary to the advice of two "cronies," elected to put up at a small but picturesque village in the North of Scotland, where "peace with honour" could cheaply be had; and after undergoing physical torture purveyed by a lazy train and an attenuated 'bus I had found myself a guest in a neat and clean little inn, rejoicing in the designation of "The Reel and Rod," where a buxom landlady, assisted by "twa strappin' lasses," ministered with feminine tenderness to my urgent necessities. Two days were spent reconnoitring. By consequence I was elated with the wisdom of my choice. H —— may not be an ideal resort. It does not pretend to be anything of that kind; but as a quiet, soothing retreat it will stand comparison with any village beneath "King Sol." Surrounded by hills and knolls, it bursts quite unexpectedly upon the view of a turnpike traveller, and looks out laughingly from the cosy comfort of protecting elms. It possesses *one* street and numerous lanes and byways. The latter are fully taken advantage of by bucolic "pairs" who study astronomy to an extent calculated by their progenitors to hasten "softenin' o' the brain." This reckoning is unhappily no incentive to repentance. At the foot of the aforesaid "street" a sluggish stream "pursues the even tenour of its way." I was not long in discovering the utility of this stream. So soon as labour or "lessons" ceased, little bands of boys and knots of men could be seen "making tracks" for its situation; and the evenings were never wearily passed when these anglers offered company.

Along the banks of the stream ran a tortuous footpath that drew many feet into "wondrous places"; and it was from this path that mine eyes beheld a vision of female loveliness such as I never expect will again ravish them among the abodes of men. I was professedly fishing—that is to say, I carried a rod, bag, and other angling appurtenances familiar to lovers of the piscatorial art—but I had laboured long and caught nothing. Again and again had I examined my hooks in the expectation that the bait had gone, and as often I had flung back the line into the turbid waters with an exclamation approaching profanity.

Beginning at last to think I had mistaken the lucky locality, I hailed a small boy, with "towsy heid" and "freckled face": "Do you know any 'pots' here about?" I asked. "There's one or two up yonder a bit," he replied slowly, pointing with his finger up-stream.

Turning a bend, I, after scanning the banks intently, prepared for a throw. There had been heavy rains in the district, and the fault was not in the water—eh? yes it was. I had been using with the dogmatism of self-will a bait that had been advertised as being the most "Deadly attraction, for Trout, Grayling, Perch, Pike, Chub, Shad, Twaite, Dace, Ruffs, Gudgeons, and Flounders" ever put within the reach of sportsman, and my credulity had been fittingly punished. Throwing away the "artificial grasshopper" and fixing a fly, I lashed the stream with energy renewed. My earnestness was quickly rewarded by a "tension and a tugging" at my line. Exultantly I raised my rod. I felt my arms ache, a sense of great victory possessed me, the blood mounted to my temples and my hair to my excited imagination felt perpendicular. Something very heavy flew past me. The rod snapped in twain. I fell suddenly to the ground, and simultaneously with my fall arose in the air a musical shriek of pain and terror. Dazed, but not dead, I scrambled to my feet to perceive a pretty young lady removing from her lap a large iron kettle.

Crimson with mortification and betraying my chagrin in my gait, I scrambled to her assistance, mumbling the while a grotesque apology.

"Oh!" she said, a silvery little laugh killing my embarrassment, "I can assure you I'm not hurt, but" (looking coyly and in an amused manner at my dishevelled appearance and broken rod) "how disappointing it must be to have one's sport thus rudely spoiled."

"Oh," I hastily replied, careless for the truth in my anxiety to please so bewitching a conversationalist—"Oh, I'm all right, thank you."

By this time evening began to pace faster and nearer. The sun slowly sank behind a neighbouring knoll, throwing across the heavens with lavish liberality myriad streaks of rainbow-coloured fire, softly blew the winds, and afar and pale shone the trembling stars. My fair companion had been reading Kingsley's "Hypatia" when the prosaic domestic utensil brushed it from her hold, and as we journeyed towards the village she rapidly and eloquently summarised the contents of that masterpiece in English literature, her dark eyes sending forth gleams of enthusiasm; the beautiful face transforming from grace to grace meanwhile.

It was with mingled feelings that I left her.

A new world now opened up to me in which *she* played a prominent part, while reels, rods, and bait "followed afar off."

GLIMPSES OF SPORT IN IRELAND.

By H.

The Irish newspapers have recently been filled with letters from correspondents, who deplore the scarcity of sporting and other visitors to the country. Some of the writers lay the reason for this state of things at the doors of the hotel-keepers, while others say Englishmen do not come over because they do not know of the sporting capabilities of Ireland; and one writer, who wrote a very long letter upon the strength of a week's visit to a fashionable hotel in the south, suggests that Swiss waiters be imported, for they are, in his opinion, all that is wanting to make life a pleasant dream in Erin.

Now, the hotels in those parts of Ireland well known for their salmon fishing are as comfortable as any in the kingdom, for they have been garrisoned for many years by different corps of English fishermen, who have long since made their voices heard in the management of these establishments; but in the wilder and more isolated districts of the west, and in the interior of the country, where few penetrate to the quieter trout and pike waters, the hotel accommodation is almost all of the roughest and dirtiest description, for the reason that unless it is a garrison town, in which the wandering angler finds himself at nightfall, the class of men to which *the* hotel looks for existence is the usual local evening to midnight customers, and the red-letter days of such a house are those of fairs, petty sessions, and, perhaps, races. It is true that the food in most of the lesser towns is as bad as it is possible to conceive, and it is always vilely cooked and served, with the exception of the potatoes—the only vegetable. I should like here to mention something that always recurs to me when I eat an Irish hotel dinner: In "Latterel of Arran," by Lever, O'Kelly, a Fenian, who keeps a shebeen in the wilds of Donegal, turns to a girl and tells her, in the purest English, to "wash those *radishes and lettuces*," as if any Donegal "mountain heifer" ever saw either, or would think it necessary to wash them if she did, or knew how, for I am certain she would have used soap to do O'Kelly's bidding.

The same book is about the *Arran* Islands off the *Donegal* coast; but the chief place mentioned is Irishmore, and this happens to be in the *Galway Bay Arrans*, and the well-known islands of that name; and in my travels I have often found Lever out in mistakes of this kind, but never Trollope.

To resume.

I have very often been greatly indebted to members of the commercial travellers' fraternity, some of whom are never off the road, and know every crook and corner of the island, where they always have the best rooms and the best food and attendance at nearly half the usual prices at all hotels patronised by them; and when a stranger (fisherman or gunner) finds himself "off the rails," he should always ask for the commercial hotel. There may be some truth in the idea that Englishmen do not know of the capabilities of Ireland from a sportsman's point of view, for take up any issue of the *Fishing Gazette* and look at the advertisement pages, when they will be found to contain column after column of Scotch hotel advertisements of fishing and shooting, but only two or three Irish ones, certainly not six, will be seen; and, another thing, I have sometimes been startled to find myself ending a conversation about sport in Ireland, begun with a friend, to a large and interested audience in the smoking room of more than one London hotel, gossips which made me many a friend, and many a man happy with his rod in Ireland on a river rushing high and clear to the sea. But it is more often merely a waste of time and trouble to attempt to talk about the sporting capabilities of this country in English society, for it is almost impossible to reach the class of individual who would come over if he thought it would pay, in the sense of his creel and game bag acquiring a scaly and blood-stuck feathery appearance.

Those who read the London magazines have, of late, had the scenery of our west and northern coast line described to them by "wild women," and others who saw and noted everything from the seat of a car whilst bowling along high roads to places when their visits were expected and everything arranged—even to the picked men digging potatoes in the fields—and the writers of these articles profess to know Ireland and the Irish perfectly after a tour of this description. Why, although I have lived for years amongst them on a mountain side, up a "boreen" road, impassable to wheels, in a cabin of two rooms (14 by 12), in daily intercourse with the peasantry from which I have learned something of their language, I do not understand them yet, except to know, and perhaps to admire, the way they can walk round and rob a confiding visitor, whose knowledge of "the foinest pisintry in the warrld," has been derived solely from feminine articles in the society papers. Some of these have amused me here on a pouring wet day, when I have often read out portions to some of the peasantry understanding and speaking English, over our pipes and open hearth, and wish I could do justice to their remarks thereon.

A great wish to write something about life in Ireland, as it is enjoyed by one who has had a long struggle for existence as a creaking wheel, and who has to thank an inherited love for a rod, dog and gun for the victory so far, took possession of me as I pushed and dodged my way down the Strand to Farlow's, last week, and as I thought of my first visit to him, twenty-five years ago, I resolved to have a try, upon my return to Erin, if I could find anyone willing to publish my miscellaneous ideas upon such a subject. Great "Medicine Man" upon diseases of the respiratory organs; and after the interview my wheezy-little body was given in charge to a Commissionaire, to be taken to Rowland Ward's and Farlow's. The Strand seems just the same—the same tide of surging human beings; the same "roar," and the same dull and gloomy *hard-hearted* air. Surely *this* is a congested district, and not Connemara, where one may roam all day without meeting a fellow man! At last, after a walk far more fatiguing than ten times the distance over rock and heather, I arrived at my destination, to find the shop full of customers, all talking "fish," for it was the close season in the angling world. Amongst other things, I overheard one tall, sunburnt, fair-haired "Skallaquin" say to another: "Oh, yes, I went up; it's a fraud; the fish are all netted in the estuary, and it is dear at fifty." I longed to speak, to ask whether he knew Ireland, where for the same sum he could have ten years' salmon-fishing; but as the suggestion of a writer in the *F. G.* that we should wear badges, conferring the right to converse when travelling, never took root, I had to remain silent, but I am told that the man I overheard in Farlow's is not singular at the close of the angling season in England, Scotland, and Ireland.

Eleven years ago a copy of the *Fishing Gazette* ound its way to me down in Harrold, in Bedfordhire, where I then lived for such fishing as was o be had in the Ouse, and upon reading it I was aken with an intense desire to explore Ireland, articularly as all angling appeared to be for almon and trout, and free. At the end of a eek, I found myself in Cork, with all my possesions packed in two portmanteaux, and a bundle f bamboo rods; the latter I soon gave away, and eplaced with better weapons at Hacket's, in atrick-street, by whose advice I went to try a ver in Clare for a week, and liked the place so ell that I remained there for three years; but it as not a river upon which a man—however good -would become a fishmonger.

What is written in, I think, No. 3 of the *Fishing azette*, about the majority of our rivers being free all comers is still perfectly true, but owing to e times becoming gradually quiet and settled, e country is rapidly being taken up by a class individual from England who rent, or buy up r a time, all the sporting and fishing within ach of the generally decaying castle or lodge, nted by them at a trifling sum; and this ooting and fishing is sublet, often portioned out, customers procured through flaming advertiseents in the London sporting papers—for the lvertiser is not often a sporting man, and when *is* and is found advertising such rough shooting is to be found in Ireland at the present time, will soon be discovered that he expects to be ked to shoot with his tenant. These men are w to be found in all parts of Ireland, where ey are not often liked, either by the country ople or by such of the "ould stock" as have en able to keep their footing through the oublous times.

My neighbour will do for an illustration. He es in a large furnished house that before the urder twelve years ago was the show-place of e district, and for this, together with ten ousand acres of rough shooting, he pays the nt of thirty-seven pounds ten a year, having ken a lease of it at this rent when a man was unted brave to live in Ireland. Several other ts of adjoining shooting are taken by him at ifling rents, and all of it—for he is no sportsman is let to monthly tenants, *never the same*, prored through advertisements in *The Paddock, itch and Pistol*, &c. Every inducement is held t to get young men from London, who like to mo and lark about for a holiday, for all sorts of quiries are made, books hunted up, and any man ely to give trouble, or likely to search the ather for signs of grouse droppings, is generally alled off.

"Mr. Green will never die"; and it is a pity, by his aid "My Neighbour" is ruining the ountain shooting of Ireland, for he never spends arthing in game or fish preservation; and often s man shoots down everything at the close of e season, trusting to chance and the weather another thin crop of flat-catchers. On a operty in such hands the country people all urse hares, for they know well that the sporting nant cannot convict them, though he may osecute; and he is powerless to prevent fishing on the banks of a river not private grounds, for cannot convict for illegal killing of salmon if e fisher has a licence; nor for trespass, if the ming tenant has given one permission to travel er his land. I know the "hotel" name of nost every man who has had shooting and hing in Ireland during the last ten years, and ve met scores of such men, not one of whom uld ever dream of taking sporting estates over n without first going over them.

Never take a place upon the strength of a July vertisement in *Soil and Mud*, but get together e or two gun-maker's lists and go over the most ely places in July in the company of a good g, taking his evidence in preference to that of e caretaker; and when a place is taken get into idence some days before the Twelfth, for I uld tell some queer tales about some of the best own shootings in Ireland if I liked.

Large unfurnished, and sometimes furnished, uses, are still to be met with all over Ireland, h with its much-poached property adjoining; t they are not so numerous as they were five rs ago, for reasons aforesaid. The tenant mer class never had their guns given back to m, and although the possession of a gun is ked at in these quieter days, or rather *nights*, they are not very common, and it is a fact that the young lads of the rising generation do not know how to shoot; although, to read the accounts of "The Irish Game Preservation Association," a stranger would think we were a nation of poachers. There are no poachers in the land such as exist in Yorkshire or Norfolk. The whole of an Irish townland will run after a hare if there's a dog behind her, and in a few places they have been taught the art of snaring hares by that pest to game preservation—the imported rabbit-catcher. One dressing of "hare oil" stops the former, and a good watcher the latter form of poaching. *Poor* Pat and Mike are not poachers, neither are they *ever* sportsmen; and here in far Connaught I do not think I could find a *peasant* within a mile of my cabin who would willingly fire off my gun, and I know them well, for are they not coming in all day long for "kippeens" for their pipes, women as well as men?

These rambling remarks upon sport in Erin, by one who has called himself a creaking wheel, would not be complete without some mention of the beautiful winter climate of the valleys or dents in our western coast, a climate—or rather a winter atmosphere, which helps to keep alive, during the dreary season of leaden skies, not only delicate inhabitants of the vegetable kingdom, but human "tender animals" as well, for there is no "sting" in the early spring winds, for when it is blowing from the east, or north, all is still and quiet in our little valley, the sea smooth as glass, the fishing boats motionless, and the sky radiant with brilliant and often hot sunshine. Last winter appears to have been extraordinarily severe, and hard enough to kill even the turnips in the fields in England; while here I had pansies, violets, wallflowers, and mignonette, blooming away till after Christmas in the little plot of ground I have cleared from rocks, and we had no snow or frost until April, when at daybreak, upon one or two mornings, the ground was slightly rimed, neither had we the usual equivalent for "hard" weather—I mean incessant rains, with high winds—for during the whole of February and March we did not have half-an-hour's rain in this district. I would these valleys, facing south-west and protected on every other side by heather clad mountains, were better known, or known at all. for what happiness, health and strength, the knowledge would give to those poor mortals, who, like myself, and I believe they are a numerous class—were born asthmatics for the life and food (sea fish, game, and trout) do not allow of the existence of this distressing complaint, particularly if (as is my own case) the patient lives only to supply his larder by his daily exertions. I would say to any fellow-sufferer, give up burning papers, pouches, and inhaling all the vile health-destroying things advertised, and come to Ireland, when, if you have only a pound a week—and don't get that—and a drop of sporting blood in your veins, you can live out of doors from morning till night all winter, *free from all fear* and painful breathing. Even the paltry sum (to some) of a pound a week is more than sufficient to enable a single man to live well, *to keep himself warm*, and to enjoy plenty of sport in the wilds of Ireland; but he must be able to do a great many things for himself, and be a practical man (no fancy rods or patent baits), for it is easy to make three and four pounds a-week upon some free rivers during a wet *late* summer and autumn.

I have considered my own method of living this life only; but there are other ways by which a man able to work could knock out a living, for I quite agree with the writers of the letters appearing in the Irish newspapers at the present time, inasmuch as they point out the money which might be made if the inhabitants of our coast valleys could be taught to grow early vegetables for the London market; for there is no doubt but that such things as potatoes, broccoli, and seakale—the latter is a native, growing on the shore—could be raised here just as early as they are in Jersey, a wind-destroyed place, where I have often shivered with the cold, a very rare occurrence in Ireland. My visit to London twenty-five years ago resulted in all attempts at schooling me—with books at least—being abandoned; so that I am hardly qualified to write upon any subject, and I have endeavoured to place these rough notes in gossip form, trusting they may be of interest to some, and that I may escape being harshly criticised.

Notes

THIS issue of the *Gazette* consists of sixty pages, including the wrappers, with two separate Plates. We shall be obliged should any of our readers fail to receive the paper in its entirety, if they will communicate with us direct.

THE following note from the Marquis of Breadalbane will be of interest to salmon anglers:—"Dear Mr. Marston,—The other day I had occasion to run the water off one of the ponds in which I reared the 'land-locked salmon' two years ago. I found eight or nine of the fish had been left in the pond; they measured from 8in. to 11in., and are very handsome fish, being quite silvery, and having the appearance of salmon on first assuming their sea-going coat. I thought you might be interested to know the size the 'land-locked salmon' had grown in two years. I have not heard of any of the 'land-locked salmon' in any of the lochs into which I put them. I have little doubt some are sure to be got next season.—Believe me, yours truly, BREADALBANE. P.S.—I am fitting up a fish-breeding establishment at Taymouth."

WE have no doubt many anglers will learn with sincere regret that good old John Sutherland of Inchnadamph, an especial favourite as an angling "host," has passed away. He died at Inchnadamph Hotel on the evening of Friday, 4th Dec., after a severe illness. As an all-round sportsman, Mr. Sutherland, in his day, was second to none in the wilds of Assynt. Afterwards as landlord of Inchnadamph Hotel, he became very popular, his popularity as the years rolled by extending and increasing. His hearty hand-shake, and his entertaining stories did his numerous fishing cronies from all parts "a warld o' guid," but alas! henceforth, when visiting the old place, their's will be the "sigh for the touch of a vanished hand, and the sound of a voice that is still."

CONCERNING Loch Awe we should like to give prominence to a matter of far greater moment than the "lunch-and-flask" affair. It is the desirability of yearly angling frequenters of the loch doing something to strengthen the hands of the Angling Improvements Association in pursuing their good work. Without the "sinews of war," war against the pike and artificial stocking cannot be carried on to a sufficiently satisfactory extent. That's plain. Dr. McNicol, of Dalmally, is the hon. secretary and treasurer.

IN the Court of Session, Edinburgh, last week, their lordships of the Second Division disposed of an appeal from the Sheriff Court at Dornoch, in an action raised by Sir Charles Ross, Bart., of Balnagown, to interdict Messrs. Powrie and Pitcaithley, salmon fishers, Perth, tacksmen of the salmon fishings at Bonar, from narrowing or altering the channel of the Kyle of Sutherland, and to ordain them to remove an embankment which they have erected in the bed of the river. Sheriff Substitute Mackenzie granted interdict as craved, with expenses, and ordered the removal of the embankment. Defenders thereupon appealed to the Court of Session, and now the Second Division has affirmed the judgment of the Sheriff Substitute, with expenses, on the ground that the embankment was below low water mark, was an encroachment on the bed of the river, and interfered with the natural flow of the water, to the injury of the pursuer's property. It is thought the effect of this decision will extend to all fishings on the several rivers, whose united waters flow to the sea through the Kyle of Sutherland—to wit, Shin, Carron, Oykel, Cassley, and Einag.

NOT for twenty years back have so many gravid fish been seen on the minor tributaries of the Dee, Don, Ythan, Deveron, and Spey. The Nethy, a tributary of the Spey, was literally crowded with fish this autumn, and many a good kipper was easily secured without the aid of a "Gordon" or "Spey-hackle," before the bailiff appeared on the scene.

CLEEKING salmon fishings, so as to prevent poaching, is now the order of the day. The Dee will soon be cleeked from head to foot. There is no danger to the angler, and the security against poaching raids is worth a thousand times the cost.

Mr. Duncan, Inspector of Salmon Fisheries, on the Dee, who has charge of the Durris Hatchery, says that it is a vast mistake to over-crowd a hatchery with ova. He has 500,000 eggs on his grills, but this he considers the extreme maximum.

The *Dublin Gazette* of the 11th inst. contains an order of the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries, making the period from August 1 to January 1 following the close time for net fishing for salmon and trout in the Lismore district (Co. Cork), and the period from October 1 to January 1 the close time for rod fishing.

Notes and Queries

A Piscatorial Exhibition.—We have been asked by some leading fishing tackle firms to help in the promotion of a really representative Piscatorial Exhibition, in February, 1892. This we have consented to do, and think our readers will be interested in the particulars respecting this exhibition, which are given in an advertisement in another page. In addition to exhibits of fishing rods and tackle, it is proposed to have a fine loan collection of stuffed fish and also fish paintings, Andalusian, Game, Honey Dun, and other strains of poultry used in fly-tying, and possibly piscicultural exhibits.

Capture of Rare Fish off the Coast of Aberdeen.—The steam trawler *Cambria* arrived in Aberdeen on Monday with four "*Northern Chimeræ,*" a fish never before known to have been landed at Aberdeen. When trolling about one hundred and sixty miles off the coast, the trawl net was dropped, and after dragging for about six miles it was hauled up, and (curiously enough) found to contain only these four fish. They were at once secured as natural history specimens. The fish are about 2ft. 6in. in length, and resembles to some extent the dog-fish, to which it is allied, the chief point of difference being the tail, which is long and whip-looking, whereas the tail of the dog-fish is flat.

Dry and Wet-Fly Fishing.—There has recently appeared in *The Field* some correspondence on the rival merits of fishing with wet or dry fly, but I must confess that, although I have had ten times as much experience with the former system as with the latter, I can see nothing to argue about, as undoubtedly it is only a question of circumstances, and both systems should be adopted, frequently on the same water, on the same day. I have seen such instances occur on both the Yore and the Wharfe, which are acknowledged as typical wet-fly streams. I have seen both Mr. Senior and Mr. Halford kill trout and grayling with dry fly when I could not touch a fish with my sunken flies, and I have seen just the reverse. Only quite recently a well-known Yorkshire flyfisher, "Watchet," of the *Fishing Gazette*, killed fifteen grayling, weighing 12lb., every one of which took the dry fly, a floating Autumn Dun, and this was on a club length of the Wharfe, where dry-fly fishing is practically unknown. If, say, the day is wet, or the surface of the pools are ruffled with a good stiff breeze, then fish with four suitable flies haphazard; but if the day is bright, the water clear, and no wind, then a single cock-winged dun floated artistically over rising fish is bound to succeed, whether the stream is situated either in the north or south of England. When I was in Hampshire I tried most of the best-known Yorkshire grayling patterns, fished wet, as an experiment, but the weather was not suitable, and they did not succeed; but I do not, therefore, say that they never would; in fact, a noted south-country grayling fisher informed me recently that he had found Bradshaw's Fancy one of the most successful flies that he had used this season on the Wiltshire Avon. There is no doubt whatever that the good old maxim, "An ounce of practice is worth a ton of theory," is as applicable in angling matters as in any other.—"*Halcyon,*" *in the* "*Weekly Leeds Mercury.*"

A CHRISTMAS HOTCH-POTCH.

By the O. O. D.

The Arun.

In the early part of the season, that is to say from the middle of June to the end of July, bream bite best very early or very late in the day. Sometimes they prefer paste to worms, and worms to paste, so it is as well to have both baits. As a rule the best worm is the brandling, but occasionally they prefer the marsh to either the brandling or maiden lob, and taking one occasion with another, heavy legering is the best method to adopt to catch both bream and eels, which can be done either with a tight or running line according to fancy. Bream take paste best in hot weather, but to make quite sure have a brandling on one hook and paste on the other. The hooks should be about fifteen inches apart, with a pellet of ground bait placed just above the top hook. Sudden changes in the weather are not conducive to sport. The pellet of bread and bran, or bread and pollard, should be made as stiff as possible, as it is soon washed off in rather strong currents.

A pellet of ground bait may be placed just above a bunch of three or four gentles squeezed round the shank of the hook and brought down within touch of the bunch, with a final squeeze given to make sure. If you find roach feeding on your pellet of ground-bait (open a fish or two) immediately use it as a hook bait.

Lea Anglers.

If possible most Lea anglers prefer to fish dead on the bottom, not three to six inches off, as described in some old books. Of course there are occasions, where owing to a rough, uneven, or foul bottom, it is impossible, then the Lea men do the best they can, but they do not like it. When the float goes under from the hook, &c., catching a bit of sunken twig or fillet of weed, &c, then they lift the tackle free from the obstruction; but if they find the bottom very bad with frequent feguent obstructions they either attach the shots high enough for the bait to miss them, or they find a swim comparatively free.

Period.

I do not care to fish for roach in May, but if it is a cold and backward spring they may be taken in good condition until the end of April. Roach have been caught in splendid condition in May, notably in 1889 and 1890, but as a rule I do not recommend their being caught later than April.

Light Legering with Shots Resting on the Bottom.

When fishing thus for roach, unless the novice lifts the point of his rod to raise say, the first two or three shots off the bottom (so as to strike directly on the fish before he has time to eject the bait), he will lose two bites out of three. This is why so many novices when they first attempt light legering (with shots only) with a float, miss so many fish; the fact is, they strike in a similar manner as when following the float down with the point of the rod, and so strike the shots instead of the fish.

Catching Lobs.

There is a way of gathering lobs properly. If he objects to come out of his hole, you must humour him with a succession of gentle quick draws to make his broad bristly tail loosen its hold. This difficulty generally occurs amongst stones, between slabs, hard places on the edges of paths, and often on lawns; but where the ground is loose and light no such care is necessary, the tail and bristles having little power to hold or cling.

Heavy Water.

When fishing in tidal rivers, and more especially when the wind is meeting the tide with a rough water—often with crests of foam—then the best thing to do is to leger in holes and eddies, either with a maiden lob or brandling for bream, &c., and with white paste for roach; always using a hook in proportion to the size of the pellet. In other words, do not use a No. 10 hook for a pellet of paste as large as a walnut, &c., and always allow the point of hook to come just through.

Good Places.

There is an excellent place for perch, jack, and roach opposite Hardwicke House, between Whitchurch Bridge and Mapledurham, with a splendid bank to fish from, and there are some good swims along the Oxford-road above Pangbourne. After passing through the gate leading into the firs meadow (up-stream) plenty of capital roach swims can be found every ten or twelve yards right up to the oak tree swim as one nears the picturesque Hart's Wood.

Light Legering—Striking.

After having taken the depth in the usual way (*i.e.*, exact depth) which should be done as carefully and noiselessly as possible, shift the float up the line so that the shots can rest on the bottom, then hold the point of your rod back with the nose o the float out of the water, like a snag, waiting patiently until the float disappears. Do not strike at a mere knock, wag, bob, bow, or slight agitation of the float, or you will miss four fish out of six. If the water be clear and the weather warm, use a pellet of bread and bran, or white paste, on the hook; if rising or discoloured, use worms. Gentles may be occasionally resorted to for a change.

Swims only two or three feet in length may sometimes be found between the weeds, within easy distance of the side, and can be operated upon with a 16ft. or 18ft. roach-pole without any difficulty.

Striking when Legering with a Running Line.

When legering out any distance for roach with the line taut from the rod-top to the bullet, if the line is seen to shake or tremble without being run out, it is often caused by large roach taking the bait off the ground, and the angler should strike sufficiently hard to send the hook home—being big fish with good hard noses, but not too hard to break the tackle. The rod should be moderately stiff.

Floods.

When a river is below the banks and the flood-gates are up, the stream is often too strong for bottom-fishing; then the better plan is to wait until the water is quite down and the lower gates shut.

In flood time, for instance, the Thames is run off much too quickly for successful bottom-fishing.

Bait on Bottom.

When fishing with the bait well on the bottom, always allow the float to go under, because the fish have to pick up the bait, and for this reason they require a little more time.

Tides.

The last hour of the run up the top of the tide, and the first two hours of the run off are the *very best* times to catch fish.

"Wait for the turn of the tide," as the song says, and then fish as close and hard as possible. It is very strange, but fish very rarely feed well either half way up or half way down. I have seen many anglers mistaken on this point; at the same time I have seen them fishing in water in June and July quite deep enough for fish to frequent in October and November; then they were surprised that they fished all day and caught nothing. I should have been surprised if they had.

Effect of Certain Colours on Fish and Animals.

It would appear that even frogs are attracted by the colour red; for the late Mr. Frank Buckland somewhere describes a Frenchman catching frogs, near Paris, for the market, by means of a light and red piece of cloth; and we know perch affect the same colour. I wonder, by experimenting on fish, if a bait of a certain colour could be found more attractive than any other.

Different Rivers, Different Baits.

Period: Summer. Fish: Roach and dace. Lea: Paste; for whoever saw an angler getting roach with worms? Well, very seldom.

Trent.—Roach: Creed wheat and malt. Dace: Gentles and caddis; later with worms. To one angler using creed wheat or malt on the Thames for roach, one will see ten fishing with paste, gentles, bread and bran *on the hook*, or a cube from the crust of a loaf, with the outside cut off. I have taken more roach in the Trent in August and September with the above baits than any other.

I admit that for many waters the gentle is the best all-round bait, but both gentles and worms, as a rule, are very little good on the Lea.

N.B.—I have never heard anyone attempt to explain this peculiarity; at the same time, I have no doubt there is a good reason for it.

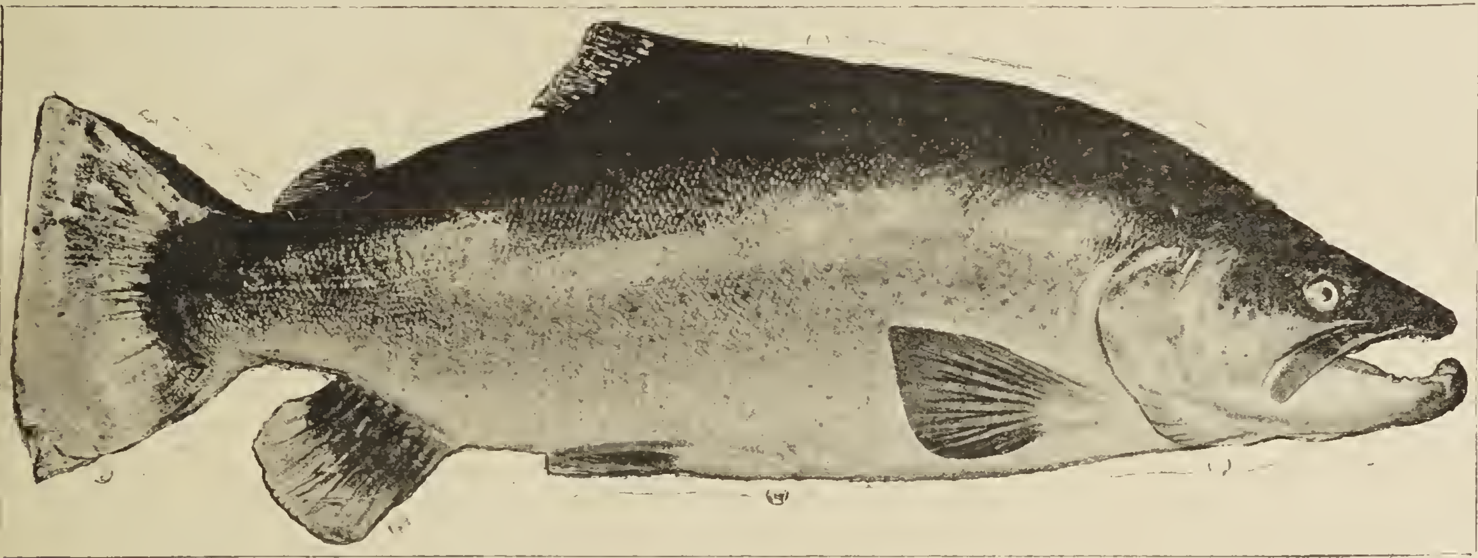
Correspondence

e do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

ne of the charms of angling is that it presents an endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment."—T. E. PRITT.

A GRAND THAMES TROUT.

EAR SIR,—It was a fine morning on the 2nd of y, 1870, when the late Mr. James Forbes, of idge-road, Chertsey, said, "Gallaway, get punt ready, and we will have a try for that ge trout." Be it said it was on a Sunday, ut nine a.m., when they crossed below the ir to the Mill-side, and with a gudgeon on a ne-made flight of hooks, well soaked and ted, tried for the big-'un. The first throw was lank; but Bill, with his ever-watchful eye (for had but one) saw "som'at a-roolin like a pus," when out went the bait spinning as only . Forbes could spin. A moment's stop, a ghty pull, and away went seventy yards in a inkling, when it was turned, and after a few nges, an attempt was made to land it; but ough the net it went like lightning, the punt the meantime drifting on the shallows, where v stand the steps which lead to Mr. W. L. omas's house (of *Graphic* renown). William rter (now called Old Billy), who was on the k, was called to assist, as they were not able bring the fish near them; so he waded in, and the second attempt managed to put his fingers he gills, and throw it up on the bank. Thus landed the heaviest trout ever taken on rod line in the Thames, and in the short space of ty minutes from his first cast. Having put trout into the well, they went back to the dge House, and it was weighed in the presence ames Taylor, who is still at Chertsey Wharf, can, I believe, verify all my statements; as Old Billy Carter, now at the ripe old age of ty-two, who keeps the pots and kettles bright he Cricketers' Hotel.



THAMES TROUT *(SALMO FARIO)*; WEIGHT 14LB. 9½OZ.
CAUGHT AT CHERTSEY WEIR, BY JAMES FORBES, ESQ., ON JULY 2ND, 1870.

undreds collected on that memorable day to e a look at so fine a specimen. This fish was rwards cast by Mr. Frank Buckland, the well-wn naturalist, and painted by Rolfe, the st fish painter of the day. Among the extranary trout bred by our lamented friend were cross between the *Salmo fario* ova and the *mo fontinalis* milt, which resulted in a fish h like a mackerel, but more rich in its mark-. Four were labelled and put into the Thames myself after his death, but I have not heard of m being caught. Trusting this may interest a of the piscatorial fraternity, I am, yours y, A. E. ARMSTRONG,

Hon. Sec. to Chertsey Angling Association.

S.—Copies of the photo can be obtained of W. Bates, Chertsey, who has kindly taken on my behalf.—A. E. A.

LOCH HARRAY.

IR,—It seems to me that I have not made remarks in last letter clear enough, else aine Môr" would not have insisted so strongly on his *obiter dictum*. I had prolonged it to such a length that the fear of the Editor's scalpel alone prevented me from stating fuller and clearer what effect the salt water has on these trout. In perusing his letter it forcibly impresses me as rash to reproduce information from one or two individuals and conclude it is the opinion universally held by those having the best facilities for knowing.

"D. M." insists that 1885 was as bad as 1891 on Loch Stenness, which may be true for the earlier mouths of the season, but certainly not for September, which is the best mouth.

He also states that the reports which have appeared in the *F. G.* do not bear out what I said in regard to the sickening of the trout by salt water, and the prevention of their rising freely to the fly. Now, "M. S." and the reporter is the same individual, and my present opinion is precisely what it has been for over a dozen years, namely—that salt water does sicken the trout and bring about that train of casualties which disappoint and dishearten the angler. In several reports I stated that the influx of salt water prevents good baskets being made. Now what happens is this: Salt water flows into this loch for two or three days at a time, and only for four times a year during a dry season; twice during a moderate season, and not at all during a wet one. The trout take the fly eagerly for about two days, and during the rest of the month refuse to rise, except plenty of rain has fallen during the interval. It cannot be the food carried by the salt water (as "D. M." puts it) that prevents their rising, else why do they crowd in shallow creeks after fresh water, and not remain in the more brackish water where, according to his theory food is abundant?

That trout will adapt themselves to their environment, I daresay few Naturalists will deny. We see far more wonderful adaptations in Nature than fresh-water trout becoming habituated to brackish water—*e.g.* the whale, the seal, &c. The trout in Loch Harray have not the opportunity of adapting themselves to brackish water. The last influx of salt water in this loch was in Aug., 1890; next (if dry weather) will be in June, 1892. Now to me it seems no wonder they sicken after so long a spell of fresh water. Various wild theories have been advanced to account for these freaks of Nature, such as being frightened by otters (not the poaching kind), water contaminated by artificial manure, &c.; but now more than three-fourths of those interested believe it is the salt water. As a proof of the belief which "D. M." seeks to ignore, I may state that more than half the proprietors, and all the boat hirers, subscribed to erect sluice gates to prevent salt water getting in. "D. M." thinks that "to artificially alter the normal conditions of their existence will be proved to be dangerous experiments." This is exactly what we who are interested in the prosperity of the loch believe. It was explained in my last that the normal conditions were interfered with about twenty-five years ago when the natural rock barrier near the Bridge of Waith was lowered for the purpose of building the present bridge. It is with the view of restoring these natural conditions that we have erected sluices to prevent salt water getting access and unnaturally interfering with one of the best fishing lochs in Scotland.

The legal aspect of the question seems shrouded in the greatest mystery possible. Not much over a year ago the justices fined two individuals for using nets of illegal mesh; the case was carried to the Court of Session, and the decision of the justices sustained; but the expenses incurred by the justices were paid by the County Council, amounting to about £50. Now the county can't be expected to prosecute at so high a figure, with uncertain results, and in the end fined the fifty proprietors claiming any spoil there may be from protection, and who are now quite indifferent about the whole concern; in fact they (at least the majority of them), were the moving spirits in supporting the illegal fisheries in the Court of Session. Until some slight alteration is made in regulating trout fishing, I fear these lochs can't be protected as they ought. It does not seem unreasonable either to apply the same restrictions to proprietors as to others, or else enact that these lochs be placed under the control of the County Council for the benefit of the county. M. S.

AN INTERESTING INCIDENT.

DEAR SIR,—Mr. E. Merritt, one of the undermentioned members, was jack fishing, at Langley, on Nov. 13, when he hooked a jack, and after playing the fish for some time, he brought it close to shore; but it gave a sudden plunge and broke clean away with what I call an angler's outfit—viz., hook, trace-line, and float. He watched eagerly for his float, but, alas! in vain, for no trace could be found of the escaped one; so giving up all despair and putting down his misfortune—as many other disciples of Old Izaak do—fished again, but having no sport, he packed up, after getting a good drenching, and said "Adieu!" for this blessed day at Langley. But meeting his good brother member, they sauntered along, keeping sharp eyes on each side of the water, when Mr. Morgan shouted, and, almost frightening poor Merritt, taking and shaking him by the hand, said, "Run for your life; look at your missing tackle lying near the bank, the other side of the canal!" In a jiffy Mr. E. Merritt ran for his life across the bridge, and crept quietly along the path on his hands and knees, holding his breath, and, grasping with his right-hand, he got his line, and felt a tussel. He shouted for help, and, after some time, he got his fish, line, &c., out, and the fish proved to be a jack, 28in. long, and turning the scales at our club at 4lb.; but the hook just gave way when he landed his fish. I must congratulate our member, and also the other member, for his prompt action.—Yours, &c., B. ABRAHAMS,

Hon. Sec. Allason United Bros. A.S.

BLACK STAIN FOR RODS WANTED.

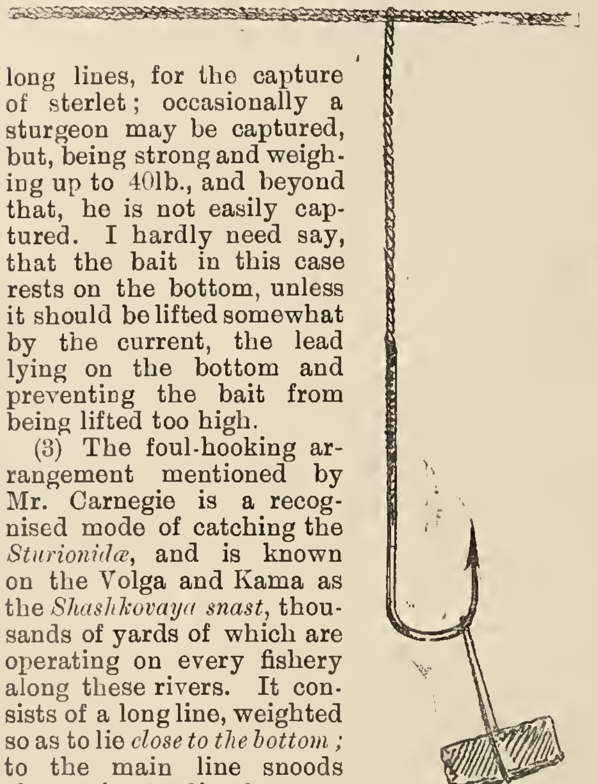
SIR,—I should be very glad if you, or some reader of the *Fishing Gazette*, could tell me, through your paper, what will make a good black stain for fishing rods, and where I may procure it?
Yours, &c., AMATEUR,

HOW THEY CATCH STURGEON, &c.

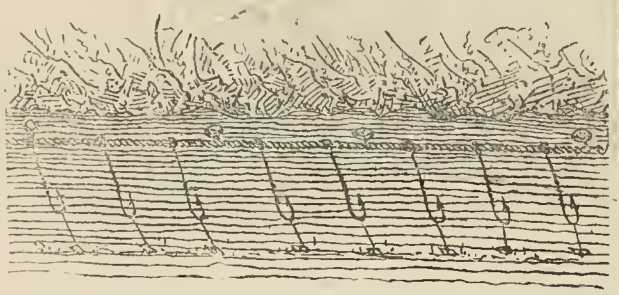
My Dear Sir,—I trust you will allow me to say a few words on this subject, as Mr. Carnegie's communication under the above heading is not quite correct.

(1) "Sterlet" are not "young sturgeon." The sterlet is the *Acipenser Ruthenus;* whilst the sturgeon of the Danube is the *Acipenser Güldenstätt.*

(2) Larvæ of May-flies are used on the Don on long lines, for the capture of sterlet; occasionally a sturgeon may be captured, but, being strong and weighing up to 40lb., and beyond that, he is not easily captured. I hardly need say, that the bait in this case rests on the bottom, unless it should be lifted somewhat by the current, the lead lying on the bottom and preventing the bait from being lifted too high.



(3) The foul-hooking arrangement mentioned by Mr. Carnegie is a recognised mode of catching the *Sturionidæ*, and is known on the Volga and Kama as the *Shashkovaya snast*, thousands of yards of which are operating on every fishery along these rivers. It consists of a long line, weighted so as to lie *close to the bottom;* to the main line snoods about 7in. to 9in. long are fastened, carrying peculiar-shaped barbless hooks, with very long points (see diagram). A short thin snood about 3in. or 4in. long, bearing a small cork float, is fastened to the bend of hook (see diagram) so as to keep it from the bottom with the point slightly inclined. All the *Sturionidæ are essentially bottom fish;* besides, they are rather thin-skinned and have only a few longitudinal rows of scales to protect them. Creeping along the bottom, the sturgeon or sterlet strikes a hook, darts away from it, comes in contact with another (the snoods are spaced differently on different fisheries, but 12in. is the average distance), and another, and is stopped by them, being a very tender fish. Even *one* hook that has "taken" well will stop a big sturgeon.



I trust Mr. Carnegie will take my correcting remarks in the same friendly spirit in which I make them.—Yours very truly,

Baron Paul Tcherkasov.

N.B.—The artist seems to have included the very thing the writer wanted left out—*i.e.*, the barb.

FISHING AND SHOOTING IN NEW ZEALAND.

Dear Sir,—Would you or any of your readers give information regarding outfit for one about to migrate to New Zealand? What sport can be got with rod or gun there? Where can one get the most suitable cooking stove for knocking about with?—Yours truly,

Maori.

[As far as the fishing goes, "Maori" should take plenty of small trout flies, loch trout flies, and spinning baits (Phantoms, &c.), and single and double-handed trout fly and spinning rods. Trout are numerous, and run up to 30lb., so that good tackle is wanted. "Maori" would find much useful information in "Near and Far," by Wm. Senior, published by S. Low and Co., price two shillings.—Ed.]

THE BIG TAKE OF PIKE.

Sir,—In the case of the late astounding catch of pike by Mr. Andrews, I venture to say that he must have been very busy during his fishing, and the pike must have also been very thick in the water. I should think that to keep these ravenous fish in fair condition, that the roach, dace, or other small fry must be in such immense shoals as to render the river nearly unnavigable.

I should like to be enlightened on this point; so would more of your readers, no doubt. Would Mr. A. kindly favour us with a little further information, for which we will thank him.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

W. H. Elsmore.

Castelnau, Barnes, S.W.

SALMON FISHING WITH PRAWN.

Sir,—Would any of your readers give a few hints on salmon fishing with prawn, and the best tackle for use with same?—Yours, &c., Viator.

ROLFE'S PICTURES AND THE FORTHCOMING PISCATORIAL EXHIBITION.

Sir,—Thanks to Mr. H. G. Green for his idea. I have another suggestion which might perhaps be better. Why not have a collection of the late Mr. Rolfe's pictures at the coming Exhibition of Fishing-tackle, which I understand is likely to be held soon at the Westminster Aquarium. I have a fine picture by that artist, and shall be glad to lend it.—Yours truly,

W. J. Cummins.

Bishop Auckland.

[We have also two or three pictures by Rolfe, which we could lend.—Ed.]

THE BIDEFORD SHOW.

Dear Sir,—Your readers may like to know a little of the results at the late Bideford show, where a prize was offered for the best birds suitable for fly-tying (trout).

The prizes were 20s., 10s., 5s., and a card. The first was won by an Andalusian Blue, of J. Bastard, fly-tier and practical angler, N. Devon; second prize, J. Rowe, fishing tackle manufacturer, N. Devon, with a beautiful rusty blue game cock and honey dun game hen; the third, by same person, with a freckled game cock, and honey dun hen; the fourth was a red bird; but a blue game cock and hen, owned by Mr. Paine, spirit merchant, Tiverton, was only commended. This bird, if judged as all birds should be (in February, when the hackle are used for flies), would be a beautiful blue; but first prize would be different, and second and third prize ones perfect and very valuable, being scarce as regards breed and colour. The first prize bird was valued at (in the list) 15s., and the same owner had others in the class unnoticed, and he says he sold them and bought better. I am rather inclined to think (like him) best way too, if a purchaser could be got for that figure; for a good breed and colour blue fowl to a fly-tyer would be worth treble that sum.

I should say that no birds should be in competition when moulting, if the real colour is to be taken, and that at all times a good shape feather is fifty times of more value than an Andalusian-bred.—Yours faithfully,

J. Rowe.

Barnstaple.

ARTIFICIAL PROPAGATION OF SALMON IN SCOTLAND.

Sir,—I will feel greatly obliged if any of your subscribers can give me any information as to the artificial propagation of salmon in Scotland. The names of the hatcheries and any details will be greatly esteemed by—Yours sincerely,

W. Fenwick McAllum.

Kent House, Gateshead-on-Tyne.

BAITING WITH WORM.

Sir,—I was pleased to notice that such a clever angler as Mr. Wheeldon undoubtedly is, adopts the old method of baiting the hook with worm—namely, hooking the bait in the middle, and consequently allowing it to "show" well in the water. I have myself caught large chub in the "Old River" (private) of the Kennet, as distinguished from the canal, but with one *loup* in the lob, and found this mouthful especially f to big chub in winter and up to the end of Ma some years back. Every fish will take worm some time or other; and chub near to and u trees or boughs in autumn can, with great and quietude, be got with the smaller cha which some seasons are very numerous, at ot hardly any at all. The large chafers also app at intervals of three or four years, but then t are not so numerous as the smaller ones. "beetles" form a deadly lure for chub, &c. perch loves a lively cockspur worm that has b through the moss; and the more the bait wrig the quicker Mr. Stripes is "dead on."—I am, Yours truly,

Old Han

THE 26lb. PIKE FROM POYNTON POO

Sir,—Referring to "Notes from Lancashi in your issue of Dec. 5, in reference to a 2 pike, I may inform you it can be seen at Touchstone Inn, Stockport, and, from a cut taken from the *Stockport Echo*, it was caught Messrs. Tom Smirthwaite and Sam Rowcrof Poynton Pool, Sept. 11, 1891; its length, 3ft. 10½ weight, 26lb; and was caught with live- (roach). It is well worth seeing for size, b not a handsome shape as it appears now.—I yours truly,

John Kershaw, ju

Church Inn, Longsight.

EELS AND STEWART TACKLE.

Dear Sir,—In reply to "C. G. D.'s" lette the above, I beg leave to state that the th hook tackle answers very well for eel fishing. first conceived the idea of using it when bait with lampreys, to obviate the necessity threading these tough gentlemen on a single h tackle, and I found that a run was gener followed by the landing of a fish. For w fishing there is, however, nothing to beat a la sized Limerick hook, long in the shank, and i eel is struck at the second knock the shank be found outside the mouth, and may be ea extracted. I always use one of these hooks on fine gimp, and find it answers admirably. the gimp gets tied into knots it is so easy to u even in the dark.—Yours faithfully,

Severn Graylin

LARGE ROACH.

Sir,—About seven or eight years back, ha business with Mr. Cooper, naturalist, of Rad street, St. Luke's, my attention was called t very large roach, in a case. Of course, I inqu who was the lucky man, &c. Mr. Cooper infor me it was picked up dead in the river Sev It was in a bad state, and his instructions w to make the best job he could of it, and he perfectly successful. I forget the exact wei but it was over 3lb.

Some years before that, on a Saturday eve at St. Margaret's, on the Lea, I saw a roach t had just been taken, which weighed 3lb. 2oz the scales at one of the neighbouring hou This fish was in the possession of the late Burnham.—Yours, &c.,

F. Castell,
City of London A.

THE ANGLERS' BENEVOLENT SOCIE

Dear Sir,—May I ask the favour of a s space in your valuable paper to express my hearty wishes for the welfare of the A.B.S. the committee and stewards who so ably car out the arrangements for the late competi at Rye House, not forgetting Mr. Walbran?

I was present at the distribution of pr (being a winner), and never saw anything car out so well before.—Your obedient servant,

W. Bird, sen.,
Waggoners A.

Capture of a Royal Sturgeon.—The st trawler *North East*, belonging to Mr. Wm. Py landed at Aberdeen a royal sturgeon, which sold for £3 12s.

*** **Club and River Reporters will oblige sending in their Reports early in the week.**

STALKING POACHERS IN WINTER.

By P. H. Emerson.

In the winter of '78, Darkel, the fish poacher, was unusually busy. Like the highwaymen of old, he seemed to be in several places at one time. One morning the Woodly water-bailiff found the inside of his boat decorated with slime, mud, and fish-scales, and on the prow a figure-head in the form of a large bream, gagged, and grinning contemptuously at the world. The bailiff knew it was Darkel's work. The landlord of the Woodly Arms told him that for the mere pleasure of watching his face. Darkel had sent his own boat to be repaired; so he had borrowed the water-bailiff's for a night's poaching, and left it with his usual mark of contempt—a great old bream.

Then came a marshman's story from the New River. The narrator, hidden in a clump of reed, one night watched Darkel; he wished to learn his methods. As he watched and grew wise, Reed, the well-known soft-hearted bailiff, came along. "He warn't no good only to go out with the hoscifers of the society a fishing in the daytime," was the verdict of the amphibious population. "He would only pull a poor man for getting a pike," they persisted. The marshman's story—which spread like wildfire along the quaint river-banks—was that Reed came rowing quietly up the dark river towards Darkel's wherry. No sooner did Darkel espy the bailiff than he and his mates got into their boat, and rowed down to meet their foe, whom they pretended not to recognise in the dark. They deftly shot their net round the bailiff's boat and began to haul in. Then, and not till then, did Reed show any signs of life; but when he saw the net closing round him, his tongue was loosed, and he cried fearfully, "Don't upset me! Don't upset me!"

He thought Darkel intended to upset his boat, catch him in his net, and drown him. With that horrible death so near, he grew excited and mad with fear.

"Now, you fellow, I have catched you this time, your'e poaching the river," laughed Darkel, ironically, as he drew the fearful net tighter round his prey.

"For God's sake; don't hurt me! I'm an Englishman — don't hurt me," shrieked the cowardly bailiff.

Darkel stopped, and taking hold of the net-encircled boat, he said solemnly, the planets only witnessing.

"Now, if you don't promise me that you'll never round on me, you'll never see your home no more."

"Let me go, and, by the God that made me, I'll never hurt you."

"Don't you forget yourself," cried Darkel, sneeringly, and, clearing the boat of net, he gave it a contemptuous shove away from him with his horny hand; "for," said he afterwards to his pals, "you'd have had to a' burnt a hundred of straw round him to have started him, he was that 'mazed."

The story leaked out, and Reed lost his situation. Shrewd old Darkel scratches his head to this day, puzzled to know how the matter got abroad; for he knew Reed would never breathe a word of it, nor would his own pals. But he had forgotten that reed-bushes have ears as well as trees. But the sharpest piece of work happened on the Northwey river. Darkel's wherry was moored at his favourite Woodly. She was carefully watched by day and by night for many a week, when suddenly one evening Darkel stepped ashore, leaving a boy aboard his old craft, and ran in the darkness to a wherry that had come up that day from Yarmouth. There he met his friends, and they set to and did a good night's work. The next morning you might have seen Darkel innocently hoisting the sail of his own old craft, bound for home; whilst their cargo was already miles away in the other wherry, on the way to Yarmouth. These deeds coming so close one upon the other, had excited the water-side dwellers—they were ready to hear of any daring or cunning escapade; and even the river-side officials were alert to make a capture, and stop these depredations on the innocent roach and bream. But all were doomed to disappointment that winter, for Darkel was a genius in his profession, as was Cartouche in his day.

As I have said, Darkel was not to be caught. Like many of the fish he netted, he was wily, and only to be taken by surprise. Two policemen thought so to take him, with what results we shall see.

The weather was freezing when the adventure took place. The ground was covered with a powdery snow; the reeds ringed with thin icy necklets, and the broad laid. The rivers were open for navigation; the tide kept them free, for it "splurtured" the ice up, as the natives say. Stock frost and rime frost had bound the landscape in fetters.

Darkel lay moored at the mouth of Sea March Broad one night. A bitter night that was, too, the water freezing all over the river. Just before daybreak—for Darkel had done them—a cargo of stiff fish lay snug in his old wherry, covered with thin ice, such as the ice-men collect to sell to the fish merchant for packing. When the day broke, Darkel still slept soundly, for he was a wise old man; never a drop of spirit did he drink on these excursions—always hot beef-tea and milk; and, moreover, he never remained in wet things a moment after he had finished work. He was as careful as a valetudinarian—this hardy old poacher—and, he has often told me, that was why his pals couldn't stand it as he could.

"They all died youngish—they would drink, and were proud to go about wet," he has often said.

At eight o'clock Darkel's son called him, and they had a comfortable breakfast in the grimy old cabin—bread, butter, tea, and prime pike, *ad libitum*, and they "eat sweet" when the frigid winter brings home the smacks from the "Dawger."

Whilst our adventurers were at breakfast, a bright fire roaring in the grate, a fierce north-easterly snow-squall fell upon the face of the land, nearly blinding two policemen that stood on the rond opposite, watching the *Dal Harnsee*, like cormorants. Darkel's son had seen them, and Darkel had named them before they all sat down to breakfast.

"They be the Sea March policemen. Don't pay no regard to 'em," he had said, grinning. His sons knew well by this that there was no danger, and that there was a bad time coming for those policemen.

"Lor! that dew blow," said the eldest son; "the ice is all colkilating [collecting] on our weather side; we shall have a job to get away."

"Is that still freezing?" asked the youngest hand.

"Ay; like a knife," answered Darkel, peeping through the little cabin window out into the white-flecked landscape at the policemen crouching under a rick of reed. He smiled grimly, as he looked up at the snow-laden sky, and listened to the roaring nor-easter's biting blasts whistling round his mast, halyards, and forestay.

The poachers smoked comfortably after breakfast, determined to wait for the ebb, which started at two o'clock. After that, Darkel and his sons curled themselves up in a warm corner, having first piled the grate full of coals, and slept soundly, whilst the fire crackled within, and the furious nor-easter blew without.

At noon Darkel arose and looked out; the gale was blowing as fierce as ever, and everything was white with newly-fallen snow. The landscape was dead and wrapped in a white pall; but the policemen were still there, their helmets and cloaks whiter than swansdown—they appeared clad in ermine. After this inspection Darkel roused his snoring boys and bid them get dinner; they ate more fish and drank quarts of tea. After dinner they had a smoke and went out into the biting snow-squall to shovel off the snow and hoist the sail. After much hard work they got the great sail up, but it was powdered white ere it was taut. Then all hands went below—for the tide was only slack as yet—to warm their frozen fingers and drink more tea; whilst the policemen walked briskly up and down the rond, beating their arms across their chests, and jumping on the frozen snow-covered rond. They had seen Darkel's manœuvre, and suspected he was about to start; and they guessed (and rightly) he had fish aboard. They had a search warrant, and determined to come aboard and ransack the *Harnsee*, but they were inexperienced in the work. After a consultation they walked to a reed-bush and got into their boat, and came, breaking the ice with their oars, towards the wherry. When they got alongside, amongst a lot of floating ice, they hailed Darkel:—

"Hollo, there; what are you doing here?"

Then Darkel poked his head out of the cabin door and looked at them with his piercing blue eyes, answering shortly—

"Icing? I can't get away yet; that's what I want."

"That's very suspicious—you've got something aboard."

"Well, you'd better come and look, if you've got a sarch warrant," said Darkel, drawing his head into the cabin, for the drifting snow nearly blinded him.

They came aboard, but they could scarcely climb out of the boat; their hands and feet were numb with cold, and their systems low from exposure. With great difficulty they pulled off a hatch, exposing a gleaming cargo of ice, that made the scene look more like the Arctic Regions. The chief constable climbed slowly and with difficulty into the hold, and began to turn the ice about feebly, whilst Darkel only looked on calm and exasperating. But the poor half-frozen fellow soon got tired of turning slippery pieces of ice about, and he rose up stiffly and slowly, and said, feebly: "They're in the cabin."

"Go and find 'em, then," said Darkel, shortly.

They went into the cabin, and the younger man gave a long sigh of relief as the warm air met him; and his eyes turned ravenously towards the bread and butter, still standing on the locker. Exhausted and half-frozen, he dropped on to the seat, and the elder man edged up towards the fire.

"Now then," said Darkel, grimly, "I ain't axed you here to wisit me. None of that setting down. Sarch the place and be off; we ain't no friends." The young man got up with a sigh, the melted snow streaming off him on to the floor.

"Here, you can't go sarching like that; and you ain't going to make a hog-wash of my cabin; out you go," said Darkel, pushing him through the cabin doors into the open. The poor fellow sat down on the snow-covered deck, and looked longingly towards the cabin fire; but it was useless.

"Now then, mister, do you be quick; the tide's on the tarn, and I'm off," he said to the elder constable.

The chief policeman looked cunningly about for a pretext to stay in the snug cabin until he was warmed through. He looked round and saw two guns hanging from the roof.

"Are they loaden?" he asked, nodding his head in their direction.

"Loaden, yes."

"What for?"

"To shoot the devil, if he come aboard."

"Bring them out and fire 'em off."

"No; 'taint likely."

"You won't fire 'em off?"

"No! that I on't for nobody. There ain't nothing to shoot."

Then the chief cried to his assistant Jones: "Come and fire these guns off."

"Hand 'em out, then," said Jones, with chattering teeth.

"No, you don't," said Darkel, fiercely. "I pay a licence; and if your mate want 'em, let him come inter the cabin and take 'em; then I'll know how to sarve him."

"Well," said the chief policeman, "let's see what else you got," changing the conversation. He looked in the cupboard, and saw an old rusty revolver, and asked—

"Why do you carry these here weapons?"

"What weapons?"

"This old rewolwer."

"Why, to shoot the devil; I told you onst."

He searched, and could find nothing in the cabin; so he said to Darkel—

"I believe you've got something about you," and began to feel through his clothing.

"I ain't a woman," cried Darkel, indignantly; "and I don't want no more of your tricks. Have you sarched the ship?"

"Yes."

"Well, get you and go, as quick as you like. That fire is very nice and warm, ain't it? but that's for my pals and me, and not for the likes of you."

"I'll be even with you yet, Mr. Darkel," said the policeman viciously, as he left the cabin reluctantly, joining his half-frozen companion outside. He soon began to put on winter plumage again.

Darkel got a mop and swabbed up the water in the cabin. Whilst he was clearing up and get ready to start, the two half-frozen policemen were consulting together on the end of the wherry. They decided that they must follow him to see whether he delivered any fish at the end of his voyage. So when he came out of the cabin, the chief constable said in a conciliatory tone—

"Well, Darkel, where are you going now?"

"I'm off to Harling Bridge, if I can get."

"Well, we've got to go down there. Will you give us a lift?"

Darkel smiled grimly, and answered softly, "A lift! No, Bor'; arter coming here to sarch me, that fare' too much to ax. But tell you what I'll do, if you like—I don't mind giving you a tow."

Their faces clouded, and they looked longingly into the snug cabin, and then at the arctic landscape and driving snow-squalls.

"All right, that will do," said the chief, slowly.

"Well, then, get into your boat; for I'm off," replied Darkel.

They could scarcely climb into the snow-covered boat. Darkel noticed that.

The anchors were pulled up, the sail filled, and the boys stood forward with boat-hooks, pushing the floating ice away, as the *Dal Harnsee* sailed slowly through the ice jammed into the narrow throatway between the broad and the river. They soon sailed through the small ice fields, and getting into the river met a fierce head-wind and blinding snow-squalls. Darkel sailed her amidst the snow and blast, whilst his sons kept warm before the fire. The policemen in the boat astern were white and silent, and showed little signs of life, except to yawn now and then; for their faces were buried in their arms to avoid the stinging snow-storm. Darkel looked round occasionally and smiled wickedly.

After a terrible battle with the head-wind and snow-squalls the bridge hove in sight, and Darkel shouted through the wind, "There she be."

The policeman looked up sleepily and grunted, "Ay, ay."

"Fare cold," asked Darkel, softly.

They did not answer.

"What, asleep, Bor?" asked Darkel, with irritating solicitude.

"Very nigh," answered the young man.

"Well, I'm going to stop at the bridge; there ain't no house there, so you'd better be going home afore you get frozen to death."

"What are you going to do at the bridge?"

"Unload my fish, to be sure."

"Fish! What fish? Where did you get 'em?"

"Out of the river to be sure. Ha! Ha! You be very sharp, baint you?"

They were silent; they were too frozen to struggle with boys, let alone determined men. So they sat silent, and let Darkel draw up to the bank and moor. A light cart was standing there, the squall notwithstanding. The policemen got out on the bank; they could scarcely stand. Darkel jumped ashore and ran up and spoke a few words to the driver of the cart, and then ran back to the wherry, the cart driving off hurriedly down the road by the river-side.

The constable came up and said, with shaky, feeble voice,—

"Tell me where your nets be. I shall take 'em."

"You can take 'em—fust if you can find 'em, and arterwards, if you've got the strength. There's three on us and two of you, and if you be stronger you shall take 'em. We'll have a tug of war for em."

The policemen swore terribly; the nearest inn was two miles away. Darkel was starting off again, it would kill them to follow; and they had searched the wherry, and had no proof that he had either nets or fish aboard. Their brag that they would take Darkel had turned out an empty vaunt; and they looked forlorn indeed as Darkel sailed off, leaving them staring stupidly after his wherry, as he cried—

"Fare you well, Bor'! A warm and a sup wu'd go high now, eh!"

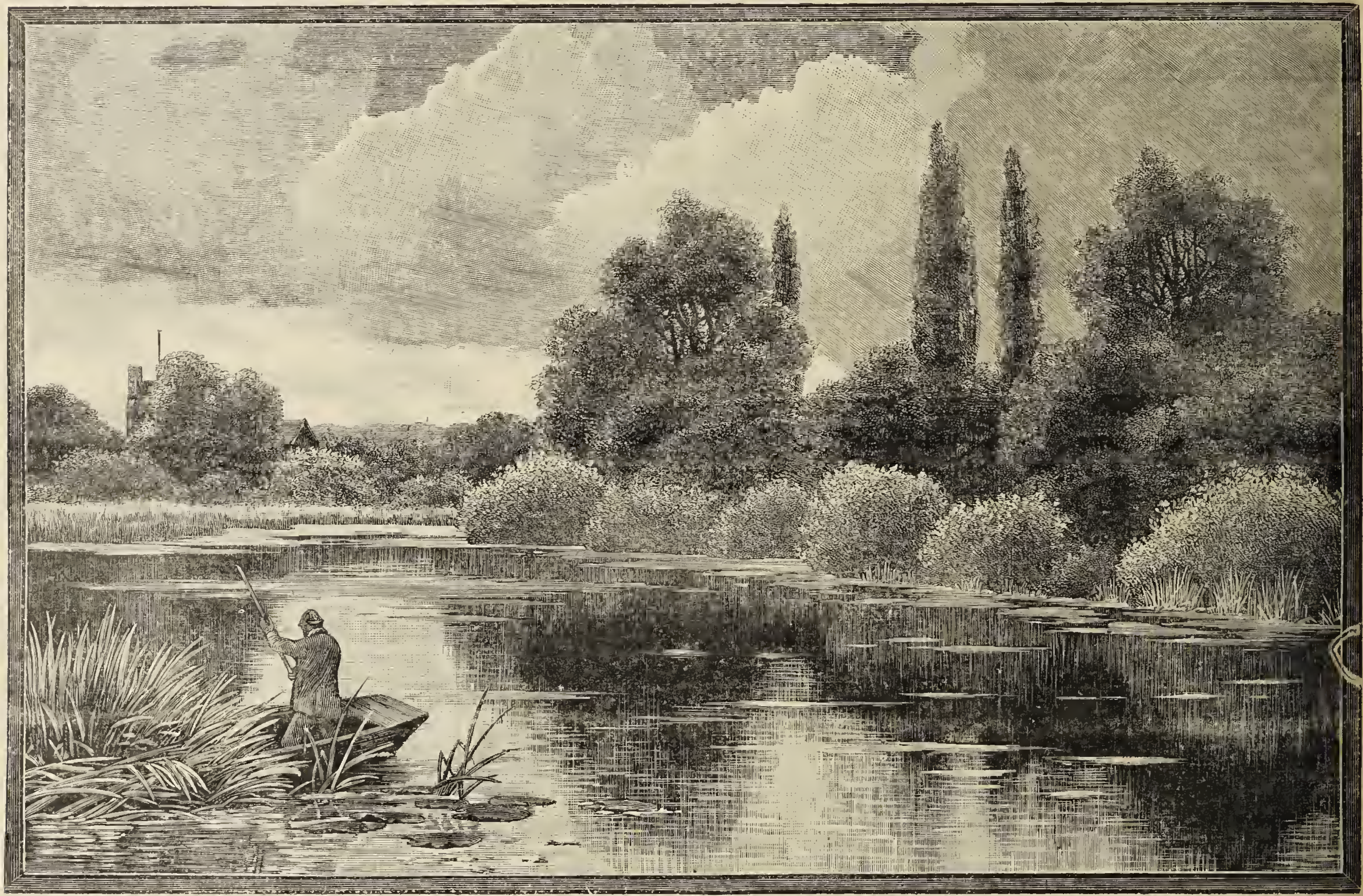
He merely sailed round the next bend of the river, where he met the cart, unloaded his fish, and returned the same night to his starting-place, for a fresh cargo of ice.

The frozen policemen tottered across the snow-covered marshes, and arrived at the Pig and Chicken nearly dead with exhaustion. One of them did not recover from the exposure for months. Thus was it, then, that Darkel, genius and poacher, avenged himself.

THE LEA AT BROXBOURNE.

[SEE ILLUSTRATION.]

No stream is so dear to the hearts of thousands of London anglers as the river Lea, and we feel sure they will appreciate the view of a stretch of it at Broxbourne, which we give this week. We have often published detailed accounts of the fishing stations on the Lea; but the following note from *The Anglers' Diary* will be found useful:—"The Lea holds trout, pike, barbel, perch, dace, chub, roach, tench, carp. The Broxbourne Fishery begins at the lock at Dobb's Weir, at Hoddesdon, and ends at Currant Tree Island. Hotel: Crown, where tickets can be had—season tickets, forty-two shillings, bottom and jack fishing; twenty-one shillings, trouting. Day tickets: bottom, one shilling; jack, two shillings; trout, five shillings. Trout fishing commences on April 1, ends Aug. 31. No person may fish with more than one rod and line. From the 1st of March to the 12th of August no leger fishing with worms is allowed, nor must any lob worm or fish bait be used except by trout subscribers during that time. No fishing for jack allowed from March 15 to August 14. No gorge fishing between August 1 and October 31. No roach or dace to be taken between May 15 and June 15. No perch to be killed between March 31 and June 15. The fishing from Currant Tree Hole to the Aqueduct Lock at Broxbourne is now in private hands, and is strictly preserved."



THE LEA AT BROXBOURNE.

A REMINISCENCE OF SEA-FISHING ON THE SOUTH COAST.

By L. S. G.

Sea-fishing, in which hooks and lines are employed, offers great variety. The fisherman can seek his prey operating from a rowing boat or other vessel anchored in the offing, or upon the waters of some bay or estuary; may fish keeping his craft in motion either under sail or with oars or skulls; may cast a fly from his skiff with a rod; and angle if it so please him from rocks or pier. Mackerel fishing with line demands a fair-sized boat, as often good stiff seas must be encountered in this pursuit, hence the expression, "a mackerel breeze"; and the same description of vessel should be used when anchored out five to eight miles from land whiting fishing.

But we will not follow the larger craft scarce visible from the shore, or the smaller boats riding, heaving, and sinking some few hundred yards from the sandy beach, their occupants content with the capture of pout and dabs; let us turn to the more active sport of trailing or whiffing at the broken base of rugged cliffs, and round rocky headlands in pursuit of bass or pollack.

Comparisons are odious; but this style of fishing, stealing along the shore trailing a spinning bait, or piloting a boat neatly in a swift tide-way, so that the lures may have full play, is as superior to the ordinary hand-lining from a stationary craft as salmon and trout fishing is to angling with worm and float.

Some years ago a friend and I had good experience of bass and pollack fishing on the Devonshire coast. Our beat, or beats—for the whole water could not possibly be covered in one day—lay between Teignmouth Harbour and the Orestone Rock, the Flat Rock, and the Thatcher, near Hope's Nose, at the entrance of Torbay. The southern side of this beautiful bay also afforded excellent pollack fishing between Paignton and Brixham; and lastly at Berry Head we found splendid sport beneath the gloomy cliffs of that noble promontory, and round two isolated rocks and a projecting headland that here rise from the waves. We used a 14ft. boat, built expressly for drawing up on a shelving shingly beach, and fitted with a mast carrying a lug sail and jib, while a small mizen, or "jigger," could be set astern.

Our tackle was comparatively simple—old salmon or pike lines, sufficiently reliable, to which we attached a snooding of thinner line, then came a trace of two yards of the best salmon gut furnished with four brass swivels at intervals. The baits were small Spoons, Phantom Minnows, and red and white artificial Sand-eels; while sometimes we were fortunate enough to procure that best and most killing lure, the living sand-eel. These lines were all weighted on the snooding with boat-shaped leads of various sizes, some heavily for deep water or high tide, others lightly for low water, and some with medium sinkers. In fishing we used two *tell-tales*, pieces of cane about thirty inches long, fitted into blocks to be attached to the gunwale on each side of the boat by wedges, and easily removable when not required. The line was passed through a slit in the end of the cane, and brought in board, the supple wand warning the fisherman when the bait was taken. Well can I remember some summer days on the sunny waters of South Devon, and one in particular, on which I believe we made our biggest bag.

One fine hot afternoon, when there was not a ripple on the sea, and not even the slightest swell, my friend Jones and I, accompanied by one, Smith, hurried to Watcombe Bay, where we kept our boat, and having looked well to our sails and our fishing gear, ran the light craft over the shingle and launched her. "One of the finest days we have had for a long time," exclaimed Jones, who was quite an authority on this sport. "Let us make at once for the Orestone. It is high water at five o'clock; it has just struck two. We shall find bass in the race both now and at the ebb." Smith, an amateur at sea-fishing, took the rudder lines, I pulled stroke, Jones bow, and with a steady Thames swing we shot out from our picturesque harbour, bidding the coxwain steer straight for the nearest point of the big rock, our goal, which towered above the calm water between three and four miles away to the south-east. The coast, beautiful at all times, looked its best. The old red sandstone cliffs, caverned by many an eastern storm, were reflected in the azure depths beneath them, while a fernery of bright green verdure, and even forest trees, crowned their lofty heights, producing strong and varied contrast. We quickly rounded the Quarry Point at Babbacombe, and opened Anstey's Cove, a lovely bay, with snug cottages nestling amidst a sloping bank of greenery above a curved white pebbly beach. Here a light breeze off the shore just rippled the water, and I proposed to hoist the mizen to help us on our way. "Stay," cried Jones, who had been gazing intently on shore as he rowed, "I see that the tide is just right for fishing Black Head; suppose we try our luck along the rocks up to Hope's Nose, and then shoot across to the Orestone?" We turned the boat's bows, and in a minute or two were beneath the grey cliffs, surmounted by a dense wood that forms the coast line, trending away southward from Anstey's Cove. In came the oars, Jones seized the sculls, the rudder was unshipped, the tell-tales were rapidly fixed upon the gunwale, and two india-rubber sand-eels were run out, a red one on the inner, or shore side, under the superintendence of Smith, a white upon the other, under my care.

Jones was right in his estimate of the state of the water, for he had scarcely begun to paddle along some ten yards from the base of the cliffs than Smith's cane bent with a swish, and the long taut line stretching out astern showed we had hooked our first fish. My companion seized his tackle, and while the oarsman slackened his speed, cautiously hauled upon it. "A good fish," he exclaimed; and he was right. Instead of coming home slithering upon the top of the water, our quarry maintained a steady strain upon the cord until near the skiff; then he bored down and tried to reach the masses of long brown tangle we saw waving in the depths beneath. "Out, out, into deep water," I shouted, and a rapid stroke or two baulked the struggling fish in his downward course. Smith played the victim well. It was a case of give-and-take, the hand having to perform the functions of a top joint in rod fishing. How frail the gut looked, how big the fish, as his struggles gave back an alternate sheen of bronze and silver. Then, helpless, our prey splashed upon the surface; I slipped the landing-net under him—we had secured a fine pollack of 5lb. Slap went my tell-tale now, but the game was insignificant. I pulled the wriggling fish easily in over the rippling waves, and swung him into the boat with the comment, "Only a pounder." Again, I had to pull upon my line, but this time the dupe—evidently of no great size—escaped; then Smith became engaged in a struggle, and I netted a pollack of 2lb. for him. It was clear the biggest fish were feeding in the wash of the tide, close under the cliffs.

Now floating, bobbing about, some two hundred yards from shore, we could see the corks of a posse of lobster-pots. A reef lay here, and the boat was circled round, and sculled gently past the row of tiny buoys. Down the windward side no incident occurred beyond the inner line catching the tackle of a lobster-pot, occasioning a good deal of manœuvring on the part of our boatman, lest the thin gut should break; but as we rounded the last cork, and prepared to row along the lee side, both lures, as they swept across in a semicircle, were taken, and the struggles of the frightened fish caused the lines to foul. Here was a mess, both were heavy pollack, fighting and gyrating close to the corks. A moment decided the combat, the biggest—of course the biggest—fish broke away, and the other came twisting in and was duly netted, then we sat down to disentangle the kinked lines. A wet job Smith and I had of it, seated on the thwarts, unravelling the twisted cords, dragging out the slippery sea-weed, and when our gear was again in order we were sculling under the rocks, near Hope's Nose.

The sport here was decidedly slack, but as we approached the head of the spit, Jones, always on the alert, gave a shout and pointed seawards. Some half a mile from the boat there appeared a sudden disturbance on the water. An acre or so of sea had turned a greenish blue, scintillating with silvery sparkling points and flashes, while the phenomenon moved swiftly onwards, leaving an oily wake behind. Above wheeled innumerable gulls, increasing momentarily in numbers, joined by fresh flocks of birds, that had hitherto been lazily sunning themselves upon the cliffs. "Mackerel," we cried. Yes, we were close upon a large shoal of brit, or young fish; the mackerel, bass, pollack, and dog-fish, in pursuit, were hurrying their unfortunate prey upwards to the surface; the sea birds were darting down, claiming victims, and we too now hastened away to take our share of the spoil.

Bringing in our pollack lines, we ran out two small bright metal spinners, Smith was given charge of the tell-tales, I took the stroke oar, and we rowed rapidly towards the troubled waters. There is no use in rowing through a shoal under these circumstances. We started with the intention of pulling round the churning circle, making sure of sport by this manœuvre. Nearer and nearer we drew to the hovering gulls, we could see the glittering small fry leaping in desperation above the surface to avoid their voracious enemies below. Click went the port cane, and up came a mackerel. Before the fish was in the boat the other tell-tale bent, our comrade had his two well-fed gorgeous prizes over the gunwale in an instant; then we paused to alter our baits. There is nothing like a strip of a brilliant mackerel's skin to attract its fellows. The fish being killed, a long triangular piece should be slit off the side with a sharp knife, and placed carefully upon the hook, so as to "wobble" in the water; this forms a killing lure. We removed the spinners and tried this "dodge."

Rowing smartly about in the vicinity of the shoal of fish, the tell-tales worked merrily; Smith had his hands full. No sooner had he pulled in one victim on one side, than the throes of the opposite wand demanded his attention. The green and silver heap of mackerel at our feet numbered over a dozen; then came a more vigorous pull, and the steady strain on the line told of a heavier fish, a powerful antagonist. I threw in my oar, seized the net, and a fine five-pound bass yielded to his fate. "Good," shouted Jones, encouragingly, as our salmon like prey flapped upon the bottom boards; "now we shall find these fellows at the Orestone," and putting our backs into it, we pulled away with a will to that rock, our mackerel lines still streaming out in our wake. Fish certainly were plentiful that day: ere we "eased" at a reasonable distance from the Orestone, we had another half-dozen mackerel. And now we had to prepare for more serious work all prophesied that "big ones" were about.

Contemptuously hauling in the gear which had done us such good service within the last hour, we put out two heavily-leaded lines, one with a small well-polished spoon, the other with a white artificial sand-eel. "A bass on the spoon, a pollack on the eel, before long, I bet," said Jones; and taking to the sculls he rowed for the Orestone, Smith and I each watching our respective tell-tales. The tide was nearly flood at our destination, but whirling eddies still circled over the submerged rocks at the base of the lofty islet, and a strong stream flowed off the southern end. What little wind had arisen during the early afternoon had died away, and the sea was glassy calm, lapping against the iron walls of the big rock, with a hissing murmur, while through the clear waters we could see the waving sea-weed, and masses of broken storm-beaten granite, from whose caverned recesses we hoped to lure our prey.

Our oarsman commenced at the northern extremity, and began to row round the rock which rose from 30ft. to 50ft. above us, covered at the top with long, thin grass. The course was purposely rather zig-zag, but the boat was never farther than twenty yards from the wall-like sides of the sea-girt isle, and our lines swaying to and fro in the eddies must have caused our baits to spin with lively accuracy. Slap went the outer rod, that under my charge. This time it was not a case of hauling in, but pulling up. "A pollack!" we all exclaimed, in chorus, for the fish sank struggling down at once, seeking refuge in the weed, from which we had tempted him. Jones ceased to row; Smith got his tackle in; I fought the battle out. Bit by bit the line came back, I could feel the fish scraping along the rocks, and the fragile gut cutting through the tangle; then came a shoot upwards, a flash of light beside the boat, vain endeavours to run beneath the keel, a contest on the top of the water, and my comrade had our antagonist neatly in the skiff—a fine pollack of 6lb., taken, as had been predicted, on the white worm, and the biggest fish we had yet secured. Again we settled down to our sport, sculling gently onwards, Smith got a 2lb. bass on his spoon; and so fluctuating are the chances of fishing that I brought in a half-pound pollack, which being lightly hooked, we threw overboard to grow and come again. "Not a big bass here yet," I said, "though the tide is still running off the ends and points of the rock, forming splendid currents for them to play in." As I spoke my line slipped off its cane, and twanged like a harpstring against the planks of the boat, then the tight cord raced away from our skiff, the hooked fish dashing along a foot or two below the surface. "A bass," cried Jones. "No doubt of that," I answered, and how I longed to have had that fish upon a rod, as the wet line ran through my hands, scoring my fingers—for my foe tried all the tricks of a salmon, except leaping, but at length, rolling and plunging, he neared the boat—the net hovered over the water, a dip, and our third bass—a seven pounder, joined the heap of slain within our craft.

A stroke or two after this capture and we reached the southern point, for the Orestone does not probably exceed a hundred and fifty yards in length, and here although the tide was beginning to slacken we found a good stream curling away into Torbay. This was the situation we had looked forward to. Jones slowly turned the boat to row round the point of the rock, the lines swept out into the tide, and one after the other both baits were seized. No doubt existed as to the nature of our fish—Smith and I were engaged with bass. They fought well; both anglers had to use the greatest caution lest the gear should foul. The boatman's services were required, Jones threw in his sculls, and stood up flourishing the net. A flash on the starboard side and in came a victim; then a tussle to port, and the other bass glittered in the air and fell wriggling at our feet. For a quarter of an hour we had a lively time rowing backwards and forwards through this race. Plenty of good bass were taken all varying from 3lb. to 6lb. We caught small bass, also a pollack of 3lb., the only specimen of his kind captured here, and broke a gut trace, leaving a spoon behind us in the invisible drowned corks of a lobster-pot. The spoon and the artificial eel seemed equally to attract the fish. We took our prey first on one side then on the other, sometimes both fishermen were occupied at once.

It was now flood, the currents and eddies died away for a space, the waters round the rock merely heaved and swelled sulkily, or leapt in tiny waves, Jones had to row faster, while the bass seemed less inclined to feed, though we took pollack. "Suppose we try the sunken rock," I said; "we will find the bass again when the ebb fairly sets in, a race will then run off the northern point." The reef to which we now steered lay some three hundred yards due south of the Orestone. At all states of the tide an ominous swell rolled over the hidden danger, and in rough weather the waves broke and churned above the rocks, while skippers always gave the spot a wide berth. We were soon cruising round this excellent fishing ground, with our India-rubber sand-eels out as bait, for this was altogether a locality dear to pollack. To-day for some unknown reason these fish were not upon their usual haunt. Our tell-tales had but slight employment; only four fish were caught, but they were not to be despised for size. One fellow, of 8lb., fought so vigorously and determinedly, that we had to tow him out thirty yards from the reef into many fathoms, lest he should scurry down to the sharp rocks, and cut the gut. The cause was apparent when the quarry was brought in—he was hooked outside the mouth. We fished on patiently for a time circling round, over, and across the shoal then we agreed, as the bites were few and far between, to return to the Orestone, and await the ebbing of the tide.

We had been longer "fooling round" this outpost of the big rock than we thought, when we came under the shadow of its riven sides. The tide had turned, streams and currents flowed gurgling towards the offing. Rowing along the eastern face of the mass of towering granite, we took a small pollack or two that only just wagged the cane; these small fry were feeding close under the rock, sheltered from the force of the ebbing waters. But now we came to a fierce race running off the north point. The sea foamed and boiled, rising in curling waves as the tide rushed out channel-wards, and our little boat rose and fell, splashing heavily, as Jones swerved her stern round into the tearing current. For a minute or two the skiff hung in the stream, notwithstanding the exertions of our expert waterman, while the lines straightened tautly out behind. Soon once more we began to forge slowly ahead, and at that instant Smith leapt to his feet and seized his line. The tell-tale was bent nearly double. As my friend grasped his tackle the cord suddenly slackened. I knew what had happened; he pulled in ruefully a broken trace. Another bait had been added to the list of lost. A bass of larger size than usual, perhaps, had seized the glittering spoon; the heavy fish and the strong stream combined had found a flaw in our carefully-prepared gear. Now it was my turn. I received the usual warning, and in an instant felt we had a stout opponent to deal with. Far away in our wake I saw my prey shimmer through a great surge; then he darted towards the boat. I hauled rapidly in, and the contest progressed. With a skilful turn Jones brought our vessel into comparatively calm dead water. Dragging out line, shooting hither and thither, the bass soon exhausted his efforts to escape. Smith desisted from repairing his recent mishap. He came to my aid. Another fish—and a good fish too—rolled from the net. We now returned into the race; both lines were again out, and the boat was about to round the low projecting point of jagged rocks, which formed the north-eastern angle of the Orestone, when Smith's lure attracted another bass, and he commenced pulling in. At the same instant my bait was taken. Jones had to guide us again from the stream, and grasp the net. Both victims were brought in, mine after a short fight proving to be a horse mackerel, brilliant silver and green, like his smaller mates, but larger, stronger, and a coarser fish to eat. Again we plunged into the current, and this time passed the jumble of granite off which the race we had been fishing streamed. The skiff was now in fairly dead water, the rock rose up above us, but in this, the northern end, the waves had worn a deep and narrow cavern, sufficiently broad for a small boat like ours to enter, but not to turn. Looking down into the depths of the cave, the green still waters, by the light of the now descending sun, were seen to be full of bass. Jones rested on his paddles, and we watched them. Like gold fish in a bowl, some travelled slowly round the sides of their cool grot, others would approach the surface until we could distinctly see their hungry eyes, their quivering gills, and the markings on their sides; then with a sudden whisk of the tail they would shoot down amongst the weed. A whole row of fish, too, lay motionless in mid-water at the entrance of the hollow, their heads seaward, as if on the look-out for what chance might throw in their way. "Those fellows inside are at play," suggested Jones. "They will have nothing to do with us, but these boys in the doorway might be tempted," and he commenced to manœuvre the boat.

Shooting out a little, we contrived that the baits should spin invitingly past the entrance of the cave, but the wary fishes we were intent on alluring would not budge an inch. Several times in succession we brought the lures neatly round before their very noses, but the sleepy detachment guarding the threshold of the watery lair refused all charming. We could see them plainly; they never stirred. Then our luck returned to us. Just as the skiff was being twisted about some distance from the rock, with a view of returning for our last attack upon these sulky bass, the spoon was taken, then my sand-eel. We captured these two fish—both fine fellows—and for a merry space, at some fifty paces from the rocky hollow, kept taking both bass and pollack as quickly as we could get the lines out, Jones rowing slowly to and fro the while.

I had a curious experience. Standing up in the stern, paying out my bait, I saw distinctly half-a-dozen bass in a bevy cruising about a short distance astern. I contrived to bring the twisting sand-eel within their ken, when two fish left the shoal and started in pursuit. One fellow (the smallest) outstripped his competitor, and seized the tempting morsel; I held him fast. The other appeared to hunt about from side to side, as if seeking the lure, then darted away, and fell a victim to Smith's spoon, which came hurrying along in the boat's wake. It was a pretty sight to see these game and active fish chasing their prey through the clear water. I saw the whole enterprise from start to finish, and we secured them both.

The sun had now set, a light breeze came stealing up with the twilight, gently curling the waves, affording us a valued opportunity of sailing homewards after the exertions of the day. We set our canvas, and in an hour rippled into Watcombe Bay as darkness fell.

By the light of our ship's lantern we counted our spoil upon the beach. Twenty-five pollack (the largest 8lb.), twenty-one bass (the heaviest 9lb.), nineteen mackerel, and one horse mackerel—a goodly boat-load for inexperienced landsmen, and the most successful by far of many pleasant days passed on the waves, beneath the well-remembered old red sand-stone cliffs.

"HARD LINES."

A FISHING SKETCH.

By Rux.

"Good morning. What can I do for you, sir?" said the Editor of the *F. G.*, addressing Mr. Scribbler, on this gentleman entering the sanctum in St Dunstan's House, one day last April—not the 1st.

"Well, sir, the fact is, I have had a wee bit of luck. *The Scientific Englishman* has just published several articles of mine, on a new method of rearing bees, for which contributions the management of that journal have paid me £50. 'Tis rather riling to an old fisherman to see the splendid salmon and trout, that arrive every day in the London market by hundreds and thousands; and to think of the pleasure these silvery beauties must have afforded some of the knights of the rod, and never have a chance of participating in the sport is truly awful. You see, Mr. Editor, nearly all my life has been spent abroad, where there is plenty of fishing to be had, without being under any obligation to anyone. Fish away; catch as catch can, is the order of the day on the western continent. Here I am, back again in my native country, a comparative stranger in the land; and not having the faintest idea whither to direct my steps in search of sport, have come to you for advice and information. Can you give a poor orphan the straight tip where he can have a few days' angling on the extreme 'Q. T.'?"

"Well, Mr. Scribbler, I very much fear I can be of little service to you. There is plenty of good angling to be had all over the United Kingdom. The free fishing is not up to much anywhere; and if you want good sport you must be prepared to pay handsomely for it, unless indeed you are lucky enough to have a friend that holds riparian rights on some of the rivers. Do you happen to know anyone?"

"Not a soul."

"Well, sir, the only way I can help you in the matter is by inserting a par. amongst the 'Notes and Queries' of my Journal. Write down exactly what you want, and I'll see to it."

"Thank you very much; I will do so. Good morning, sir." And the Scribbler departed.

In the next Saturday's issue of the *Fishing Gazette*, the following notice appeared:—

"Will any reader kindly inform me where there is some good salmon or trout fishing to be had? Must be cheap; free preferred. Distance from London not to exceed five hundred miles. Please address, A. Scribbler, 11, Queer-street, Soho, W."

Several days elapsing, and receiving no replies, the journalist had almost arrived at the conclusion that his case was hopeless, when, lo and behold! one fine morning he was unceremoniously interrupted in his studies by someone rapping violently at his door.

"Hollo, Eliza, is that you?" he inquired, hastily answering the summons. "You frightened me. I thought it must be either coal, milk, or bread. What the devil is the matter?"

"Oh, lors! no, sir! It's only me!" replied the maid-of-all-work, breathing heavily from a sharp run up three flights of stairs. "The postman is just come; and oh! Mr. Scribbler, there be such a 'eap of letters for you down in the 'all. There be black borders on some of 'em. The landlady thinks as 'ow there must be summut gone wrong, so, says she: 'Heliza, go hup and tell the third floor back.' Oh, if it be that hold hant of yours that be dead—she that is to leave yer all the money—won't it be jolly? Yer didn't give me nothin' at Christmas. Ye'll not forget the new hat, will yer, Mr. Scribbler? Hoorah!"

"Shut up, you little goose! I have no aunt with any money to leave. I only pretend I have, just to fool the confounded duns. There's a shilling for you. I will be down directly."

Suiting the action to the word, Mr. Scribbler, in journalistic dishabille, bounded down the stairs, and taking possession of his correspondence, once more retired to his den to peruse it.

"My eye, what a pile!" he remarked, as rapidly breaking the seal, he proceeded to read No. 1. It was from an agent in Edinburgh, informing him that he had on his books some choice fishing rights to lease, varying in price from £100 to £3,000 a year, according to extent and locality. No. 2 was likewise from Scotland, and gave him to understand that first-rate angling could be had on the Tay at £1 a day, exclusive of gillies. No. 3 was from the proprietor of an hotel situated on the Tyne: Capital salmon fishing—terms four guineas a week and all the fish caught; which, however, the angler had the privilege of purchasing at the rate of one shilling and sixpence per pound.

"Great Scott!" he exclaimed; "what bosh! I advertise for cheap or free fishing, and they answer me as I were a duke or a millionaire."

Then followed several epistles of a similar description, kindly worded and no doubt kindly intended, but the terms offered equally impracticable, as far as the poor journalist was concerned. Each letter in turn was consigned to the flames, till finally No. 20 was reached. This proved to be from a correspondent in Ould Oireland, and being a regular eye-opener, must be given at full length:—

"Ballycumnavaddy,
"Co. Limerick,
"Thorsday.

"ONERED SIR,—Big Mike Muloney, the Wather Balif, takes the *Fishing Gazette* once every week, and oftener if he can get it. I sees how your a wanton some throut and samon fishin'. Shure it's I that's sorry I didn't know it four year ago. Cushla Macree, but it's myself could hev gin ye a week or a fortnit. I has a bit of a shebeen, near the bridge that connicts the Blackwather with the Byne—two darlint strames full of fish, and they josslin won-another to see which of 'em will be first into the basket. But times is changed, Captin, and the fishin' is all tuck up, so it ain't isy to git a day, let alone a week or two now your worship. If yer oner comes, I'll do me best to show ye sport, but there's only one way it can be worked, and that's by keepin' the bottle to big Mike. He's the Wather and whisky balif too yer nor. There's plinty to ate, with lashins to drink, and all fishin' matarials kipt constant on the primis. I'll be waitin' yer onor's reply.—
er servant, "TIM HOGAN."

"Well, by George, this is a good one. Proceed to Bally—what a name! Gin up the river balif—go fishing—sudden appearance of the owner—before the beak—charge, poaching—fined £10, or month."

"It won't wash," exclaimed Scribbler, who commenced to perform a sort of Hibernian jig round the *multum in parvo* room, much to the astonishment of Eliza, who once more made her appearance, bringing the occupant's clean linen.

"The third single back be a cuttin' hup horful," he remarked to her mistress, who she met at the foot of the stairs. "I think his old hant 'as been and died, and left him nowt; or else he must have lost his whole bloomin' famerly. I never seed the likes afore. He quite frighted me."

"There, there! go along, you silly girl!" remarked Mrs. Gunn. "Go to your work. Never mind the attic—he's all right."

Once more alone, Scribbler continued to examine the remainder of the correspondence, till finally only one was left. A last chance, a forlorn hope: but, alas! like all the others, it was equally disappointing. From its contents he learnt much at he knew, and a little he did not want to ow; the writer informing him that the Dee was excellent salmon river, but that the best pools re all taken up.

"Did Mr. Scribbler know any of the landed ntry in Cheshire, or was he acquainted with y of the Members of Parliament of the counties rough which this splendid stream flows: if so," e letter continued, "you are all right, will be ll received, and A1 sport may be anticipated."

"This is the stupidest epistle of the lot," mused the journalist. "Do I know an M.P.? Good gracious! I wonder the idiot did not ask me if I was a friend of some of the Royal Family, and advise me to apply for a day or two on Virginia Water, with the use of the State Barge! Let me see, who do I know? There's Bread, his knowledge of piscatorial pursuits are strictly confined to Billingsgate, and he probably knows as much about landed gentry as a pig does about keeping Christmas. Then there's old Barley Corn, of the Three Tuns; by Jove, he might know someone. I purchase my modicum of beer from him; one good turn deserves another. Happy thought, interrogate old John; take a drink and drown dull care, nothing like killing two birds with the one stone."

Hurriedly slipping on his overcoat, seven-league boots, and wide-awake hat, Mr. Scribbler proceeds to the Three Tuns.

"Do you happen to know anyone who has any fishing, John?" inquired the journalist, who was evidently on pretty familiar terms with the landlord.

"Lor' bless yere heart, no, not one. I was down at Margate once, and got acquainted with some of them sailor chaps, as used to be harf their time up to their waists in the water a-catchin' shrimps. Them is the honly fishers I knows. Now, hif hit had a been a 'orse you was a wantin' to go after 'ounds, I could have 'elped yer home; but I ain't a got no friends river folks."

Thoroughly disgusted, Mr. Scribbler wishes the landlord adieu, and proceeds towards the Strand. As he strolls along he accidentally meets an old acquaintance, Jones.

"Ah, Jones, how are you? Where have you sprung from?"

"Just returned from Norway, dear boy. Had such capital sport. Grand salmon fishing, but awfully expensive, and very difficult to procure. My friend Lord Sprouts pays £3,000 a year for his right on the Sundaten river, and only obtained it at that price by a mere fluke."

"I wanted a week or two's salmon angling," broke in Scribbler. "Not much chance for me in Norway, I fear?"

"None, dear boy, unless you have had the extreme felicity to strike oil, since last we met. If I hear of any cheap angling I will let you know. Ta-ta."

Brown was another friend the disappointed journalist encountered during his rambles on this bright spring afternoon. He (Brown) had just returned from a two weeks' fishing excursion in Holland.

"Yes. How did you get on? Have good sport?" was the natural inquiry?

"No, my dear fellow, my luck was something awful. Some months ago I bought a confounded foreign guide-book, which stated there were plenty of salmon fishing in the Dutch Rhine. This information, as a matter of fact, is correct, but is most misleading, as the fish I found were only to be caught with nets. I purchased before leaving London a new 17ft. rod, several lines, innumerable casts and flies, and no end of other gear. Quite sickening, never got as much as a bite the entire fortnight, although the water was in first-rate condition, wind in the right direction, sky all that could be desired, and fish in abundance. They would rise occasionally–wink, no, not wink, but stare at me–shake their heads or rather their tails just as much as to say, 'Ah, we're a bit too fly for you, old fellow.' My brother went to Connemara, in the West of Ireland, last month, but returned from the distressed country having encountered similar disappointment. There are lovely streams in the Irish Highlands, which actually teem with trout and salmon, but they are all Home Rulers to a fish! and will have nothing whatever to do with any angler, unless he be a Nationalist or one of the Little Ireland party. But you, Scribbler, I suppose you have been over to the Emerald Isle yourself, testing the cunning of your hand in the gentle art? Your people have a river frontage on the Slaney, have they not?"

"Yes; but they can't fish it."

"No; why not?"

"Well, you see, Brown, things are somewhat changed in the land of Erin during the last few years, to what they used to be. Formerly land in Ireland was in demand, large sums of money being paid to become owners of the soil or even tenants; the streams, however, were mostly free. No one caring about them, any angler might whip away till his arms ached; but now no rents are paid, and owners of estates could not get the price of a gallon of whisky for a twenty-acre field. On the other hand, anyone who is the lucky possessor of a few salmon pools, a trout stream, or even a duck pond with a few pike in it, has but to name his price, and if not too exorbitant the sale is concluded in a brace of shakes. Times are bad, so my Governor has leased his half-mile river front."

"But surely, Scribbler, the fellow who now holds the right is not so mean that he would refuse you a few days' fishing over your own people's property."

"By Jove, he is, though. He's as jealous of his newly-acquired privilege as he might be over the girl he is spliced to. A week's fishing, indeed. The same fellow wouldn't give his own father an hour's leave. If he heard of my casting a line on his preserve, he would summons me before the beak; and if he were to catch me in the act—mind you, he is a great big fellow—there is no doubt but that he would take the law into his own hands, and probably chuck me in the stream, and then amuse himself by angling for me with the gaff for the remainder of the day. No, sir, you won't catch me giving him any such chance."

"Good heavens, how dreadful! I should give the Irish barbarian in charge of the police."

"Oh, you're mistaken, Brown, my boy. Mr. Braggit isn't Irish; he's an Englishman; hails from London; something in the City. He and two or three other Cocknies, with pots of money, are now in possession of nearly the whole river, some fifty miles in length. They arrive in couples, relieving one another regularly during the season; so you see there is no chance for an outsider."

It was late in the evening when Scribbler wearily wended his way homeward. He had in the hurry of the morning forgotten to bring with him his latchkey, which necessitated his ringing at the front door, the summons being quickly answered by Eliza.

"Another whopper!" remarked the slavey, as he entered.

"Another what?" he replied.

"Big letter with a black border, sir. Oh, it's such a thick 'un. Must be a hunkel this time, I'm thinkin'. I'm sure you're in luck; I seed it in the coals in the kitchen fire, and so did missus this werry arternoon."

"There, there Eliza; don't worry me, like a good girl."

"Worrit you," expressed the maid-of-all-work, rather sorrowfully. "I wouldn't do that no hows. I wish you was rich; and I does pitty you all alone in that 'igh hup dormintary, as yer calls it. How I'd like to see yer in the parlers, 'stead of that nasty forrin man."

"Go to the devil, will you?" was the ungrateful rejoinder; and seizing the letter, the now rather excited journalist bolted up the stairs.

On reaching the little cock-loft, the two-bob lamp was quickly lighted, the smouldering embers in the grate were violently poked into a blaze, and the author of scientific bee-keeping, with throbbing heart and fresh hope dawning on his troubled brain, seated himself in the easy-chair—an old family heirloom—when having adjusted his pet goggles, he proceeded to investigate the contents of the "thick 'un."

"From old Meekins, by Jove! Luck at last," he joyously exclaimed as he perused the following satisfactory little billy-dux:—

"Crab Apple Lodge,
"Heatherington, N.B.
"April 26, '91.

"MY DEAR SCRIBBLER,—I received quite a surprise when I read your paragraph in last week's issue of the *F. G.* Thought you were dead and buried long ago. You are (excuse the simile) just like a 'Jack-in-the-box,' appearing and disappearing as if by magic. Where the deuce have you sprung from now? If I understand rightly, you wish to have a few weeks' good salmon or trout fishing on the cheap, which, I fear, will be very difficult to find within the domain of the British Isles. Your limit of five hundred miles from London is certainly a unique idea, but affords one a chance of putting you on a lay, as the Americans call it. My advice is, lose as little time as possible, and proceed to Galicia, in the north of Spain. I enclose full directions (rather voluminous, I fear) of the *modus operandi* necessary for the trip, which, if followed, will most assuredly lead to a successful tour. I pledge you my honour that I am neither building castles in the air nor erecting them in Spain, when I state the climate is delightful, the senoritas charming, the fishing A1, and the streams as free to the angler as the air he breathes. Take with you a plentiful supply of everything necessary for angling, and my very best wishes.—Yours ever, ISAAC MEEKINS.

"P.S.—On your return, let me know, either by letter or through the medium of *F. G.*, what sport you have had."

The next morning Scribbler was up with the lark, and there was such a ringing of bells as had never been heard before during Mrs. Gunn's tenancy of No. 11, Queer-street.

"What's all that noise," inquired the good lady, interrogating Eliza on her journey from the attic.

"It's the third floor, marm," replied the maid-of-all-work. "He's a ringing for his boots and 'ot water. He doesn't want no breakfas', as he's a goin' hout."

"Good gracious!" broke in Mrs. G.; "what's come to the man?"

"I'm sure I doesn't know, marm. He's a packin' hup. I thinks he's a goin' to a funeral and wants to buy some mornin'. He's horful queer. Shouldn't be one bit surprised if he was to kill hisself. Don't yer think he oughter be watched, marm?"

"Watched. Fiddlesticks! There, there, fetch him his boots and water, and tell him from me to make less noise, and not to be disturbing the house at this hour of the morning."

"Yes, mum, I'll tell him," answered the slavey, as she vanished to the basement.

All the morning and nearly the whole of the afternoon was spent by Scribbler in visiting fishing tackle shops, and it was past four p.m. ere the cab with a full cargo of fishing appliances dropped him at the door of No. 11. In overhauling the packages he discovered, much to his disgust, that the most important parcel of all others—viz., one containing a large assortment of flies, had accidentally been left behind, so a second journey was necessary to recover the lost property. During his absence the inquisitive nature of woman prompted Miss Eliza to make a minute inspection of the goods awaiting transmission to the Sunny South.

"Whatever be this for?" she said to herself, examining the long canvas case which contained the butt of the rod with its various joints. "Well, I never, if they ain't walking-sticks; and such boots, I never seed the like to go to a funeral with. Why he ain't a bought a single stitch of black close, nor never a 'at-band. What a fright he will look a goin' to a 'ouse of mornin' in that old tweed suit."

"Hollo, Eliza!" shouted the journalist, who once more returning, entered quite unexpectedly—"examining my kit, eh?"

"I was honly a settin' of 'em out of the way," whimpered the surprised maiden. "You surely ain't agoin' to see the last of yere hold hant in them boots?" she added, quickly recovering her equanimity.

"Aunt be hanged, Eliza; I am going away to-morrow for six weeks' fishing on the Continent. Go and tell Mrs. Gunn so."

"Well, did hever anyone hear the like? Goin' a fishin'?" And Eliza fled to impart the intelligence to her mistress.

On the following morning the nine a.m. express was bearing Scribbler to Liverpool *en route* for sunny Iberia.

Space at present will not permit, but with the sanction of the Editor, in the sweet by-and-by, the readers of the *F. G.* will receive a detailed account of what the angling tourist took with him, how he reached his destination, of the frolicsome time he spent in the famous Peninsula, and the sport he had on the crystal streams that flow through the lovely valley of El Viergo.

Gentlemen, that vale is truly a "Jim Dandy."

THE salmon rod-fishing season for Thurso, Naver, Borgie, Halladale, and Hope commences in about three weeks. The opening of the Halladale might, with advantage to all interested, well be put back a month; and as for the Hope, which is by no means an early river, it is difficult to understand the reason for its season commencing long before there are any clean fish "up" to fish for.

DANIEL WEBSTER'S FISH-STORY.

SOME years since Mr. Webster started off from Marshfield on a trouting expedition to Sandwich, a neighbouring town of Cape Cod. On approaching the fine stream he alighted from his waggon, and just then he met the owner of the farm through which the stream ran.

"Good morning," says Webster, "is there any trout here?"

"Well," says the farmer, "some people fish here, but I don't know what they do get."

"I'll throw my line in," says Webster, "and see what there is." Webster walked the banks of the stream trying his luck, and the old farmer followed him. Soon Webster remarked, "You have some bog on your farm."

"Yes," says the farmer, "that ain't the worst of it."

Fishing still farther along, Webster says, "You seem to have plenty of mosquitoes here."

"Yes," he replied, "that ain't the worst of it."

Webster still kept on throwing his line into the deep pools, and then said, "You have plenty of briars here."

"Yes," said the farmer, "and that ain't the worst of it."

Mr. Webster, getting somewhat discouraged on a hot August day, bitten by mosquitoes, scratched by briars, and not raising a single fish, dropped his rod and said, "I do not believe that there is any trout here."

"And that ain't the worst of it," says the farmer.

"Well," says Mr. Webster, "I should like to know *what is the worst of it?*"

"*There never was any here!*" says the farmer.

Mr. Webster enjoyed the joke, and often told it to his particular friends.

A PLAGUE OF MICE.

SINCE the days of Johnny Armstrong of Gilnockie, Doughty Dan o' the Houlet Hirst and other famous Border Reivers, the "debatable land" been almost free from invasion, the '15 and '45 excepted, until within the last twelve months, when the mice pest set in again with redoubled fury. Talk about a "Raid on the Border!" Why, the whole country-side is over-run with a mighty army of mice, from Selkirkshire to the Solway Frith, and the Duke of Buccleugh (like his ancestor of old, "The Bold Buccleugh," who bearded Queen Elizabeth after he had rescued Kinmont Willie from Carlisle Castle) has girded on his armour and declared war against the innumerable host which has dared to encamp upon his territory. Professor Huxley says, when he gave a recipe for producing clover:—

> "The more old maids, the more cats;
> The more cats, the fewer field mice;
> The fewer field mice, the more humble-bees;
> The more humble-bees, the more clover."

His Grace of Buccleugh, who is the proprietor of a considerable part of the country affected, has taken the matter in hand, with the view of exterminating the vermin. In order to illustrate the gravity of the situation, the following advertisement from a Border weekly journal is here reproduced:—

> "MICE PEST.—Wanted at once, twenty cats; must be good mousers; with kittens preferred.—Apply to S. HYSLOP, Langholm."

"With kittens preferred." Mind you, that's a wily advertisement! Large tracts of land have been virtually denuded of pasture; and although birds of prey have somewhat increased in the district, they have made no material impression on the vast multitudes of mice which swarm the ground. Foxes are eating the vermin; but dogs, on the other hand, are not good mousers; and there is a hue and cry throughout the Border land for cats of all descriptions. One shepherd, it is said, has killed over a thousand mice with his "knibby," or crook, and a sheep farmer has over one hundred cats at work on a hill pasture. What a grand hunting country it must be for those hundred cats! If owls and other kindred birds of prey had not been almost extirpated fewer mice would now exist on the Border. What is to be done? The plague is worse than the rabbit nuisance in Australia. Rabbits are toothsome food, but no one would care to dine upon mice.—*G.*

Waterproofs (ladies' and gentlemen's).—A large stock selling at low prices to clear Best quality only —EAST LONDON RUBBER Co., 8, Shoreditch, E.

SOME ACCOUNT OF JOHN YOUNGER.*

AUTHOR OF "RIVER ANGLING FOR SALMON AND TROUT.

MR. YOUNGER was what is emphatically called a "character." Having a thoroughly "independent mind," he thought out all questions within his reach to the best of his no small ability; and his originality and quaintness of style in expressing his ideas are at once apparent to the readers of his books. He died in 1860, in his seventy-fifth year, having spent a long life at the awl and "lingle end," beyond which, however, his thoughts soared to the dreamland of fancy. To give an idea of his attainments would be difficult. He was at once a poet, a naturalist, a geologist, a philosopher, and—a great deal more—a thoroughly true man who had the courage of his convictions. He was an original rather than a great man, but had his talent been properly cultivated, there is no doubt that he would have risen to eminence in some particular department. Mr. Younger was one of those who were called out by the "false alarm" of 1803. He obeyed the summons, albeit he expresses a great aversion to war. Robert Burns he admired sincerely, but cared less for Sir Walter Scott.

This notice of Mr. Younger we will conclude by the following extract:—

He was described, when verging towards his seventieth year, as "still active and athletic, of tall and commanding stature, and with the mien and presence of a nobleman; his stalwart frame, the correct and yet imperfect embodiment of his powerful mind; simple and unsophisticated as an infant, though rich in both joyous and sad experience; not unread in books, and of men and things an incessant, deep, and successful student; his workshop the village forum, himself a true oracle; the well-worn joint-stool fronting his own occupied day after day by listening visitors of all ranks, down to the sauntering angler and muse-struck ploughboy; a keen politician, without a spark of partizanship; a caustic satirist, who never made an enemy; a true philanthropist, without sickly sentiment; a real Christian, without sectarianism." That he was supremely original in some of his conclusions, and bold in his publication of them, may be seen in his sentiments upon Sir Walter Scott, for whose writings he, a Scotsman to the very tips of his nails, "did not care at all." He looked on the Waverley literature as "old piper stories," "dwarf and witch tales," and "monstrous caricatures of Scottish manners;" and he could never be induced to read one of the novels or romances through, or, indeed, to look at it twice—the circumstance of Scott being an anti-Reformer giving emphasis to his feeling of contempt for all laudation of the bad old times, when might was held to be right, superstition to be religion, and prejudice principle. The Reform Bill he hailed as a great and just measure, constituting "an inestimable general privilege," which "would exercise a wholesome influence over the tergiversations and abuses of public trust by the governing few." On the Corn Laws he naturally vented his hottest ire, summing up their evils in a "Scotch Corn-Law Rhyme," published in 1841—a rugged rhapsody truly, yet instinct with sterling truths. He was opposed to war in all its phases, as the following sentence will show:—"Has humanity not yet been long enough debased, running with dirks at their hips, after their worse than wooden gods, whom they call their chieftains?—ready at their paltry bidding to rip the life-blood out of the man whom God has created to be their rational neighbour, and then sent home to starve with their poor, degraded wives, and those who should have been their rational offspring, yes, and in cottar-hovels, scarcely deserving the name of a shelter! Were men not stone-blind, blank, and morally ignorant, could they submit to such things, or follow the wicked to war, when they have simply to agree in saying, 'We nourish the Christian principle of peace and good-will to men, and decline to kill each other?' And in such case what profane and dominant ruler could force them? What could an emperor of here or there say, should the millions say, 'We will not fight; so keep the peace yourself, or we will choose another servant to administer an equitable government to us?'"—*Hawick Express.*

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* "John Younger, Shoemaker, St. Boswell's, author of 'River Angling for Salmon and Trout,' 'Corn Law Rhymes,' &c., Kelso: J. and J. H. Rutherford, 20, Square."

SOME JOTTINGS OF AN AMATEUR FLY-DRESSER.

By Val Conson.

The Fresh-water Shrimp.

I sometimes wonder whether a good many of the soft hackled wet flies are not taken by the trout for the fresh-water shrimp. His shape when in motion in the water is a curve not unlike the outline of a well-dressed hackle fly (Fig. 1).

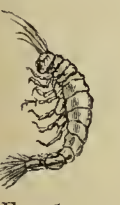
Fig. 1.

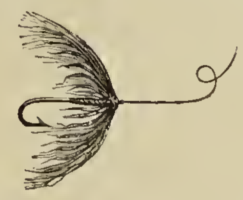
Fig. 2.

Stick a hook through the middle of him and there you are (Fig. 2). The colour of the shrimp varies from a pale translucent flint pebble colour to a deep olive green. The shades of the Golden Plover hackle very nearly reproduce the darker varieties, the golden tips very effectually reproducing the legs. Some of the partridge and woodcock hackles are not bad imitations of the lighter shades. The opening and closing of the plumes of a hackle fly not unfairly represent the peculiar jerking motions of *Gammarces pulex*. The body—if the colour be kept dim and in harmony with the hackle—is little off-set to the illusion. Thickish dressing is better than spare for the purpose of imitating a shrimp. I made several ingenious and singular efforts at reproducing the shrimp before this brilliant idea occurred to me. They were more ingenious than elegant, and were mostly combinations of partridge and yellow silk. This was the sort of thing (Fig. 3).

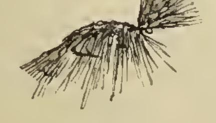
Fig. 3.

The Soft Hackle.

I turned a hackle fly loose into a white china conduit a few days ago and turned on the tap. The fly was dressed with a black metallic starling hackle, with a body of bronze herl, and it rolled about the bottom, writhing and fighting and kicking in a manner so live and uncanny I was almost afraid to touch it. No wonder that in a rough water Sir Trout is best taken with the hackle fly. In a smooth steady stream the South country floater s Queen.

Floating March Brown.

Many winged patterns of March Brown are described with a partridge hackle dressing for legs. But if you are dressing on a 1 or 2 hook, how are you to get your hackle short enough in he fibre without cutting the points? There *is* one way—viz., to cut the other ends and to make your hackle with the shortened fibres spun on a stem of silk. But it is difficult to dress.

The Origin of Fly-dressing.

Who was the inventor of the artificial fly? I often think with admiration mingled with envy of hat great man who made this advance that has been a boon to thousands. It was either genius of a very high order or a fluke of the most fortunate. But he must have had some of the immortal fire in him to have caught at this opportunity. Was ever such advance made in the art of ngling before or since? People call Walton the father of the Craft. But he was in truth only a humble follower of this great unknown whose memory is blessed for ever. Generations of anglers with the fly must have passed away before even uch proficiency in dressing as Walton possessed ould have developed itself. Time must have been required for the evolution of the fly-rod. Things moved more slowly in those days than these. And to think how many blatant nonentities are amous!

Hare's Ears.

One of the most useful spring flies on the Itchen the Olive Hare's Ear. This is by no means the rdinary Hare's Ear, with or without gold rib or ag. It is dressed in all respects as an Olive Quill, xcept that no hackle is tied in, and that after inding down the Quill and cutting off the loose end, you spin a little hare's ear fur of a dark shade, appropriate to the Quill, on the silk, give it two or three turns behind the wings to force them up, and then finish at the head in the usual way. Comb out the dubbing with a pin, and serve floating cocked. Now Mr. Halford's explanation of the success of the Hare's Ear is that it represents the Olive just hatched and still standing on its discarded shuck. I have floated a gold-ribbed Hare's Ear on a glass of water, and looked at it through the bottom, and think the explanation very likely correct. The remarkable thing is that the Hare's Ear fur shows so little, and that one sees through it so clearly the translucent olive of the silk. But flies of hundreds of shades hatch out and stand on their shucks, and there is no reason why the dark spring Olive should have a monopoly of that imitation which is the sincerest flattery. It is true that Mr. Halford gives two patterns, which are akin to this—viz., No. 8, Hare's Ear Quill: *Wings*—starling; *Body*—Peacock Quill, dyed canary yellow; *Legs*—hare's fleck (from outside shoulder of hare); and No. 22, Ogden's original pattern: *Wings*—pale starling; *Body*—pale primrose silk; *Legs*—lightest fur from a hare's face, spun on pale yellow tying silk. But I never saw the former in any shop but Holland's. The latter is almost a Whitchurch Dun. Holland uses, not the fur of the hare, but the very wiriest hair of the face (always excluding the whiskers) which he can find. For my part I don't see why a long series from Blue Quill to Pale Watery Dun, dressed on this principle, should not be a success. At any rate, I am dressing such a series for the forthcoming season, and look forward to killing well with them. They take about half the time of a hackled-winged floater to dress.

Hampshire Series.

If I had to pick out a short series of flies for the Hampshire rivers, I think I should choose—

(1) Hare's Ear (gold rib), 0 and 00, and several shades.
(2) Olive Quill, 0 and 00, and several shades.
(3) Red Quill, 0 and 00.
(4) Ginger Quill, 0 and 00.
(5) Blue Quill, 0 and 00, and several shades.
(6) Iron Blue, 00, A. and C. of Mr. Halford's patterns.
(7) Quill Marryat, 00, for August and September.
(8) Red Spinner, 0 and 00.
(9) Whitchurch, 0 and 00.
(10) Wickham's Fancy, 0 and 00, and 000.
(11) Pink Wickham, 0, 00, and 000—a large stock.
(12) Alder.
(13) Red Ant (in season).
(14) Coch-y-Bondhu.

I don't know any others really indispensablo.

Pink Wickham.

Apropos of this fly, the most aggravating of all flies to dress, I desire to record my experience that it is a fly almost best worth dressing of the series. It is a wonder. Only once of late years have I known it absolutely fail, and even then it brought me up one good fish, which I lost in the morning, and in the afternoon another one which I killed. It failed in the middle of the day, when the fish were smutting gorgeously. By a fluke that day I dropped on to something that tempted the fish—a big dark Olive, soaked and cast, undried almost on to the nose of the fish. With that I took four and a-half brace between one and 3.30 o'clock that day, and there was not a trace of Olive of any sort in their bellies. It was all smut, smut, smut. Next day the fish were smutting as steadily as ever, but not one could I tempt with the wet, dark Olive, but I had two and a-half brace, mostly with the Pink Wickham. It is a most delightful fly to drop almost on to your own bank, almost on to the nose of your trout. Dressed double, he floats like a haystack, for just long enough for you to see a black bulge absorb him, and then—stand by with the landing-net.

Pale Watery Dun.

This is a very aggravating fly. The fish will, however, often take a Blue Quill when it is on. But it is in the evening that it assumes its most exasperating form. Myriads of little glassy spinners, like jenny spinners, only with greenish yellow instead of mulberry head and tail, go dancing up and down in the last rays of the setting sun. At sundown the fish begin to rise, and refuse everything you offer them, till your patience is exhausted. Sometimes a stained gut or scarlet wool bodied Red Spinner will tempt them to a splashing rise. But it is thirty to one against their fastening. I have just fluked on to something that looks a good imitation of the Spinner of the Pale Watery Dun, and if I have the luck I will try it next year. *Wings and legs*—Palest Badger cock lightly dressed; *Body*—Finest end of flat tawsy gut from the waste part of the hank undyed; *Whisk*—Cream cocks hackle; *Silk*—Orange yellow tied at head only, the gut being worked on the bare hook; *Hook*—00 bronzed, not blue.

Hooks.

I don't care much for 000 hooks. A short-shanked 00 makes no bigger fly, and holds five times as well.

The Blue Wickham.

Turning over my Halford I have just noticed a dressing of a fly I never used or even saw:—The Golden Dun: *Wings*—Pale coot; *Body*—Flat gold; *Hackle and whisk*—Dark-blue Andalusian; *Hook*—00 or 000, and his note is "very successful with both trout and grayling when feeding on smuts." This is really just a Blue Wickham. Anyhow, we will try it.

Creepers.

To return for a moment to the Pink Wickham, I once caught a trout with one on a Monday evening with 18 inches of gut hanging out of his mouth, attached to another Pink Wickham, of which he had reft me by force on the previous Saturday, and in his mouth when I landed him were some eighteen creepers more or less alive. I took him in a sharp current, and I have ever since been vowing to try there with an imitation of the larva of small Duns, and I have even gone so far as to dress a few; wingless, almost legless, and with short whisks. I daresay some day I shall carry out my resolution, and then we shall see.

Lock's Fancy.

Mr. Walbran once sent me a set of three experimental dressings of the Little Pale Blue Dun for North-country waters. None of them seemed to me quite so likely as Lock's Fancy, a South-country rendering of the olive shade of the Pale Watery Dun, the same fly. This is dressed: *Wings*—Pale starling; *Body*—Floss silk of a yellow that turns green when wet; *Legs* and *whisk*—Olive-dyed hackle to match body. I wish I had had the pattern in 1888 on the Coquet. For some evenings in succession, between six and seven there was a huge rise of these flies, and the trout went mad. They would rise and slap the flies down under the very point of my rod as I stood in the water, but not a fish could I get while the rise lasted. When it was over, there was a chance with the Great Red Spinner or the Coachman.

Whitchurch Dun.

This is a great fly while it is on. The rises last a short time—ten to twenty minutes, but are fast and furious while they last. I was fishing two springs ago with a friend when such a rise came on. My friend had the good fortune or good judgment to light on to the Whitchurch, and killed a leash while the rise lasted. It did not yield me a fish. It is useful in April and May, and again in July, August, and September. In the early months the rise usually occurs with a strong down-stream wind. There is a very pale dun which rises during the May-fly time, very like it, but it is better imitated by Flight's Fancy, which is a pale variety of Whitchurch, with a fine, flat, gold rib. This year I was on the Itchen above Winchester for a day with the May-fly. The day opened with a sprinkling of Alder. Between ten and eleven the drakes began to hatch out, and there was a scattering rise all the morning and afternoon till nearly four o'clock. The fish took the fly fairly well up to 1.30 or so, lying anywhere all over the stream. At about 1.30 a singular thing occurred. Though the drakes continued to sail down in undiminished numbers, the trout all drifted under the right bank, and lay with their noses to the surface, sucking down rather than rising at a delicate pale dun of tiny proportions compared to the May-fly, and, while the short riso lasted, they attended to nothing else. I had no Flight's Fancy, so was unable to negotiate any of the fish during this rise. Later in the afternoon, about four, the drakes came down in incredible swarms, and on each side of the river for a rod's length or so their discarded shucks formed a scum on the surface of the water. It was a wonderful sight. The trout fed frantically, but seldom on the surface. For one fly taken from the surface, they took a hundred larva below.

THE FLOATING MAY-FLY.

I think the man who invented this must have been almost as great a genius in his way as the man who invented artificial flies. The floating May-fly bears as much resemblance to the natural insect as a bird's-nest does. All patterns (and they are myriad) seem to come almost equally welcome to the fish. On the whole, however, I prefer a small Champion—small because more easily dried, and more easily cast, and on the whole less likely to miss hooking. The temptation to strike too soon when fishing the May-fly in a down-stream wind is almost irresistible—and then away comes the fly from the mouth of the fish, and words from the mouth of the fisherman. The May-fly is most erratic on the Thames. I caught one this year at Henley, on the Sunday before the Regatta.

AUGUST DUN.

One learns more about fly-dressing in a week at the waterside afar from tackle makers than in a year in one's chair. On the Coquet, in 1888, I had my first introduction to the August Dun and great Red Spinner. I had no books with me but Theakston, and he, if I am right, did not get beyond July. So I caught a fly and dressed a floater to match as follows: *Wings*—Landrail quill feather, as little ruddy as possible; *Body and legs*—Same as Indian yellow. I tried him next day in a big slow cauld pool—fishing a long line, and placing him cocked on the oily water under the willows in the blaze of the day—and I killed good fish when there was not a ruffle on the water.

GREAT RED SPINNER.

In the evening out came the change of the August Dun, the great Red Spinner, dancing like little bars of red-hot steel through the dying sunlight. I dressed several patterns in imitation, but none did so well as this: *Wing*—Tail of partridge, the *freckled* part of the red feather; *Body*—Flat Orange stained gut on bare shank; *Legs and whisks*—Red cock's hackle. I tried this against a number of other patterns in wool and silk, and almost every trout I took was on this pattern. Curiously enough when I used the unfreckled part of the red feather not a fish would look at the fly. Wonderful indeed, seeing that it was almost too dark to see the rises.

SMALL DARK SPINNER.

Following on this success I tried to imitate the small Dark Spinner. I caught one, one afternoon in September, and next morning I dressed a fly as follows: *Wings*—The whitest part of jay's wing, the nearest pull to the root of the quill feather; *Body*—Orange-dyed flat gut over orange silk; *Legs*—Coch-y-bondhu; *Whisk*—Blood red; *Hook*—00. I used it in the afternoon as my only fly. and in an hour and a-half I took thirty-seven trout, the largest ¾lb. only; but it was the fastest time I ever had. My companion, fishing three flies, took three fish in the same time. I left next day, or I would have tried the pattern again. I commend it to my readers. In 1889 I used it with success on the Wear.

DRESSING.

I think that the above instances go to show that it does not always matter very much about taking books with you, or learning up standard patterns by heart. The important thing is to acquire such a mastery of material and method, and such facility of expedient as will enable you to successfully imitate any fly you come across. I must confess to being puzzled by the standard dressings of the Willow-fly. If I had started out to dress the fly by the light of Nature, I think I should have done something like this: *Wings*—Something of a dim brown transparency, with a metallic sheen on top; *Hackle*—Smoky blue; *Body*—Quill with white tip, slightly dyed olive. The mole's-fur body and honey dun hackle does not strike me as like—nine times out of ten, or oftener. Mr. Walbran turns out the best dressing of the kind I ever saw. Authors on this subject are apt to be very dogmatic about the only right way to dress flies. All ways, in my experience, are right, some time or another, and one ought to be master of all, from Cutcliffe to Halford; there is something to learn from all of them.

I hope when Mr. Halford brings out the next edition of "Floating Flies, and How to Dress Them," he will make it clear whether, on page 35, he means that in tying down the wing of a floater, you should leave the side nearest the root or that nearest the point of the feather uppermost. He says, "place them (*i.e.*, the wing-slips), with the natural inclination of the fibres towards the tail-end of the fly, and the cut side of the plume nearest you." This would seem to mean that the side of the slip nearest the root of the feather would also be uppermost and nearest the head of the fly. (See Fig. 4.) But all Mr. Halford's drawings give the feather attached the other way. (See Fig. 5.) Now I find the first illustrated method incomparably the better for floaters, both for wear and for appearance; and I am sure Mr. Halford must mean that. But the drawings misled me for a long time, and I only dropped on to the right method as the result of my own experiments.

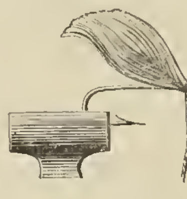

FIG. 4.

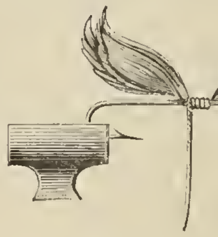

FIG. 5.

I also wish that Mr. Halford would bring out a companion volume of natural flies in their various stages, the outline being got by some photographic process, and the tinting done in the usual way, only much better.

The artificial trout flies in Mr. Bickerdyke's "Book of the All-round Angler," are illustrated by some photographic process, and one can make out the featheriness of every soft fibre of the soft hackle flies. But some of them seem, unfortunately, to have been rubbed the wrong way before they sat for their portraits, and such received less than justice accordingly.

BUMBLES.

One of my ambitions is some day to tie a series of bumbles, with tinsel bodies of gold, silver, and other colours, and ring the changes of black, red, Coch-y-bondhu, ginger, honey dun, and pale blue hackles on them. They might kill trout—the odds are they would. They would certainly kill grayling. An angler of my acquaintance, by the way, has a small stock of Wickhams with a pink tinsel body, which were dressed for him by a large and old-established London house, to fill an order for Pink Wickhams. And to add insult to injury, when my friend took the flies back to the maker and taxed him with his sins, he had the impudence to maintain that the dressing was quite right.

HIGHLAND AND ISLAND ANGLING.

CHRISTMASTIDE is perhaps hardly the most suitable period of the year at which to sing the praises of Highland and Island angling, or to dwell on its many charms; for now—

"Lone on the bleaky hills the straying flocks
Shun the fierce storms among the sheltering rocks.
Down foam the rivulets, red with dashing rains,
The gathering floods burst o'er the distant plains,
Beneath the blasts the leafless forests groan,
The hollow caves return a sullen moan;
Ye hills, ye plains, ye forests, and ye caves,
Ye howling winds, and wintry-swelling waves,
Unheard, unseen, by stranger's ear or eye,
No longer to you dare the angler fly."

While—

"The shepherd shifts his mantle's fold
And wraps him closer from the cold.
His dogs no merry circles wheel,
But shivering follow at his heel.
A cowering glance they often cast
As deeper moans the gathering blast."

A bleak and disagreeable prospect truly does the picture hold forth, but we must not forget that—

"To mute and immaterial things
New life revolving summer brings.
The genial call dead Nature hears,
And in her glory re-appears."

And hence in retrospection we can revisit and in anticipation behold the wild glens, moors, lochs, and rivers, of the North, even in midwinter, clad in the same garb and under the same smiling skies as we saw them last, and will, we hope, see them again, next summer.

There is hardly a loch or river in the wild country that lies beyond the Forth, which has not some romantic, legendary or historical interest apart from that beauty now sternly grand, now picturesque, soft and sylvan, with which Nature has so richly endowed them. Modern enterprise may, it is true, have altered the natural aspect of the country. The railway, by rendering the solitudes of the far north and wild west more accessible, may also have made them *pro tanto* more familiar and less terrible; but it has, at the same time, brought many compensating advantages. It would be as "far a cry to Loch Awe" as ever if one did not use the road and "bless General Wade" or avail oneself of the train to traverse the "pathless wastes"; but to modern enterprise we owe the fact that Loch Awe, as it were, breaks on our doorsteps and is still the Loch Awe of old. Ben Cruachan, though the locomotive awakes its echoes to mimic strange new sounds, is as wild and grand as when his hoar head saw the first glitter of the Roman legions by the green banks of the distant Forth, "the mountain breeze from Ben-na-darch" is as "joyous" in the sail of the modern yacht as it was in that of the ancient galley, and the "rippling eddies chase her course" with the same unnumberable laughter" of summer seas. "Wild Barra's ancient Thane" may no longer vaunt his proud *post-prandial* permission from his sea-girdled tower, but the tower still stands and the ocean guards it as of old, though its watch and ward be over senseless stone. "Grim Coolin" is not less grim than the Coolin of old, and the "desert dignity" of "dark Loch Cornisk" is unimpaired, though the eye of many a wandering stranger has gazed on the gloomy splendours of its savage beauty.

Ruskin may censure the railway as destructive of natural beauty; but his censure is unmerited, for the railway has brought the beauties of Nature, in all her varied forms, and with all her chastening influences, more directly before the eyes of men. The rush of the locomotive over the wild moor of Rannoch through the gloomy pass of Brander—the night which precedes the morning of the splendours of far-stretching Loch Etive, with its miles of churning tide—past the lochs and streams and mountains of Sutherlandshire and Ross, or elsewhere in the Highlands of Scotland, so far from destroying the grand beauty of these scenes, gives them a new charm by reason of the contrast, which it suggests, between the scene and those which the locomotive, from its associations, presents to the "mind's eye." To the angler, modern enterprise has been doubly kind, for not only has he—

"Nature's charms—the hills and woods,
The sweeping vales and foaming floods"—

within easy reach as objects of beauty, but he has also an opportunity of visiting for angling purposes localities which in a former generation were beyond the reach of all save those to whom money was "no object," and time only a thing to be pleasantly passed.

Modern sceptics, too, may sneer when angling is called the contemplative man's recreation, and say, with truth perhaps in a few isolated instances, that the angler of to-day is not the philosopher of the gentle days of Walton, who could well afford to murmur his quaint thoughts by the babbling brook or smooth-sliding stream, and with safety thus mingle thought with action, because he knew that no brother piscator was ahead of him spoiling his favourite pools, but they sneer without just cause; for personally I have never met any angler in the Highlands or Islands on whom the charms of Nature were wasted in vain, nor one whose sole desire was to "bring down the grey hairs" of some veteran of loch or stream "to the grave with blood," irrespective of the scenic beauties, and romantic and traditional associations of the loch or river in which the slaughtered giant had lived, moved, and had his being.

There is much that appeals to the heart as well as to the eye in our Highland and Island lochs and rivers. His soul would be indeed dead who could fish the Garry, where it thunders through the wild pass of Killiecrankie, and not once more hear the shrill pibroch in the whistling of the blast and the din of that sharp fierce conflict in its roaring waters, when the Highland host swept like a fierce mountain flood from the heights above to overwhelm with destruction, as complete as it was sudden, the Lowland soldiery in the valley below. Who could spend a day of lingering dalliance on the waters of Finlaggan Loch in Islay without in fancy restoring the ruined stronghold of the Lords of the Isles, and investing the whole scene with all the pomp and pageantry, the romance and tragedy, on which the ruined and crumbling walls must have so often looked down? Who could fish Loch Hollay in South Uist, and not in fancy see the boat of Clan Ronald, with its ghostly crew come slowly round its eastern end, where its dark waters find their troubled way into Loch Eynort, and not hear once more, in the mind's ear, the Gaelic boat-song make vocal the evening air with the sound of voices long since still? It is this blending of the romantic with the historical, this playing of fancy on the dry dust of a history, which is itself a romance, that make good sport better, and bad sport no bar to enjoyment, in Highland and Island waters.

Even the purely romantic, as distinguished from the romantic with a basis of fact, is often sufficient compensation for our otherwise barren day, and one can easily picture the genuine angler with an empty creel, standing at evening under the shadow of the giant Coolins, and gazing over the dark waters of Cornisk perfectly contented, with his fishless condition, because he stands where fierce Cormac Doil breathed his last, under the avenging sword of Bruce, and—

> "Where the proud Queen of Wilderness hath placed
> By lake and cataract her lonely throne."

No angler, worthy of the name, could stand just at daybreak when—

> "The wolves have preyed and look the gentle day,
> Before the wheels of Phœbus round about
> Dapples the lazy East with spots of grey."

by the lone shores of some highland or island sea loch, and not feel those same emotions stirring his soul, as some ancient cathedral when all is silent within its walls so readily awakens. Nor could one stand towards evening where some Western island "forgets the main," and gaze on the splendours of the dying day—the myriad hues, the green, the purple, the gold, the saffron, that dye each ever-varying but ever-fantastic cloud "piled deep and massy" over the sea; while to the East the silver sheen of night holds sway far over the hills which have scarce forgot their allegiance to the day and are yet blushing under its parting caress, without realising the full force of the words of the old Scotch song—

> "The setting sun, the setting sun, how gloriously it ga'ed doun,
> Its cloudy splendour raised our hearts to cloudless skies aboun'."

THE ETHICS OF SEA-FISHING.

By F. G. Aflalo.

> "It is a pursuit of moral discipline, requiring patience, forbearance, and command of temper."
> *Davy* ("*On Angling.*")

The "circumvention of aquatic vertebrates" has ever been a favourite occupation with mankind. The ichthyophagous Briton with his coracle and his spear has indeed long ceased to prey upon the inhabitants of river, lake, and sea; but he has been succeeded by an enormous class of fishermen, professional and amateur, whose inventive skill has been lavished on improving the implements of their craft. The professionals have chosen this perilous pursuit as a means of living; they have followed the whale and cod to remote seas; and encounter the most terrible hardships, and often death itself, within sight of their own coast. In introducing the ethics of sea-fishing, I am, however, addressing that increasing class of amateur sea-anglers, who, actuated by love of sport and solitude, willingly undergo the lesser hardships of rough quarters and indifferent food. Law and custom enter but little into the ethics of the angler, whose golden rule must in all cases be imitativeness and adaptiveness.

The amateur sea-fisherman is but little interfered with by the law. The policy of State interference has never been regarded with such universal lenity as in the case of recent Fishery Laws. Those absurd and impolitic attempts of the later Stuarts to destroy the Dutch fisheries by unjust legislation in this country met with the failure they so well deserved; but the legislation under the present reign has for the most part shown a decided tendency to remove existing restrictions on sea-fishermen, confining itself for the most part to the *salmon*—and fresh-water fisheries.

Nor would such laws necessarily hamper the amateur to any appreciable degree; for not only do they chiefly have reference to nets, the use of which is discarded by every true sportsman, but he enjoys in addition a blissful immunity from all the woes of close season, private property, house-boats, paper-mills, &c.

If "brute-instinct" be as, we are told, imitativeness, then should "brute-instinct" predominate with the sea-angler; for Emerson's "Insist on yourself; never imitate!" is a heresy in our creed.

In a recent contribution to these columns I had occasion to allude to the sad spectacle afforded by the stagnant conservatism of the German amateurs; this is the direct result of never imitating.

This somewhat despised branch of the gentle craft embraces all the departments of fly fishing, spinning, and bottom fishing. Its domain is inconceivably vast; the variety of fish and baits with which the salt-water angler is concerned is practically infinite; the former possess eminent sportive qualities, and the latter are remarkably easy to procure. Adding to these the many special advantages enjoyed by islanders, we find ourselves truly at a loss to account for the slow progress made by the sport of sea fishing in this El Dorado of sport. The literature of the sport is yet in its infancy; but, on arriving at maturity, it will at least embrace the *principia* of vast and remunerative national industries.

Nor are we familiar, like our cousins German, with the use of fresh-water coarse fish as an article of food; but sea fish are in great favour among rich and poor. Added to the cheapness of fish, compared with other forms of flesh-food, is its nitrogenous richness. Mackerel has, for instance, a greater nitrogenous value than beef, and costs considerably less; while herring has the same nitrogenous value as lamb or pork.

Islanders enjoy, as I have already remarked, peculiar facilities for the pursuit of this delightful sport. The chronicles of very early times have established the fame of the fisheries around Vancouver, Newfoundland, and the British Isles. All the most profitable Mediterranean fisheries centre around the islands; while the coasts of Ceylon are alone frequented, according to the computation of an eminent ichthyologist, by a greater number of species than exist in the entire Mediterranean, from the Bosphorous to Gibraltar.

Our own island is no exception to the rule; and the only four "commercial" fish of Europe that do not frequent our coasts—to wit, the tunny, sturgeon, sardine, and anchovy—are no loss to the amateur. Nor do we lack opportunity to visit these favoured coasts, with one or other of which every inland centre is, in these days of roads and railways, in easy communication.

The "endless field for argument, speculation, and experiment," formulated by Mr. Pritt, is especially characteristic of sea fishing; and the charm of uncertainty as to what species one's next catch may belong to is only equalled by that of doubt as to its size and weight. "There are many good fish in the sea"; but it requires no little skill to angle them out of it; and only those who have perforce confined their operations to river fishing can possibly ridicule with any sincerity the ingenuous facility with which sea fish are reported to sacrifice themselves to the advances of their pursuers, however clumsy these may be.

The sporting qualities of the bass, little inferior indeed to those of the trout, place it immeasurably above the coarse fish.

There are few fresh-water species as cunning as the pollack, or as wary as the mullet, and none as powerful as the larger individuals of the conger family.

In selecting his baits, too, the freshwater angler rings the changes on a few varieties of worms and maggots, pastes, pith, and cheese; the sea craftsman is continually enlarging a repertoire that already numbers over two dozen varieties. Nor is there quite the crudeness in our tackle that many brother sportsmen attribute to it. There is no improvement in tackle, of which some form is not equally applicable to sea-fishing, and several well-known London firms have assured me that they intend in future to make a very prominent feature of sea-tackle.

The sea angler should never lose sight of the unfortunate immorality of the fish he is trying to deceive; fish are the most lawless creatures on the face of the globe.

The shark is the type of rapacity in the ocean, and the pike betters his example, if possible, in fresh water; but for the true spirit of buccaneering commend me to the bass and pollack! Hunger plays, in all probability, but a very secondary part in the feelings that often prompt them to seize the most impossible looking rubber eel.

Humboldt has attributed to the trigon, or sting ray, the will as well as the power to transmit the electric shock, and it is certain that many a good creel has been filled by the wanton delight of devouring a hapless and fleeing creature, unaided by instinct sufficient to detect the hook that lurks within!

We have learnt that cannibalism is a weakness of the mackerel and smelt, and we accordingly cut up the first catch for bait; repeated successes and failures have proved to us the fastidious and lazy tastes of the conger, so, besides discarding at once all bait that is not perfectly fresh, we hammer that which is, and remove all the bones, so as to make it palatable to that lordly fish who, on the supposition of an authority, must have designed the Gordian knot one day when in difficulties.

The history of the evolution of fishing tackle points undeniably to spears, bows and arrows, hook and line, and nets as the order of invention, but only one of these is a legitimate weapon of sport. Nets should be discarded as unsportsmanlike, and not from any fear of depopulating the sea. There has always been a deal of terrorising and puling with regard to the speedy ruination of our sea-fisheries. The crisis has been at hand for the last century or two, and it is wonderful that each succeeding generation is no more sceptical than its predecessor.

The wolf is ever threatening, but the wolf never comes. Hundreds of years ago, churchmen and statesmen prophesied the impending destruction of our herring fisheries; bishops have prayed and statesmen have legislated, and still the covetous fishermen have extended their operations, spreading their nets with fearful havoc over every square mile of our seas, and still the herrings multiply till it is a wonder that the sea does not become solid with them.

For the two thousand millions of herrings annually drawn from British waters, ten times that number probably escape to multiply at the rate of fifty thousand eggs per fish, so the angling philosopher may indeed discuss his Yarmouth bloater at breakfast with an easy mind.

Besides studying the habits of the individual species, we must take into consideration the ever-varying phenomena of Nature. The angler who is not a naturalist must be content to rank with the gardener who is no botanist and the traveller who is unacquainted with modern languages.

THE STORY OF MAD MADGE AND THE PHANTOM ANGLER OF BROADYKE DAM.

As Told by one John Stuart to the Author,
Edgar S. Shrubsole.

In the winter of 18—, at the hearty invitation of a very old friend, I spent a holiday in the extreme northern part of Blankshire, a wild and rugged district through which flowed a magnificent trout stream that, together with many rippling tributaries, provided excellent sport during the summer months for the angler who could put up with the long walks over extremely rough ground that were necessarily entailed in getting at the best parts of the stream.

I had previously visited the district upon trouting bent, and had thoroughly enjoyed a week amidst scenery of the most delightful description. Very frequently indeed were my piscatorial efforts suspended; often enough, just as I had made a cast over a rising fish, involuntarily my attention was taken from the fly that had alighted upon the surface of the stream, and became rivetted upon the majestic surroundings. One day I traced the course of the stream for several miles, and arrived at an immense dam that extended the whole width of the valley, truly a remarkable specimen of engineering skill and man's persistent efforts to convert Nature's available formations to his own purpose.

The immense buttresses of smooth concrete and main structure of the same material, and the massive sluices, windlasses, handrails, and accessories of wrought iron—of course, painted the orthodox reddy-brown colour—at once convinced me that I had arrived at one of those necessary productions of civilisation—a reservoir. On the left side of the valley I noticed a winding pathway, with here and there a few primitive steps roughly formed where the character of the ground permitted it; and, resolved to have a look at the immense sheet of water there must be above, I clambered up the valley-side. It was a terribly tough job; but when I reached the top I was amply repaid for my trouble. Stretching before me—its upper end lost in the distance—was an imposing sheet of water, the appearance of which can only be expressed by the word—grand! On two shores the banks—which had originally been the valley-sides—were covered with trees and bushes of varied foliage; the hills on either side—imperceptibly reduced in height by the formation of the reservoir—looked down in quiet majesty upon the troubled waters; for I must here remark that, although below the dam I had hardly felt a breath of air in motion, above quite a strong wind was blowing, and miniature waves lashed the shores of the lake, and again and again dashed at the structure that held the vast volume of water back.

From below, the dam had impressed me with its commanding appearance, but here its gigantic proportions were more clearly discernable, and a mighty structure it was!

Of course, one of the first thoughts that struck me was, the reservoir *must* hold some big trout. The 10ft. 6in. fly rod I had with me I knew was of little or no use to fish such a large sheet of water, but I inwardly resolved to pay the reservoir another visit properly equipped.

Time was flying on, and I turned away to retrace my steps. The afternoon was far advanced when I reached the dam, and the evening was now drawing near. And then it struck me for the first time that I must be some miles away from my friend's house, and had a long tramp in front of me. I looked round to see if there was any indication of a road leading in the desired direction, for I "backed" at the idea of walking through the valley the way I had come. Following some wheel-ruts leading from the dam I presently came to a rough, uneven road, but still a road. I had not gone far before I reached a small cottage, and standing in the doorway was a female, past the middle age, neatly but poorly clad.

"My good woman," I said, "can you direct me to H—— ?" mentioning my friend's house. To my surprise she answered my inquiry in the same way the one-eyed Irishman did the O'Flanaghan's—by asking another.

"Have you been fishing ?"

I answered in the affirmative, and then repeated my inquiry.

"They are devil's fish up yonder!" she said.

I did not think proper to dispute this remarkable statement, but politely once again asked for the information I needed.

"They are DEVIL's fish!" she shouted, and went in and slammed the door to.

We were fated to meet again!

I thought her proceeding a peculiar one, but there was nothing left for me to do but continue my way along the rugged road. Another half-a-mile brought me to a wayside public-house. I did not stay to wonder what demand there was for a public-house in such an out-of-the-way place, but lifting the latch, entered, and found myself in one of the old-fashioned rooms, with sanded floor and rough deal tables and forms that are familiar to many anglers who fish in quiet country districts. Apparently I was the only customer, and it was some time before even I could get served. After repeated hammerings with my landing handle, a lad of about fourteen appeared, and I ordered a small Scotch whisky.

"We ain't got no whisky!"

"Then bring me a pint of ale."

After some delay it was produced—a splendidly-conditioned beer, served in a clean earthenware mug.

"Where is your father, my lad ?" I queried.

"Out at work on the farm."

"Mother at home ?"

"No; she's gone to the village."

"Any brothers or sisters at home ?"

"Ain't got no brothers nor sisters."

"No one at home but yourself ?"

"Not no one!" Then, after a pause: "Bin fishin' ?"

I nodded.

"Then you want some more beer!" and he took up my mug and departed, shortly returning with the measure re-filled. I resumed the conversation.

"Am I right for H—— ?" He nodded. "How far is it ?"

"Under four mile."

I finished my beer, and turned to depart. Suddenly I thought of the elderly female I had seen at the cottage door.

"Who lives in the cottage up the road ?" I queried.

"Oh! that's Mad Madge. 'Ave ye seed 'er ?"

I replied in the affirmative, but could gain no further information from the lad other than "She'd lived there for ever, and was mad and 'orrid!" So I resumed my walk to H——.

It was dark when I reached my friend's house, and he was getting a bit worried about my long absence. I told him what little I had to tell, and then we had dinner—a good hearty meal. Over our pipes that evening I learnt that the reservoir contained some *pike*, but few trout. When I asked my friend how he could account for that, he remarked—

"Oh, probably at some time a few pike have got in, in some way, and they have gradually increased the while the trout have been exterminated. That is *my* theory. There is another reason assigned to it by the few local inhabitants; but, as that has to do with Mad Madge's history, I must hold it over until to-morrow evening—it's too late now for a rather long tale. Have a turn at the pike to-morrow. I have some rough tackle you can use. You might run against a large trout with a live-bait, and, if you do, you will admit that uglier specimens never existed than those of Broadyke Reservoir. *That* also has to do with Mad Madge's tale, so you have a treat in store for to-morrow evening."

You can gather from this I had been questioning my friend about the strange female I had seen that day. All the information I got that evening however, was contained in the above remarks. I retired to rest, and dreamed of leviathan pike and enormous trout, the latter for the most part being hideously ugly. But the stay with my friend was brought to an abrupt conclusion. The following morning the post brought a letter informing me I was wanted on urgent business matters, so I had to depart. My friend drove me to the nearest railway-station, I was soon being whirled to the south, and my day among the pike at Broadyke Reservoir and the history of Mad Madge had to stand over.

We all know that *the* time for pike fishing is during the winter months, and, therefore, when my friend repeated his kind invitation the following winter, I availed myself of his offer, and, as I have previously said, spent my holiday at his house. I had an idea I could somehow manage to capture some of those big pike, and looked forward to several profitable days. I took with me quite an array of spinning-flights, paternosters, and live-bait hooks, and, on the off-chance of getting them there alive, several dozen of splendid live dace.

Arrived at the end of the journey by rail, I found my friend awaiting my appearance, walking up and down the platform, and stamping his feet the while; for it was a bitterly cold day. To my delight, the baits were as lively as possible, and we soon had them transferred to the dog cart, together with my rods, tackle, and travelling *impedimenta*. A drive through the clear, frosty air of that part of Blankshire gave me an appetite that took some time in satisfying; but this desirable conclusion arrived at, once more our pipes were lit, and the master of H—— and myself indulged in a long chat upon various matters. Many minor topics were disposed of, and then my friend satisfied my curiosity about Mad Madge; but I little knew that I should take such a prominent part in that strange creature's latter history; that, in fact, I should be immediately concerned in the ultimate fulfilment of—— but, I am running in front of my story. This is what my friend knew of Mad Madge's early history, so far as he had been able to gather it from the local inhabitants.

"Twenty-five years ago there was not a prettier lass in all Blankshire than Merry Madge Manton. She was the pride of the little village just below, as well she might be, and sad havoc she played with the hearts of the youths in the district; not intentionally, for Madge was never a flirt even, much less a coquette. She could not prevent her conquests, and I am told often enough she was really grieved at the disastrous effect her good looks and winning ways had among the male inhabitants whose years numbered from eighteen into the twenties. The only child of her parents—and she even never putting in an appearance until they had passed the fourteenth anniversary of their wedding-day—need I say she was spoiled?—that is, so far as such a true-hearted lass could be spoiled. Vicious neighbours were known to assert that Madge was not the offspring of the Mantons at all, but really an adopted child. I rather fancy our old doctor could tell a different tale. Be this as it may, Madge grew in good looks year by year, until when she reached the age of eighteen, as I have already said, a prettier lass it would be difficult to find. Offers of marriage she had in plenty, but to all applicants the same answer was given—No! Less attractive damsels would observe she ought to get married, and probably from their point of view she ought. But Madge had not yet met a man she could accept as a husband, although her wish in the matter was very simple; she told her friends 'she must love him, whoever he was.'

"At that time the stream running through the valley was literally full of fat trout, and it was an easy matter to catch a basketful. It will interest you to learn that Madge had a great love for angling, and with the rough appliances available proved a match for many a pound and pound-and-a-half fish. It was her unfortunate love for the sport—for unfortunate it proved to be—that induced the Mantons to purchase a little cottage that *used* to be snugly ensconsed in the valley just below the reservoir. Oh! by the by, that reminds me. A Broadyke Reservoir existed then, but was not such an extensive affair as the present one, although its dimensions were very considerable.

"Well, as I have said, the Mantons purchased the cottage in the valley, and shortly after went there to live. Individuals were not wanting who asserted that 'one of these days the old dam will give way and Manton's cottage will be swept away'; but Manton himself laughed at the idea. 'It has stood for fourteen years,' he would say; 'and I don't think it will give way now, just to spite me and mine!' I am given to understand the old man had implicit confidence in the stability of the structure, and ninety-nine out of a hundred persons would have supported him in his confidence.

"Within three months of the Mantons settling in their new home there came to Broadyke a tourist angler, a fine stalwart young fellow, with plenty of money, heaps of fishing tackle, and more than the ordinary share of good looks. It was a rare thing to get anglers this way then, and his appearance in the district created quite a sensation. He stayed at the village inn for some days, where he not only made himself comfortable, but very soon became immensely popular. With song and story he entertained the frequenters of the Broadyke Arms as they had never been entertained before, and during the last few days of his stay at the inn he introduced trout suppers, free to all-comers. You may depend upon it these 'went down' immensely, for not only were the trout of his own catching, but the drinks also were supplied at his expense. And here I should tell you that Harold Hartnup—that was his name—proved to be the best angler that had set foot in the valley within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. He soon found out the best trout were to be caught in the old Broadyke Reservoir, and the manner in which he caught 1½lb. and 2lb. trout there was a caution. He used to stand about mid-way on the old dam, and wielding a 12ft. fly rod cast a clean line far out into the reservoir, and rise, hook, play and land his fish just like shelling peas! It was his favourite spot, and although he frequently fished the stream below the dam, as evening drew near you might safely rely upon seeing him there.

"There was something else you could safely rely upon!—that was, Madge Manton would not be a hundred miles away! Hartnup had openly expressed his decision to stay a month or more in the valley; but it was no particular surprise to the villagers when he shifted his quarters from the Broadyke Arms to the Mantons' cottage below the dam; and I suppose you can pretty well guess what followed. Madge and Hartnup were constantly seen together, and it was evident the latter was not only instructing his companion in the intricate art of fly-fishing for trout, but that both were very busy falling head over heels in love. Then it was noticed that Madge was wearing a valuable diamond ring, and soon it became known that Harold Hartnup had asked Merry Madge Manton to become his wife, and she had said, 'Yes!' It was all fair and above-board, for the young fellow called at the Broadyke Arms, and invited those present to congratulate him, and drink long life and happiness to his future wife.

"But it's getting somewhat late; don't you think we had better go to bed? Old Hicks—the man at the public-house you called at on your way from the reservoir when you were there in the summer—can finish the tale much better than I can, for he was present upon the occasion that Madge went mad."

It was a great shame for my friend to thus suddenly break the thread of his story, but he would not continue it; so we finished our pipes and sought repose, which for my part was very acceptable after the long journey of that day.

The following day proved a perfect one for pike fishing. Frosty, but clear, and just a nice wind blowing. My friend agreed to drive me to the reservoir, and in the evening fetch me back. On the way we picked up Hicks, and he proved to be a fair specimen of the Blankshire type. I soon learned that he gained his livelihood principally by looking after the Broadyke Dam, adjusting sluices, &c., and pursuing farming in a small way. The public-house was merely kept just for the convenience of passers-by and the few labourers who were nearer to it than to the one in the village. Arrived at the reservoir, my friend left us, and Hicks proceeded to unfasten a substantial but somewhat clumsy boat, while I put my tackle together. We soon made a start, and hardly had the dace been in the water three minutes before—bang! went the float, and striking I found I had hooked a fish. It fought fairly well, but when gaffed and in the boat proved a big-headed lean and ill-conditioned beast. It weighed about 5lb., and should have weighed 15lb. At that time of the year—the latter end of January—pike are in their prime, and the condition of this fish prompted me to ask Hicks a question.

"Do you often get pike from here at this time of the year in such bad condition?"

"Lor' bless you, sir! they're allus the same, winter *and* summer. Never no different." And then, in a lower tone, "And I don't believe they ever will be!"

"How do you account for it?"

"Well, sir, p'r'aps it is there ain't enough feed for 'em, and p'r'aps it ain't. What allus licks me is, they're all about the same size—allus 'ave been—that is to say, ever since the new dam was finished. There didn't use to be any jacks in the old reservoir. I've 'ad the mindin' of this crib the last ten year. The first jack ever caught was the picter of that 'ere one. I've seen scores caught in my time, but they're all about the same size and all as bad-lookin'."

"What! do you mean to say small fish are never caught?"

"That's it, sir; *and, in my opinion, never will be.* 'Ow they got 'ere at all is a licker. There ain't none up above, and there never was any in the old reservoir. Mind ye, sir, I ain't superstitious; but I'm darn'd if I don't believe Madge Manton's right!"

And then I remembered my companion was *the* man who could finish telling me of Madge. So I at once started the subject. The earlier part of the poor creature's story was much the same as told me by my friend overnight, so I shall pick up the thread here where he had dropped it. I may remark I have altered Hicks' phraseology, but not in the slightest otherwise interfered with his story. I may also say that the while the tale was told I continued fishing, although I must confess my attention was principally drawn to the story, and that I caught two more pike (!) both the "picter" of the first, thus bearing out my companion's assertion so far.

"Very proud were the old people, sir, their only child had not only made such an excellent match, but also obtained a lover who would beyond doubt make her a good husband, for if ever two young people loved each other they did. It was settled they should be married from the cottage in the valley, and one day Mr. Harold went away to fetch his mother and sister to the wedding. He was to meet them at L——, for the little station below was not then in existence. Old Mr. Hartnup, we learned, had been dead some few years, and the only relatives of Mr. Harold's who would attend his wedding were his mother and sister. Through some delay, somehow or other, it happened that Mrs. and Miss Hartnup could not get through till the following day, and a telegram awaited Mr. Harold at L——, telling him so. Instead of waiting in the town, he did as most young men would do under like circumstances, drove back to Broadyke; and got there in time to start fishing in the evening at his favourite spot on the old dam, which for some time back I had mistrusted. I told the Water Works Company, I told old Mr. Manton, and I told Mr. Harold. But they all laughed at my fears. The company said if there was anything wrong with it they couldn't see where; but that, as they shortly intended to build a much larger one just below, it would last for a certainty a sufficient time. That they did intend erecting the present structure, there is no doubt, for Manton had notice to get out of his cottage, as the ground it stood on would be wanted for the job.

"Well, this particular evening the reservoir was full, and the water in the overflow channels running a torrent; the wind, too, was pretty rough. I happened to be up at the dam that evening, and my old fear possessed me strongly. Shouting loudly, so that my voice could be heard above the wind, I begged Mr. Harold to come off the treacherous structure; but he only shouted back his usual 'Oh, it's all right!' and went on with his fishing. Well, I was somewhat annoyed, sir, and turned and walked back in the direction of home. Nearly a mile down the road I met Miss Madge, and we had a little talk. I told her of my fears, as I had done many a time before, but she only laughed and called me an old stupid. By this time it was blowing a hurricane, and as the pretty miss left me it was as much as she could do to face the wind. I turned and offered her my arm, which she accepted, and we struggled along the road towards her home. Presently we heard a sullen roar above the howling of the wind, and in a frightened manner my charge asked me what it was. I told her I didn't know; *but I dared not tell her what I thought—nay, felt convinced it was!*

"The roaring increased, and telling Madge I *must* hurry to ascertain the cause, I left her struggling forward, and forced myself along the road in the direction of the dam. Arrived at the corner just before you reach it, I heard the roar of *rushing water* only too plainly, and when I sighted the old reservoir, my worst fears were realised. *The dam had burst!* One of Manton's labourers was standing by horror-struck, and I hurriedly asked him for the information I tremblingly feared to learn. Yes! Mr. Harold *was* fishing when it burst; as one enormous mass fell forward he had made a terrific leap to another, which in its turn fell away as he alighted on it! He was swept out of sight instantly. My informant hardly had time to tell me this, when Miss Madge came up breathless. As she looked upon the rushing water in a dazed manner, I suddenly realised the awful fact *that her parent's cottage was undoubtedly washed away in the roaring torrent,* and clasping her in my arms, I carried her away from the terrible scene. I felt her pretty head drop on my shoulder and her whole form go limp, and I knew she had fainted. It was a terrible night, sir, one I shall never, *never* forget!

"The villagers from below swarmed up, but nothing could be done. Our old doctor came to my house, and tended the sweet little creature who had lost *all* that night, but he could do little for her. From one faint she went into another, then had hysterics, and then got a bit calm and began talking silly like, the while she turned *his* ring round and round on her finger and gently murmured *his* name. I asked our old doctor, and he told me, 'Of course she has realised what has happened, and God have pity on the poor child; it has driven her mad!

"'Did we find the bodies?' Yes, sir, and terribly mangled they were. Yes, all three—poor old Manton and his wife and young Mr. Hartnup. A sad job the old doctor had when he went to L—— to meet old Mrs. Hartnup and her daughter. They came back with him, and such a grief-stricken party I hope I shall never see again. Poor Madge, of course, could not recognise Mrs. and Miss Hartnup, and the way she kept calling for Harold only made them sob and take on the more. Yes, they wanted to take her away with them, but a team of horses would not have dragged her from Broadyke. They could not bear to live in the district, or I verily believe they would have done so. So they bought the little cottage where Mad Madge now lives, and settled enough money on her—in my hands—to keep her in comfort. They come two or three times a year to see her, but of course she knows nothing of them; and it's a melancholy scene at such times, I assure you, sir.

"Well, after a bit, Madge got that she could be trusted about; and there she has been wandering ever since. She goes out and comes home like any other person might; but she is mad, sir, there's no doubt; melancholy mad generally, but at times very excitable. I can always soothe her; and there are times when I believe she actually remembers me.

"Well, when they were building the new dam, she would constantly go out and curse the workmen, the dam, the reservoir, and *even the fish in it.* The men got used to her after a bit; leastway, most of them did; some left the job a few days after they started work. Often she got fearfully excited; but I was generally at hand. In her calmer moments she tells me often that *he* will come back to her. She always calls the fish in the reservoir 'devil's fish,' and will constantly go out evening-time and call for her lost lover at the top of her voice; and this has been going on for near fifteen years now, sir."

Hicks finished his story, and looked at me as if expecting I should ask him something; which I did.

"And so, I suppose, you really believe that Mad Madge has cursed the fish in the reservoir, and hence their ungainly form?"

"Yes, I DO, sir; and what's more, I believe *the dam is cursed, too,* and that *'er* lover *will* come to 'er; and, mark my words, something awful will yet 'appen before the 'istory of Mad Madge is finished! As for the fish being cursed, you should see the trout that are sometimes caught 'ere, and then you would p'r'aps think so too. Why, the jacks are 'andsome put alongside 'em!"

I was curious enough to want to catch one of those trout, and feeling sure from the sample I had that the pike in the reservoir from some cause were an ill-conditioned lot, I attached a spinning trace and flight to my line, and baiting with the smallest dace I had, started to spin for one of the "devil's fish." But my efforts were fruitless; evening was drawing near when I gave it up for a bad job, and told Hicks to pull to the shore. We fastened up the boat, packed the tackle up, and wended our way to Hicks' house, where I was to meet my friend, and where the lad had asserted that I must want some more beer, because I had been fishing! We passed Mad Madge's cottage on our way, and I could but gaze curiously upon the home of the woman with such a strangely unfortunate history. I asked my companion if ever Madge spoke of her parents.

"No, sir," he replied, "she 'as entirely forgotten 'em. She never speaks of nothin' but 'er lost lover. My old 'ooman takes on at 'er sometimes about it; but, poor creature, she can't 'elp it."

I had some cold meat, pickles, and beer, at Hicks', and very well they went down, too! By the time I had finished my frugal meal it had turned quite dark. What possessed me I know not, but as my friend from H—— had not yet arrived, I made an excuse to Hicks, and lighting my pipe went out into the open air, and strolled in the direction of the dam. The story of Mad Madge troubled me more than I cared to confess to myself, the minutes flew by, and presently I found myself at the cottage. I felt a strong temptation to knock at the door—there was a light within—but refrained from doing so, and continued my walk right up to the reservoir. I stood looking upon the magnificent stretch of water that was dimly discernible in the semi-darkness for some seconds, and then turned my gaze towards the dam itself. Very weird it appeared, and its massive front and buttresses stood out boldly white. As I looked I noticed a queer sort of yellowy light appear about mid-way across the dam. I rubbed my eyes, but there was no mistaking the fact. Gradually the light became larger, and then quite strong, and in the brightest part I could plainly see the form of a nude male figure hazily outlined, but, nevertheless, certainly a human form! I tried to shout, but found I was unable to articulate a sound. I gazed spell-bound at what I could but acknowledge was not of this world. And then—horror of horrors!—A wild shriek *close beside me.*

"He has come! He has COME, my love is here!"

A grip of iron on my arm, and turning round I found myself face to face with Mad Madge! A second after once more I was looking in the direction of the dam. The figure had disappeared. Cold night as it was, the perspiration poured from every pore in my skin. With a mighty effort I threw off the unnatural feeling that had held me spell-bound, and turned my attention to Madge; and only just in time. In another second she would have cast herself into the valley below the dam, but exercising the strength of desperation I forcibly held her back. At that moment I heard a shout, and looking round I saw Hicks and my friend close at hand, and I inwardly thanked God for it.

Of our short journey back to Hicks' house (Madge came with us); of the many questions asked by my friend; of the terrible ravings of that poor mad creature on the way; of Hicks' solemn and awed reception of my version of the strange occurrence at the dam; of the silent drive to H——with my friend, I can tell but little. To me it was as a dream. Not until we got into the snug smoking-room at H—— did I begin to feel anything like my ordinary self. Even then mechanically I drew my chair towards the fire, lit my pipe, and sat smoking in silence for some time. My friend looked curiously at me, and suggested that the meeting with Madge had influenced me, and I only imagined I had seen the phantom on the dam.

"But, my dear sir," I said, "I saw the—something—*before* I knew Madge was anywhere near, and I had no more been thinking of ghosts than you had. I was as cool as a cucumber when I reached the reservoir, and *distinctly* saw the spirit *develop* on the dam. Moreover, I am no believer in ghosts; I have always argued the ordinary ghost appears *clothed* or accompanied by something mundane, and that if the spirits of the departed *can* appear to us in some form, that at any rate clothes, hats, and other manufactured articles have no spirit, and therefore cannot. Now the spirit on the dam developed from a spectral light, and I watched it as it gradually assumed the form of a nude human figure. I am as sure that I really saw it, and that it was really there, as I am that you and I are sitting here now!"

And nothing my friend could say altered this conviction on my part. We retired to rest; tired and strained nature could stand no more, and I slept as sound as a rock.

It is wonderful what a good night's rest and the appearance of daylight will do to dispel superstitious tendencies. When I awoke in the morning, and drew back the blinds at my bedroom window, I felt almost inclined to pooh-pooh my impressions of the previous evening. A hearty breakfast, the bracing drive to Hicks', and a long draught of his grand ale, pulled me quite together again, and the phantom of the dam almost became a thing of the past with me. Not so Hicks. He received us in solemn silence, and seemed amazed at my hilarity. 'Pon my soul, I rather fancy it was somewhat forced myself! We drove up to the reservoir, and once more my friend left us to proceed with our sport. The boat was got ready.

"Jacks to-day, sir?" said Hicks.

"No; trout!"

And all through that day I persevered in every conceivable way to capture one of the "devil's fish." At mid-day we noticed Mad Madge on the bank, and at my suggestion Hicks pulled ashore. She came towards us quietly enough and for some little time conversed quite rationally with Hicks. Evidently she did not recognise me, for she utterly ignored my presence. Presently she started off, and we resumed fishing. It was late in the afternoon when I turned to my companion, and remarked, "Another run, and I suppose another big-headed pike." For, be it understood, while spinning I had run several of those fish, and they all turned out just about the same as the first one I had caught. This time, however, the fish showed more sport, and I was just thinking I had at last hooked a well-conditioned pike, when my quarry gave in, and upon being brought to the gaff I found I had at last caught one of those "devil's fish." And an ugly brute it proved to be—about 7lb. in weight, black as a thunder-cloud, and with such a head and hook bill—well, I never saw such a beast in my life!

"Curse it!" I said.

And threw the wretched thing back into the reservoir. Without a word my companion rowed ashore; and then suddenly there arose a terrific storm of rain and wind.

"There allus does, when any of those fish are caught," Hicks remarked.

I took little notice of what he said, for an uncanny feeling suddenly possessed me, and I eagerly availed myself of the opportunity to get back to the inn, where I found my friend from H—— awaiting me.

The following morning the whole of the surrounding country was covered with a white mantle of snow; large flakes were still falling, and I determined to give up the idea of fishing that day; in fact, I had a great mind to abandon all attempts to catch any more fish from Broadyke Reservoir, for I felt convinced that the water held very little else—if anything—than the terribly ill-conditioned pike and repulsive-looking trout I had already caught specimens of. In the afternoon the snow ceased falling, and I walked to the village and called in at the Broadyke Arms. In the parlour I found several local "authorities" discussing a "ghost" that had appeared *last night* and the night before at the dam. Some little sensation was created when they found I was the very person who had seen it two nights ago, and of course I was plied with many questions. In the course of conversation I found it was currently reported that the "ghost" of Harold Hartnup had been seen *fishing from the dam* on the previous evening, and that Mad Madge had deliberately walked along the top of the dam and stood by his side, as she used to do many years back.

As even a ghost could not fish without a rod, and as I did not believe in the ghosts of fishing rods, I put the report down to exaggeration; nevertheless when I left the inn and walked back to H——, I could but help thinking there might be something in it, and I determined to pay Hicks a visit that evening, and hear what he had to say. I did not tell my friend of my intention, but after dinner, simply saying I was going for a stroll, I put my best leg foremost, and soon reached Hicks' quiet little inn. I say soon reached—by that I mean the time flew rapidly, and although I had a rough walk through the freshly-fallen snow, I arrived at Hicks' seemingly in "no time." I found him at home, and he very mysteriously beckoned me into an inner room, closed the door, and thus addressed me:—

"Sir, it's somethin' awful. I can't stand it much longer. Last night I went up to the dam, and saw Madge quietly waiting there. When I asked 'er what brought 'er out such a rough night, she turned to me and said, 'I'm waiting to see *'im;* 'e'll be 'ere presently!' She spoke to me *by name*, sir, and was as sane as I am! Then she went on to say, 'The end would soon come,' and a lot of other awful sayin's. And while I stood by 'er side, as true's I'm a livin' man, I saw a livin' figger on the middle part of the dam! The figger was about Mr. Harold's height, and the face *was* 'is. My 'air must 'ave stood upright, and I trembled like a leaf. Madge quietly said, 'I'm going to 'im, 'Icks,' and before I could stop 'er, she sprung on to the dam; and a minute after I saw 'er by 'is side! It was awful, sir; and before I knew where I was the figger 'ad disappeared, Madge was back by my side, and together we walked to 'er cottage, me being dumb and like a child all the way!"

"Tell me, Hicks, had Mr. Hartnup his fishing-rod with him?"

"Fishin'-rod! Sir, 'ow can *you* ask such a question? The *figger was naked!*"

And a cold chill run through me as Hicks made this statement.

"Hicks," I said, "I'll wait to-night, and we will go together to the dam."

And we did. When we reached it we were not at all surprised to find Mad Madge waiting. Mad, did I say? why she turned and conversed with us as rationally as possible. True, her statement (quietly made) that she was waiting for Harold, might seem a peculiar one under ordinary circumstances, but under those prevailing then it was not. *For he came.* The spectral light appeared on the dam, and (as before) it gradually developed into a human form, nude. But this time it raised one arm and beckoned. We did not attempt to interfere with Madge, who quickly walked along the top of the dam and joined her departed lover.

To say I was not fearfully frightened would be foolish. Yet the fear that possessed me was very different to that I experienced upon the first occasion—a sort of awed feeling. I felt lifted from my ordinary existence, and watched coolly and quietly the two on the dam. Then the spirit form disappeared, and Madge was by our side. In silence we wended our way back. Madge left us at her cottage, and went in as though nothing had happened out of the common. At Hicks' house I found my friend from H——, and as we drove home I told him of the re-appearance of the spirit of Harold Hartnup upon the dam.

* * *

"H——,
"February 22, 18—.

"MY DEAR FRIEND,—I am glad to know you have quite become yourself again, and that you propose breaking your journey on your way home, and staying a day or so with me. I may tell you now that I think it quite as well you left us as you did, for some few nights after your departure Hartnup's ghost haunted Broadyke Dam, and the whole village became demoralised. Mad Madge prophesied the speedy approaching 'of the end,' though what she meant by that I am at a loss to understand.

"During the past fortnight the 'ghost' has entirely disappeared, and as I know you would like to see the dam in its present form, I repeat I am glad you are coming. The severe frost we have had has completely frozen up the whole stream; the cascades, and especially the main fall from the dam, are simply a magnificent sight, and will well repay a visit. Let me know by what train you will arrive, and I will meet you.—Yours as ever, ——."

Three days after the receipt of the above letter I was at the little station below Broadyke. My friend met me, and as we drove in the direction of H——, he remarked—

"I'm very glad to see you, old chap; but you are too late for the fairy-like appearance of the valley and dam. The sudden thaw that set in yesterday has caused a total collapse, and it's nothing but sludge and ice-water now!"

It was getting dark when we drove into Broadyke, and we soon noticed that something of an extremely exciting nature had occurred. We were not long in learning the cause. "The water is coming over the dam a perfect deluge," we were told; "and, strong as it is, it's doubtful if it can stand the immense pressure."

My friend and myself knew the fallacy of this assertion, but we decided to drive up to the reservoir, and on the way it struck me that such a thing was possible as the dam giving way. We all know the action a severe and prolonged frost and then a sudden thaw may have upon concrete, and massive as it was, it was quite possible that one of the most powerful forces of Nature could burst it. We called at Hicks', and learned he was up at the reservoir, so we drove on. We had hardly reached the corner when we heard a shout:—

"It's giving way!"

Leaping from the dog-cart, we hurried towards the dam, which we reached just in time to notice the vast volume of water pouring over it perceptibly shelve off, as an enormous mass of the dam gave way, and fell with a thundering crash into the valley below. The remainder quickly followed, and the terrific roar and rush of the water was deafening.

My friend, Hicks, myself and several villagers stood looking on awe-struck. And then above the roar of the boiling waters a piercing shriek was heard:—

"I come, Harold! I am here!"

And there rushed by us the form of Mad Madge! One terrific leap she made—such a leap as no ordinary mortal could accomplish; right out into the foaming torrent she leapt.

A powerful light hovered over the spot where the dam had been; in its centre could be seen the nude form of Harold Hartnup, and Mad Madge was received in the outstretched arms of "The Phantom Angler of Broadyke Dam!"

ROACH AND RUDD: AND ANGLING FOR THEM.

By Alfred Jardine.

(Continued from page 302.)

The roach (*Leuciscus Rutilus*) may be considered the most fished for, and consequently the most popular member of the *Cyprinidæ* family.

The memories of an angler's childhood, and his first attempts at fishing, are usually associated with roach, especially as there is scarcely a river that is not inhabited by these fish. Among English anglers, whether "club-men" or the contrary, probably nine-tenths are "roachists," and on the Thames, Colne, and Lea, the Trent, and many other rivers, roach-fishing has become a "fine-art," and the passion for catching them so keen, that men far advanced in years, and long past the period of active pursuits, may often be seen on a river's bank, serenely enjoying their favourite sport; or, fishing from a punt, with all the necessary paraphernalia of rods and tackle, baits, and luncheon-basket, &c., about them; "pictures of happy content, and smiling resolve to enjoy themselves, come what will."

The roach is a handsome silvery-scaled fish, with reddish fins, tail, and eyes; though not so red as its "relative," the rudd, (or "red-eye"); the scales in both are large, a roach's back varies from blue-green to bronze-green, according to its age and the nature of the water it inhabits; and it can be distinguished from a rudd by its under-jaw rather projecting, while the rudd's under-jaw closes almost perpendicularly on the top lip.

In fin-rays, both count alike; but, as roach and bream, also rudd and bream, often hybridise, thus producing frequently, fish of abnormal size—and of very "roachy" appearance—(I once saw a fish of 3½lb. from Pulborough, *weighed in as a roach*)—the difference can be easily detected, by examining the anal fin; a bream's counting twenty-nine rays, roach and rudd eleven, and a hybrid's seventeen or eighteen rays.

The late Frank Buckland says, in "History of British Fishes," I have had them brought to me heavier than two pounds, but in some cases they were hybrids.

Roach seldom exceed 2lb. weight, and a score fish averaging half that would be considered a very fine sample lot, not often caught by rod and line. The finest roach are, as a rule, captured in the Hampshire Avon, also the Stour and Frome of Dorsetshire. I knew of half-a-dozen grand specimens from these rivers, considerably exceeding 2lb. each in weight—*i.e.*, *true roach*, not hybrids, and which I shall refer to later on, together with many large ones specified in the catalogue of the 1883 Fisheries Exhibition; although unfortunately, that publication does not give the weights of several fine roach and rudd, which were shown by "The Good Intent Angling Society," "The United Society of Anglers," and many other London clubs.

In much-fished rivers, roach are highly educated, therefore the observance of quietude is extremely necessary, and heavy footfalls on the bank when plumbing the depth, or throwing in the ground-bait, will scare the fish and make them vacate the swim. The same undesirable effect will be produced by awkwardness and noise when fishing from a punt. A capital lesson may be learnt from a Lea "past-master" in the gentle art; *he* approaches the water with the greatest caution, even taking care not to let his shadow fall upon it, and if possible, screening himself behind a fringe of rushes or reeds, growing on the river's margin; and then the nice balance of his roach-pole should be observed, also the delicacy of his carefully selected hair or fine gut lines, so "shotted" that the light quill float will show the faintest bite. I advise the young angler to watch a Lea "roachist," and note his *modus operandi*, for he will learn more in one hour than in a week's perusal of essays on roach fishing.

For angling Nottingham fashion, a rod of 11ft. in length, made of pine, of *straight grain*, with lancewood top and upright rings throughout, is a handy tool. These rods are constructed in great perfection at Newark-on-Trent, but can be got, of course, in the London tackle-shops. With a light Nottingham reel, and *fine* plaited silk running-line, quill or porcupine floats, some No. 10 to No. 13 round bend hooks, and split shot (size No. 5), the angler is equipped. Some prefer to use hooks, known as the "crystal" pattern, they are excellent ones. Baits of various kinds are used, according to the water, its condition, and the weather. If the water is thickened by a recent rainfall, then small red worms, nicely scoured till tough, will be most advantageous; but roach, if in a "feeding humour," will usually take any or all of the following: Paste, boiled wheat, rice, and pearl barley; worms, gentles, caddis, meal-worms, grubs of various kinds, shrimps, &c.; and if roach run large, then the tail of a lob-worm on light leger-tackle is a capital bait.

At times, roach are capricious in their tastes, and seem to ignore all the baits mentioned; they have probably "for the nonce," turned vegetarians, and are feeding on the silk weed (*Conferva rivularis*), which grows about old piles and weirs, and is known as the flannel-weed; a little of this may be gathered in the landing-net, and after well washing it, a small piece wound round the hook often proves very killing, *roach* taking it greedily.

When a lad, and making my first essays in roach fishing on the Darenth, I frequently used shrimps, either red or brown ones, carefully peeled, half an inch of the tail end, the hook point put in at the thickest part and out at the thinnest end, the shape of the bait accommodating itself very nicely to the bend of the hook. The skins and heads I mashed up, with a small portion of bread-crumbs and bran; and worked into small balls, the size of walnuts, these made excellent ground-bait, to keep the roach together in the swim I was fishing. Shrimp-bait often accounted for the capture of a Darenth trout; but this was fifty years ago, when I was a mere tyro in the art of fishing. The trout of Darenth are now too educated to be seduced by a shrimp.

In fishing with Nottingham tackle, much the same methods can be adopted, as described for chub and dace in a former article. The necessary thing to do is to select a nice steady stream about five feet deep, flowing over a level gravelly bottom; the float arranged or fixed on the line in such a position, that the bait swims along, about one inch above the bottom, or bed of the river; for roach are not like bream, picking the bait up off the bottom, as a rule; though they will do this in the late autumn and winter months, which, if not too frosty, are the best for legering with a lob-worm for big roach, of all the year.

Roach prefer gentle currents and quiet eddies, and are more often found in such places than in swiftly flowing streams. They frequent these quieter waters, for the reason that their food is found more readily; it being deposited by natural gravitation, instead of carried away and dispersed, as would be the case in rapid streams. Consequently quiet swims and eddies are the most likely to afford sport to the roach angler, whether he be float-fishing or legering. On the latter mode of angling—*i.e.*, legering, opinions differ; some "roachists" preferring to use a float, with four or five shots placed at intervals on the gut—the nearest one to the bait at least 18in. away—and the float fixed at such a distance up the line *that all the shots lie on the bed of the river*, the line being kept rather "taut" between the float and red-top; of course a bite is instantly seen by the float being drawn partly under water—this method is called "tight-corking." Other anglers incline more to the use of a small leger-lead—a perforated pistol-bullet does excellently well, no float is required; a bite *is felt*—the line being held tightly between the bullet, the red-top, and over the angler's fore-finger; and the "strike" is made instantly on the perception of a bite; the leger-lead is prevented running down to the bait by a small split-shot, pinched on the gut, 18in. or so above the hook; the line should be *fine*, of plaited silk, waterproofed.

It will be conceived that legering is more adapted for cloudy water than for clear, which is especially the case when heavy rainfalls have thickened the rivers, and fish are "nozzling" on the bottom *searching* for their food. At such times no bait is so good as a nicely-scoured marsh-worm, or the tail-end of a lob-worm. In clear waters, roach feed to gentles, small red-worms, grubs, paste, &c., on light leger tackle. When making long casts with float tackle, sometimes a little additional weight is necessary in order to reach the distance required and the place desirable to fish; if so, a little piece of stiff ground-bait may be squeezed on the gut near to the hook. A slight jerk will break and detach it, and leave the bait free.

On summer evenings, in hot weather, roach frequently rise freely to fly, either "naturals" or artificials. Of the latter, small Black Gnats, House-flies, Red Palmers, and Governors are among the best, while their killing properties may sometimes be enhanced by placing a gentle, or small strip of white kid to imitate one, on the bend of the hook; or whipping with a couple of gentles on a No. 1 sneck-bend (short-shank) hook is usually successful, if roach are swimming close to the surface. One hot August evening, when on the Thames near Magna Charta Island, I caught over a couple of dozen half-pound roach, fishing this way with a couple of maggots. The plan is to make a rather long cast, let the bait sink an inch or two, and then draw it slowly towards you. The fish will follow, and one of them is almost certain to make a grab at it, which will be perceived by the line tightening somewhat; then with a strike, or rather turn of his wrist, the angler hooks his roach, and draws it quietly away from the shoal, so as, while playing it to the landing-net, not to scare the other fish.

On rivers like the Thames, Colne, Loddon, and Lea, which are fished by hundreds of anglers, a roach swim can be easily detected by the grass or river-side herbage being trodden, also the *débris* of bait, and perhaps some roach-scales lying about. These "tell-tales" and other familiar signs understood by an angler, generally denote where sport may, at any rate, be expected. But a "virgin-swim" (if I may coin the phrase)—I mean an untried one—now and then may be fished with advantage from the bank or a punt. An opening is perceived between weeds with the stream flowing gently. The depth of water must be got by careful plumbing, when a bait, quietly dropped in, may be at once taken by a big roach, then, after a minute or two of fine sport, the angler is richer, by a real beauty in his pannier.

To get the depth of a swim at some distance from the bank, is not at all difficult to achieve. The float can be placed on the line at *a guess for depth*, and gradually lowered or heightened until the float "cocks." If every now and again the float hangs or drags under water, it shows the bait is "tripping" too much on the bottom, and this can be remedied by lowering the float another inch or two.

Rudd take small flies freely, and in July and August give capital sport, especially as evening approaches after a hot day. There was a moat at Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire, in the grounds surrounding an old house, where the water swarmed with rudd. Occasionally I went there with my rod, when I would put on a "leash" of flies, frequently catching two and sometimes three fish at a time, and usually enough to fill a couple of stable pails full. These rudd, however, were small—quarter-pounders—with here and there a larger one of 8oz. They were originally placed in this water, which, as far as I could discover, contained no other kind of fish, while the river Lea, although close by, held but few, if any, rudd.

The Norfolk Broads hold plenty of these fish, and large ones, too. The bait for them is a red-worm nicely scoured in moss. The best way is to fish with a paternoster, three hooks, and a float, with at least 40yds. of strong but *light line.* Bait carefully for two days previously, and mark the place by sticking a long willow wand in the mud or sand. Anchor the boat, *quietly*, 20yds. or so away from the baiting, and throw your float near the willow. The late Dr. Norman, of Yarmouth, says:[*] "On several occasions, fishing the broads, I have had a brace of rudd on my paternoster weighing nearly five pounds. Once I captured three at the same time that weighed over five pounds; and one evening, after an early tea, myself and a companion landed no less than one hundred and ninety-four."

Lough Derg, and several other Irish lakes, contain rudd—some as heavy as 3lb. each—but in the "Emerald Isle" they *are called roach:* however, the two can be distinguished by the front ray in the dorsal fin of a roach, being almost even with the front ray of the ventral; but a rudd's dorsal fin stands *midway over the ventral and anal fins*, and its eyes are much redder than those of a roach.

Some of the best rudd fishing in England is to be had at Slapton Ley, near Dartmouth, in Devonshire. This fine piece of water is about two miles long by nearly half-a-mile in width. It is brackish and seems to agree well with the rudd, which are caught in great numbers with both fly and bait. 2lb. and 3lb. specimens are not uncommon. Pike also are plentiful and large, but from November 1 to the end of March, which is the very best time for pike-fishing, the Ley is closed for wild fowl shooting. Comfortable "quarters" can be obtained by anglers at the Sands Hotel. About two miles from Slapton is Torcross, where is another water that bears a good reputation. This fishery was made some ten years ago by Mr. Vickery, the proprietor of Torcross Hotel. Besides pike, there are plenty of rudd. I have just received a letter from a friend, who fished there last month, saying: "In one hour and a-half, just before dusk, using two rods, we caught five dozen rudd, the largest, 1¾lb., and a dozen over 1lb. Had there been light enough to see our floats, we might have captured a cartload." On November 19, four rudd were taken by Mr. Brown, weighing 1lb. 10oz., 1lb. 9oz., 1lb. 8oz., and 1lb. 5oz.—*after* the fish had been out of water many hours.

Roach and rudd spawn in May. In the Thames at that time of the year, roach "head up-stream" in immense shoals, from the tidal reaches, below Mortlake and Putney—so that at Teddington the river is often black with the quantities packed together under the weir, which I imagine, they sometimes are able to surmount, if a lot of flood-water is coming down just at the time of spring-tides—which events concurring, the water would be level (or nearly so) at the weir, and the roach able to swim over, and make their way up the river. Colne roach have the credit of being the most beautiful in shape and colour of the *Leuciscus rutilus;* next to them roach of the Lea; but for size and weight, though somewhat coarse in colour and contour—those of the Wiltshire and Hampshire Avon—also of the Dorsetshire, Stour and Frome. I have a brace (4lb.) from the last-mentioned river; and Mr. J. P. Wheeldon has half-a-dozen fine specimens from 2lb. to 2lb. 8oz. from the Stour and Avon. The following list of large roach may be accepted as correct: Mr. T. S. Hughes, one, 2lb. 7oz.; the Piscatorial Society, two, 2lb. 6oz., and 2lb. 4oz.; the Friendly Anglers, one, 2lb. 5oz.; Mr. W. Foot, Lincoln, one, 2lb. 4oz.; Mr. J. H. Davies, one, 2lb. 4oz.

The largest rudd (*Leuciscus erythrophthalmus*) shown at, and accredited in the catalogue of the 1883 International Fisheries Exhibition, were one of 2lb. 12oz., by Mr. E. Arnold, of Huntingdon; another of 2lb. 10oz., by Mr. E. G. Eiloart; and, by the Friendly Anglers Society, one of 2lb. 3oz.

I was requested a few days ago, by our Editor, to look at a fish caught by a gentleman, who had had it very nicely preserved in a glass case, and labelled in gold letters as a *roach of 2lb. 10oz.*, but on diagnosing this specimen I at once perceived it was a *hybrid* between a roach and a bream; its anal fin counting *seventeen* rays, while a roach counts eleven, and a bream twenty-nine; moreover, its *dorsal* fin was much farther back than the position of a roach's—*i.e.*, *exactly where* a bream's would be, the rays (twelve) being the number also of a bream's. I am sorry to disappoint this angler, who no doubt thought he had captured a *gigantic roach.*

Do the bream and roach of the Thames sometimes "cross-breed" and produce hybrids? I think so, inasmuch as the Piscatorial Society have in their museum, at the Mona Hotel, Covent Garden, a *hybrid* roach, weighing 1lb., caught by Mr. J. Johnson when fishing at Walton, Sept. 30, 1865. This small specimen counts seventeen rays in the anal fin, and has many characteristics of a bream, *especially in the position* of its dorsal fin.

In an earlier article on "Chub and Dace," I hazarded the query whether chub and dace *do ever* "cross-breed." So many fish of abnormal size have been weighed in *and passed as dace*—notably, one at a very old West End club, it would be invidious to mention, though the mistake happened to be discovered after the specimen was sent for preservation, and their "tyro angler" (who took to fishing on the shady side of sixty), was disqualified in his 1¾*lb. specimen dace.* Yet it *may be* possible that chub and dace *do* sometimes hybridise, and thus I raise a question for *ichthyologists* to determine. The distinction between a chub and dace is so apparent, that no observant angler need ever fall into the error of confounding the two kind of fish; and by bearing in mind the following rules, no fisherman need be in doubt which he has captured: The anal fin of a dace is a pale greenish white, with a slight tinge of red, and its *hinder margin concave;* but in a chub the hinder edge of that fin is *convex.* Its tail and dorsal fin are dark, and the back of the fish much more bronzy in colour than that of a dace, whose scales also are smaller than a chub's of the same size or weight, counting fifty along the lateral line; whereas, a chub's number only forty-four or forty-five.

The illustrations published herewith (see separate Plate) show the difference between the chub and dace; also the roach and rudd.

NOTES ON GRAYLING.

My excuse for giving any opinion on the manners and customs of grayling must be the fact, for some twenty-five summers I have pretty regularly fished some of the best grayling streams in Europe, and have, therefore, caught and seen as many heavy specimens of that fish as most men. The experience of a quarter of a century leads me to believe that grayling above 3½lb. are very rare indeed. I have caught plenty of 3½lb.; but as far as I remember only two or three of 3¾lb., and but one good honest four-pounder.

The natives of the districts where I am in the habit of fishing confirm my opinion by always saying, in answer to my question as to size, that a grayling of about 4lb. is the biggest they ever see.

It is curious how very capricious grayling are as to the fly they fancy. One year they will take a March Brown, the next year (as likely as not) they will hardly look at it, but rise to a Zulu, a Red Tag, or perhaps to a sea trout fly, and occasionally—but only occasionally—they are very keen on an Alexandra. The experience of one year in the matter of favourite flies is a very poor guide for the next season.

At times grayling are singularly particular as to the colour in the fly, and of this peculiarity I saw an excellent instance some few years since. A friend and I were fishing from the opposite banks of a smallish river, then full of very heavy, and, that season, free-rising grayling. I had a small Hofland up, and was hooking pretty well every fish that rose within shot of me, and that day they were ringing freely all over the water. My friend, fishing also with a Hofland, but with one dressed with a very slightly lighter body, at first could not touch a single fish. This went on for some time. At last he waded across, borrowed and put up one of my patterns, and immediately began to catch them as fast, or faster, than I did. Now this happened on a stream which up to that time had hardly ever had a fly cast on its waters, where one would suppose all its inhabitants to be innocent and guileless to the last degree; but no, they had their fancies, and if you wanted to catch them, you must consult their caprices just as much as those of any fair lady.

What I have written applies to heavy grayling of 1½lb. and upwards. Small fish—*i.e.*, fish below 1lb.—are not nearly so hard to please, and have far less of the spoilt beauty about them. On the contrary, there is hardly any weather in which, or any fly with which, it is a matter of impossibility to catch small grayling in a rapid or stretch of rather shallow, broken water, in a grayling stream; but it is an altogether different matter with the experienced old stager, who has reached middle life, and put on weight to match his age.

To show how cunning and how difficult to circumvent these heavy grayling are, even when what we consider illegitimate means are used for their capture, I will relate what I once saw. I was fishing a large pool full of heavy grayling, which were rising freely all over it. I had already landed a few good fish, and was looking forward to a good evening's sport, when, to my huge disgust, I saw a boatload of men rowing down the stream in order to drag the very piece of water I was then fishing. I wrathfully reeled up, lit a pipe to improve my temper, and sat down to watch the proceedings. The men shot the net, and then dragged it in to land close to where I was sitting. The grayling were rising before the net within three feet of the corks, and, what was more remarkable, close behind them also. When the net was emptied, the bag did not take over long to count, for the result of the draw was a single trout of about 2lb., but not one solitary grayling. I suppose the latter dived under the net, and then at once began feeding again as if nothing had happened. I was never more surprised in my life. From the number of fish I had seen feeding, I fully expected to see half a boatload extracted from the river.

I fancy heavy grayling are far more gregarious in their habits than trout of same age and weight. I have not infrequently caught three or four large grayling, one after another, from the same square yard of water. Just the tail of a weed bank or the edge of a shallow will often give fish after fish to the angler who knows the water and where to look for its big grayling. This could not be done with trout of the same size, who are far more predatory in their habits, and won't tolerate rivals on their beat. Large grayling are very rarely found in such shallow water as trout at times frequent; they prefer the deeper parts of a stream—smooth, gliding water, with a sandy, loamy bottom suits their fancy well. The V-shaped glide at the head of a fall or rapid is, if deep enough, a very favourite haunt. Here, on a favourable day, you may see them rising freely in a stream which, although smooth and unbroken, is so strong that it is a matter of impossibility to wade in it above the knees. It gives one considerable respect for the strength of grayling when you see them ringing all over water of the force and weight which such places as these always provide.

It cannot be denied that as a fighter the average grayling falls behind the trout; but still, although lacking the dash and *elan* of the latter, he has a peculiar dogged sullen way of holding his own, which requires some little time and skill and patience to overcome; he is just as hard to rise, and perhaps even more uncertain as to what fly he will favour.

My ideal of a stream is one which holds both trout and grayling, where, in the pleasant summer weather, you may see ring after ring of grayling appear and fade away as you gaze up the broadening waters of the Lagoon; and higher up, where the pine-clad rocks hem the clear brown waters into a narrower space, and the rippling stream makes music for the angler's ear, you can mark the bright waters flash and glitter in the sunlight, as the hungry trout dash at the struggling flies; there, in such waters, is the fisherman's elysium.

Hard to find, no doubt, and not without their drawbacks when discovered; but such places do yet exist for those who think that good sport smooths down the *desagréments* and the difficulties which are nearly always inseparable from its pursuit.

Thymallus.

At dinner at Christmas, or New Year old style, many of the Highland Chieftains in the good old times had on the table a large fresh-run salmon, which no doubt "gaed doon fine" with the usqubae which went the round, like water, on these high occasions. The Earls of Aboyne, the Lords of Reay, the Chiefs of Gairloch, Dundonnell, Glengarry, Lochiel, the Lairds of Grant, the Barons of Braickley, and many others—all had the biggest salmon that could be got served up whole. It is not said whether there was an annual close time in those days! In any case it would have been beneath the dignity of such powerful potentates as those mentioned to ask leave to provide themselves with a most important part of the dinner on the occasion of their high carousal a the winter solstice. Might with them was right.

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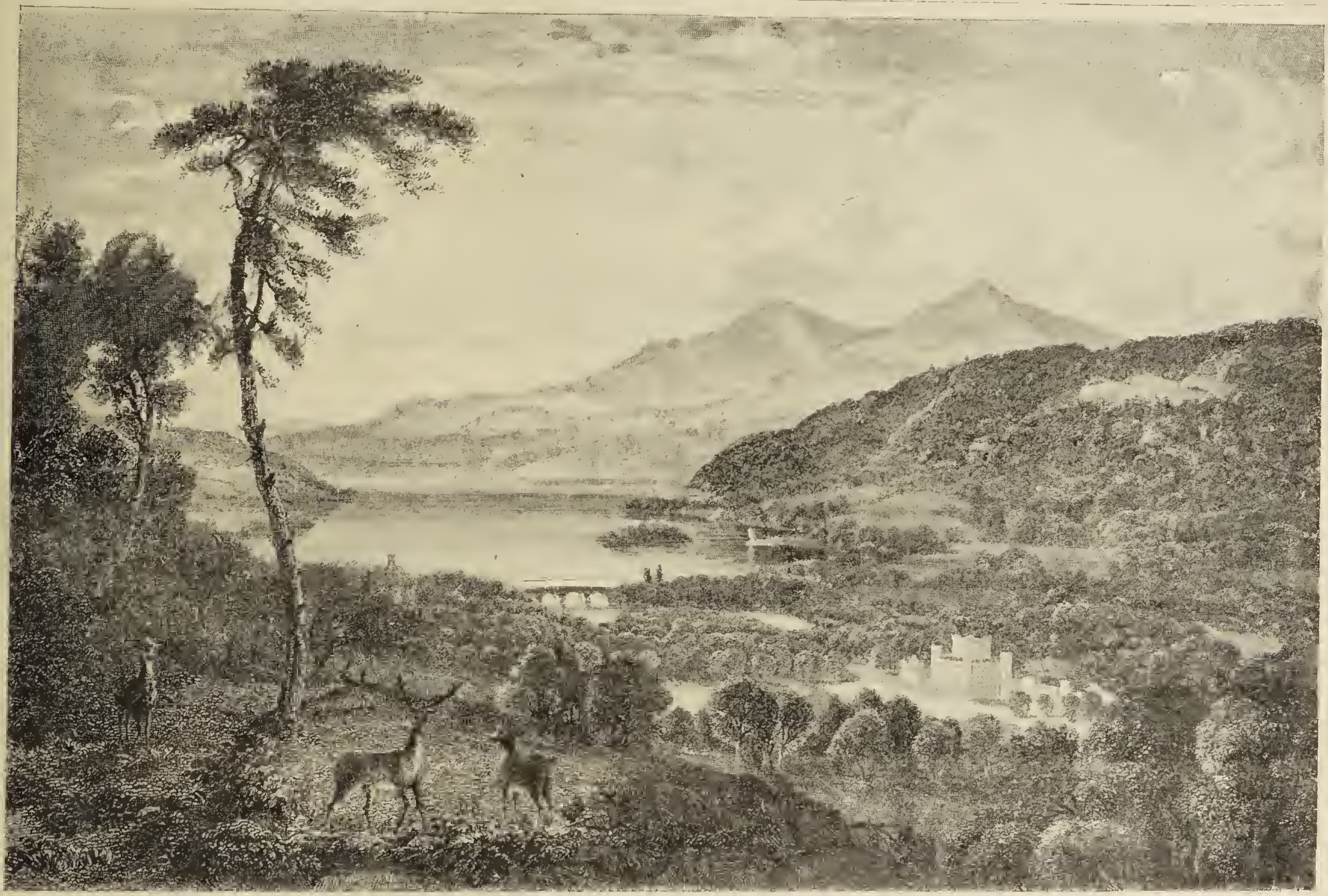
[*] *Land and Water*, August 8, 1874.

LOCH TAY, PERTHSHIRE.

Probably the finest salmon-fishing loch in Scotland is Loch Tay, out of which flows that grand salmon river, the Tay. It will be seen from the letter we publish this week, from the Marquis of Breadalbane, that he proposes to set up a fish-hatching establishment on the loch, and this is certain to improve the salmon and trout fishing, in which he takes such great interest. Many of our readers are already preparing for the opening day in February on Loch Tay, and we heartily wish them tight lines and bright fish.



LOCH TAY, PERTHSHIRE, WITH TAYMOUTH CASTLE, SEAT OF THE MARQUIS OF BREADALBANE.

A FORTNIGHT'S HOLIDAY.

By Francis M. Walbran.

(*Continued from page 349.*)

The following morning was more promising as regards the weather overhead, but the puddles in the roadway, and the draggled condition of the hedge-rows bore unmistakable evidence of a heavy downpour during the night; one thing was quite certain—viz., that the Yore would still be unfishable, and therefore during breakfast-time we held solemn conclave, and ultimately decided to try the tributary again. As we were sat, in came J. E. M., with the news that the Yore was higher than ever, so that settled the question at once. We therefore divided the water into beats: W. to take the upper portion, "Redspinner" the middle, and myself from the junction with the main stream upwards. Wishing my companions "good luck," I made my way down the lane to the starting-place. There was not very much difference in the height or colour of the water than when we left off on the previous evening—if anything, it was a shade clearer; and as the wind was blowing gently from the south-west, my hopes rose high. How often in an angler's experience do those hopes prove fallacious? You think, as you thread the line through the rings, that very soon the limber top will be bending in a delightful curve, and the winch making merry music, then after half-an-hour's patient work you discover that the fish are not on the feed, but for what reason? Ah! my friend, that is the rub; that is a mystery that no angler, however experienced he may be, can ever solve, for perhaps on some other occasion, when apparently everything is against you, the fish begin to take from the onset, and continue to the very end of the day.

The present occasion was a good illustration of this uncertainty. The first cast that I made was at the head of a pool overhung with trees. On my side of the river was a gravel bed; on the other, a grey limestone rock rising sheer above the stream; from its weather-beaten sides grew the bright green fronds of feathery ferns, some of which, drooping gracefully downwards, kissed the surface of the stream as it formed near the base of one of those gently-flowing currents that the grayling loves so well. Towards this point I threw my line, and, just as it curved round into the straight, I saw a silvery gleam just below the surface. There was no break, however, and, on raising the point of my rod, instead of the steady pull of a good grayling, as I expected, there was a blank. "Curious," I thought; "must have struck too quickly," and once more my flies covered the spot. Again exactly the same result. What was the reason? I still am wondering. But, without any exaggeration, for fully an hour I rose fish every cast and failed to hook one of them, although they appeared to come within an inch of the fly. Not one of them ever broke the surface of the water, and, had I not good eyesight and seen each fish distinctly, I might easily have been pardoned for making that most common of all excuses among unsuccessful anglers—viz., that there was not a fish in the river. At last came the welcome pull, and, from the manner in which he ran off the line and bored at the bottom, I felt certain that he was a good fish. What was my disgust, therefore, after some really exciting play, to find that my capture was only a ¼lb. grayling, *hooked by the tail.* Evidently he had disdained the fly in the same manner as his comrades, but, emphasising his contempt of my feathered lure in a bolder way by a lash of his tail, he paid the penalty for his temerity. This completely settled me, and I came to the conclusion that I must have forgotten how to fish.

Then appeared visions of my companions successfully landing grayling after grayling. If they had been rising as freely above, and they hooking them, why their panniers must be nearly full. Then I looked again at the unfortunate victim of juvenile precocity lying at the bottom of my creel. No, I could stand the suspense no longer: I *must* go up and see what they were doing.

The first part of my journey up-stream was plain enough sailing, being fairly open ground, bestrewn with yellow bracken and fading herbage; but at length I came to an iron wire fencing, skirting an impenetrable-looking coppice of larch, fir, hazel, and bramble. So far as I could see there was no clearly-defined path through this obstruction, but, as it separated me from my fellow anglers, I determined to do my best to thread my way through the maze. This was, however, easier said than done; and when, by dint of holding my rod high above my head in some places, and in others threading it under the branches, I struggled for five minutes onwards, I suddenly found myself on the summit of a rocky precipice, hemmed in with bush and bramble on every side, while far down below the swollen river rushed over its rocky bed. To add to my difficulties my foothold was anything but secure, and it made me shudder to contemplate the result if the little plateau of shaly red sandstone upon which I was standing was to give way. The situation was undoubtedly an awkward one; the question was how to get out of it. To retreat was impossible, to advance was equally so; there was therefore only one course left—viz., to take my rod to pieces as well as I could, to unscrew my five foot landing-handle in half, and then climb upwards and explore the territory in that direction. This I did; and after much labour, and numerous scratches from erratic brambles, I found myself, to my great delight, in an open path, winding down through the wood. It appears that there was a gate on the outskirts leading to this path, the existence of which I was unaware of. Just beyond this point I came upon "Redspinner," and then I found that he had experienced just the same results as I had. As we were sitting together on a low stone wall, eating our lunch, J. E. M. appeared on the scene, and advised us to proceed higher up; but my friend deciding to stick to his present ground, my guide conducted me to a broad and comparatively slow-running pool, about one hundred yards in length, with a rushing stream at the head of it. And then came the reward of perseverance, for now the fish appeared to have awakened from their inaction, and I basketed both trout and grayling in rapid succession; from two o'clock until four the fun continued, so that when the three of us met together as arranged at that time, we all had the same tale to tell, and the same good baskets to exhibit to each other. It appeared that the rise came on at exactly the same time in each case, and yet not one of us could assign any reason for the sudden change.

Next morning J. E. M. brought us the welcome news that the Yore was falling rapidly, and if no more rain fell, he thought it would be fishable on the morrow; therefore we decided to again stick to the tributary; but instead of commencing at the same point as I did on the previous day, I made direct for the pool where I had experienced my good sport. I commenced with the fly; but not rising anything, I changed to the worm, and found that equally a failure. A single maggot, fished on a very small hook, was my next experiment, and with that I "struck ile"—or, rather, a grayling; for I had hold of one the second swim at the tail of the rapid stream at the head of the pool. In less than a couple of hours I had killed eleven—all nice fish, from ½lb. to 1lb; and then there was an end of that, for they ceased taking as suddenly as they had commenced on the previous day. Then I saw a rise or two under the willows on the far bank, and, changing to fly I very soon piloted one of the gentlemen across to my own side.

The remainder of the short autumn day was spent in this manner; and before wading across to rejoin my companions, I counted the spoil, which consisted of eighteen grayling and four trout. The best fish were those which had fallen victims to the maggot; but I had no small ones among the lot. W. and J. E. M. arrived just as I was reeling up, and the latter said that he would conduct us to "Redspinner" (who was below), through a short cut in the wood. I was somewhat reluctant myself, preferring the open after my experiences of the previous day; but there was no denying our friend; so gathering up our gear, and girding up our loins, we submissively followed him. I shall not forget that "short cut" for some time. Herrick's line—"Rockie are thy wayes all over"—did not half describe the discomforts of that journey. Our guide bounded over the boulders with the agility of a young antelope, and I believe smiled with covert glee when he heard me give vent to a more than usually expressive adjective, or beheld W. disappear momentarily from sight into some hidden pit-fall. Great was our relief when the end was reached, and we emerged on to the gravel bed where I had "slated" the grayling on the Monday afternoon. "Redspinner" had just landed a good fish with a floating Red Quill Gnat as we came up to him; and after watching him capture another brace in the same manner, the game was up for that day, and we made the best of our way homewards.

(*To be continued.*)

"A FIRST LESSON."

WE have much pleasure in presenting with this, our Christmas Number, an illustration in photogravure of an exquisite painting by the late Mr. H. L. Rolfe.

The scene depicted is on a Scotch lake, and the bitch-otter, bringing a trout to her cubs, is giving them a lesson in poaching, and a taste for *Salmo fario*, in the capturing of which the youngsters will, no doubt, in due time prove adepts themselves.

The canvas of this subject was about four feet by three feet, it being one of several celebrated paintings that, while Mr. Rolfe was alive (and since), have been so greatly admired by his brother anglers, and many acquaintances who had the privilege of his friendship and the pleasure of an ever-ready and hearty welcome, at his studio in Nicholas-lane, E.C.

"The Baron" (by which appellation he was known to his numerous friends) in earlier life illustrated largely in the old *Sporting Magazine;* and some of its most beautiful engravings were from subjects of Rolfe's creation, who was also fond of apt titles for his paintings, such as—

"Threatened War in the Highlands,"
"A Smash on the Main-line,"
"A Leap for Liberty,"
"Not Caught Yet,"
"In a Fix,"
"The Poacher,"
&c., &c.,

all well-known examples of his facile pencil.

Among his most important works were—"The Fresh-water Fish of Great Britain" and "The Game Birds of Great Britain." For this pair of paintings the late Mr. Henry Lee paid (I believe) five hundred guineas.

Mr. Rolfe died on Monday, August 29, 1881, *ætat* fifty-seven. Art lost a devoted follower. We may have another fish artist, but another Rolfe we certainly shall not soon find again.

ALFRED JARDINE.

Waltoniana

ON Wednesday the Thames was within eighteen inches of the level it reached during the big flood in October. It was a bad colour, and will require an abstinence from rain on the part of the weather authorities, together with some frosty nights, to fine it down into good fishing condition before the end of the week. Some anglers were doubtless surprised to find that such good takes of roach and other fish were made last week while the river was apparently in such bad order. The probable reason was the long continuance of floods and thick water. Fish must feed, and I have often noticed that during the rainy seasons, like the present, the fish seemed to get used to the mud, and after a time, feed right well in water which would usually be considered unfishable.

I HAVE to thank Mr. Crumplen and Mr. Wilson Browne for courteously correcting the statement made in "Waltoniana" as to the area drained by the Thames. I quoted from a semi-scientific journal, the editor of which seems to have passed a very considerable printer's error. I note that Mr. Crumplen, on the authority of Huxley, states that the Thames drains an area of six thousand one hundred and sixty square miles, or nearly one-seventh of all England. This sounds an immense area to be drained by one river, but the tributaries, of which the Thames has many, are of course included in estimating the area of the watershed.

WHY does not every flyfisher in the Kingdom join the Flyfishers' Club? The subscription is little more than nominal. There is no entrance-fee. The club-room, overlooking the Thames Embankment, is one of the most pleasant lounges in London, and the members are a particularly nice set of fellows. The advantages to London members are obvious. Country members find the club a pleasant *pied-à-terre* when in London, and the annual dinner gives them an excuse to escape from domestic thraldom and enjoy London life for a few days. How the members held their annual dinner last week has been already recorded, so there is little left for me to say. Mr. Basil Field, the chairman, was deservedly complimented on his witty and eloquent speech, and Mr. T. E. Pritt, who journeys from Yorkshire every year to attend the dinner, delighted the members and their guests with several of those excellent stories for which he is famous. For the first time since the club was formed, the author of "Waterside Sketches" was absent, and his genial presence, eloquent words, and ringing voice were much missed. Another warm supporter of the club, Sir Ford North, was absent through illness.

THE following night, thanks to photography and Mr. Francis Walbran, of Leeds, about five hundred London club anglers were able to see views of two of the most beautiful Yorkshire rivers. What a changed thing is the old magic lantern of our childhood, with its smelling oil lamp and its comic coloured slides, representing the exciting adventures of the Babes in the Wood, the amorous Rolley, Jack the Giant Killer, and many more of the same nature. Limelight now takes the place of the oil abomination, and most charming photographs are shown upon a screen some 10ft. to 16ft. square. A little insignificant picture not more than three inches in height becomes transformed into a magnificent landscape, which only requires colour to make it Nature herself. I think the London anglers thoroughly appreciated both the pictures and the lecture, for Mr. Walbran told me after it was over that he never had a more enthusiastic audience. I was particularly glad to notice that the mention of the good feeling which existed between anglers of the north and the south was received with downright enthusiasm. When the time comes for a combination of all the anglers in England, to force upon Parliament the necessity of amending our fishery laws, there will probably be no difficulty in bringing about a union of the Northern Associations and those in the Midlands and Southern Counties. It is only by such combinations that any really satisfactory fishing legislation is ever likely to be obtained. At least that is my opinion.

THE five hundred anglers who assembled at the Foresters' Hall to hear Mr. Walbran's lecture were nearly left without either chairman or lecturer. Those gentlemen had the misfortune to engage an aged and crusty cabman, ignorant of the whereabouts of the Hall, and possessing only one eye. After driving his fares from Haverstock Hill, where they were staying, to Holborn, he took them to the House of Detention, and drove them three times round that useful but not ornamental edifice. Then he wildly galloped down the Clerkenwell-road, but pulled up some time later, on finding himself at the Angel. Thence he was directed back, and, about half-an hour after the lecture should have commenced, brought the pair to the Hall, where they were received by the Hon. Secretary of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers among Angling Clubs, and recounted their adventure. But the audience, consisting of anglers, and the chairman and lecturer being also "devotees of the gentle craft" (this is a quotation), it is just a little doubtful if the story was believed. However, the audience were as good-natured as they were orderly and appreciative, and the evening was quite the most successful of those that the energetic Mr. Shrubsole and his fellow-workers have organised.

TEMPLAR.

MESSRS. CURRIE, MCDOUGALL, AND SCOTT'S MANUFACTURES.—Twelve months ago we recommended our readers to give Messrs. Currie, McDougall, and Scott's Scotch tweeds a trial. Those who did so, we feel convinced, were well satisfied with the result. We hear very satisfactory statements from several anglers as to the durability of this firm's tweeds and homespuns. Nothing gets more knocking about than a fishing suit, and Messrs. Currie and Company deserve the thanks of anglers as well as their custom for having put such reliable materials upon the market. Now is the season for giving (*and* receiving we hope!) presents. Nothing could be more acceptable to the ladies than a costume of Messrs. Currie's new Cleopatra patterns, or serviceable than their homespun costumes. To the sterner sex we recommend the new patterns of fishing, shooting, and hunting homespuns and tweeds. To those who do not drink whisky, and *have* to be kept warm somehow, we recommend the magnificent blankets this firm makes. We saw a knee-rug from Messrs. Currie's some time back, and we were so well pleased with it that we immediately got one for ourselves. We feel convinced we shall be able to hand it down to our next generation very little the worse for wear—such rugs never wear out.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Glandular swellings in the throat, neuralgia, tic-doloreux, rheumatism, gout, lumbago, and other diseases affecting the glands, muscles, and nerves of sensation are permanently eradicated by this healing anti-febrile and soothing preparation. It is also a perfect remedy for all skin diseases, and every kind of superficial inflammation, which soon lose their angry and painful character under this invaluable Ointment. The Pills have never been administered either by Hospital or private practitioner in dyspepsia or liver complaints without producing the desired result.

In Memoriam.

Died December 13, on his eighty-ninth birthday, Mr. C. H. Witherington, of Aberlash, Sonning, Berkshire. A gentleman honoured and beloved by all who knew him, and respected by everyone whom business or pleasure brought him into contact with. A true sportsman, of grand *physique*, known by scores of anglers frequenting that lovely portion of the Thames, to many of whom he felt pleasure in giving permission to fish his private waters, where so many magnificent trout, barbel, chub, &c., have been captured.

But little more than twelve months ago (Sept. 3, 1890), when fishing the weir-pool, at Sonning, Mr. Witheringtou—who had been all that day partridge shooting, and made a good bag of birds—came to the river-side to express his delight that I also had secured a good bag of barbel—it was his kind, generous way of making an angler happy.

He died "full of years." The people of Souning and its neighbourhood will greatly miss him, and it will be long "ere they look upon his like again."

Requiescat in Pace. A. J.

THE WHITE ANGLER.

A TALE OF THE ARUN.

By Goosequill.

Years ago now, when the Arun, comparatively speaking, was little frequented by the Cockney angler and his roach pole, and "Pulborough and Amberley" were not household words in the bosom of that worthy's family, I used to fish the river a good bit. It was in the days when bream were caught by stones, pike up to 20lb., and when the lordly salmon was not unfrequently dropped across. It was in the dear old days, when the angler sat by his float and saw never a human being till dusk set in and he entered the village inn over the sandy floor, and sat down in the old-fashioned tap-room, and drank his beer and displayed his take of fish. Ah! those fish—no "tin plates" amongst them—those big, golden bream that in the hot broiling days of July and August swam up and down the river and in and out of its rooks and curves like droves of pigs. As I write I think I can almost hear the splash of their tails and see them gambolling about.

We used to have some rare sport with them. By "we" I mean Dick Douglas and I. Dick was the son of a well-to-do Sussex farmer and sportsman, a man who rode, shot, and fished—the *beau ideal* of the good old country gentleman. Dick naturally inherited his father's keen taste for shooting and fishing, and the old gentleman was never so pleased as when he saw his son's pretty little single-barrelled gun raised and a jack snipe bowled over. "Farmer Douglas," as he was called, lived at Blue House Farm, and at the end of his orchard was the river Arun. There he had made many a good basket of bream, standing under the old Keswick tree, and there it was that young Dick first felt the pull of the golden fish.

Dick and I were close friends. We had been boys together, gone to the same school together, and shot and fished together. We both lived on the banks of the Arun, and from my house I could easily discern the silvery streak passing through his father's meadows, and see the gay-coloured weather-cock on the Blue House Farm.

Though bream were extremely prolific in the Arun, at the time I speak—I am glad to hear that the famed old Sussex river is fairly-well stocked with the golden ones—they require catching. Their "eddication" had, of course, not arrived at that pitch enjoyed by the Arun bream of the present day; but it was useless even then to approach them with clothes-props and whipcord. We used to fish with hazel-rods, a turkey-quill for a float, and good strong gut. To-day the old London angler who has had anything to do with the Arun will tell you that as regards the bream he has always done more execution in the night. That was exactly the case with us, and many a pleasant August evening we two have passed at the deep bream hole by the old Black Bridge. Some of our finest bream—fish of 4lb., 5lb., and 5½lb.—used to be taken ere the lark had risen, and whilst the nightingale was still pouring forth her sweet melody in the coppice at the top of the fifty-acre field. In night-fishing we use to leger for the fish with a piece of lead, or a heavy nail or screw. Great Scott! how they used to suck in the lob-worms, to be sure!

One night, about eight o'clock, Dick and I went bream fishing by the Old Black Bridge as usual. It was in August, and the day had been muggy and showery. The evening turned out a very pleasant one, however, and there was every anticipation of sport. Farmer Douglas's eyes glistened as he shook us by the hand and bade us good-night. "The bream should bite to-night," said he, giving a wise shake of the head. "Go up to the Bridge Hole, boys." When we got there it was almost dark, and by the time we had put our rods together the hedges and trees looked nothing but huge black objects. There was no moon, and very few stars. Dick sat about ten yards away from me. I could hear him putting his rod up and throwing in the ground-bait. It must have been close on ten o'clock, however, before either of us had a knock—"pull" we used to call it—and then Dick sung out that he had hooked a fish. I could hear the noise in the water, and I hurried to his assistance with the old barn lantern and the landing-net. The fish weighed about 2lb., and whilst I was remarking that they were not feeding up to much, there was another "pull" at Dick's rod and up came a second two-pounder. On returning to my own rod I found that during my absence an eel had helped himself to the worm, so greedily that about half-a-foot of the gut was down the wriggling beast stomach when I dragged him on to the bank.

That night I occupied the swim nearest the Black Bridge, and as the hour of midnight was made known through the old church clock, I looked up. A person with a fishing-rod in his hand and a bag slung on his shoulder was passing over the bridge. His costume was a milky-white colour, but the rod was black and so was the bag. As he stopped and looked over his shoulder in my direction, I felt a cold shudder pass through me. I tried to call Dick's attention to the strange figure, but I seemed as if I was choking. Horrors! He appeared to be coming towards me! Suddenly, however, he stopped again, and, muttering something to himself, rapidly walked over the bridge and down the river bank in the opposite direction to us. I watched him looking at the river with his haggard, thin, white face, saw him raise his rod in the air and point across stream, and heard him give a low moan. Then he vanished altogether.

When I was sufficiently recovered from my surprise, I told Dick, in a low voice, what I had seen. He, too, it appeared had been a witness of the extraordinary phenomenon. Neither of us believed in ghosts or spirits, yet we had both seen something we thought that vastly resembled them. The fact of his carrying a fishing-rod and his close scrutiny of the river as he passed noiselessly along rendered the thing more mysterious. The moan, too, which I heard was as if someone in intense agony had uttered it.

Next morning, when we told Dick's father of our adventure, he did a hearty laugh at us. He said the ghost was none other than his grey donkey or the white cow. We, on the other hand, were as equally certain in our own minds that there was no donkey or cow about the business; and at last we prevailed on Mr. Douglas to go out with us the next night, and watch for the strange being. Ten, eleven, and twelve o'clock struck; but, save the moaning of the wind through the woodwork of the old bridge, there was not a sound to be heard.

"I told you so," Mr. Douglas said, pointing to a white cow crossing over the bridge. "There's your ghost; let's back to bed!" So saying, the good farmer, chuckling to himself, turned his back on the Black Bridge, and all three of us started across the meadow.

Instinctively I turned round for a last look, and there, sure enough, was the man in white, standing on the bridge, with the black rod and bag. He gazed vacantly towards us, with his large stony-looking eyes. Dick also caught sight of the mysterious angler and nudged his father. Old Mr. Douglas looked dumbfounded as he surveyed the apparition. "By Jove!" he exclaimed, "who, *what* can it be?" Then we saw the white man with the stony eyes pass over the bridge, and down the river-side, as on the previous evening. As he walked along he could be heard muttering to himself, and then we lost sight of him as he moved behind a bush. When we walked up to the river bank there was no trace of him left behind.

Determined to find out more about this strange intruder, Farmer Douglas requested us to say nothing about the matter, but to meet him with the rods at ten o'clock again the next night. Instead of keeping in the vicinity of the Black Bridge, however, we took up our position opposite the spot where the figure disappeared. As the village clock chimed the hour of midnight, all eyes were turned towards the Black Bridge. Scarcely had the clock done striking twelve, than the white figure seemed to leap on to the bridge. This time he surveyed the vicinity longer than usual, but at length walked into the field and on to the river bank. I shall never forget the expression on the white face, as, sitting down on the bank, he held out his rod and placed himself in the attitude of fishing. The black bag slung across his shoulders showed up grimly on his ashen mantle. Every now and then he would give a movement forward, as if about to land a fish, and then we could see him place his bony hand in the black bag. Then he once more put out his rod and gazed straight in front of him with an agonising look. Suddenly, with a piercing scream, he vanished, leaving Farmer Douglas and Dick and I, staring at each other in a most vacant way. Indeed, neither of us spoke for fully a minute afterwards, so horrible had been the cry of the disappearing figure. When at length the old gentleman broke the silence, cold drops of perspiration were rolling down Dick's face and mine, and I felt in a terrible fright. As we crossed the fields home that night, with the hearty old farmer between us, I held his arm as if in a vice, and it was only after several doses of brandy and water that I felt myself again.

* * *

No one was fonder of his newspaper than the farmer. His favourite paper was the *Brighton Daily Pioneer*. At breakfast table next morning, whilst he was looking over the journal for the latest agricultural news, and telling his wife and daughter about the previous night's scene on the river bank, his eyes fell upon the following paragraph:—

"Mysterious Disappearance.—The residents of Dittleworth have been thrown into a state of much excitement consequent upon the disappearance, under mysterious circumstances, of Mr. Benjamin Slapper, a much-respected and well-known local inhabitant. Mr. Slapper was passionately fond of angling, and on Tuesday morning he left home in the best of health and spirits on a fishing excursion to Cophim, since which time nothing has been seen or heard of him. His friends are naturally much distressed at his disappearance, and as, up to the time of going to press, no news had been received concerning his whereabouts, it is feared that something serious has befallen him. Mr. Slapper, when he left Diddleworth was carrying a fishing rod and bag with him, and a reward of £5 has been offered for any information that shall lead to his discovery."

"Slapper missing, and come fishing here! Then he has been drowned, and that was his ghost we saw last night, my dears." Saying this, Mr. Douglas hastily rose from the table and left the room.

* * *

An hour later Mr. Slapper's dead body lay stiff and cold on the banks of the Arun. Wiggins, the village constable, was covering it over with a sheet, and Mr. Douglas and Dick and I stood around, sorrowfully watching the process. Mr. Slapper had been found drowned in the bream hole, by the Black Bridge; and at the inquest next day the jury returned a verdict to the effect, "that the deceased was found drowned, but how he got into the water there was no evidence to show."

And to this day Mr. Slapper's death remains a mystery, though the appearance on the banks of the Arun of "The White Angler" was thereby explained.

⁂ On account of the Christmas Holidays, Club and River Reports should reach us not later than Tuesday evening, December 22, for insertion in next week's issue.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

THE annual meeting of the Birmingham and District United Angling Association was held at the headquarters, on Thursday evening last, December 10. About seventy delegates answered the roll-call; the clubs which were not represented were as follows: The Midland Piscatorials, St. Thomas's, Deritend, Convivial, Anglers' Pride, City, Birmingham Heath, Birmingham Piscatorials, Brothers Well-Met, and Dudley Societies. Mr. J. A. Dance presided during the first portion of the business, owing to the business engagements of Mr. T. Coles, whilst Mr. J. Hughes occupied the vice-chair. The letters of apology for non-attendance were read, after which the business of the meeting was opened with the reading of the minutes of the general meeting, held on October 15, which were adopted without discussion. The minutes of the committee meeting, held Nov. 5, were also confirmed. A notice of motion, of which Mr. Willock gave notice of at this meeting, respecting the renting of the reservoirs belonging to the Birmingham Corporation, was spoken to at some length by this gentleman, who, in his remarks upon this important matter, said that he wished the association to take the matter up, with a view of the association getting the corporation waters under their control if possible, and having the whole of the reservoirs thrown open to the members upon the payment of one shilling per day. Other speakers followed Mr. Willock, when it was finally decided to refer the matter to the committee, for them to deal with at their next meeting in the New Year, as it was thought that they would be better able to deal with the question than the general body. The balance-sheet for the quarter ending Sept. 30 was next taken, the income being £77 15s. 1d., and the expenditure £51 10s. 6½d., leaving a balance in hand of £26 4s. 6½d., the chief item in the expenditure being the grant for prizes for the last great Pershore contest and other expenses attending the same. After hearing the financial position of the association, read by the secretary, and the auditors' report, which went to show that the accounts were correct, it was resolved to receive the report and balance-sheet, and the resolution, upon being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously. A notice of motion respecting the banking of the monies of the association brought on a rather long discussion, when the following new rule was proposed by the vice-chairman (Mr. J. Hughes), and carried with a substantial majority: "That the general secretary's name be placed in the Post Office Bank-book, together with the names of the trustees; and that the postal authorities be requested to forward to him all receipts for the monies placed in the bank to the credit of the association." The election of the working committee for the ensuing year of 1892 was next proceeded with, the result of the voting being as follows, and the following sixteen gentlemen were duly elected, namely: Messrs. W. Willock, H. Miller, T. Smart, W. Rabone, J. Jones, H, Attwoood, A. Keeling, W. West, R. Holding, J. Allender, C. Cottrell, W. Lee, H. Gough, C. Wainwright, and T. Bayliss. Messrs. Keeling and Hiley gave notices of motion. With this the meeting came to a close.

I BEG to remind the members of the St. George's society, that the adjourned general meeting, will be held on Monday evening next, Dec. 21st, when the committee desire all who can make it convenient to attend will put in an appearance, as early in the evening as possible, as the important business down on the agenda will take a considerable time to get through. One important item on the agenda is the proposed increase in the subscription, in order to form a fund for the purpose of preserving specimen fish caught by the members.

ALL the midland river reporters have the same sad tale to tell of the deplorable state of the rivers, the latest reports to hand go to show that all our rivers and streams are bank high; and in many instances even the meadows, and that angling will be out of the question for a long time to come, several of the clubs who rent private stretches of river water this Christmas decided to have contests; but these will have to be postponed or they will have to do, as other clubs intend doing—that is try and bring their contests off in some of the canals.

NEARLY the whole of the clubs in the district have been holding their general meetings, for the transaction of business connected with the ensuing year; and also electing their officers and committees. I hear from Dudley that they have appointed a new committee and secretary, and that only the president remains of the old officers to pilot the club. Mr. Warren is the appointed secretary, and the delegate to the association.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

IN reply to the numerous anxious inquiries respecting the memorial recently receiving such general attention, it may be said the same has been bound, and is now in the possession of the various railway companies. As to the result, we must wait patiently and hope for the best. Should our request be granted, every angler in this county will sincerely wish the companies in question "A very prosperous New Year"; and more than that, will do their best to make it so, by putting all the traffic—both passenger and goods—at their disposal, with the companies so conceding us the facilities for travelling that we ask for.

ON December 11 the Manchester Centre Council of the Northern Anglers' Association held a meeting at the Crown Hotel, Booth-street, Manchester. In the absence of the president (Mr. R. Burn) through illness, Mr. W. Gartside occupied the chair. The name of Mr. R. Ramsbottom has been added to the roll-call of this council. Arrangements were completed for the next lecture, which will take place on January 7. The Manchester Athenæum was the place decided on as the most suitable. The subject of the lecture will be, "Trout Fishing in Norway." Mr. Abel Heywood, jun., will be the lecturer, and will, during the evening, exhibit, by means of a lantern, views of many of the places he visited, taken by himself during his different visits to this country, interesting to all anglers.

POLLUTION has again taken place in the Dane, a river visited by many rods from Lancashire. On Dec. 10, a meeting was held at the Cocoa House, Lown Bridge, Northwich, presided over by Mr. John Weston, to take steps with the object of effectually stopping pollution in the future, and it is to be hoped that the decision of that meeting will be sufficient to cope with the question. It is, no doubt, a difficult one, and we refrain from saying more than this, that it is desirable for all Lancashire fishermen to do their best to support the local executive in the matter.

THE Buckland Club have just held their annual dinner and re-union at the headquarters of the club, the Queen Adelaide, Ardwick. A good number sat down to the excellent spread provided by the landlord, Mr. Johnson, who is himself an ardent angler. The room was tastefully decorated by Mr. F. Bibby, and reflects great credit on that gentleman. It is superflous to say that an exceptionally enjoyable evening was spent.

MANY statements and also inquiries have been made from time to time as to when fish were last taken in the river Irwell. From a letter recently written by Mr. Frederick L. Tavare, of Rusholme, we are able to give the following information. In the *Manchester Gazette*, of Oct. 27, 1804, the capture of a trout, weighing 3lb. 12oz., and measuring 22½in. long, by 10in. in girth, is reported, an employeé of Mr. Samuel Brierley, dyer, Salford, was the captor. Nothing is said as to the disposal of the fish, despite, the fact of its being taken out of season. Again, in or about 1881, we have a record of a trout weighing 2lb., being caught at the Millrace, just below the Crescent, Salford. Many even assert that fish have been caught in the vicinity of Peel Park, up to 1850, hut this last item must be taken *cum grano salis*. Mr. John Hatton, who completed the one hundredth year of his age on Aug. 18, 1877, often said he had taken "snigs" in the Medlock. What a different state of things to our present polluted rivers—the Irwell and Medlook.

THE Merry Anglers have just elected their officers for the coming year as follows: President, Mr. Harry Perks; vice-president, Mr. Geo. Yates; secretary, Mr. T. J. Pearce; assistant secretary, Mr. John Wagstaff; treasurer, Mr. Geo. Thompson; delegate, Mr. Yates; committee, Messrs. Jas. Potts, Ben Marshall, Walter Down, Jas. Bilby, W. Thickett. The annual report is of a satisfactory character, and the club is numerically strong, being over fifty.

THE Wellington Club held their annual dinner on Dec. 11, forty members and friends sat down to a sumptuous spread. Mr. W. Worrall, vice-president, occupied the chair. Messrs. A. and E. Smith both well-known local musicians, Mr. C. Feay, and many others contributed a very acceptable programme. The rendering of "Auld Lang Syne," to conclude the proceedings, was a remarkable feature of the evening's festivities.

NOTES FROM NORFOLK.

THE jolly time that anglers were having with the pike, when last I wrote, was doomed to a speedy end. On Thursday and Friday several fair catches were made in various parts of the county, more particularly at Wroxham, Potter Heigham, and Barton; but on Friday night a high salt-tide came up the rivers, and overflowed the banks in every direction, making the water thick and high-coloured, so that by Saturday morning no angling could be done, even the back-waters (behind the mills) being so high that the river-banks were quite unapproachable. The wind having moderated, the water is fast going down to its normal winter height, and I trust by the time this is published it will have recovered its condition.

I SAW a beautiful pike (female) of 20lb., taken out on Monday with live-bait, from private water near Norwich. It was in splendid condition, and was by far the prettiest fish I have seen this season. It is now being preserved by Mr. T. E. Gunn, of Norwich.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

THE Trent in our district is in heavy flood, and practically there has been no angling for a week. The flood has nearly approached the tremendous innundation of 1864, although the water, compared with that period, finds a much quicker outlet. There is no doubt that considerable damage has been done throughout the valley of the Trent, and residents in the low-lying villages adjoining the banks have already been subjected to great inconvenience. In some districts the inhabitants have, in fact, been waterbound. The various local angling clubs are extremely quiet, and are likely to be until the members can resume operations amongst the fish. I have just one bit of news to supply, and it is all the more welcome because it comes from a veteran on whose word I can rely. Before the change my informant, Mr. J. Boyd, of Nottingham, and a regular frequenter of the Wilford and Clifton Subscription Waters, fished the deeps in Clifton Grove, with the Cockspur Worm, and succeeded in killing 37lb. of splendid bream and roach. Some of the bream exceeded 3½lb. each, and several of the roach weighed 1lb. 2oz. each.

A MATTER of vital importance to Trent anglers cropped up at the last meeting of the Nottingham Town Council. Mr. Councillor Bailey, according to notice given, asked "What steps the Corporation can take in regard to the navigation of the Trent, and whether the Council could appoint a committee to try and use this excellent waterway for the benefit and profit of Nottingham?" The Town Clerk, who has always been a great friend to anglers, replied that a committee, authorised by the Town Council in the year 1884, entered into a contract to purchase the rights and property of the then Trent Navigation Company for the sum of £40,000 or thereabouts. The proceedings, however, of the committee, although confirmed in the first instance, were ultimately rejected by the Council, and the negotiations fell through. The Trent Navigation Company soon after obtained an Act of Parliament authorising them to raise further capital and retain the control of the river for the purposes of navigation and the carriage of goods. It was quite open to the Council to apply to Parliament to confer upon them such powers as might be necessary to maintain and improve the navigation of the river. There were several precedents, from which it might be inferred that Parliament would confer such powers upon the Corporation, either alone or conjointly with other large towns on the river. Without the Corporation obtained Parliamentary powers they could not interfere with the navigation of the river to the extent of compelling the company to carry out the obligations cast upon it by statute. There was no doubt that water communication with the sea was of vital importance to the well-being of the town and the development of the mineral resources with which the district abounds. Whether or no the matter should be again taken up by the Council was a question which did not come within his province to answer. On this Mr. Bailey gave notice of his intention to move at the January meeting for the appointment of a special committee to fully consider the question of the navigation of the Trent, and to report to a future council meeting what steps they recommended should be taken in the matter. The Ex-Mayor stated that it was very important the town should know that the present company, or some portion of them, were going to Parliament again next session to raise more capital. The capital which they raised under the last Act had been entirely expended, and to what extent improvements had been effected, as far as the navigation of the river at Nottingham was concerned, everyone would be fully able to decide for himself. As stated by the Town Clerk, it was of vital importance that Nottingham should have free communication with the sea, and they ought to watch very carefully the company's Bill through both Houses of Parliament.

THE company have already dredged the Trent in numerous places, and whilst some favourite swims of anglers have been thoroughly obliterated, others have been formed. but the evil of the work is the possible destruction of fish ova during the spawning season. The object of the company is to open up the trade of the great brewery companies at Burton-on-Trent, and to carry their beer into the various ports on the Eastern Coast. To enable them to do this successfully they intend, I believe, to construct a number of light fast running steamers, which will be so gauged as to pass through the canals *en route* for the Humber, &c. There is, no doubt, that beer casks can be carried better by boat than in railway trucks, and the company are sanguine that their enterprise will prove a great success.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

SHROPSHIRE readers of these Notes last week, must have imagined that the writer was perpetrating a huge joke in stating that the river was in "fair condition" for pike fishing, whereas by the time they reached print the Severn had been transformed into a roaring turbulent stream, covering hundreds of acres of land in its course, inundating many houses in the low-lying parts of Shrewsbury and other places, and flooding the streets in various localities, much to the discomfiture of the general public. It has been long since the river has risen so rapidly, for while, when I penned my Notes on Wednesday, the stream was well within its banks, it had by Friday night risen to an alarming extent, and the inhabitants of the lower part of Frankwell and other low-lying places had had to retire to their upper rooms, their kitchens being in some instances several feet deep in water. On Friday night, the water went down a few feet, but the heavy rains of Saturday and Sunday caused it to rise again as rapidly as it had receded, and by Monday morning it was as high as ever. The public lamps on the tow paths near Frankwell were only showing their heads above water, and in places where the thoroughfares were flooded punts and vehicles were freely used to convey passengers across the water. The flood continued very high for some days, and it is hoped that it will do a great deal of good to the fishing by cleansing the river and bringing more fish within the locality. The salmon fishing should be greatly improved.

THE members of the Ironbridge and District Severn Angling and Protection Society, in holding social gatherings throughout the winter months, set an example which their brethren at Shrewsbury would do well to follow, for it is by such means that the success and popularity of institutions as these should be maintained. the members kept in touch with one another, and a lasting feeling of good fellowship promoted. The Ironbridge anglers last winter adopted the plan of holding their monthly meetings all through the year, instead of from March to October only, as formerly, and they have found the change to answer well, as friend Waghorn, the zealous hon. sec., informs me in an interesting epistle. At these winter evening gatherings, after any business there may be on hand has been transacted—and there is generally some—the members settle down (as anglers only know how) to harmony and conversation. Pleasant fairy tales are told of the catches and alleged catches of the season, secrets as to the whereabouts of pike and trout of wondrous proportions are told, the favourite localities for miles around are confidentially disclosed, the big pipes are lighted, generous liquids are brought into requisition, and under these combined influences the big fish caught during the past half century grow and grow to an enormous and fearful size; but what is more gratifying, the anglers themselves lose for the time their individuality, forget the ever-running race for gold and worldly position, and rest in sweet contentment with themselves and the outer world. One such meeting as this was held on Monday evening, when Mr. F. G. Beddoes occupied the presidential chair. At the commencement of the proceedings the chairman referred in feeling terms to the death of their late member, Mr. William Yorke, of Coalbrookdale, whose death at the age of fifty-seven had occurred since the last meeting. The committee had fully expressed the feelings of the members by forwarding a handsome wreath as a token of the regret they entertained for so old and genuine an angler, and so good a citizen.

THE first business was to decide upon the time and place of the annual supper, which had been postponed from the 18th ult. It was decided that this should be held at the Tontine Hotel, on January 20, and Messrs. F. G. Beddoes, B. Hughes, J. Toddington, and W. Waghorn, were elected to constitute a sub-committee to make arrangements for the gathering. After the transaction of some minor business, a few new members were enrolled. The vice-president rose to make a proposition which met with the hearty approval of the company. This was that the portraits of the annual president of the society should be obtained and hung on the walls of the club-room, to remind the members as the years pass by of the gentlemen who so generously give a helping hand to assist the institution in this its infancy, and helped to bring it to the satisfactory position it is now assuming. He had, announced the president, written to each of the past presidents, and he was happy to be able that evening to present the three he had received, together with a very courteous letter from T. F. Kinnersley, Esq., saying that he had not a portrait by him at the present time, but would have one taken for the purpose of presenting to the society, and would forward it when ready. The vice-chairman then presented the portraits he had received, these being cabinet photos neatly framed in gilt. They were those of J. C. W. Lister, Esq., A. H. Brown, Esq., M.P., and Colonel Kenyon-Slaney, M.P. Mr. Beddoes then proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Lister, for the great interest he had always taken in the welfare of the society. As their chairman, he said, Mr. Lister was always present, and if at any time the waters did get a little troubled he was always ready to pour oil upon them and promote that feeling of good fellowship which over animated Izaak Walton of old. That evening they had further evidence how earnestly he worked to promote the prosperity of the society, and the pleasure of its members, and none more than he was worthy of their respect and esteem. Mr. Hughes seconded the resolution, remarking that he had known Mr. Lister for many years, but not as an angler. For the three years he had taken the chair at their meetings, he said, Alderman Lister had conducted their affairs and taken an interest in their institution such as none other could have done. No matter what the business was he made a point of attending their meetings, and it was an undoubted fact that it was through his instrumentality that the society had reached its present position. In conclusion, the speaker expressed a hope that the chairman would be long spared to preside over their meetings. Mr. Arthur Green, supporting the resolution in a complimentary speech, said that though not an angler himself, he had great pleasure in doing so. He had attended many of their meetings and had thoroughly enjoyed them, and as Mr. Green had said, he had the welfare and success of the society at heart, and hoped he might be able to attend their meetings and outings for many years to come. It would always give him pleasure to assist the society to the best of his ability, and he also hoped that he should see the society in a growing state. These complimentary proceedings concluded the business of the evening, the remainder of the time being devoted to harmony, some capital songs being sung by Messrs. B. Hughes, J. C. W. Lister, H. and A. Nicholas, A. B. Green, F. G. Beddoes, W. Bennett, J. Toddington, and J. Langford.

NOTES FROM YORK AND DISTRICT.

SINCE my last notes appeared in the *Fishing Gazette* a fortnight ago, angling in my district has been *nil*, or nearly so. The Yorkshire streams have been flooded to a degree which, for some years past, has been unparalleled. However, after more than a week's flood, the rivers are, at the time of writing, beginning to assume, by degrees, their normal state; but prospects are still far from bright. The grayling, pike, and roach season is fast slipping away, while we are, by no desire of our own, obliged to be idle; and the closing months of 1891 will, I am afraid, have, perforce, to be remembered on account of the unpropitious conditions. The spell of genial weather which, however, deigned to mark the advent of the present month, was utilised by rod-holders in York and district to a considerable extent. I heard of some fairly good takes of coarse fish in the Ouse, in the direction of Naburn, amongst them being several roach scaling 14oz., 15oz., and 16oz. each. Our angling clubs now have practically "retired" from active operations for the season, and are devoting their time to the social line.

THE Harrogate Society held its annual dinner at the Victoria Hotel, on Tuesday evening, the 7th instant, when upwards of forty members assembled and enjoyed an excellent repast. The chair was occupied by Mr. G. F. B. Milner, the president, and the vice by Mr. F. Stephenson. After the cloth had been removed, the toast of the evening —"Success to the Harrogate Angling Club"—was, along with others, heartily drunk.

NOTES FROM ULSTER.

FROM every county in broad Ulster come reports of vast floods in all the rivers, and a complete cessation of sport.

In Tyrone in particular the streams, especially the mountain waters, are veritable torrents, and I greatly fear that the spawning beds have suffered from the rush of water over them, and the depositing of organic matter which would seriously interfere with the fertilising of the ova.

From the Bann, Co. Antrim, I learn that the spawning season has been very favourable, so far as regards the plentiness of salmon and trout; but the keepers had quite enough to do to watch the poachers that actually swarm on that river. So bold are those gentry that a determined attack was made by a gang of them on a watch-house a short time ago.

A poacher is said to have narrowly escaped a merited doom on the waters of the Ballinderry during the recent floods. He was engaged in watching at Ardtrea Carry for any salmon that would come within reach of his gaff. He struck at a salmon, and buried the gaff deep in the fish, but on the slippery rocks he could not get a firm foothold; and poacher, salmon and gaff were swept over the fall, at the foot of which he was fished out almost lifeless by some of his lawless companions—*minus* his gaff and the salmon.

DURING the earlier part of the annual close season, which extends from Nov. 1 to Jan. 31 following, the pollen in Lough Neagh congregate in shoals and proceed to the rocks and islets, where they deposit the spawn, and where they fall an easy prey to the poaching fishermen. For a good many years poaching had almost been stamped out, but latterly the nefarious work has revived, and in so notorious a manner as to attract attention in the local press. A good many convictions against poachers have resulted from prosecutions instituted by the Board of Conservators, but the practice is still carried on, I regret to learn. At the last Antrim Petty Sessions, held on Wednesday, before Mr. J. C. Rutherfoord, R.M., and Mr. G. J. Clarke, J.P., D.L., Mr. W. J. Kydd, Inspector of Fisheries, summoned three fishermen, named James Hannen, sen., James Hannen, jun., and James McCoy, "for that they, the said defendants, had three large lots of fishing-nets on board their boat on Lough Neagh, at the Barmouth, the 9th November last, it being the close season and contrary to statute." Mr. J. K. Currie, solicitor, Bailymena, prosecuted, and Mr. W. Williamson, solicitor, Antrim, defended. Robert Steele, water-bailiff, deposed that, while on watch at Shane's Castle, he saw the defendants place nets in a boat, and afterwards proceed out on the lough, where they remained for about two hour. When they returned to land they had no nets with them. Mr. Williamson contended that if any person were liable to a penalty, it was the owner of the boat—Hannen, sen. The Bench held differently, for, after consultation, their worships fined each of the defendants in £5 and costs, or, in default, one month's imprisonment.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE READING OF PAPERS AT ANGLING CLUBS.

RIVER Depletions; Its Causes and their Remedy," was the title of a paper read on Tuesday night by Mr. G. E. Simms before the members of the North London Angling Society, the Tap House, Holloway-road. Mr. Thorling took the chair, and in opening the proceedings, called attention to the work which was being done by the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs, and, predicted that it would do a vast amount of good in raising the status of angling. One of the members of the society, Mr. G. E. Simms, who was taking an active part in its work, and who always seemed to be better pleased to be in harness than out of it, had come there that evening to read a paper on a subject which was of interest to them all. It was the depletion of rivers; its causes, and their remedy. The chairman then concluded by introducing Mr. Simms to the meeting. (Cheers.) Mr. Simms at once proceeded with his entertaining lecture (extracts of which have already appeared in the *Fishing Gazette*, and was frequently applauded. A discussion ensued on its conclusion, and subsequently Mr. Hoyle, as president of the club, proposed a vote of thanks to the reader for his kindness in lecturing to them that evening. In the course of his remarks he suggested that an application should be made to the County Council for the removal of the stock of fish in the London Parks under their direction to the Thames, Lea, and other public angling waters. (Cheers.) He pointed out that it would be possible if the waters at Finsbury, Battersea, and Victoria Parks and other ornamental lakes were netted to raise sufficient stock to replenish most of the waters resorted to by the London anglers. He hoped that before long a concerted movement would be made in that direction. (Cheers.) The vote of thanks was carried *nem. con.*, and Mr. Simms, in acknowledging it, said it did seem iniquitous that the ratepayers should be called upon to maintain places which were open to the amusement of everyone but the angler. (Hear, hear.) Wherever he went in the public recreation grounds he found himself confronted with the legend, "No fishing here!" He thought Mr. Hoyle's suggestion was a capital idea; but if it was to be carried out, it should be done so at once, for it was astonishing, he said, how willing the members of the County Council were especially the Progressive Section of it, to interest themselves in anything for the public benefit, particularly when it came just on the eve of an election. (Cheers.) A concert followed; and the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony. We should add that there was an excellent attendance.

AT the invitation of Mr. Frank Griffin (of the Society for Promoting the Reading of Papers at Angling Clubs), a meeting of anglers was held on Wednesday night, at the Scotch Stores, King Edward-street, Newgate-street, City, to hear a paper by Mr. E. S. Shrubsole, on "Barbel Fishing," the chair was taken by Mr. H. J. Tibbatts, and amongst those present we noticed Mr. O'Callaghan (Silver Trout), Mr. Tom Keeble (Causton), Mr. A. E. Baldwin (New Albion Piscatorials), Mr. G. C. Cooper and Mr. G. E. Simms (Gresham), Mr. Williams (Silver Trout), Mr. Griffin (Friendly Anglers), Mr. Deplidge and Mr. Sowerbutts (Causton), &c., &c. In introducing the lecturer to the meeting, the chairman said he was one of the best fellows in the world, and the longer they knew him the longer they would esteem and regard him. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Shrubsole then, amid applause, proceeded to read his paper, having first put together the *beau ideal* of a barbel fisherman's rod, and rigged it up with the leger, unaided, to illustrate his remarks as he went along. He said the barbel was a very widely-distributed fish and thrived only in certain situations. In the early part of the season it was to be found in the rough water at weirs, whilst later on it resorted to the heavier stream. There was no doubt it was one of our strongest and gamest of fish —(hear, hear)—and on fine tackle there was no such thing as "hauling" it out. No; it required all the patience and skill possessed by the angler before the fish could be brought to the net. (Hear, hear.) The barbel, which was a gregarious fish, was a bold biter. He was certainly a ground feeding fish and he was of opinion that the more level the bottom of the river and the more clear of piles, stones, boulders, and other obstructions it was the better chance the angler would have of catching his quarry. (Hear, hear.) The lecturer proceeded to speak of big barbel, and said some very fine fish were to be found in some of the Continental rivers, and other parts. He said that in 1881 it was recorded that a brace of barbel weighing 35lb. and 40lb. respectively was caught in the Diamond Field in South Africa. (Sensation.) The late Mr. Tom Hughes, he said, had had one from the Thames going 12lb.; another and larger barbel scaling 18lb. had been taken on the Lea; and Salter recorded the capture of a still larger barbel in England, weighing 19lb, 10oz. Mr. Shrubsole also referred to the "14lb. barbel to be seen in the tacklemakers' shop," but significently added, "we very seldom get such fish out of the Thames nowadays. This I am of opinion is due to the taking of under-sized fish—(Hear, hear)—and I think the standard for barbel ought to be at least 15in." (Cheers). Continuing his paper the lecturer said, barbel would frequently feed all day, but sometimes they would not feed all day. (Laughter.) The best time, he considered, to try for barbel was on dark and lowering days. Then they should leger, for that was the best way to circumvent the wily *Barbus vulgaris*. He was, of course, an advocate of fine tackle, and he proceeded to show how, with his paternoster leger, he would fish for barbel. This, he explained, was attached to the main strand of gut by about a foot of finer gut, so that, in the event of the angler getting "hung-up" with his leger, he would lose that instead of his hook. He recommended the angler to strike as soon as he felt a "knock," and also to see before going to work what kind of hook he was using. Mr. Shrubsole preferred the "crystal" hook—(hear, hear)—and a fine line and a good one. (Hear, hear.) Some of the hooks he had seen in the punts were extremely thick and clumsy, and he could not make out how "a decently-educated barbel could take them on board." (Laughter.) When fishing with worms, the lecturer urged his hearers to insert the hook just beneath the skin, first at the head of the worm, then in the middle of it, and again at the tail, for they must remember that the more lively a bait was presented to the fish, the more likely they were to see it in the net. Mr. Shrubsole passed on to float-fishing, and took his audience as far as the Nottinghamshire Trent, there to indulge in a day's barbel fishing, and to hook fish thirty and even forty yards away, as old Jack Theaker has done full many a time and oft. Mr. Shrubsole can "hit" a trout twenty yards off with the fly, but he acknowledged that the barbel could not be his if it took the red-tipped one down more than fifteen yards away. "If you go in for float fishing," advised the lecurer, "fish with as light a line as possible; the next great secret is for your line to float, and float *perfectly*." He recommended them to bring about the desired effect by using an undressed silk line, well rubbed with mutton fat. (Hear, hear.) The baiting of a swim was next dealt with. The audience were never to chop up worms to put in. They were to deposit them in the river in their natural, wriggling state. Mr. Wheeldon's baiting pot was the best thing he knew of to bait a swim with. Last, but not least, the reader came to the important matter of scouring worms for the hook bait. Clean moss besprinkled with eggs and milk would, he said, impart a beautifully transparent appearance to the worms. Mr. Shrubsole concluded by thanking those present for the patient hearing accorded him, and resumed his seat amid congratulatory applause. A discussion ensued. Mr. Keeble said the lecture had been a very pleasant one. Mr. A. E. Baldwin followed with his sad experiences of worm scouring. One day he put a quantity of worms in "some nice fresh moss," procured from a nurseryman's, but on going to them next day they were nearly all dead. Subsequently he ascertained that the moss had been impregnated with acetic acid to preserve its freshness. He, therefore, warned them not to buy nurserymen's moss. Mr. Simms, in reference to the scouring of worms, recommended natural means rather than artificial ones. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Keeble spoke of cleansing worms on old bat sacking, which he said would render them beautifully pink and fresh. Arguments both for and against Mr. Shrubsole's light leger paternoster keeping the bait on the bottom in a sharp ebb-tide and a strong stream having been given, the customary vote of thanks to the chairman and the lecturer closed a very pleasant and profitable evening.

A TREATISE ON THE LAW OF SCOTLAND RELATING TO RIGHTS OF FISHING, WITH AN APPENDIX OF STATUTES AND BY-LAWS.*

IT is now more than twenty years since Mr. Charles Stewart, advocate, published his "Treatise on the Law of Scotland relating to Rights of Fishing," this book was well received when it appeared, and it has continued to maintain its place in the estimation of the profession and the public. But important changes have since taken place. New Acts of Parliament have been passed relating both to sea and salmon fisheries, and a great mass of decisions by the courts following upon these has gradually accumulated; so that a new edition of Stewart has become absolutely necessary. The Editor of the second edition—Sheriff Sharp—has discharged his laborous duties with much zeal and ability, and has skilfully incorporated the new matter with the old, so that we now possess a complete guide to the Fishery Laws of Scotand brought down to date.

In the chapter on the "Regulation of White Fishing in the Sea," the powers and duties of the Fishery Board for Scotland, which has taken the place of the old Board of White Herring Fisheries, are clearly set forth and explained, as well as the position of the Secretary for Scotland with regard to the Sea Fisheries and the by-laws made by the Fishery Board. The chapter on the "Herring Fishing" is entirely new and points out the duties and powers of the Fishery Board with regard to the construction of herring barrels; the branding of herring; the restriction on the manner and time of fishing; and other matters of importance.

The greater part of Mr. Stewart's book is devoted to salmon and trout fishing and to a consideration of the Special Acts which regulate the salmon fishing in the Tweed and in the Solway Firth, and its tributaries; and a careful consideration of the chapters which relate to these can scarcely fail to convince any one, who is not an upper or a lower proprietor on a salmon river and so wedded by interest to certain views on the subject, that the Scottish Salmon Fishery Acts of 1862, and 1868 are defective and imperfect in many particulars, and that farther legislation is required in order to do justice to the salmon fisheries of Scotland. As these Acts at present stand, stake nets and bag-nets may be placed far too near the mouths of rivers; there being at least twenty rivers, with estuaries so fixed by the Commissioners under the Act of 1882, that such nets may be placed at distances, varying from four hundred to one hundred and fifty yards from the mouth of the river on each side, measured from a point fixed in mid-channel. Such estuaries imperatively call for revision and enlargement, in order to give the fish a fair chance of ascending to the upper waters. At present there is no definition in the Acts, of what constitutes a fixed engine. This omission ought to be supplied in any future legislation. The following, it is thought, would be a fair definition:— "From and after the passing of this Act, the terms, fixed net and fixed engine, shall respectively mean and denote any net and engine used, or which may be used, for the capture of salmon, saving and excepting fishing by net and coble, as lawfully used and practised at the time of the passing of this Act." The Secretary for Scotland should have power to amalgamate or divide fishery districts as in the English Act of 1873. The constitution of District Boards should be revised. As at present constituted, the upper proprietors complain that they—in whose waters the salmon are bred—have too little power, and that they have no interest to preserve the fish and prevent poaching, as only a miserable remnant of salmon is permitted to reach their waters during the fishing season, and that until the nets are off, the lower proprietors have a practical monopoly of the fishings.

Further provision should be made for the abatement of pollutions and the removal of obstructions in rivers and estuaries to the passage of salmon. The weekly close time should be extended to forty-two or forty-eight hours. Some provision should be made against over-netting by net and coble in the lower stretches of great rivers—such as the Tay for example—similar to that in the 14th section of the English Act of 1873, which provides that no draft-net shall be shot within one hundred yards of another until the latter is landed. The sale of salmon caught with the rod during the extension of time for rod fishing should be prohibited. The use of the gaff for landing salmon should be forbidden from the beginning of the fishing season in every river until the 1st of June; and there should be a close time for trout and char, as in the English Act of 1873, and the Irish Act of 1850. Within its own district every District Board should have the same powers to prosecute for the removal of obstructions in rivers and estuaries to the passage of salmon as are at present competent to the individual proprietors of such board. As the law at present stands, every individual proprietor of salmon fishings has a right to raise an action for the removal of such obstructions. But, as the original Commissioners, under the Act of 1862, neglected to make a by-law with regard to such obstructions, as empowered by the said Act, the best legal authorities in Scotland hold that district boards have no title to prosecute, which undoubtedly they ought to have. In like manner every district board, within its own district, should have all the powers of prosecution for the removal or abatement of pollutions in rivers and waters as are at present competent to the individual members of such board. It is notorious in Scotland, that the clauses in the Acts of 1862 and 1868, intended to prevent the pollution of salmon rivers, have signally failed in effecting the object for which they were enacted, so that no attempt is now made by district boards to put them in force. District boards are, therefore, at present quite unable to put down pollutions, because, being the creatures of statute, they cannot travel beyond the statutes which create them and define their powers, and have, consequently no title to prosecute under the rule of common law that no upper proprietor has a right to pollute a stream to the injury and nuisance of a lower proprietor.

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* By Charles Stewart, advocate. Second edition, edited by J. C. Sharp, advocate, Sheriff Substitute, Inveraray. Edinburgh, T. and T. Clark, law publishers, 1891.

The above is a brief sketch of some of the chief points which ought to be provided for in any new Salmon Fisheries Act for Scotland. But when is there any chance of such an Act. Political exigencies seem to forbid it in the meantime; and the irreconcilable differences between upper and lower proprietors make its passing dubious, even if Parliament had time and inclination to take up the subject.

THE ISLE OF MAN ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

THE second annual dinner of the above association was held at the Talbot Hotel, Athol-street, on Monday evening last.

In responding to the toast "The Isle of Man Angling Association," Mr. Colquhoun said he had been an angler thirty-five years, and derived the greatest pleasure from the sport. With a view to keep the members better together, he would suggest that the association should meet oftener, and read papers on angling, as was done across the water. He thought the adoption of something of that sort would prove of great advantage to the association.

Mr. Tuton proposed the health of the treasurer, and pointed out the amount of arduous work which Mr. Hindley had to do.

In replying, the Treasurer said he thought the compliments paid him in the toast were scarcely applicable to him, as the hard work really devolved upon the secretary, who was most entitled to the thanks of the association. He said that they had now forty-nine members as against seventy last year, and he would endorse the remarks of the vice-president in the matter of meeting oftener, and thought that if printed notices were sent to the members when their subscriptions became due, as at the commencement of the association, then they would retain their members more than at present.

Mr. Brearley then proposed the toast "Our worthy Secretary."

Mr. Malden suitably replied, and

Mr. Colquhoun afterwards said they had a pleasing duty to perform. That was, to acknowledge in some measure the work done for the association by Mr. Malden. He would, in the name of all the members, present, him with a gold medal, as a slight token of their appreciation of his services.

In thanking the association for their gift, Mr. Malden said that whatever he had done for them in the past had been a source of pleasure to him; and in the future, whether as member or secretary, he would be prepared to give all the assistance he could to those who required it.

The gold medal was inscribed as follows: "Presented by the Isle of Man Angling Association to Mr. F. Malden, 1891." On the reverse side of the medal was the monogram of Mr. Malden, engraved on a shield.

A letter was read from Mr. R. B. Marston, Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*, in which he expressed regret at the ill-health of the president.

The Vice-Chairman proposed a toast to Mr. Marston, which was effusively drunk, and afterwards proposed "The Press."

Mr. Frost suitably responded, and Mr. Rothwell supported.

The prizes were then distributed.

A toast to the donors, winners and host, closed the formal proceedings, which were characterised throughout by a spirit of harmony.

STOUR FISHERY PRESERVATION.

A MEETING in connection with the proposed preservation of the Stour was held recently, by permission of the Mayor of Sudbury, in the Town Hall, the object being to ascertain the views of fishermen as to the proposed new by-laws for the preservation of the Stour. Mr. H. H. Almack, of Long Melford, one of the conservators, was voted to the chair. Mr. F. Dunn proposed, and Mr. F. Webb seconded, that the closed time for all fresh-water fishing be from March 15 to June 15. Considerable discussion followed, many present advocating that in the Stour there was no necessity for any closed time for roach, perch, and bream; but, in order to bring the by-laws into harmony with the Act of Parliament, the motion was carried unanimously. Mr. J. F. Hills proposed, and Mr. H. S. Oliver seconded: "That no jack be allowed to be taken under 18in., and that no restriction need be put upon the size of any other fish." This was carried. Mr. Goodall proposed, and Mr. W. Good seconded a resolution: "That no eel gore be allowed," which was carried. Mr. Spurge proposed, and Mr. Herbert seconded: "That no night lines be permitted, except such as are baited with worms for eels," and the resolution was carried. Mr. Herbert proposed, and Mr. Spurge seconded: "That the only description of nets allowed should be a hoop-net for tench (the size of the mesh being decided upon hereafter), and a landing-net, the circumference of which shall not exceed 48in." This was carried. A form of water bailiff's warrant, prepared under the sanction of the Board of Trade, was read by the secretary (Mr. Pratt), and Mr. Hills was asked to express to the Conservators the desirability of having these warrants more clearly defined. Then followed the names of twenty gentlemen willing to become honorary water-bailiffs. Before the meeting separated, the idea of a Stour Angling Club was discussed, and all present gave it their hearty support, the Chairman particularly promising to do all he could to aid the club.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Association, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—The monthly delegate meeting will take place on Monday evening next, Dec. 21, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Association. — VISITING LIST, EASTERN DISTRICT No. 2.—The next return visit on this list will take place at the St. Andrew's Piscatorials, the Turk's Head, East-street, Lamb's Conduit-street, W.C., on Monday next. This will be the last visit this year, and as this club deserves a bumper I hope the clubs in this district will assist them and me.—F. THORLING.

Anglers' Association. — WESTERN DISTRICT. — A successful visit was paid to the Camden Angling Society on the 14th inst. Upon the roll being called, eighteen clubs responded. The A.B. box was opened, and found to contain £1 15s. The next visit will be paid to the Cambridge Friendly on Jan. 13.—J. JENNINGS.

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of £3 from the Hounsfield Otters Angling Society, the contents of their donation box; and 18s. 4½d. collected on the presentation of prizes won at the Rye House Competition.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Allason United Brothers Angling Society, Allason Arms, Uxbridge-street, Notting Hill-gate, W.—Our members met as usual, and we proposed that jack and punt fishing should be eligible to weigh in for our December competition; but any members six weeks in arrears will not be eligible to take a prize. Members must meet on 23rd inst. for important business. Our angling slate club is increasing; our number list has reached forty-seven members, and still more have promised, and no angler ought to lose a good chance of the benefits. It is a grand society. All particulars of treasurer, Allason Arms. Meeting night every Monday, from eight p.m. till ten p.m. Mr. E. Merritt weighed in a good jack in capital condition, weight 4lb.; 28in. long.—B. ABRAHAMS, hon. secretary.

Amicable Brothers Angling Society, Bald-Faced Stag, Worship-square, Finsbury.—I wish to remind members that next Wednesday is general meeting night, when I trust I shall see a good muster; roll-call at 9.30 sharp.—W. H. POTTER, sec.

Amicable Waltonian Angling Society, the Sun, Great Sutton-street, Goswell-road.—On the 13th inst. several of our members were out, but on account of the boisterous weather and floods, there was very few fish showed in the club-room, Mr. Whitebread being the only member weighing in roach, which saved the club a blank. Mr. Tomkins was proposed as a working member last Thursday, and will be balloted for next meeting night.—E. R. EMBLETON, sec.

Anchor and Hope Angling Society, Canal Bridge, Old Kent-road.—The usual weekly meeting was held on Wednesday night. Mr. H. Neve took first prize on the 13th inst., leaving two prizes to be fished for on the 20th. The following clubs answered to the roll call on Monday last, on the occasion of the South London Anglers visit to the above society—viz.: Bermondsey Bros., Second Surrey, Rodney, South London, Peckham Bros., United Bros., St. Albans and Excelsior, Waggoners, Blackfriars, St. George's, St. Thomas's, Cliftonville, and Hatcham Bros., to whom I tender my best thanks for their attendance.—A. G. SMITH, sec.

Battersea Friendly Angling Society, Queen's Hotel, Queen's-road, Battersea.—The Christmas prizes will be fished for on December 20, between Kingston Bridge and Hampton Court Bridge; tow-path only. Prizes not taken will be drawn for. All competitors must go by the train leaving Clapham Junction at 9.12. On the 13th we had a good show of fish. Mr. J. W. Hopkins, from the Cam, 9lb. 12oz., the heaviest roach, 1lb. 8¼oz., and a dace, 8oz.; Mr. Morris, at Wraybury, roach, two over 1lb.; J. Pindar, Sunbury, roach, one, 1lb. 5½oz.; W. Wastell, roach.—G. MUMFORD, sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—The members of the above society fished their annual competition for Christmas prizes on the 13th, at Twickenham, when, considering the weather, the result was fairly satisfactory. The first prize, £1 given by our host, Mr. Smith, being taken by A. Conn, with 3½lb. of bream and dace; second, a leg of pork, by Mr. Streeton, won by Mr. P. Allum; in all seven members had fish, the remainder of the prizes being drawn for by those members who took part in the competition. The next visit on the Central Association Visiting List will be to this society on Tuesday, January 5, 1892. This being the first visit this club has received on that list, the company of representatives from the various societies on the list will be esteemed a favour.—A. CONN, sec.

Blackfriars Angling Society, Winchester Arms, Southwark-street, Blackfriars, S.E.—On Wednesday night it was settled that we go to Windsor on the 20th inst., to fish our Christmas match. The prizes will be given out on Wednesday night next, when there will be a smoking concert. All prizes to be in by Tuesday night at the club-house. I hope to see a good muster on this occasion; all are heartily invited.—F. ROBERTS, hon. sec.

Bloomsbury Brothers Angling Society, the Rose and Crown, Broad-street, Bloomsbury, W.C. — The only member to venture out on the 13th inst. was Mr. C. Davis, who weighed in dace, taking the first prize in our Christmas list; the remaining prizes will be fished for on the 20th inst.; go where you please; all fish to weigh, bar jack.—D. WARREN.

Cambridge Friendly Angling Society, Mason's Arms, Titchborne-street, Edgware-road, W.—The next return visit (Western District) will be to the above, on January 13, when we shall be very pleased to see all angling friends.—W. SUTTON, sec.

Camden Angling Society, Royal Exchange, Hartland-road, Kentish Town.—A number of the members of the above fished at Cookham for our Christmas prizes, but owing to the rough weather, only one was taken—by Mr. Marshall, with roach; Messrs. King and Langton, roach, from other waters; the remainder of the prizes to be fished for on December 20; any water. On Monday last we held our return visit on the Anglers' Western District, when eighteen societies were well represented. On the Anglers' Benevolent Society's box being opened it was found to contain thirty-five shillings. We thank all those who were present on that occasion for contributing to the success of the evening.—E. T. WHITE, sec

Canning Town Angling Society, Marquis of Salisbury, Hermit-road, Canning Town, E.—I wish to remind our members that we fish at Dagenham Lake on the 20th inst. for our Christmas prizes, seven in number; to be a roving match; all to go down by the 9.42 a.m. train from Plaistow; leave off fishing at four p.m. Members please take notice that it is quarterly night on the 23rd inst., when there will be some very important business to bring forward.—O. JONES, sec.

City of London Angling Society, White Bear, Bride-lane, Ludgate-circus.—Our complimentary meeting on Monday evening was not quite a success, owing to counter attractions, broken promises and other causes. Mr. G. Taylor, of the North London, took the chair, faced by Mr. Chambers. We had twelve societies represented, viz.—St. John's, City of London, Independent Brothers, Rising Sun, Amicable Waltonians, Bloomsbury Brothers, Alma, North London, Rodney, Bermondsey Brother, Angler's Pride, and Anchor and Hope. We tender our sincere thanks to those clubs who sent representatives, and will not forget them when their turn comes.—CAS.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—On the 13th inst., we were saved from a blank by Mr. Scott with roach and gudgeon, he winning a prize for Christmas outing; and as we have two more prizes to fish for, and the 20th being the last day, members who have not taken a prize, are advised to go out for them; the prizes will be presented on the evening of the 23rd. I shall esteem it a favour if donors will kindly send in their prizes to the club-house on that day as early as convenient.—A. TROWBRIDGE, sec.

Clifton Angling Association.—The eighth annual meeting of this society was held at the Queen's Hotel, Clifton, on Saturday afternoon last, Mr. A. Mason (the president) in the chair. The hon. sec. having read the report, and the accounts having been submitted, the chairman congratulated the members upon the satisfactory position of the club, and formally moved that the report and accounts be received and adopted, which was seconded by Mr. G. Wager, and carried unanimously. The following were then elected officers of the club for 1892: President, Mr. A. Mason; committee, Messrs. J. T. Cundall, C. Eyles, E. S. Peck, and W. Colston Powell; hon. sec. and treasurer, Mr. J. W. Cundall; representatives on the Bristol Central Association, Messrs. Cundall and Frost. The club record showed that the continuous rain of the past summer had considerably affected the sport, such of the members as had secured respectable aggregates having achieved the result in consequence of one or two exceptionally good days, and not by reason of good average takes. On the proposition of Mr. W. R. Biggs, seconded by Mr. Eyles, a suggestion to provide a boat for the club-water was left in the hands of the committee. A new member having been elected, and some general business transacted, a vote of thanks to the chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

Dalston Angling Society, Brownlow Arms, Brownlow-street, Dalston.—On the 13th instant, Messrs. Freeman and Legge saved us from a blank with a nice show of roach and perch. Members, please show up on Tuesday next, as there is some important business to bring forward.—S. MALBY, sec.

Globe Angling Society, Fonthill-road, Finsbury-park, N.—We were saved from a blank on the 13th inst. by a few roach, bream, and perch, taken by Messrs. Slade, Evans, W. Laurence, and W. Hall.—A. PAYNE, sec.

Good Intent Angling Society, Crown Inn, Church-street, Shoreditch.—The members will fish for prizes on the 20th inst., at St. Margaret's; the roam of water; all start by the 9.8 train, Liverpool-street Station. The prizes consist of Christmas cheer, sucking pig, turkey, and bottles of spirits (fourteen prizes), all given by the members of the above club; all members allowed to fish.—R. MURPHY.

Gresham Angling Society.—Considerable progress was made on Tuesday in arranging a programme for the first six months of the year 1892, which includes fishing competitions, papers, discussions, exhibitions, and smoking concerts. After the business, a smoking concert was held, with Mr. J. Tayler, the secretary, in the chair, and a varied programme of vocal and instrumental music was gone through in a manner which gave great pleasure to a goodly number of members and visitors. There will be no meeting on the 22nd, but on the 29th business of importance has to be transacted.

Hoxton Brothers Angling Society.—On the 13th inst. no fish were weighed in. The presentation of the Christmas prizes will take place on Tuesday evening next, December 22.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Izaak Walton Angling Society.—The members will compete for four special prizes on January 3; also for three ditto on January 6. Competitors may—private waters barred—choose their own fishing waters for the above prizes. The remainder of the Christmas prizes will be competed for on Wednesday next, the 23rd instant, on the same conditions as the special prizes mentioned above. The distribution of Christmas prizes will take place on Wednesday next, 23rd instant. The special committee will meet on Tuesday evening next, at nine o'clock.—H. B.

Jubilee Angling Society, Portobello, Kensal-road.—Since my last report the following members have weighed in. The brothers Challen some fine roach and dace. Mr. Sadgrove, roach; Mr. Warner, barbel; and Mr. Bence, jack.—A. IDE, sec.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—One new angling member was elected at the last meeting, bringing our total number up to one hundred and fourteen, which are all good sound paying members. Although the Thames represents a river of turtle soup, the members still stick and slog at it with more or less success. Messrs. Master, Prole, Wilmot, Newcombe, and Carter have had some fine trays of bream and roach, the largest bream weighed in being 3lb. 8oz.—T. SALTER, hon. sec.

Lincoln Angling Society, the Metropolitan, Winchester-street, Pentonville-road, N.—On the 13th inst., the members of the above society fished their Christmas prizes at Cookham, only three prizes being taken by the following: Mr. More, first; Mr. Wallis, second; and Mr. Webster, third. It was decided that the remaining prizes be fished for on the 20th; roving match, anywhere; all to start same morning. All prizes will be distributed on Wednesday next, December 23, after which a smoking concert will take place, to which all anglers will be welcome.—W. WATLING, sec.

Liverpool Angling Association, held at the Beo Hotel, 5, Queen's-square, Liverpool.—There was a very large attendance of members at our last meeting, the room being crowded. The attraction was a discussion on our

"Rented Waters," whether they are to be given up and others obtained. Mr. W. Ramsbottom read his report on the Knowsley Water, which he condemned, his reasons being that the water was too deep and cold, and food consequently scarce, and so the fish could not thrive. Papers were read by Messrs. W. J. Johnson, Woolfall, and Gass, and many members spoke to the whole subject, which was eventually adjourned, for decision, to the next meeting, on 17th instant. The general consensus of opinion appeared to be that we retain our two present waters until better can be obtained. Stocking must be vigorously carried on, and subscriptions for the purchase of fish will be welcome. —R. WOOLFALL.

Mildmay Angling Society, Radnor Arms, King Henry's-walk. Balls Pond-road.—We fished for Christmas prizes on the 13th, and only Messrs. J. Osborne and E. Jermy succeeded in taking fish. The distribution of Christmas prizes will take place on Tuesday next, when I hope all those that have promised prizes will come to the front as there are a few not yet given in.—J. COMBER, sec.

New Albion Piscatorial Society, Duke of Kent, Old Kent-road, S.E.—At the meeting on Thursday last it was resolved that no meeting be held on Christmas Eve, and that the competition on Boxing Day be an open one, Rule XVI. to be suspended for the occasion.—A.E.B.

North London Angling Club, Tap House, Holloway-road, N.—On Tuesday, Mr. G. E. Simms, of the Gresham Angling Society, lectured on coarse fish hatching at the above, Mr. F. Thorling in the chair, who, in the course of a few well-chosen remarks, introduced Mr. Simms, who proceeded with his paper, which was listened to very attentively by the company. At its conclusion, Mr. Simms was accorded a hearty vote of thanks, after which a smoking concert took place.—H. STRETCH, hon. sec.

Original North Lambeth Angling Society, the Wellington, South-street, Hercules Buildings, Lambeth, S.E.—I was very much annoyed at reading a paragraph in the *Fishing Gazette* of Saturday last, in which Mr. Wallis, of the N.L.A.S., states that letters have been addressed here in the name of Mr. E. G. Roe. I beg to say that I have never received any such letters, and have written him demanding an immediate apology. Three of our members fished for Christmas prizes on the 13th inst. at Hampton. Mr. Lever weighed in roach and perch; Mr. Garrett, bream; Mr. Cheese, gudgeon.—CHAS. FAIRHEAD

Peckham Brothers Angling Society, Prince Albert, Rosemary-road, Peckham. — Notwithstanding the boisterous weather on the 13th inst., a few of our members were out, but with very poor results, Mr. Fairelough being the only one that weighed in with roach and dace, taking the remaining prize left over from the last series. Mr. Kemp had fish but was too late to weigh in. I shall be very pleased to see a good muster of members on Wednesday next, as we have to elect auditors and chairman for the ensuing quarter. The date will be given next week for our visit on the S.L.U.V.L.—E. A. FAUTLEY, sec.

Phœnix Angling Society, the Crown, Old St. Pancras-road, N.W.—On the 20th inst., four prizes will be angled for; all members to go where they like. Several special specimen prizes as well.—W. ELBOURN, sec.

Prince Arthur Piscatorials, Golborne-road, North Kensington.—Members will please take note that the next meeting will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 6, which will be quarterly night, so I hope members will attend to clear the books, and arrange for the outing on the 10th of Jan. J. W. HARRIS, sec.

Rising Sun Angling Society, The George, Brook-street, Holborn.—The members of the above met at the club-house this evening (Saturday), between nine and ten, to make final arrangements for the roving match on the 20th inst.; several prizes promised.—F. BRADLEY, sec.

Rodney Piscatorials, Rising Sun, Harper-street, New Kent-road.—Our next outing is from the Bridge at Henley to Hambledon Lock, and takes place on the 27th inst. Members are requested to meet at Paddington for nine o'clock train, return by the 5.30. Our supper took place on the 10th inst., when a most enjoyable evening was spent, and our host, Mr. Clarke, is deserving of great credit for the able manner in which the affair was carried out. Comic and other songs were admirably rendered by members and friends, while the accompaniments were brilliantly played by Mr. Raper. The following members weighed in roach on the 6th inst.: Messrs. J. Wigley, W. Lamberton, T. Lines, F. T. Lamberton, F. Lamberton, H. Mitebell. Only two weighed in on the 13th inst.—namely, F. and F. T. Lamberton, both having roach.—F. T. LAMBERTON, sec.

Second Surrey Angling Society, Spread Eagle, Stangate-street, Lambeth.—As the weather was so bad on the 6th inst., the members would not go out for the two prizes of the series not taken. They were drawn for on quarterly night by the members entitled to do so, the winners were: Mr. Jarrett who took the prize given by Mr. G. George; and Mr. Pratt the prize given by Mr. Wink. The first of the series was won by Mr. J. T. Wright; second, Mr. Walls; third, W. Stone; fourth, Mr. Wink; fifth, Mr. Green; sixth, Mr. H. R. R. Wright; seventh, J. Wright; and eight, Mr. G. George; which were duly handed over by the chairman with a few appropriate remarks. A proposition was then made and seconded that two shillings and sixpence be sent to Mr. Brougham towards the river keepers' dinner, which was carried unanimously.—J. WRIGHT, sec.

Shepherd's Bush Angling Association, Bush Hotel, Shepherd's Bush-green, W.—At our meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 9, the hon. sec. weighed in one bream, 2lb. ¾oz. and 1lb. 12¾oz. of roach and dace: the vice-president had two roach, 1lb. 7½oz., and 1lb. 7¼oz. of dace. The storm on the 13th inst. entirely upset the fishing arrangements of members, and, although several went out, including the president and Mr. R. Jones, our competition proved a blank, not a fish being caught. Two new members have been elected.—C. B.

Silver Trout Anglers' Association, Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden.—On the 13th inst., although it was so rough, several of our members were out, Messrs. Williams and Smales having a show of roach. On Tuesday the auditors went through the accounts for the last quarter, and found everything satisfactory, with an increased balance in hand. Members and friends are requested to keep Tuesday, January 19, open, as on that evening Mr. Crumplen will read a paper, and a smoking concert will follow, which we hope will be very well patronised.—PELICAN.

Sociable Brothers Angling Society, Hope, Pollard-row, E.—Several of our members were out on the 13th inst., but the only member weighing in was Mr. Coxhead with a nice show of perch.—R. SPENCELEY, sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—A visit of the clubs on the above list was paid to the Anchor and Hope A.S. on the 14th, when a most enjoyable evening was spent. On the roll being called by Mr. G. H. Field, president of the list, the following fifteen clubs responded: Bermondsey Brothers, Second Surrey, Rodney, South London, Peckham Brothers, St. Albans, Waggoners, Blackfriars, St. George's, St. Thomas's, Cliftonville, Original North Lambeth, Hatcham Brothers, and Anchor and Hope. The next visit will be to the Peckham Brothers. Due notice of date next week.—A. CONN, hon. sec.

St. Andrew's Piscatorial Society, Turk's Head, East-street, W.C.—A return visit on the No. 2 Eastern District Visiting List Anglers' Association, will take place at the above house, on Monday next, when I hope to see a good muster. The Elm Concertina Band have kindly promised to attend and give a selection of their well-known pieces. —B. CHEVALIER, sec.

Tadcaster Angling Association.—Between forty and fifty members and friends of this association had their annual dinner at the Golden Lion Hotel on Thursday evening, Dec. 10. Mr. and Mrs. G. Barker left nothing to be desired, either in the way of a good dinner or in the decoration of the dining-room. Mr. C. J. Ireland (president of the association) occupied the chair, and Mr. E. Payne (vice-president) the vice-chair. When the cloths had been removed the chairman announced that he had letters from several gentlemen who regretted their unavoidable absence that evening. After the usual loyal toasts the chairman gave "Success and Prosperity to the Tadcaster Angling Association." He said the Association was established in 1887, and this was their fifth annual dinner. He was glad there was no falling off in the attendance. If there was anything that pleased an angler it was a good feed, and that they had had; and they had the trophies not of the chase, but of the sport hung around the room to make glad their hearts. He was extremely sorry to say that the past year, so far as he was concerned, was a somewhat barren one; and he thought that this must be the experience of all the members who had fished at Tadcaster. It appeared to him that they did not catch that quantity of fish which they used to do in years gone by. There was some cause for this —perhaps they were not there to be caught, or else they were being educated on the higher principle. When they fished in the Derwent, all who journeyed there, novices included, had a catch. He did not think that any of them would aspire to the proud and exalted position of scientific anglers, but they considered themselves capable of catching fish when they were there to be caught. There had been a report current that Mr. Samuel Smith was going to prevent the members fishing on his property. He (the chairman) had the authority of Mr. Smith's brother to state that there was no foundation for the truth of that statement. (Applause.) With the toast the chairman coupled the name of Mr. William Holloway (the secretary). Mr. Holloway, in responding, said last year their membership was thirty-three, and now it was forty-one. (Hear, hear.) During the year they had had five matches, and the first prize winners were Messrs. Wm. Spink, Hy. Barker, W. Holloway (twice), and John Fowler. The aggregate amount given in prizes was £15 13s. 6d.; £6 10s. of this sum was given by the association, and the remainder by members and friends. (Applause.) Prizes were also given for the best specimen fish caught. After their last annual dinner they had a balance in hand of £9 15s. 6d., and this year he calculated they would have £11 in hand. (Applause.) The hon. secretary concluded his remarks by giving the health of "The Visitors." Mr. H. W. Yates responded in most appropriate terms. He said that since he had been in Yorkshire he had been very kindly treated, and especially at Tadcaster. He loved to be in the society of Yorkshire anglers. (Applause.) The vice-chairman gave the healths of "The Proprietors and Occupiers of land on which we have the liberty to fish." He said that no matter how successful they might be as an angling association, it would be impossible for them to enjoy themselves unless they had water to fish in; and to those gentlemen on whose land they had to go they were greatly indebted. (Applause.) Mr. J. Allan proposed the health of "The President and Vice-President" in suitable terms, and the chairman responded. The healths of the "Host and Hostess" concluded the toast list. The Tadcaster Quartette Party were present, and contributed much to the interest of the proceedings by the tuneful and sweet rendering of several pretty pieces. Songs, &c., were also given.

Waggoners Angling Society, George and Dragon, Vauxhall Cross.—Several members were out on the 13th inst., Mr. Cliff being the only one to weigh in, he having dace. Owing to the state of the river, our outing is postponed till a future date. If those members who were away last Tuesday will kindly show up, they will hear something to their advantage.—H. C., hon. sec.

Walworth Waltonians, St. Paul's Tavern, Walworth, S.E.—On Wednesday last we had a good muster, Mr. W. J. Crisp in the chair. It was decided that the outing the 20th inst. be open; bank only; six prizes. And for the Wednesday outing, Dec. 23, be open; punt or bank; six prizes.—R. BAILEY.

NEW PATENTS.

THE following is a list of Piscatorial Patents, which is supplied to us by Messrs. Hughes, Eli, and Hughes, Registered Patent Agents and Attorneys for Colonial and Foreign Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks, 76, Chancery-lane, Holborn, W.C., All inquiries answered by them free of charge to our readers:—

19,919.—Henry Angus Murton, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, for "Improvements in and relating to fishing creels."

20,905.—P. Teherkasoff, of Russia, for "Improvements in artificial fishing baits."

20,907—P. Teherkasoff, of Russia, for "Improvements in artificial fishing baits."

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min.	for	Chelsea.	Add	55 min.	for	Kew.
	40 ,,	,,	Putney.		75 ,,	,,	Richmond.
	45 ,,	,,	Hammersmith.		80 ,,	,,	Twickenham.
	50 ,,	,,	Barnes.		85 ,,	,,	Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

			Morning.	Evening.
Saturday,	Dec.	19	4.13	4.34
Sunday,	,,	20	4.54	5.14
Monday,	,,	21	5.35	5.56
Tuesday,	,,	22	6.20	6.42
Wednesday	,,	23	7. 7	7.31
Thursday,	,,	24	7.58	8.27
Friday,	,,	25	8.57	9.30

English and Welsh Reports.

Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—If it were not for the bank anglers, there would be scarcely anyone fishing in the Thames at the present time, and to see the river as I did on my return from London on Tuesday afternoon, by way of Twickenham, the sight on going over the river at Richmond presented a fearful look out, as resulting from a very high tide. All the paths on each side were under water, and the fluid itself the colour of pea-soup. This is the description of colour given by the fishermen when it is discoloured, and, when it is bright, the designation is "as clear as gin." I refer to the river as presenting a bad look-out, and what I mean is, for the Christmas holidays; but there are some days intervening between now and the joyous period, and a great change may take place by then. I hope there will be, for the sake of all, whether anglers or not, as so many look forward to the three days free from "the beggarly elements of trade" to enjoy amongst their friends in the country some glorious Christmas cheer at the happy homes and the festive hearth. In my bachelor days I used to spend my Christmas at one of the riverside fishermen's cottages, contributing to a seasonable repast, and filling up the time in the pursuit of fish. It is a bad time for the fishermen just now, when they want to add to their exchequer some addition from angling employment, but I would fain hope some of their patrons will remember them by a contribution of some kind or other to make them merry and glad at their respective homes. The good old fashion in this respect has, however, become very much reduced. I used to be made the almoner of distributing gifts to some of the fishing stations to the fishermen, but that was in "days gone by," and, with the change of circumstances, will never return. All I can do myself is to wish, one and all, a very happy Christmas, and to hope some favourable weather will intervene to give the fishermen some little employment to afford some creature comforts at a joyous fire-side.—B.

TWICKENHAM.—C. Brown, in half a day, two dozen of fine roach and dace.

TEDDINGTON.—Ben Stevens, in one day, three barbel, the largest 6lb.; and W. McBride, in half a day, two barbel.

KINGSTON.—John Johnson, at odd times during the week, four barbel, three bream, and a quantity of very fine roach and dace, some of the roach weighing from 1lb. to 1½lb. each, and J. Knight an average of three and four dozen of roach and dace each day. The bank anglers in different portions of the river are getting some exceedingly fine specimens of roach, and the fishermen say if they only had customers they could find them some fish. J. Knight, fisherman, has taken a fine roach of 2lb.; it measured 14½in. in length, and has been sent for preservation. It was afterwards shown to Mr. Nuthall.

Upper Thames.—All again chaos with regard to angling on the Upper Thames! The flood at present is not quite so much in evidence as some six or seven weeks ago; but as I write it is still rising, and further rain for a day or so would bring on an unprecedented flood. Fishing is at present out of the question, and I do not glean that a fish worth record has been had during the past week. I am especially pleased to note that meadow-netting during flood-time seems a thing of the past, and I lay the flattering unction to my soul that in years gone by I made, by publishing names, an example of these noble poachers. For so doing I was continually threatened with "duckings" and "head punchings," but I still survive to tell the tale of by-gone unsportsmanlike conduct, and with the exception of being a little more mouldy about the frontispiece and the occiputpiece am still as fly as ever as a MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Windsor).—A vast area of land in this neighbourhood is again under water, and threatens to assume the same proportions as the last disastrous flood. Those who have been looking forward to a few days' jack fishing during the Christmas holidays should make other arrangements, as it is impossible for the river to be in condition, and very doubtful if it will be in bounds. A few enthusiasts have been *trying* to fish, and am told the veteran Carey, of Windsor, has had two brace of barbel since my last.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Ancholme District.—The continuous floods keep the waters in a very dirty state, so that trolling for pike is very unprofitable.—THOMAS FORD.

Arun (Pulborough and Amberley).—There has been no fishing recently owing to the floods. The river has again overflowed its banks, and though the water now looks like settling down, I am afraid sport will be poor this side the festive season. When the water fines, I hope

TADDY'S MYRTLE GROVE CIGARETTES

to be able to record some good baskets of roach and jack. I know of one "old Johnnie" up Fittleworth way, and shall not neglect him as soon as there is a chance of making him a Christmas present in the shape of a nice lively dace. Whether he will prove another twenty-pounder I cannot positively say, but when I last saw him dozing under a canopy of rubbish, I guess he looked awfully near it. P.S.—This is not a "Christmas story."—Goosequill.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—Floods everywhere is the order of the day, and yet a few fish are taken both from the Arun and Ouse in a few favoured spots, but the record is virtually *nil*. From the upper portion of the Ouse, I hear of a 9lb. salmon being recently killed by an otter in one of the small tributaries near Fletching. The keeper failed to secure the otter, but saved the fish. Sir Spencer Wilson has spared neither pains nor expense to stock the river with salmon, and a few have been taken from the water. In the Pulborough district, a sign-post, up to the board in water, has "no thoroughfare" alone standing out, and it will doubtless be some time before the waters regain the channels.—George F. Salter.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—Such floods as we have had during the past week, have been unprecedented during my forty year's experience of our local rivers. The river Dhoo or Black River, rose at Braddon Bridge (about two miles from Douglas) to a height of fifteen feet above its usual level. It is much confined there, by a viaduct, and a haystack, which it requisitioned, may have had something to do with the obstruction. The beautiful Nunnery Pool never more than eight feet deep, showed soundings of from ten to sixteen feet. The rain still continues, and I much fear the spawning beds will suffer. Sea Fishing.—The weather is too uncertain to give amateurs much sport—but cod are in good condition and take well.—Stormy Petrel.

Dove and Tributaries.—Weather has been again alternately wet and foggy, and angling has had no votaries in practice hereabouts, to our knowledge, since our last. We want a few more dry, keen, and bright days such as this is (Thursday) to bring both grayling and pike on the rise and run.—D. and W. H. Foster, Ashbourne.

Lea and Stort.—Just now there is a very welcome change in the weather, and if it only continues, some good sport may be confidently looked for. Such a day as this (Thursday) has been, was quite enough to tempt any angler to try his chances. There had been a nice white frost during the night, just sufficient to justify the idea that jack, perch, and roach would feed well. However, during my walk I did not see any fishermen out, consequently did not hear of anything having been done. The rivers are rapidly getting into good order; the navigation canal is already fishable, and well worth attention. The water has been, up to the last two days, in such an uncertain state as to render fishing chances a perfect lottery. On the 13th a nice jack was taken at Cook's Ferry, but in the afternoon the water again rose, and put a stop to sport. At Waltham Abbey a few pike and perch have been taken, but nothing calling for special notice. There is just now a great deal being said as to the use of shrimps as baits for roach. I should like to hear of this bait being tried in the Lea, as I cannot but think it would account for other fish besides roach. The account of a member of the General Gordon Angling Society, taking a pike of 11lb. whilst paternostering for perch with a fine gut bottom, at St. Margaret's, is very interesting, and goes far to prove that success in pike fishing may often be assured by using fine tackle and a small hook when the ordinary means fail; of course there is danger of a breakage, but how much more credit is due to a man who successfully lands his fish under such circumstances; again, the fish if it does break away, is not much injured. If we have moderate weather for the next week or two, I fully expect there will be some grand pike fishing, as they are exceptionally plentiful this season, and must be ravenous after their long rest, caused by the floods.—Spliced Joint.

Leicester.—The weather continues of the most execrable character. The latter of last, and during the whole of this week, gales of a most violent kind raged fiercely, causing many volumes of water to overflow the banks of the river, in the vicinity of the town, fishing has been anything but an enjoyable occupation. A few anglers have been found bold enough to try their skill: but these only captured an odd fish or two:—Messrs. Toe, Hobbs, Prime and Neal succeeded in landing baskets of roach. One of the fish in the first mentioned angler's lot, weighed 1lb. 10¼oz. Pike fishing is at a complete stand still, the waters at Anglestone, one of the best spots for this kind of angling. being altogether inaccessible owing to the immense floods.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—These streams continue to run high and muddy. At the beginning of the week the water was out over the fields, but is now lowered, but will be some days before angling can be resumed. The Pinsley is coloured and no fishing in it.—Gwynne.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Gales of wind, with heavy downpours of rain, have again prevailed since my last week's report. On Sunday and Monday rivers rose rapidly, and considerably over the banks. They are now running down again, but cannot hold out any hopes of fishing this side the Christmas holidays, though should the weather take up—and to-day (Wednesday) has been much finer—there may be a chance with grasshopper (sink and draw) or maggot, &c., during the Christmas week. The present grayling season has been the worst for many years. Wind, N.W., strong and cold; clouds still threatening.—R. T. Williams.

Medway (Maidstone).—The water of the Medway is still running very thick; not much like good angling. It will be some few days—if weather continues fine—before it is in good condition for angling.—W. Shrubsole.

Nene (Northamptonshire).—Mr. Abernethy, C.E., and Mr. Thomas, C.E., have visited the river works at Wisbech. They were met by the Port and Harbour Committee. The works were thoroughly inspected, and the Council met shortly after. Mr. Abernethy had to leave by an early train, so that there was not much time for inquiries. One of the members had ten questions, which were forwarded the same evening, and all touched upon the dredging, &c., of the river. A conference was afterwards held by Mr. Thomas, and some strong opinions were expressed. The river is in better form now, and the weather is A1 for pike fishing. Some good pike have been taken from Lord Cadysforts water at Elton. Permission is generally freely given by the noble lord.—Nenebank

Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire Waters—Our rivers are clearing down nicely, especially the Lark, at Mildenhall, Barton Mills, and West Town. I had a try this day (the 17th inst.) and took 15lb. fine dace and perch (red worms). The banks as a natural consequence after being flooded for so long are very dirty and wet, it's many years since we had such a long continued flood as this has been. The Ouse is getting better. I must, however, advise my London and other angling friends to wait a few days before going to Ely or Littleport, if we get no more heavy rains the fishing will be good about Tuesday or Wednesday. The Little Ouse at Brandon is getting better and is about the best river at present to try, there are plenty of good fish all along the stream. Anglers had better call at Mr. Ralph, the Ram Inn, Brandon, close to the station and river, he will tell them the best places to try just now. All the Norfolk rivers are too high and coloured to do much good. The wind is right south by S.W., and at the time of writing the look out is much better. Red worms are the bait most used, and from my experience the best.—William Howlett.

Ouse, Derwent, &c., (Yorkshire).—Nothing doing, owing to our rivers and streams overflowing their banks. Much adjoining land is submerged, causing destruction and damage to property, especially in the lower reaches of the Selby district. It is feared also that much damage might be caused to angling by large quantities of fish being left stranded in the hollows when the waters recede.—Ronald.

Teme (Ludlow).—The weather in this part has been very rough, quite a gale of wind blowing, accompanied with rain, hail, and snow, and the water has risen high and over-flowed its banks, and fishing has been impossible. The water is lowering, but it will be sometime before it will be in order for fishing again. The Ony, Corve, Clun, and Ledwyche, are all muddy, no fishing in them of late.—S. Ludlow.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this part the late heavy storms made the water rise, and flooded the streets of the town. No fishing has been done or will be until the water goes down again. The Rea, Kyre, and Ledwyche, are muddy. Worcester.

Trent (Newark).—Angling *nil*. On Friday, the Trent got over its banks, and continued to rise until Tuesday at noon, when miles of land were under flood. To-day it has receded a few inches, but some time must elapse before it resumes its normal condition, and anglers are becoming anxious about prospects of the waters of the district being available for sport during the holiday season.—Trentsider.

Yare (Norwich).—Since my last report pike fishing has been very poor indeed, the weather to a great extent being responsible, but notwithstanding several parties have been out trying their luck and one party succeeded in showing a fish, weighing nearly 20lb.; whilst another party of three rods had fish of 8lb., 6½lb., 4lb., and 3lb., besides several runs which they missed. The worst case I've heard of was on Thursday last. when six gentlemen at a good place only succeeded in capturing one poor little jack of 3lb., so much for luck. I do hope the Christmas holidays may be fine, as then in all probability we may have to record some good catches in Norfolk waters.—Robert Moll.

Scotch Reports.

Dee, (Aberdeenshire).—All over the North of Scotland the spawning season is being pronounced an exceptional success. Only the late fish on the middle and lower reaches are now on the redds, while the spent fish are migrating to the sea in great shoals. The disease *(Saprolegnia ferax)* still makes great ravages among the spent fish, in hundreds of dead and dying fish having been taken from the Dee, Don, and the North and South Esks. Few clean fish are affected. The number of spawners in the Don exceeds anything within the past twenty years, and this is one of the improvements in the river passage at Grandholm.—Deesider.

Thurso (Halkirk).—The river is in spate, being the second since may last report. The water is running a fine clear colour, and the temperature is not too low for fish running up from the sea; at the same time, a good many kelts will go down, so that the spates came in good time to benefit the river, as spawning operations are fairly over. With regard to the letter, signed "E. H.," in the *Fishing Gazette*, of Nov. 28, *re* pike in Sutherland and Caithness, the last sentence says, "Mr. Peach says he has just heard of one being caught in the Wick river." I live within a few miles of the Wick river, but I never heard of a pike being seen nor caught there, and I wonder, if such a thing happened, that it should not be more spoken of among anglers. I, along with others, would be glad to know if the report is correct. Could Mr. Peach enlighten us as to when and by whom the pike was caught in the "Wick"? I have just heard of a novel method of catching wild duck: The poachers set lines and hooks, baited with something the ducks will eat. These are set in marshy places where they feed at night. They swallow the bait and the hook, and their capture is then a certainty. Cruel work, I should think.—A. H.

Tweed.—There is nothing to report from this river in the meantime with regard to angling, as even those who fish the river all the year round have not been able to throw a line since my last Notes, owing to the flooded state of the rivers. Since last week, the weather has been very changeable—rain, frost, snow, and then, again, a thaw, with rain. This is something like what we are experiencing just now in this peculiar northern climate of ours. On Tuesday we had a proper downfall of rain, while before that snow had fallen pretty generally in the higher districts, and on Wednesday both Tweed, Teviot, and their tributaries were in high flood, the gauge at Kelso Bridge registering from eight to ten feet of flood water consequent on the heavy rainfall of the previous night, accompanied by a rapid thaw of the snow which had previously fallen pretty generally throughout the higher district. During the morning the Tweedometer indicated a rise of nine feet in the Melrose district above the usual level of the river. All along its course the lands adjoining the river were completely submerged, and in some places the roads were completely under water. Compared with the last great flood, the Tweed is about six inches lower, and there is a smaller quantity of wreckage being carried down than on that occasion, although a considerable amount of damage has been done. A very keen frost set in last (Wednesday) night, and the next day it was very hard all through, consequently the river has gone down considerably, and it is now only some three feet above its normal size.—Maxwheel.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—Nothing but floods for me to record this week. The rising of the river has stopped all kinds of fishing. A portion of the salmon have spawned but the heavier fish are yet to come about the Christmas freshets. Last Tuesday, I noticed a shameful pollution in the river from a local gas works. The river resembled a sheet of oil, and had the river been low must have proved injurious to the spawning fish. To-day, the weather looks like clearing up, and indeed such a novelty as a good day would be greatly welcomed by angler, shooter, and athlete alike.—J. A. B.

Waterville (County Kerry).—Salmon are running up from the sea in pretty large numbers. If this run continues, there should be a good stock of fish up before the weir on the river is put down on January 1. This weir is down for four days in the week, from the opening of the year until July, and as it intercepts a large number of salmon during that time, anglers are always anxious to know how salmon are running before the weir season commences. Spawning is now over on the earlier rivers. Weather wild and wet.—T. J. Dennehy.

Sport *v.* Pothunting.—A man who goes to the riverside with three or four rods, and bait the same number of hooks, is a fisherman, but no angler. He is a "pothunter" as much a poacher, who endeavours to "rake" a feeding covey of partridges, or a shooter who tries a shot into the "brown" of 'em. The pothunter might be trying to win certain prizes in money or "kind," in a "go-where-you-please" competition. And he sets his lines—*day*-lines—one with live minnow or gudgeon for perch or pike, or any other large fish; on another line he tries the tail of a lob, or a scoured brandling, or a marsh worm, and perhaps the hook of the line of the rod with which he is a make-believe angler, he tries paste, or pith, or a gentle, all the while watching with the crafty eagerness which only befits the pothunting prize-tryer of the lower type, the lines which he previously dropped in, in likely places. If challenged as to the unfairness of such fishing, the day-liner would probably answer, "I ain't no angler; I wants fish and gets 'em how I best can." The pegged-down matches prevents the pothunting tricks; and as long as the present class of prizes obtain (*money* should never be offered), greater strictness ought to be enforced in go-where-you-like competitions.—Rus.

Forsinard Fishery Season.—The past season of 1891 proved the best, in regard to number of trout captured, that has been experienced in this district since 1887, beating the season of last year by full seven hundred trout. On May 4, it was opened by Mr. Lee, of London, and during the same month was continued by Messrs. Hindley and Allport, also of London. The former gentleman made the best basket got in May, on the 9th, when he secured forty-five trout, weighing 18lb. Mr. Allport, however, in respect of a gross total, carried off the first honours, having killed, in all, seven hundred and thirty-four trout, or an average of nearly thirty per day. During the whole of June, and until the weather broke about the middle of July, excellent sport, considering the weather was unfavourable—east wind constantly, with sharp frost every night up to the turn of the day—was steadily got by several anglers. The top weight basket of the whole season was made by one of the best rods to annually visit the "Far North," Dr. Everley Taylor, of Scarborough, who on July 3, on Loch Baddon, had fifty trout, weighing 25½lb. The best single day average was 1lb., obtained by Mr. Hindley, on June 10, on Loch-an-Dubh, with ten trout, 10lb. The two largest trout were caught by Mr. Darby, on Loch Baddan, on June 25, and weighed 7lb. and 3½lb. respectively. The baskets for the period from the middle of July until the close of the season were on an average the lightest on record. The almost unprecedented heavy rains, seldom "divallin," so flooded and discoloured the lochs, and so filled them with bottom food, that no wonder the trout rose not nearly so well as usual. The most successful of the hotel anglers who fished the Halladale river was Mr. Hindley, who got ten salmon, 92½lb., heaviest, 18lb. The autumn salmon fishing was almost a failure, owing, it is supposed, to the blackness of the water, which was *ink* black. Both salmon and grilse, in great numbers, could be seen sporting on every hand, but seldom could one be hooked, and the result was that the sport was far below what it generally is.

⁂ On account of the Christmas Holidays, Club and River Reports should reach us not later than Tuesday evening, December 22, for insertion in next week's issue.

TADDY'S GOLD FLAKE TOBACCO

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— NOTICE. —

THE FISHING GAZETTE is published every Saturday, and can be obtained at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's Railway Bookstalls and of the principal Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Dealers in London and the Provinces.

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Telegraphic Address—"RIVSAM, London."
TELEPHONE No. 2679.

— The —
Fishing Gazette
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26TH, 1891.

— FRAGMENTS. —

By MAC.

THE observations I now have to make are intended by me to be supplementary to those in previous papers under the heading "In Days Bygone."

OTTERS AND OTTERING.

Naturalists constantly warn us against interfering with the balance of Nature and much they have to-day on this score undoubtedly meets with our approval. Yet I cannot but think, indeed I affirm that were we to allow every creature with predatory habits and of no value to man as food to multiply without check we very soon would find ourselves suffering greatly in commercial as well as other senses. I am one of those who believe that all creatures have their day—" They have their day and cease to be" ; and also that so long as man increases, spreading over and more closely covering the land, all inferior creation of the kinds directly annoying to him or calculated to materially curtail his food supplies must disappear before him. Their total disappearance may be regretted but it follows inevitably on changed conditions. With the march of civilisation from our islands alone have disappeared a good many specimens both of bird and beast. Nor do we find we are any the poorer without them except in respect of natural history specimens. But more directly to my subject. As one of the class of creatures referred to the otter I am afraid is doomed. True for many years yet he may be of the Fauna, more particularly of the Highlands and Northern Isles, but I fear that gradually he will disappear, till finally like the Great Auk he is no more to be found.

The otter is a fish destroyer, and—paradoxical though the remark may seem—he is also both good and bad for sport. He is splendid to hunt, affording glorious excitement, and he is the mischief to hunt, desperately spoiling salmon angling. And it is for these three different reasons that he is likely to get gradually killed out. Personally however I should be sorry to learn of his complete extinction, and I would by no means be a party to assist in bringing it about. Often as he has spoiled my sport I yet bear him no grudge. His graceful movements in the water I have noticed with nothing short of admiration ; and I believe that on trout streams where eels "doth greatly abound," his usefulness in destroying these great devourers of fry and ova more than counterbalances all the direct injury to sport arising from his presence. But yet he will be hounded to death, trapped, and shot down mercilessly. Otter hunters must have their sport, water bailiffs their premiums awarded by fishery boards for otters caught, and keepers and others their tips from employers, and proceeds of the sales to fanciers and naturalists.

Where food is either not abundant or easily laid hold of the otter will hunt a dozen, if not more, miles in a single night. This statement I have had confirmed by three or four different parties who have followed up his track in the snow by the margins of salmon rivers. On the other hand all the same parties are agreed that unless compelled by necessity he does not roam far abroad from any place where he finds a safe and *undisturbed* hold. This latter piece of information concerning his habits I have several times had corroborated in my own experience. But as the main facts, in this relation, have before now been fully stated in the *Fishing Gazette*, I consider it would be superfluous to repeat them here. However in conclusion I hold it indisputable, from what I have known and proved, that an otter working closely on a salmon pool either frightens away the fish or puts them down most effectually. But a short time after an otter has left a pool a running fish, having come up, may be caught by the rod ; that is nothing, and does in no way demolish my contention. What I assert (founded on experience), is that when no fish are running none will be fairly caught by rod and fly on pools closely worked by otters.

There is no saying what size of a fish the otter, when his chances are good, will not attempt to place *hors de combat*. He may, as many assert, prefer eels to any other fresh-water fishes, but I should be slow in giving countenance to the opinion that he will not, whatever its size, pounce upon the first fish that comes in his way. Many large salmon which had been killed by him have I found in my time, and I have come upon trout and eel captures of his galore. In some cases but little was remaining to mark his depredations, while in others but little had been devoured. Once I found below a bush, on a birch and alder wooded islet on a lone Highland loch quite a number of "fragments" of eels and trout, and one fresh caught large trout scarcely touched. Likely enough, my landing from the boat had disturbed the otter quite early after he had made the capture of the last named trout. And in consequence a good meal had been lost to him for once, if it be true that he never returns to devour his prey if anything causing him to apprehend danger frightens him away whilst in possession of it. But as on this point it is desirable that we should have the statements of actual observers, I leave off for a time dealing with the *natural* otter, and proceed to speak of the *artificial* one.

Otters and ottering both produce a similar effect in one respect. Each frightens or puts down the fish closely worked over, though the one perhaps not to the same extent as the other. Those who work the otter are wont like the animal whose name it bears to fish on the sly. Seldom are they to be seen, for they know quite well the penalty of being detected. Yet where they work to any great extent they invariably leave their trail. The effect of their work is their trail. Where dour-rising, hook-shy and mutilated fish are all found unmistakable proof is given of ottering being practised. On lochs where it is keenly pursued it is found as a rule that very few of the large trout rise boldly to the surface to take the fly ; that they nearly all take a good distance below water, and that even then so very lightly do many of them hook that they soon succeed in breaking away. But the most conclusive evidence, indeed undoubted proof of the prevalence of ottering is mutilation. Hook shy and dour-rising fish may be found where no ottering goes on, but large numbers of mutilated fish hardly I think will. The mutilation I remark on is seen chiefly in respect of the mouth of the fish which often we will notice has been torn through the struggling of the fish on the hooks whilst the otter was fishing. In my own experience the most common form of mutilation observed has been the absence of the *superior maxilliary*. One day three years ago I fished a loch reported to be much ottered, and of the fourteen good trout I caught seven had been on the hooks of the otter—at any rate half of the fish of my whole catch were without, on one or the other side of the mouth, the *superior maxilliary*. Three others had healed up marks of laceration. My gillie whispered me that "two dare-devil old rascals living together in a cot by the sea shore were suspected of being the poachers." But added "they are fearsome men, sir, and no one relishes the idea of surprising and tackling them on this far out lone loch away up here, and in the nicht too, when there might be bad work done and mickle dool following it."

A RAPID SPIN.

Some years ago when fishing a narrow shallow Highland loch, I met with an experience which even to this day I sometimes puzzle over. I had gone out for an hour or two's sport with the small trout of this "tarn." When I started fishing the day was in every respect excellent for a basket being made, and for the first half hour or so I got "on" one of the very numerous free rising troutlets at almost every cast. Soon after however it clouded over, and anon quite a gale was raging. Being very shallow, the water in no time became extremely rough, with the fierce blast right upon it coming tearing down the gully. In consequence, and as my boat was not very seaworthy, I asked my gillie to put me ashore. At this juncture I wanted only two trout to make up a couple of dozen, and my intention was to get these if I could, by fishing from the bank, before I returned to the inn. After a good while's fishing, I secured one out of a quiet piece of water close to the bank sheltered by a high rock, and next cast or the one after it I hooked another somewhat farther out At once I pulled it to the surface and commenced drawing it landward. And nearer and nearer to me, spluttering on the surface, it came ; but lo! all at once it disappeared and the next instant my reel sang out and there was a rapid spin of at least seventy yards towards the opposite side of the loch. I held on, wondering the while what was up and if I should have line enough (for I had only eighty yards) to avoid a break when suddenly—just as suddenly as it had commenced —the rapid spin ended at about the distance from me I have indicated as I judged from what line was left on my reel. Now, how did this come about—this, to me and my gillie, marvel of a burst by a small fish ? Had the water, rolling heavily as it was, or the wind striking the line, anything to do with it? No large fish were ever seen or known of in the loch. None over half a pound weight had ever been caught in it. Nowhere is the water more than four feet deep; and on clear calm days during dry weather it is so clear that from the boat there is no difficulty at all in seeing the fish, even on the bottom, wherever you go. Not a single large fish has ever been seen, and none, in consequence of a very high abrupt fall can get up. When I pulled out the trout which had given me such a spin I instantly examined it carefully for tooth-marks or laceration, thinking it probable that it had been "cabbed," and run off with by a large fish. But not a mark was there on it to be seen. 'Twas then my gillie told me that never by set lines, by the rod, or even by the net which had several times been taken through the loch, had a trout weighing more than half-a-pound been secured. When I saw my trout disappear below the water there was no boil, nothing to indicate the presence of a big fish, and I am certain that no big fish, without being seen by me, could have come up and taken the trout from where it was. The whole thing is a perfect marvel to me. My rod was a fourteen-footer : the trout was scarce a quarter-pounder ; and yet the strain for power and the rush for swiftness were such I thought as could only have been given by a fish of at least several pounds in weight.

AMONG THE RAPIDS.

By R. P.

It is just one o'clock of the morning. Things are very quiet in and around the farm; even the Norwegian dogs, ready generally to give tongue at the smallest provocation, are asleep, as are their owners, all except young Andreas, who is busy putting together the rods and other matters requisite for a long day's salmon fishing in very rough water indeed. The valley is smothered in a heavy white mist, from beneath whose heavy folds comes the muffled murmur of the river, and from afar the deadened roar of the great Foss. The higher ridges and plateaux are alone visible, and their pine-clad slopes loom ghost-like through the grey silence of the morning. From the contemplation of this somewhat sombre scene, I am not sorry to be awoke by the voice of Gip, my terrier, whose cheerfulness of disposition nothing on earth, I am quite sure, could affect, unless, perhaps, were his medical attendant to eliminate bones from his diet for a prolonged period.

Gip is almost as fond of salmon fishing as I am, and we are about to perform on a beat of the river known as "the Rapids," which has not been fished this year, owing to the water never having been low enough. Young Andreas, bearer of the *impedimenta*, accompanies us on our walk to the point, six miles off, where his father, "Gammel Andreas," is to meet us with the boat. That worthy Norskman started down-stream yesterday at six o'clock; and we know that when we join him at the cast, called "the Black Rock," he will have a roaring fire and hot coffee and a salmon steak all ready for us, and perhaps even a bone for Gip, to whom the old man is very partial.

The woodland path which leads from the farm to the Black Rock is a charming one, through little dells and copses, and across burns and streamlets innumerable, with grand glimpses here and there of the mighty river; but this morning these beauties are effectually obliterated by the mist which hangs over everything. The clumps of pines and birch, the undergrowth of wild berry plants and moss, the patches of scanty grass, all are soaking wet; and when, in an hour or two the sun breaks through and disperses the vapours, these will all be clad in raiments of diamonds, wondrous to behold.

But when a little before three a.m. we reach the crest of the ridge which overlooks the Pool of the Black Rock, the transformation has not taken place, and we gaze down upon a vast sheet of grey vapour impervious to the human eye. Nothing is to be seen of Gammel Andreas. His worthy descendant, however, is not disposed to believe in the absence of his parent, and hurls down into the void beneath us something distinctly unique in the way of noises. It could not be called exactly a roar, a yell, a grunt, or a shriek of agony; yet it partakes of all these sounds, and at any rate, has the desired effect, for from the depths below there comes a reduplication thereof. It is evidently a noise owned by and peculiar to the family of Andreas. Thereupon we scramble down the hillside, and shortly become aware of the near presence of the figure of a man, with a long grey beard, sitting by a great fire, and apparently superintending the cooking of certain viands, a long pipe in his mouth. A savoury odour of coffee and of broiled salmon pervades the neighbourhood of the said fire, and in a remarkably short time we are all three—or I ought to say four—attacking these good things, Gip's portion being a gigantic bone, produced from the recesses of Andreas senior's somewhat roomy pocket. For nearly half-an-hour we remain snug and comfortable by the fire among the rocks, but enveloped in the mist; then signs of clearing begin to appear, and the scene rapidly changes. Assisted by a gentle breeze up-stream the sun soon breaks through, and in fantastic wreaths and shapes the mist whirls upwards and quickly disappears, exposing to our view two glorious vistas of river scenery. Looking down-stream we can only see about a mile of river, but therein are two splendid salmon pools. These lie in shade, the rocks on either bank rising steep from the water's edge, and crowned with ridges of pine; beyond we can see the head of the gorge, where, crammed into a narrow boulder-strewn bed, the river foams through "the Rapids." Above us lies another beautiful stretch of water, glittering (unfortunately for fishing purposes) in the rays of the rising sun, rank upon rank of pine and birch towering up on either bank; the view terminating with the island stream, with its beautiful gravelly beach on one side, and the great towering black rocks, whose shadows make it such a desirable spot for a salmon (when cloudless skies during the day and heavy mists during the night make fish hard to get).

It being impossible to get at "the Rapids" in any other way, our craft this morning is a long slight canoe, built by some wandering Lapps, who also taught Andreas and his son how to propel and guide it with poles instead of sculls; and I now don't mind venturing with them into the most difficult water, although at first I confess to have felt uncommonly queer sometimes when being dropped down a foaming torrent foot by foot, the long poles straining, and the two Norskmen yelling their directions to one another.

Propelled by their powerful arms the light craft is quickly at the head of the island and beached there, while, clad in waterproofs, I begin to fish the noble pool which lies between it and the right bank of the river. There is a large volume of water, but it is very clear and absolutely colourless; so I choose for my lure a brilliant insect, whose attenuated body is composed of blue floss silk and silver, and whose wings have little in them but golden crests.

This tied on a good big hook seems to me to suit the requirements of the situation, and forthwith it is disporting its glories within a couple of yards of the farther shore, where the current ripples over the sunken rocks, and where the big fish love to lie. Not for long do these gaudy charms remain unappreciated: the fly suddenly stops, there is a rolling heavy plunge, and I am fast in a heavy fish, which promptly shoots up-stream, and for a moment makes as if he would stem the heavy rapid above. Then he comes to the surface, half exposing his broad silvery flanks, and like lightning darts down back into the rocky depths of the pool. For a good ten minutes we fight hard, the fish gradually working downwards all the time; and were it not that of the many salmon I have killed in the island stream not one has ever left it (except for dry land), I would be getting a bit nervous, for only another hundred yards remain of the sloping beach, and then comes water far too deep to wade. Our craft is high and dry three hundred yards above, and both my men are watching the performance, intently keeping almost step for step with me, so deeply are they interested. At last the fish makes a determined shoot down-stream, and brings me within thirty yards of my limit. Instantly we are all alive to the danger. One or two more such efforts, and I will be run out to a moral certainty. It is hardly necessary for me to yell in impassioned accents "The boat! the boat!" &c. The two Andreas are both tearing up the beach as hard as they can split towards it, leaving me to do my best to stop the fish until they can enable me to get afloat. I must say they are about as nippy as they very well can be; but the salmon seems almost to know that his life and liberty depend on running me out before they come, for he makes effort after effort, and always down-stream. I have now reached my very utmost limit of wading on the point extending downwards from the island. I have quite 130yds. of the 160yds. of my reel line out; the fish is still bent on his downward course. The men are jamming the canoe towards me with their poles as fast as they can drive, the water flying on all sides, and a good deal of it being shipped. It's a precious near thing—a toss up altogether; and I hold on to the fish all I know. The boat darts alongside of me, and is brought up all standing with the poles. The heavy waders prevent my raising my legs out of the water, so I sit down gingerly on the edge of the boat; young Andreas seizes me by the coat-collar and drags me in; his revered parent makes a frantic dig with his pole, thereby sending the light craft flying out into the stream; and when with considerable difficulty I recover my equilibrium and few remaining senses I find the fish is still on, that there are not more than three or four yards of line left on my reel, but that we are fast gaining on him, and that the danger of being run out is over at last. That fish is a beggar to go, and a nice dance he leads us even after that; but we finally get him out at the tail of the Birchwood Pool, about half-a-mile below where he took the fly, having had him on just over the hour. A very thick-set male fish he is, slightly coloured by a week or two's residence in the river, and weighing 38½lb. While we celebrate his obsequies in Scotch whisky and recover our wind, we are joined by Gip, who had managed to get left on the island in the scrimmage. Having contrived to swim to the mainland, and struggle down through the various difficulties which beset his path, he has now arrived in a state of intense excitement and general disgust at being left out of the above performance. Some highly-flavoured delicacy, however, from old Andreas' wallet calms him somewhat, and he condescends to embark with us once more as we float away to try the Black Rock Pool. That celebrated cast and the "Birch Wood" have both got the sun well on them now, but the latter is too shallow to be worth attempting under the circumstances, while the former is deep, with a fair amount of current throughout; so before descending to "the Rapids" we try it, casting from the boat a fly of the same pattern that killed the big fish, but tied on a smaller iron. I have fished it carefully down without a move, and am exactly opposite the spot where still smoulder the remains of our fire; here, submerged in a deep and very slow-running stream, are two huge boulders—a favourite cast of mine. Changing my single fly for a double one similar in pattern, I put it carefully over the place, letting it sink deep. At the second cast I am rewarded by getting a dead pull, and, striking hard, find I am fast in a fish. There was not even a "boil" apparent when he took the fly, but the "strike" effectually wakes him up, and he promptly leaps high in air, "tarpon" fashion, showing the proportions of a fish somewhere about 20lb. I am landed on the rocks on the right bank, and over these he gives me a rattling race. For a second or two he fouls the line on a large branch far out in the stream, but to my relief it comes away clear; and some twenty minutes after hooking him old Andreas gaffs a nice fish of 22lb.

It is now nine o'clock, and time to try "the Rapids"—our *pièce de resistance*. The breeze has freshened, and brought up a few clouds, which occasionally obscure the extreme brilliancy of the sun; so that the prospects of sport are, on the whole, favourable, especially in such rough water.

The boat is cleared for action; the captured fish, the spare rod—everything loose, in fact—is put ashore, and Gip is left in charge. A couple of hundred yards or so above the entrance to the pass the sculls are dropped, and the men take up their poles. There is a good cast immediately above the first break, but fish hooked in it are very awkward to handle. Almost invariably they take down a channel—impossible for the most skilfully-guided boat—on either side of which sundry immense boulders rise high above the water, and a smash is pretty nearly a certainty. As we drop down, therefore, I put on a strong treble gut-cast for holding-on purposes, and with poles sloped to give the rod full play the boat is placed in position.

The rocks rise high on either side of the gorge, and below from among the boulders in the river-bed the spray rises in clouds, which vibrate with the breeze. Where we are the surface of the water is smooth; but the current is swift, in immediate anticipation of the plunge below; and the boatmen look desperately in earnest as they strain at the poles, and I begin to fish the "Bush Stream," feeling that the eyes of a critical audience are upon me. In the upper and safer part of the cast, where in the event of a fish rising there is a *chance* of forcing him up-stream, I do not get an offer, and the boat is dropped a yard or two. Almost immediately a somewhat anxious remark in their native tongue from both men announces that a fish has risen. He came at the very tail of the cast, and certainly within six feet of the break, and——missed, probably owing to the rapidity of the stream at that point.

Hauling in the line through the rings, in order not to lose the exact spot, I go carefully over the cast, trying every part of it very hard indeed. Then I put the fly to the fish once more. There is a beautiful head and tail rise, and as he sinks I jam the steel hard into him and hold on as hard as I dare. The strain of the treble gut, backed by a very powerful rod, is heavy, and at last has the effect of forcing the salmon a few yards up-stream, needless to say to our considerable satisfaction, that is manifested in grunts. It is but short-lived, however. Were the fish a moderate sized one all would be well, but he is very evidently one of the big chaps, and in spite of the strongest tackle is bound to have his own way for some time. It seems to me that as he surges slowly up against the stream he is yielding to the strong pressure to which I am subjecting him, through ignorance of his own great strength, and of the existence of danger. The event would seem to justify this. Thirty yards above the break the water shoals somewhat, and from a stony, rocky bottom the river-bed alters to one of shingly gravel. As far as this my friend condescends to be led, though unwillingly; then he stops short, and swirls heavily up to the surface. Whether or no he learned during that brief visit to the upper world that there were people in his near neighbourhood thirsting for his blood I cannot say; anyway, his manner of conducting himself quickly alters. Savagely he shakes his head and darts across and down to the head of the dreaded channel. At my instance the boat is rapidly dropped within 20ft. or less of the break, and shortening line I get on every ounce of strain I know. For a moment it brings him struggling to the surface, but *only* for a moment, and the next he is off down-stream, and in the full sweep of the torrent. All is up now; and knowing that the sooner we part the less tackle I will lose, I straighten the rod down-stream and hold on. The treble gut goes like pack-thread and minus a good fly, the greater part of a good cast, and, worst of all, a very heavy fish. I am put on shore by the sorrowing Norskmen, whose grief has to be drowned in Braendevin before making another essay.

Damages repaired, we once more get afloat; and after descending the rapid at an awful pace, find the boat floating in a large and very deep eddy formed by an immense rock in the centre of the river, whose volume, bisected thereby, tears past in white waves on either side of us. My task now is to fish the tail of the streams thus formed from where we lie behind the sheltering rock, and in the event of hooking a fish to haul it up into the eddy, and there allow it to disport itself till fit for gaffing. It don't look hopeful, especially in the light of my recent experience; but there is no shirking, so at it I go. The place seems full of fish, and I get rise after rise, but without hooking one. At last I am fast, and, to my no small astonishment, working him up into the black hole, which, from the length of line out plumb down, must be at least 30ft. deep. It is a queer place to play a fish, as most of the time he is under the boat; but in due course he comes near the surface, and young Andreas cleverly gaffs him from the boat—a nineteen-pounder. It seems a pity to leave a place where there are so many fish without another try, so I put a somewhat smaller fly over the rough stream. Again, after getting a number of short rises, I succeed in hooking a fish. This chap, however, is not so amenable, and no amount of hauling or persuasion will bring him up near the boat; therefore we are obliged at last to go down to him, in the hope that we may gaff him without descending another rapid. The hope proves a vain one—the salmon will have his own way, and gets into the sweep of the next stream. Our craft half broaches-to in a rather nasty way, and thereby ships an uncomfortable amount of water. My Norskmen yell at one another. I hold on by the hair of my teeth, and away we all go. One moment we race along, apparently at the mercy of the torrent; then, just as it seems that total annihilation is imminent, the men bring the boat up with the poles, its stern almost touching a big boulder rising high above the water, and twist it to one side. Under these circumstances the fish, I notice, invariably chooses the side opposite to the one we do, with the result that I am in constant fear of being hung up—an unpleasant addition to the excitements of the passage.

At last we bring up—this time behind a rocky point, which projects into the stream, and affords shelter from the torrent. Much to my relief I am landed on *terra firma*; and the salmon being somewhat exhausted by its efforts, is shortly induced to come within reach of the gaff, and old Andreas effectually puts an end to its struggles by pounding it on the head with a big stone.

Immediately below the rock point is the—to my mind—prettiest cast in this beat—the Otters' Pool. It is not of such a stormy character as the others, the water running throughout it at only a moderate pace; but it is most difficult to describe. I should say it was a certain section of the river's bed, about 50yds. or 60yds. long, where there had originally been some patches irregularly distributed of comparatively loose gravel and small stones. By the constant action of the current these had become completely excavated, leaving in their place deep holes with sharply-defined rocky edges—admirable spots for the fish to rest in during their ascent of this very stiff bit of water.

In the first of these a grand salmon swirls up at the fly, and within ten minutes of landing the last I am again hard at work from a rocky shore. A good fish he is too, and for twenty minutes plays strong and fast. Young Andreas has taken up his post close by a big stone alongside where the water flows deep. I force the fish very nearly within reach; but just as he is extending the gaff the fly comes away with a vicious swish, and the fish sails off in triumph.

The sun has now become too strong, so we, including Gip, who is fetched from above, take a long rest by the spring among the rocks half-way down the pass, and my two men beguile the time with tales of the forest, the flood, and the field. Late in the afternoon we again get afloat, and I kill two more fish (17lb. and 25lb.) and a grilse, besides touching several others. It is now seven o'clock, and I am sorry to say there are already signs of the mist rising. Here and there among the pools and eddies near the banks filmy cloudlets are forming, and floating on the surface of the water; but there is one pool we must try, mist or no mist—the big one at the foot of "the Rapids," which always holds plenty of fish, and big ones. Down to it we shoot, therefore; and I have not made a dozen casts before I am into a heavy fish. At the end of half-an-hour he is gaffed—a thirty-two-pounder; and as he comes ashore the fly jumps out of his mouth. A near thing!

The mist has now veiled the entire river, and by the time we have regained the top of the pass it is almost as heavy as when we arrived in the morning. The men start off in the boat with the fish, rods, &c., to make their way home by water. Gip and I take the shortest route by land; and by the time we reach the farm, I am more than ever convinced that I have just had one of the best day's salmon fishing I ever experienced, and that it will not be long before I once more pay a visit to "the Rapids."

Notes

Mr. P. Geen writes: "There is an error in your splendid Christmas Number—Loch Tay opens on January 15, and not in February."

Mr. Murdoch writes that, "On Sunday last the first strong head of the spring fish which are so numerous in the Dee in the early months of the year, left the sea to push up river. At the time there was an ascent-encouraging breeze, and the water was growing."

The gifted and genial Dr. Hugh MacMillan, in speaking of aptness, makes the following most correct remarks applicable to aptness for angling: "There is a homely Scotch proverb which says, that 'A bad shearer never gets a good hook.' . . In the country a would-be fisher sallies out with waterproof boots above his knees, his hat wreathed with fly-hooks, his pocket-book bursting with all sorts of hooks, gaily busked, on his back a huge basket, and in his hand a splendid rod glittering with brass-mountings. He goes to the stream, wades into the water, and lashes the pool for hours in vain. Whereas a little way beyond him, a country lad, with a hazel twig for a fishing-rod, a line of thin cord, and a common hook, is catching fish after fish as fast as he can."

We understand that Rhiconich Hotel, Sutherlandshire, which for several years past has been conducted by Mr. William Wallace, who with the aid of his kindly and managing guid-wife has made it a most desirable and much-frequented angling resort, is to change hands at the coming May term.

The handiest hotels on Loch Ness for the best salmon angling (trolling) parts of the loch are Invermorriston Hotel, the Lovat Arms, Fort Augustus. The fishing commences in under six weeks' hence, and prospects just now point to a good head of fish being forward by that time. Hotel visitors have permission to fish. About Invermorriston sport usually gets to be at its best earlier than at the farthest inland or Fort Augustus end of the loch. But it must be understood that even at the very start it depends wholly on the weather during January and early in February where it is best of all.

We extract the following from a letter sent us by an eminent Scotch pisciculturist: "The work of the McNicols in the far North of Scotland is most praiseworthy, and I only wish we had more enterprise of the same kind. Late rivers will probably remain late rivers, but, where they have been early, it is quite within the bounds of possibility to make them early again. Our salmon fisheries have been shamefully neglected. A practical fish culturist, with power to act, would soon alter some of the rivers for the better, and largely so." We entirely agree with our correspondent's remarks concerning early and late rivers, but do not think that a practical fish culturist, however eminent, unless he were possessed of a wide and laboriously acquired knowledge of the habits of the salmon and of the causes that regulate their migrations, would be the man to entrust with the sole responsibility of seeking to improve our salmon fisheries. The breeding of fish is not the only important thing. It is the initial step, and, to prove a thorough success, it must fit in with others which it is proved will best harmonise with physical conditions.

Writes a Scotch correspondent: "The old year goes out after what has to be called an exceptionally green early part of winter, throughout which but seldom any of the rivers have been really low for more than a few days on end. With the greater bulk of the fish nearly everywhere spawned out; with much disease still hanging about widespread along many rivers; and with the not agreeable prospect, should there be much shrinkage of water, of a great deal of the ova, before hatching-out time, perishing from dessication and frost in consequence of having, during high-running waters, been deposited in the highest or outmost redds—the soonest to become dry and frosted, the most liable to be lifted on "boards" on the occurrence of thaws, and the likeliest to be torn up by ice-blocks during heavy floods after long spells of frost."

Mr. Angus Morrison, landlord, of Melvich Hotel, by Thurso, who has fishing rights over a large number of capital lochs in the district, is, we are pleased to learn, hatching and rearing trout and importing Loch Levens for stocking purposes.

On the 14th of this month there were brought into Aberdeen four rare fish, specimens of the Northern Chimera (*Chimæra monstrosa*). This species falls so seldom into the hands of British naturalists, that its occurrence is worthy of note. The individuals in question were caught by trawl, one hundred and sixty miles north-east of Aberdeen, and curiously enough were all females, each about 2½ft. long. Of the habits of the Northern Chimera little is known, and of what constitutes its food almost nothing. Few have been found in British waters. It is, however, reported from Shetland and tho Orkneys, and one was found floating dead off Banff, as recorded by Edward. Two of the specimens referred to have, we learn, been secured by Mr. George Sim, A.L.S., naturalist, Aberdeen, for himself for preservation. Mr. Sim, as an authority—both practical and scientific—on sea fishes ranks among the very foremost of our day. His essays, for example, on the "Herring," have been adjudged by brother scientists as the best—from practical knowledge—that have been written up to the present time.

From Laxford, Inchard, Dinard, and Duartmore, we hear that the spawning of salmon, grilse, and sea trout had proceeded under most favourable circumstances up to last week, as the result of the waters having seldom been very high or particularly low. At the time of writing, our informant remarks: "The rivers are higher at present than they have been since the spawning commenced, but I apprehend only trifling injurious effects as likely to result from this, as before the rise of water most fish had taken up their spawning beds."

VERY large quantities of ova have been taken from both Brora and Helmsdale, during the past six weeks, for the Duke of Sutherland's hatchery at Loch Brora. The experiment of "mixing," with a view to increase the size, stock, and numbers of the fish, is to be tried by putting the young fish of the Helmsdale into the Brora and those of the Brora into the Helmsdale. A Helmsdale angler, writing us, says: "McNicol, Sandside, took some spawn off this river for Mr. Pilkington's breeding establishment at Sandside, and his Grace the Duke is to get back half of the hatch-out. I am glad to say we have had a very good spawning season for both trout and salmon. I never before saw so many of the latter on the redds. I am afraid there were too many, and that the last big lot that came up and took to redds, where the earlier ones had spawned out, will, to some extent, have unsettled or destroyed earlier deposited spawn.

THE BALANCE OF NATURE. — Mr. Goschen's Rectorial address at Edinburgh was interesting as far as it went. The cultivation of the imagination is anything but unknown to anglers, largely speaking; and if the Chancellor of the Exchequer had gone a bit further as to the field mice, cats, and bumble bees, he would probably have come to the conclusion that where the balance of Nature is not allowed fairplay, a time might come when in certain game-preserving districts where every kestrel, weasel, and its larger cousin—the stoat—the sparrowhawk, if not also the mouse-killing barn and other owls are shot or trapped wherever seen or found. To suppose that the domesticated cat, still less the all but extinct pole-cat, would be tolerated on a farm where "birds" were bred and preserved beyond their normal increase, and the pheasants in the woods and copses very much more so, argues a somewhat superficial knowledge of rural life in many parts of agricultural Britain. The kestrel persistently "hunts" along the hedges, as well as "hovers" over meadows and cultivated land, and if a mouse moves, the kestrel is certain to catch its prey. That the powerful legs of this bird could easily clutch partridge or half-grown pheasant is palpable to any person who had examined the bird; that the cat—half wild, or one which had developed a liking for leveret, young coney, and game birds, might also prey upon field mice is probable, where game ran scarce, but otherwise no gamekeeper worth his salt would tolerate Miss Puss's presence for a day. Even the useful vermin-destroying owls are not tolerated on some land, and what is the consequence? When wheat ricks stacked in fields have been taken to pieces to be thrashed, large numbers of rats have in places been found, and the vermin have lived riotously on the wheat. The field mouse finds out the larva of the bumble bees and eats it; and if no semi-wild cat, no owl, no kestrel, and no weasel be tolerated on a farm, the field mice have full play, and probably much of the flowering red clover is unfertilised in consequence. But is Mr. Goschen of opinion that the common honey-bees do not visit the red clover as well as the *white* clover—"heads?" The ordinary bees are very fond of white clover when in "blossom," and the writer only last summer noted the bumble bee also patronised these "flowers," but in a less degree. A report was current some short time ago about a "drove" of voles (?) being seen either in Scotland or the North of England. Sparrows and other corn, or at least seed-eating birds, are reported to have largely increased since their natural enemies have been all but destroyed; and the scarcer birds of prey get a "warm" reception when seen on preserved ground. There is a small field mouse which makes her nest in whisps of growing corn or wild grass. These pretty little things are believed to be "vegetarians," and pointers will often eat them in the shooting field. British agriculturists can ill afford to have their corn eaten up by rats and mice, nor their clover-seed rendered infertile by the destruction of bumble bees.—*Justitia.*

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MORE JOTTINGS OF AN AMATEUR FLY-DRESSER.

BY VAL CONSON.

CONCERNING FEATHERS AND OTHER MATERIALS.

MANY substitutes for feather have been tried one time and another—but the fly-dresser comes back surely to the plumage of birds again. It is an incontrovertible fact that there is more delicate clearness about a piece of pale starling's wing, or jay, or thrush, than there is in one of the waterproofed natural wings so much advertised of late. And then feathers have such mysterious movements under water, nothing really artificial can touch them.

Then the pleasure of hunting feathers and materials! The joy of ravaging the work-baskets of one's lady friends and carrying off their most delicate silks and wools and crewels! The rapid survey of the poulterer's stock as one passes, and the rapture of packing up an unexpected blue dun or honey dun! I am a Londoner by adoption and necessity, and I have to get my feathers how and when I can. Leadenhall Market is my happy hunting-ground. There one may buy curlews, woodcock, jay, golden plover, peewit, snipe, coot, moorhen, landrail, waterrail, thrush, blackbird, lark, owls, partridge, pheasant, grouse (black and red), teal, widgeon, &c. One may buy squirrels at times, and hares and rabbits, of course, but not much else in the way of fur. It is not generally known that if the fur of a squirrel be shaved nearly to the skin there will be found under the red fur a close blue fur on the skin, which is better than mole's fur for many purposes. Well, in addition to these things one can get a huge variety of poultry hackles to select from. The drawback is that the birds are mostly of the current year, being intended for the table, and are too young to produce the best and firmest kind of hackles. For this, birds of the second year should be chosen—if you can get them. If you cannot, you must do the next best thing. By dint of perseverance I have picked up by degrees a tolerable stock of hackles. deficient only in pale blue and honey dun *cocks*. Next to these in rarity come coch-y-bondhu cocks. Some years they are almost unobtainable. It is curious how the stocks differ from year to year. The 1890-91 winter season was remarkable for the extraordinary scarcity of cocks among the birds sent to market, and most that came were white. I only picked up one blue—rather a dark one, but plenty of honey-dun hens of sorts, not by any means the best kinds. These are blue all but the extreme edges, which vary from pale red to palest straw or lemon. But in my finds the colour is a good deal mottled about. All poultry hackles, except the blues and coch-y-bondhus, may be had at two shillings to three shillings per dozen necks, a striking contrast to the prices of the professional dealers. Redpath, of Kelso, buys here; so do some of the Redditch houses. Mrs. Ogden Smith is a customer, I am told, and many journeyman fly-dressers come in to stock materials to fill their orders. If one is short in the purse, it will pay one to buy here in the cheapest market. If it be difficult to get so far east, most first-class poulterers can do something for you worth your while, if you time your visits with judgment, and don't go at too busy an hour. Peacocks' feathers are not difficult to get, but Leadenhall is not the place for them. Messrs. Carter and Peek sell bundles, large and small, for a few pence each, containing both the sword or sickle feather and the eye. Each of these feathers serves two purposes. The short green part of the sickle feather is the staple of the Alexandra. The long strips, very tough and fine, are the ribbing of all the Derbyshire and Hampshire Bumbles. Mr. Currell also used them for ribbing some of his evening Sedges. The eye feather, dyed or undyed, furnishes quills for bodies, and the loose heart of the lower parts, unstripped, makes bodies for Red Ant, Governor, Alder, Welshman's Button, and such like, and stripped, if found to be cinnamon at the root, makes a fine natural Cinnamon Quill. Some of the long, tough strips used for Bumbles have a little strip of white just at the root. Tied in so as to show this strip just in the first two turns by the tail of the fly, and dressed with a steely, clear, sharp blue hackle, this makes a splendid pattern of the Willow-fly. It will also do for the Devonshire Blue Upright. The hackle used for this last fly is a lovely colour, so dark as almost to be undistinguishable from black till you put it on your black coat, and then on the downy strip down the centre you seem to see the violet reflection of a strip of blue sky, such a colour as one sees once or twice in a lifetime in the eyes of a woman. Blue Andalusian cock feathers will not do it—they must be game.

It is a curious fact that for finish of feather and equality of colour on both sides, upper and under, of the feather, there is no breed of bird equals the old English game. The feathers of Indian game are very beautiful—on the upper side, but all the show goods are in the shop window. Look at the underside and the magnificent colour is missing—in lieu of it, a dirty straw colour, or a mean white, perhaps. It flatters one's national pride to feel that the Creator has thought the British bird worthy of a thoroughness of finish denied to the foreigner, and one thinks it must come of the strength of the soil that breeds the British man and woman.

But Blue Game is growing rarer and rarer and more difficult to get. The shows do not bring him out, handsome bird though he be. So one must rely for one's blues largely on Andalusians. In some parts of Hampshire, these swarm, but one somehow seldom sees a cock. In parts of Yorkshire a great many are kept, but again nearly all hens, and so often too sooty about the hackle to be any good. The Plymouth Rock is a dismally useless bird for hackles.

The dealers manage somehow to supply any number of flies, dressed with coch-y-bondhu feathers, scarce though they be. Would you like to know how it is done? Well, I will let you into the secret. They dye badger hackles a suitable red, but they never get the brilliancy of the true coch-y-bondhu.

Dyed blues are not desirable. They soon wash out. But some shades required for fly-dressing one must dye, such as the Olives and Clarets. For the Olives one should lay in a good stock of good-shaped white hackles. So many hackles, good-looking as regards colour, have to be rejected for want of shape. I buy almost any neck of well-shaped hackles, if the colour be not impossible. It is noticeable that dying often gives a hackle a very much better set for dressing purposes. The late Mr. Currell dyed Olive not only white, but reds and yellows, and his theory being that every Itchen fly from the 1st of January to the 31st December (and there is scarcely a day from year's end to year's end without a few flies upon Itchen) has some shade of Olive in it. And I didn't think he was very far wrong. He had a process for giving his cock's hackles additional brilliancy. I thought I had discovered it. It was by keeping them some time in a strongish solution of common washing soda poured in hot and left to cool. But he said there was something more than that. It may be so, but the soda solution gave such a brilliant effect that I was quite satisfied with my own process. It should be applied by way of preparing the feathers for dyeing.

The dresser requires in addition to the materials stated above, a moleskin, a hare's face, a water-rat's skin, and some opossum from the flank. The last, Mr. Holland, of Salisbury, can supply—a little of it goes a long way, and hare's face is easy enough to get. The other things are to be obtained without difficulty if you make love to a gamekeeper. He also can get you magpie herl, a wren tail or two, and some great tit tail for the Iron Blue Dun.

Starling wings, especially young, are difficult to get in any quantity. Sometimes they are to be had in Leadenhall Market at from one penny to twopence per pair, but frequently they are unobtainable. I then get them at a shop on the south side of New Oxford-street just by Southampton-row, called Plumaria, but they are not so good as the fresh article. I like my wings with the natural grease of the bird still in them—at any rate for floaters. The fibres then hold more toughly together both in tying and in use.

The feathers available for whisks of upwinged duns are of three kinds—viz. (1) The cock's beard hackle; (2) the cock's saddle hackle; and (3) the cock's gallinas white breast feather, either white or dyed to taste. For spinners I prefer Nos. 1 and 2, which can be used long, and are very stiff and strong. For upwinged duns in the sub-imago stage, I like No. 3 dressed quite short. The points of these feathers are quite fine and taper sharply. They have a good stiff spring in them, and so assist flotation, and they can be dyed to furnish a better colour-imitation of the whisk of the natural insect than cock's hackles.

The feathers to use for winging in fly-dressing are, for winged floaters, almost always the quill feathers or primaries of the bird selected. These have the curve best adapted to form a parachute, and let the fly down hook downwards. The quill feather of the coot, however, is too stout and coarse for small flies, and some of the scapular feathers have to be selected. The tails of partridge and hen pheasant are also much in use for the wings. For wet fly-fishing with winged flies, it is not so important to have the primary quill feather, and secondaries may be used. For hackle flies the neck and scapular feathers are used, and the soft feathers which lie under the wing and between the quill feathers, close up to the shoulder. These feathers are those known as "inside"—the scapular or shoulder knot feathers are those known as "outside" feathers. Some birds, such as the partridge, afford useful feathers from the back, others from the rump. The breast and neck feathers of the moorhen are available as wings of the sunk Iron Blue. Wren and great tit are useful for their tails only. The wren tail is used as a hackle. The tit's tail can be used hacklewise or wingwise, and it is in great request for floating patterns of the Iron Blue. Feathers from almost all parts of the grouse (except the primaries and secondaries) are of service. Dark grouse and green is great medicine on the Coquet, and on some Cumberland rivers, while the little Freckled Green Rail is on. I daresay it is equally useful elsewhere.

There are a good variety of harls useful for the bodies of flies. After peacock and ostrich of various hues comes heron; magpie is serviceable. The common goose-quill, dyed or undyed, makes a lovely rough body. Condor and adjutant quills are difficult and expensive to get, but invaluable. It is not generally known that the long harls from the inside of the hook, at the tail of the Black Cock, makes a good dark blue dun body.

A very good quill body for a floater may be made from the stalks of cocks' hackles, dyed or undyed. If the stalk be first flattened, by passing it between fore-finger and thumb-nail several times, the strands of feather may be picked off without hurting the enamel at all. Bodies so dressed taper very well, and float lightly and corkily.

Dubbings are very various. These are the skins I have mentioned, and various coloured wools simply shredded. Scarlet wool treated this way, and dressed with a jay-wing, makes a highly effective Red Spinner. Raw silk from the spindle of the amateur silk-worm fancier is useful to mix up with sheep's-wool and other things. I have torn up bits of old sponge, and used them as dubbing for a sunk-fly. They make the fingers very sore; but the result is excellent to look at. I believe that a creeper dressed thus would be very killing after, say, the end of April. All sorts of odds and ends should be picked up, the tufts of cow-hair rubbed off on palings, the cow-hair in the mortar of walls, the tufts of sheep's-wool on thorn-bushes. Foxes afford a great variety of fur at all ages. I believe some lovely olive furs are to be had from monkeys of some breed. The combings of pigs and greyhounds' backs are useful occasionally. It is desirable to have as a friend a furrier, if you can. I am sorry to say I have not. If you have, strike him (as the Yankees say) for all the cuttings he is worth. The useful parts of the Australian opossum (useful for the Pale Watery Dun or Little Marryat) are just the parts which he, in his ignorance, despises and cuts off; and by analogy it should be the same with other furs.

I use dyed gut and dyed hair for bodies of flies, and both are effective. I have a fancy for gut—the flat, tawsy ends—as you can make a neater and finer body with it. Hair is apt to be heavy and thick, and makes the fly fall with a splash. Gut can be dressed either over the silk like a quill, or over the bare hook to the tail and back again to the shoulder. The latter method gives a brilliant transparent effect. It is difficulty to get hair fine enough for that. Dressed on hog's bristles for detached bodies, gut gives a still more brilliant effect.

An old naval or military epaulet is an acquisition. It will supply you with three or four varieties of gold tinsel and wire. That sold by tackle-makers is often too thick, and makes too heavy a fly. What the precise effect of the gold rib is in such flies as gold-ribbed Hare's Ear, Rough Olive, Lock's Fancy, and Red Spinner, I don't quite know, I fancy it must give a suggestion of glistening segments of a smooth body.

I wonder that fishing-tackle makers do not see how much to their interest it is to encourage in amateurs the craft of fly-dressing. It is not a lucrative branch of their trade, generally speaking. It would pay them better to supply materials vices and instruments, cases, &c. The amateur who dresses his own flies, takes a far keener interest in the fishing than the amateur who does not and must necessarily spend as much money at least—and probably more—on fishing-tackle of sorts. Gut, for instance, the amateur cannot make for himself, or hooks. Many feathers he cannot easily procure. Silks of suitable colours and strength cannot be had at all times and places. Therefore let the fishing-tackle makers take my words to heart.

Waltoniana

I visited the Thames recently and found the water, though still high, beginning to look almost a fishable colour. But what an Arctic scene it was! Fragments of ice were being carried downstream, the flooded meadows were frozen completely over, every branch and twig was covered with sparkling rime, and the sun shone dimly through that grey haze, which is so common in still weather during a hard frost. Where the sunlight caught the ice it turned it into gold and reminded me of the silver streak, which the moon casts across the sea. I saw no one fishing, but I wetted a line myself and landed a perch of 1½lb. then fished half an hour without a bite, and went home and eat my perch. Very good it was, too, as good almost as a sole.

Why is every or almost every perch one catches at this time of year a female? Are the males already troubled in mind with thoughts of the breeding season, its pleasures and anxieties, that they have no appetites for minnow or worm? Or is it that the females require extra nourishment on account of that mass of eggs they contain, and so easily fall a prey to the wily angler? We know as a fact that as the breeding season draws near female trout are far more often caught than the males, and that peculiarity seems if anything more strongly emphasised in the case of perch. If it be so with all fish, then it would seem that the angler has much to answer for, as by catching an undue proportion of females, he cannot but upset the balance of sexes. However it may be among humans, among fish the ladies are decidedly the more useful of the sexes. Indeed, the males are so little needed that Mormon tenets would answer very well in fish-land, and each male might have a considerable number of spouses.

I would suggest to those amateur photographers who are fishermen that they devote the winter evenings to making lantern slides from their negatives of river and lake scenery, and fishing incidents. At a small cost a very fair lantern can now be purchased, and there are few more pleasant ways of spending the evening than in seeing a series of fine photographs enlarged and thrown on the sheet. Lantern slide making is now a most simple operation, thanks to the dry plates, which are made specially for the purpose. It is, indeed, a good deal easier to do than to print pictures from the negatives. Mr. Walbran has shown us what can be done with two Northern rivers in this way, and I hope before long some south country angler will take north a collection of views of our most lovely southern streams. Nothing could be finer than some of the scenery to be met with along the most beautiful of the Devonshire rivers, while the valleys of the Thames, Test, Itchen, Frome, Lambourne, and many other rivers, yield scenery of quite another character, but in their way equally beautiful.

Are we to have winter like the last, or is the thaw to come before these lines are in print? Probably the thaw, I should say, and when it comes it will bring with it the usual complement of colds and rheumatics. That demon, influenza, seems to have been let loose again in this unfortunate country, while he is abroad winter fishing in swampy places is hardly the wisest thing a man can do. I have before mentioned a remedy, or rather a preventive medicine for this complaint, and as it is equally good in warding off ordinary colds and low fevers it is worth mentioning again I refer to the oil of the eucalyptus tree. The tree itself when planted in swamps banishes fevers and malaria most effectually, and I recently read that in Australia branches of the tree have been placed under the beds of fever patients with the result that the bedding, &c., required no other disinfectant. I could give two instances of persons, who perfumed themselves with the oil, being the only ones to escape the influenza when others in the house had it, and recently my good opinion of the oil was strengthened by a Birmingham doctor whom I met out pike fishing. He told me that by freely using it he kept off the complaint during the first epidemic, and that he believed he would have been as fortunate when the disease again broke out had not he failed to use it while attending the last patient he had with the complaint.

The way to use the oil is to keep some on the handkerchief during the day-time, and to sprinkle a little on the pillow and under the bed-clothes at night. Of course it is not much use putting a few drops on the handkerchief every day or two. I find that it actually cures ordinary influenza colds. I strongly recommend that a few drops be placed on the handkerchief when we are fishing in marshes. It will assuredly ward off many an attack of low fever. Of course it does not invariably succeed, but that it has most valuable properties is beyond question. Some people dislike the smell, and prefer the influenza, but that is of course a matter of taste, and the opinion is usually changed after one touch of the complaint. When a feverish cold does lay hold of you, fly to ammoniated tincture of quinine at once. It is the remedy, and will often cut short an attack. Perhaps I ought to apologise for intruding these medicinal remarks in this column, but it will be seen that they have a peculiar interest for winter fishermen.

There is such a strong personal feeling of friendship between so many of the readers of the *Gazette* and its writers, that when Christmas comes (as it usually does but once a year, with good cheer or otherwise) to wish those who read these lines a most merry time, and all prosperity in the coming year may seem superfluous. Probably things will turn out much the same, whether the wishes are expressed or not. But let them go forth, and let anglers remember that whether they hail from the north or the south, or the Midlands, they are all united by a bond of good fellowship and their common love for the most delightful of sports. Templar.

Capture of a Large Shark.—The steam trawler *Gannet* arrived at Aberdeen Fish Market on Saturday, and landed a shark measuring 15ft. from snout to tail, and weighing over a ton. This is undoubtedly the largest shark ever got off the coast of Aberdeen. The monster was bought for exhibition purposes by Mr. Robert Walker.

Whale Fishing in the Southern Seas.—The proposal to send steamers from Dundee to prosecute the whale fishing in the Antarctic Seas has now taken definite form. At the annual meeting of the shareholders of the whaler *Active*, last week, the subject was under consideration, and it was reported that Captain Robertson, the master of the vessel, was very sanguine about the success of a trip to the Antarctic Seas, and that he was ready to take command of his vessel if the company elected to send it there. It was agreed that the *Active* should as usual prosecute the Greenland seal fishing up till July, and that on her return from there should be equipped for the voyage to the Antarctic Seas, leaving for there in August, or early in September. It is expected that the owners of the *Baldena* will also arrange for that vessel accompanying the *Active* on its experimental voyage.

CHICHESTER CANAL, SUSSEX.

A SKETCH.

CHICHESTER CANAL is a branch of the Portsmouth and Arundel Canal, which was one of the oldest constructed means of inland navigation in the South of England. The latter was formed under a private Act of Parliament as far back as 1817. The promoters included the Dukes of Richmond and Arundel, Lord Leconfield, the Earl of Egmont, and other noblemen in Sussex and Surrey. The undertaking at that time was considered necessary for the transit of goods, &c., from Portsmouth to London, thus saving a voyage in the Channel and up the Thames. Starting from Portsea Island, a point near to where the Portsmouth Town Railway Station now stands on to Langston Harbour, thence to Chichester Harbour unto the canal opening at Birdham, where the first lock is; thence the barges made their way to Arundel through Surrey to London. This part of the canal was formally opened in 1823, and in 1826 a branch from the canal was made from Hunston to the city of Chichester; but, from some cause or other, the enterprise never paid a dividend.

CHICHESTER CANAL.
(FROM A PHOTO. BY FRANK MORTIMER, JUN., PORTSEA.)

The original canal to Arundel has been closed for a great many years, and the only traces which are to be seen are at the back of the cottage at the swing bridge over the canal at Hunston. From the city of Chichester to Birdham Lock is the only piece of the canal that has been utilised in past years for barges to convey coal, sand, building materials, &c., to the city, a distance of about four miles, and it is this part of the canal I am going to talk about.

Commencing at what is called "The Basin," about a hundred yards from the Railway Station of the Brighton and South Coast Line, you come upon a large open space of water, surrounded by substantially-built landing places, where the barges unloaded their cargos. At one time, it must have been of some importance in connection with the trade of Chichester, but now all is going to decay. At this place some huge specimens of pike, perch, and carp have been taken, and still holds some good fish. Passing round to the right of the timber stacks, you come upon the tow-path, and here the canal commences, that is from the Chichester end.

The first important pitch for the angler is at the unused bridge. Here is always to be seen a covey of anglers, from the boy with the withey rod to the older patron of our Father Izaak. Some fine roach and perch have been taken here. Following the path, which is well shaded by high hedges of blackthorn and bramble for a considerable distance, there are some capital swims abounding with roach. The appearance here of the canal is very pretty; we now come to the Ash-tree Swim, beloved by all anglers who know the locality, and the natives tell some *twisters* about this "charmed spot."

As you travel on you can perceive places that have been used by the ardent banker. We next come to the second bend of the canal, and here is another pitch, called "Warden's Gate." Formerly a swing wooden gate stood here to keep cattle from straying on to the tow-path. At this point, on Sept 13, 1880, the memorable pegged-down match took place between the Portsmouth Waltonian Club and the Brighton Anglers' Club, for a silver cup value five guineas and a silver medal, which were both won by the latter; there were sixty competitors. Between this and the swing bridge at Hunston there are some special swims, well-known to the frequenters of this fishing locality.

You now come to the Anglers' Rest, Dame Welcome's cottage, and you are always welcome here. It is the "trysting-place" for all members of the angling fraternity who patronise the canal to get a refresher in the way of a cup of tea, a jug of milk, or a bottle of "pop." At this end is what they call "The Pool," and it is here that the Chichester junction of the canal commences. From this point, looking towards Donnington, is the most picturesque part of the locality. The canal here runs perfectly straight, and the appearances all round say this is the anglers' *El Dorado*. The bream and carp in this stretch have been coveted, sizes ranging from five to ten pounds weight. A member of the Portsmouth Club in one afternoon, in four hours, landed 35lb. of bream alone. I am now speaking of twelve years ago. There are no such catches now, and we dream now of "lang syne," the silvery shiners, the bellows-shaped monsters, and carping, old foxy tricksters, not forgetting the members of the pike fraternity who have carried away miles of gut and grosses of hooks. The catches here now are getting smaller and beautifully less.

Close by Donnington Bridge is another favourite pitch and some carp locate about this place. The tow-path is now on the left side, and as you journey onwards the canal is not so wide or deep; some years ago this part of the water was run off for repairs to the lock, and though every precaution was made to retain the fish, thousands went out into Chichester Harbour. This stretch is much fished by the local anglers, and at present holds the best swims, as the weeds are not so luxuriant in growth as in the places already mentioned.

We now come upon the lock at Birdham, which is the end of our journey. Some few years since this was a busy spot for barges and bargemen, but now, alas! the lock is going to decay; no barges have passed through for the last two years, so the canal is fast filling up with weeds and rushes, the water gradually getting lower; consequently navigation is at an end. Mr. Purchase, who utilised the canal for many years, has given up his connection with it, and this beautiful stretch of water, the happy hunting-ground for hundreds of anglers, is fast going to decay. As a fact there are still quantities of fish in the canal, but they are small, and very rarely a sizeable fish is taken now. Of course, there are occasionally exceptions, when some of the old anglers of Chichester come across a stray pounder or two, but they are like "Angel's Visits."

Before I finish this notice of the canal, I cannot help lingering for a few moments to recall the pleasant memories of the past, the merry and earnest anglers I have met on its banks; the successful days and the blanks, are all cherished heartily by, yours truly, JAS. SOMERS DYER.

Portsmouth Waltonian Society.

The accompanying plate is from a photograph taken about a hundred yards from the unused bridge, looking towards Hunston, by Frank Mortimer, jun., of Portsea.

Since writing the above, it has been decided by the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division), "To transfer to and vest in the Corporation of the City of Chichester that portion of the canal from the sea to Chichester; and to confer upon the Corporation all rights and privileges for the supply of the said portions of the canal with water, and also from time to time repair, dredge, scour, and otherwise improve the water-way for the better accommodation of larger vessels, &c." A bill to this effect will be deposited in the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons during the month of December, 1891. This will seal the fate of Chichester Canal from an angler's point of view.

⁂ **Club and River Reporters will oblige by sending in their Reports early in the week.**

A SUNDAY SALMON; OR, THE FIFTY-POUNDER.

(Continued from page 352.)

THAT night I was talking over the events of the day with McNab, our landlord, as we smoked our pipes at the door of the hotel before turning in. I had been abusing Peter's clumsiness, which I reviled all the more because McNab assured me he had never known him to do such a thing. Then I turned the conversation on Sir John and his fair young friend, and asked who they were.

"Oo! Sir John Melfort's the biggest proprietor here about."

"And who is the young lady with him?"

"That's Miss Mary, his niece."

"Do you know her other name?" said I.

"Aye! McAlister, Miss McAlister. 'Miss Mary,' we call her; she's always coming to stay with the laird."

McAlister! Of course! I see it all now. The girl was my friend's sister. I might have seen the likeness if I had not been blind. I knew he had an uncle, a baronet; and wasn't one of Jack's names Melfort?

What a fool I had been to speak so freely to a stranger! That is why she smiled so curiously when she read my name in the railway carriage. She knew all about me. Now I understand her speaking so earnestly to Peter, and why the latter tried to keep me away from the best casts on the river, and at the last broke my line. No doubt it was all intentional and arranged between them. Oh! for revenge! But how?

The only way was to catch a salmon and confound them. But I have to leave on Monday morning to be in time for my steamer to India. I might try a cast in the river near the hotel if I got up early, but then, that part of the stream was considered useless, and for years no one had been known to get a fish in it. Sunday! I should not be allowed to throw a fly to-morrow, and I knew not what penalties would await me if I were caught; besides, it was against the terms of one, at least, of my bets. But if I only could get a fish on the sly, I shouldn't mind. Plot against plot, deceit *versus* deceit! If I managed to catch a fish to-morrow, I could hide it somewhere, and then go out early on Monday morning with a rod (I could borrow one) and come back in triumph. I made up my mind to venture, and fell asleep, revolving my nefarious scheme.

Though I was up early next morning, I did not start at once, as that might have excited suspicion. So I busied myself with getting my tackle ready. I selected some of the stoutest casting lines in my book, and picked out several of the biggest plain hooks I had. Then I got some lead and weighted the casting lines heavily, next I oiled my reel and tried if it would run easily. When everything was arranged to my satisfaction, I came down to breakfast. I was asked if I was going to church, and I said I was going to take a long walk to the top of one of the neighbouring Bens. To my delight no one offered to accompany me. After breakfast I asked for some luncheon to be put up in parcels for me, stating that I might not be home till late. I purposely asked for a large quantity in order that the bulky state of my pockets might be accounted for. In the privacy of my bed-room I exchanged one of the packets for my reel, and at last all was in train, and I stepped out of the hotel into the glorious sunshine with a beating heart and eager anticipations of victory.

At the door I met Peter, who looked at me more sourly than ever, and said: "Ye'll be for the Glen, I suppose?" I did not answer him, and walked on. After the hotel was out of sight I went aside into a field and began turning up the stones which lay here and there, in search of worms. After I had secured a dozen of the largest I could find, I put them in my sponge bag, which I had brought for the purpose. Then I struck the road again and resumed my walk. I passed the church, where the bell was still ringing, and thought all the people collected at the door looked at me suspiciously. Then I met the minister, who stopped to wish me good morning. I had made his acquaintance at the river-side, for he was a keen angler. I could feel the worms in the bag, which hung suspended under my waistcoat, crawling about, and was horribly afraid the string might break, and the whole concern fall at his feet. Then the brute of a reel in my pocket gave a horrid click, and I felt sure I should be betrayed. But the minister's face did not show any surprise or appearance of suspicion; only I thought he looked rather askance at me when he said good-bye and found I was not coming on with him.

At last I had passed all the church-goers, and was alone. So far I had succeeded. What a glorious morning it was! The mountains were splendid in their fresh green; bird and bush were glad and gay with song and sunshine; everything seemed happy and innocent. I only felt that I was out of tune with Nature with my dark design. But my spirits were high, and I sang as I strode along, and laughed to myself how I had stolen a march on the enemy.

When I reached the fishing-ground no one was to be seen. Everyone must be in church. So I commenced operations. In any case it would have been dangerous to use a rod, even supposing I had been able to smuggle one out of the hotel and carry it along the road unnoticed. The top joints would have flashed in the sun, and would have attracted the attention of anyone passing by the river. I attached a strong gut collar, heavily leaded, to the line on my reel, then I tied on a large single hook, and baited it with two of the biggest worms in my bag. I cut a short, stout stick, and lashed the reel on to it, so as to make it resemble, as much as possible, the butt-end of a rod, and prevent the line catching in my fingers when running out.

Nothing remained but to select my ground. I chose a deep rocky pool where the main stream ran close under the edge, and threw my bait in and let out line. How anxiously I watched it *worming* its way down-stream, and fancying every little stoppage was a bite. But nothing came, though I repeated the operation several times, and I had to move up-stream to another cast. This was a matter of some difficulty to select, as there were few places adapted to the style of fishing I was attempting. The ordinary streams where the bank sloped gently to the water's edge were of no use, as I could not throw the line far enough without a rod, and the rocky pools with the deep water right underneath were very exposed, and I might be seen easily from the road at most of them. However, I soon was on another pitch, but had no better luck there. At the next one I felt something bite, and at the following cast I felt I was into it, but it turned out to be only a good-sized trout.

Thus the forenoon went on, and I had got nothing, and had come to the end of the hotel water. I sat down on the bank and lit my pipe, and reviewed my position. Things didn't look bright—one bet already lost, and £50 as good as gone, not to count the expense of my trip and the mortification of defeat. I had tried every negotiable cast and had failed miserably, and there was little use going over the same ground again, disturbed as it was by the clumsy splashing of my bait.

I turned my eyes up-stream. There was a waterfall with narrow rapids above it, and still farther up a great deep pool, with high rocks on either side. A light foot-bridge spanned the narrow channel above the fall. It was just the place where I might have a chance of success. But, then, poaching as well as Sabbath-breaking! Sir John's fishing rights began here, and fancy if I were caught! I knew not what ecclesiastical, as well as secular, penalties I should incur in this savage country. But, again, what joy it would be to circumvent the enemy in their own particular territory; what a dear delight to pick out success under their very noses! I hugged myself at the thought, and after a pull at my flask resolved to venture it. I looked round. No one in sight. The kirk would not "scale" for a good half-hour yet. Here goes! And I flung in a couple of the fattest worms on my treacherous hook into the deepest part of the pool.

What a thrill went through my arm! What a shock made every fibre of my nerves quiver, as away raced my line at express speed, and my reel sang out like a mighty grasshopper. The fight had begun in earnest. Up-stream and down-stream dashed the fish; now at the bottom, rubbing its nose on the stones; now flinging itself into the air in a silver crescent, never resting a moment or giving me a second's breathing space, as I followed over the break-neck places it took me, dreading lest it should go over the fall and get away.

It was risky work, for there was no rod to take up, by its springiness, a sudden strain on the line; but the hook was large and strong, and kept a fast hold till I saw the salmon was nearly exhausted. There was a ledge of rock with only a few inches of water on it down below me; then came a bed of gravel with a current three feet deep passing over it; beyond, the black abyss of the pool. If I only could get the fish on to the ledge. I succeeded in bringing him there at last, and he lay gasping in the shallow water—a noble fellow of about 25lb. But how to get him out! I didn't dare to try to lift him up by the line, and he was much too far below me to reach with my hands. I must get down to *him* somehow. I pulled the brute as far on to the ledge as I could, and then cautiously began to swing myself down the steep face of the rock. Just as I was within a foot of my prize he began to writhe and swish violently with his tail, and before I had gained a foothold he was on the very edge of the ledge of rocks. I dropped at once, and threw myself recklessly on the disappearing fish, and got my hands round his broad body, but he struggled violently, and I could not keep my balance, and in a moment I found myself standing on the gravel with the beast in my arms, up to the waist in a strong current and in great danger of being swept away. It was all I could do to stand against the stream. I could not get on to the ledge of rock without using my hands, and I needed them to grasp the fish, which, feeling itself in its element again, was resisting hard. I was in a nice mess! Even without the salmon I doubt if I could have scaled the rocks again. I was in the position of the chamois hunter, who has tracked his dead quarry to a crag from which there is no retreat. I felt like a miser shut up to die in his own treasure-house. It was getting serious and I made another desperate effort to get on the ledge, and had nearly succeeded, in despite the strong stream and struggling fish, when I suddenly heard a clear ringing peal of laughter behind me, and turning my head I saw standing on the wooden bridge "Miss Mary," shaking with merriment, and beside her that villain Peter, his face more sullen and his nose bluer than ever. Oh! that moment of shame and anguish! Caught Sabbath-breaking! Taken red-handed when poaching! Found out in my nefarious scheme for winning my bet! Shown up as no sportsman! And by this pert slip of a girl, who made the rocks ring with glee as I struggled and stumbled and sputtered. I must have looked irresistibly ludicrous. Visions of gaols, cutty-stools, newspaper reports, and degradation, flashed before my mind. Oh! for a speedy death! I very nearly found it, for the treacherous gravel gave way, and in I pitched, right into the whirlpool beyond, and was swept away. Instinctively I clung to the salmon. When I got my head above water I took a look round; I had time to do so, as I found myself in a comparatively still part of the pool, where the current made a broad swirl before rushing down towards the fall beneath.

I could just see two figures leaping down from the bridge, and then I was hurled away by the rush of the stream. It was hopeless to resist, and on I drove. Bang! and my head went against a rock and I was nearly stunned, and away I went again, tossing and helpless, but still clinging to the salmon—why, I cannot say. I thought all was over with me, and that in a few seconds I should be dashed to pieces. When suddenly I felt my course arrested. Something held me fast by the neck, and I was suspended in midstream with the torrent dashing wildly by.

"Let go the fush, ye fule," I heard a voice say, and when the water got out of my eyes I could see it was Peter who had me fast by the collar of the coat, and was trying to lift me on shore on a point of rock above the falls. The girl was beside him, white as the foam which glanced past.

I only set my teeth and stuck faster to the fish, whether instinctively clinging to something with a desperate determination to go on and win I know not, but whatever was the reason I did not let go, and all Peter's efforts to lift me were fruitless. Suddenly the girl knelt down, and holding on by one hand to a root in a crevice of the rock she stretched out her other hand and grasped the tail of the fish and pulled. Then ensued a three-cornered struggle, Peter wrenching at my collar, the girl dragging at the salmon, and I resisting both. It was all over in a moment; I felt my grasp loosening on the slippery scales and myself rising out of the water at the same time, till I found myself safe on the rock—but without my prize. "Miss Mary" rose at the same time from her perilous position; she too was empty-handed. The salmon was gone.

Peter still had hold of my collar, and was quite prepared to treat me as a poacher; when the girl said: "Let go the gentleman, Peter; don't you see he's hurt?" Indeed I was sore all over from bumping against the rocks, and my head was bleeding freely. I felt rather sick and faint for a moment, and soon as Peter let me go I sat down on a stone to recover myself.

"I'm afraid your head's very painful; will you let me tie it up?" And in a moment nimble fingers were bandaging my forehead with a dainty handkerchief.

"There," she said, as she examined her work with the critical eye of a nurse, "that'll do. Are you able to walk to the house? It's close by." She looked very pretty and womanly there, fulfilling her gentle duties of aid-bringer to the wounded, and, with the tone of tenderness in her voice as she made the inquiry, appeared doubly charming by contrast with her former mischief and *abandon*.

I said I was all right, and, after Peter had been dismissed, we set out along a path which wound among the larchwoods till a mansion was in view. I confess that my feelings were of a mixed nature. I was almost inclined to turn back and make for the hotel. In what character was I entering the house? As a poacher taken red-handed, or what? Well, it wouldn't matter much even if I did decline to enter. My name was known and where I lived, and I couldn't well return with my dripping clothes and my bleeding head.

When the door was reached she rang the bell, and on a footman answering it, she told him to show me to a room and attend to my wants. I was directed to a bedroom, and began to take off my wet things. There was a bath-room opening off the apartment, and the servant suggested I should have a hot tub, and said he would take away my clothes to dry. I agreed to this, and after my bath, rolled myself in a blanket and waited. Presently the footman returned with a bundle of garments. "Miss McAlister's compliments, and lunch would be ready soon." My hopes rose at this message. Surely if I was to break bread in the house, I was not going to be treated as a malefactor. So I began to don the clothes which had been brought in—Sir John's, no doubt—"Hallo! what's this piece of raiment?" I turned it over and held it this way and that way, but could make nothing of it. And then—yes! a most indispensable garment was awanting. I was going to ring the bell and summon the servant when it flashed across my mind that I had been supplied with a kilt suit.

What devilry! It was that imp of a girl's doing, I was sure. Now that she knew I wasn't much hurt, she was at her mischief once more, and had sent me this barbarous dress just to make me ridiculous. I tried to hang it in graceful folds from my waist, but the result was very doubtful. Then the *sporran*. I wasn't quite certain whether it went behind or in front. So I thought it would be safer to fix it at one side. There was something wrong, I felt, as I looked at myself in the glass. My skirts were very short, too, surely! and how white my knees looked. I heard wheels on the gravel below my window, and peering out I saw a waggonette at the door and its occupants descending. The last to leave was Sir John; he stood a few moments to speak to the coachman. What luck! He was in Highland dress, and I ran my eye rapidly over him. Oh! the *sporran* was in front; That's all right; there! and his kilt doesn't look longer than mine. Courage, oh, Jones! and I surveyed myself in the mirror with some satisfaction. I had a fine leg, to be sure!

Presently I heard a step coming along the passage, it stopped at the door; there was a knock. Now for my fate! "Come in." The door opened and Sir John entered.

"Delighted to make your acquaintance, Mr. Jones," he said, as he shook me heartily by the hand. "I hear you're a friend of my nephew Jack in India. So you've had a ducking—hope your head's not much damaged. There's the bell: you'll be the better of some luncheon. Come along." And he led me downstairs. This *was* heaping coals of fire on my head, for, of course, he must know all.

In the dining-room, besides Miss Mary, there were only Lady Melfort and the minister. After we had sat down, Sir John said: "My niece tells me you got in just above the fall; an awkward place. A good one for salmon, though! Did you see any when you were in the water?" And he looked up from his soup with a smile. Oh, treachery! Was this to be my punishment? To be lulled into a sense of security by a seeming show of hospitality, and then put in the pillory of sarcastic ridicule! To be led forth garlanded like the sacred ox of old, only to be sacrificed! Unmercifully *roasted*, anyhow! Perhaps to be lured into making confessions before the minister, which would entail I knew not what ecclesiastical penalties! I dared not lift my eyes; I felt sure the footman behind my chair was on the grin at the sport provided by my humiliation, and that meaning smiles were being exchanged round the table at my expense. My face was burning hot—how cold my knees were, though. I didn't answer the question, but endeavoured to gulp down my soup, and I heard Sir John continue: "But the place is horridly poached, confound them." Worse and worse! Oh! for the floor to give way and let me disappear! I had a wild thought of pulling my skirts over my head and rushing out of the house, but more rational counsels prevailed. I couldn't go on for ever silent with my head in my plate, so I looked up. The first gaze I met was that of Miss Mary. She put her finger on her lip just for a moment, and I thought I could distinguish the slightest possible depression of one of the eyelids. Everyone else seemed occupied with their food—there was no one even looking at me or seeming to expect me to speak. My hopes rose. My young friend had evidently kept a discreet silence on the cause of my misfortunes, and I blessed her for it. Sir John's remarks were made without any covert allusion, and I soon found my tongue, and accounted for my adventures by a general story of a walk by the river (which was quite true) and a fall over the rocks (which wasn't a very *big one* at all).

When lunch was finished Miss Mary offered to show me the garden and grounds. When we were out of sight of the house, she suddenly stopped and burst into the merriest peal of laughter I ever heard. Then she cried, "Isn't it splendid? No one suspects anything, and I told Peter he wasn't to say a word to anyone; he knows better than to disobey me. But I say, you haven't said anything about the rod, have you? I shall get *such* a scolding if my aunt knew!" I assured her that I had been as silent as the tomb upon the subject, and that I would never betray her.

"If you did, sir," she replied, her eyes twinkling with mischief, "I should tell everything. There's nothing my uncle *hates* so much as a *poacher*—h'm—and if the minister heard of it, I don't know what he wouldn't do."

I didn't know, really, how much she was in earnest, and she evidently noticed it, and went on: "You must think me a dreadful girl, but I can't help it. It was so delightfully naughty of you. I should like to have done it myself. Tell me all about it." Then I told her how I had suspected who she was, and that she had leagued with Peter to prevent me catching a fish, and all about my preparations, and how I had tried pool after pool without success, and that it was in pure desperation I had trespassed on her uncle's preserves.

"Oh! I knew all about it," she cried; "we were watching you for a long time—Peter and I. He had heard the click of your reel in the morning, and suspected something, and followed you. And when he saw you fishing he came and told me. I hadn't gone to church. I'll never forget you trying to get out of the water with the salmon in your arms. I tried to keep still, but I couldn't help exploding," and off she went again in a delicious thrill of merriment. It was too infectious, her hearty girlish mirth, and I laughed, too, as long and loudly as she, without the smallest touch of annoyance. It was impossible to be angry with her, and she was so charmingly pretty.

"It was all very wrong of me, I know, and I must ask forgiveness; for if I hadn't laughed you wouldn't have tumbled into the water and got hurt."

I said it was nothing, and that I deserved all I had got.

"I tried to hold on to your fish, but I should have been pulled in. I admired the way you stuck to it; you deserved to win your bet. I'll tell Jack it was a drawn wager, and that it was I who let the salmon go."

"Oh, no!" I exclaimed; "you mustn't say anything about it. The story would be all over India in no time, and I should never hear the end of it."

"Well! £50 is rather a dear price to pay for a salmon, isn't it?"

"I suppose it is, especially when one does not get it after all. But I got off cheap on the whole; I might have been drowned. Besides, haven't I made your acquaintance?" I added, gallantly.

What she would have replied to this compliment I do not know. We had reached the bridge over the river and were watching the water going over the fall, when she called out, "Look, what's that?" She pointed with her finger, and far down in the pool below I saw something bright floating on the top of the water.

"I believe it's your fish," she said. We ran down, and sure enough saw a salmon floating dead on the surface, with a long piece of line trailing from its mouth. With the help of a stick I got hold of the line, and drew the beast ashore. It was indeed my fish; there was my hook sticking in its gills, and there was no doubt about the line.

Miss Mary almost shrieked with delight. "I'm so glad you've won your bet after all. I can tell Jack that I saw the fish you caught."

We took the salmon back to the house. I thought it wise, however, to remove the hook first, so that there might be no suspicion of foul play; and nothing was suspected, as it is not unknown to find salmon floating dead in this manner.

I was quite sorry when the servant came up and said that my own clothes were dry.

"Oh! wait a bit," said Miss Mary; "you must stay for dinner; we'll drive you back. Besides, I like you much better in the kilt"—this very archly.

What could I do but stay and enjoy the hospitality of those kind people? And when the time came for me to don the garb of civilisation and make my farewells, I left behind me all my disappointment, and, I think, quite half my heart.

But I must stop writing now. These fiendish mosquitoes are driving me wild. Mary says she can stand them no longer, and must get inside the curtains.

She is not "Miss" now. *Nous avons changé tout cela.* The next time I went home on leave I made a fishing tour in Scotland, and then and there I caught the noblest prize of my life.

Not to this day does anyone else but blue-nosed Peter know the whole truth, and I always tell Mary that the diamond ring I gave her was specially bought with Jack's £50, in hope that some day she would have good reason to remember me and the Sunday Salmon.—*Christmas Number of the "Singapore Free Press."*

THREE DELIGHTFUL DAYS.

By Edgar S. Shrubsole.

(*Continued from page 368.*)

Very softly the Yellow alighted upon the surface of that part of the pool—only about 12ft. square, in which the fish were feeding. Instantly it was seized by a trout; the angler as quickly tightened upon the fish, and by exerting a judicious pressure, induced it to leave the deep hole, and make for the rapid stream below. There it was quickly killed, and then carefully drawn into the shallow part of the pool towards the angler, who, having discarded his landing-net and refused my offer of the one I was carrying, stooped down, and with his hand removed Mr. Trout from his native element, and having released the hook, threw a fine-conditioned fish, well over 1lb., upon the bank where I was standing.

It was a pretty bit of work, quickly done in a masterly manner, *and four times more was the process repeated!* It was quite dark when Mr. Marston waded ashore, and with a quiet smile asked me if I didn't think that little hole was full of fish?

"Right you are!" I replied; "*was;* you must have nearly emptied it, though!"

And certainly he must have done so. Just fancy four trout out of such a small pool, all well over a pound, and one nearly a pound and a-half; in addition also one fish, returned to the water, of about half-a-pound.

I can see him now as with a steady cast, the fly was propelled over the fish, at least fifteen yards distant. Not one mistake. As cool as a cucumber was the angler, as fish after fish was risen, struck, played, and handled from the stream. The pool itself was right under the opposite bank, and hanging over it was a thorn bush! So the cast was none of the simplest, especially when dusk drew on. My friend pulled at his pipe, and blew a cloud like unto a Sheffield shaft, and that was the only sign he exhibited of what *must* have been stirring within him. As he turned to throw the fish towards me, however, I noticed each time the quiet smile and comical shutting of one eye, that so surely denotes his inward satisfaction.

I was to learn yet another lesson before that day was done. As we strolled down the side of the river I told my companion that I had always used a Coachman when it got dusk, and he—without denying the value of that fly for evening fishing—instructed me that when trout have fed through the day upon a certain fly, it is as well to use the same pattern in the evening, sometimes perhaps a size or two larger. He practically proved the truth of this at a pool we shortly reached.

"Now, a good fish lies there for a certainty," he remarked. "See, I will make a cast. Great Scott! It *is* a good one!"

I verily believe that was the only bit of uncontrolled excitement he exhibited that day. And it was excusable. The yellow was flicked carelessly out into the semi-darkness. I saw him tighten upon a magnificent fish, that ploughed the pool in a truly gallant manner, and after a prolonged fight was brought to the bank. *The* fish of the day. Mr. Marston told me afterwards it weighed just over $1\frac{3}{4}$lb. It looked a good 2lb. fish then.

I must not forget to say that during the afternoon and evening I had occasionally a turn at the sport myself, and succeeded in catching a few half-pounders. It seemed impossible for me to "hook into" anything beyond that weight—*i.e.*, if we bar the bushes and rocks I frequently "caught."

The last pool we could fish that evening was reached, and here my companion insisted upon me having a turn; this I did, and got a half-pounder, of course.

"There must be a bigger fish there," remarked my friend; "have another try."

This time I felt something more like the pull and plunge of the one or two decent fish I had caught earlier in the day, and in the result I managed to net a nice pound fish.

"There is a bigger one than *that* in the pool," said my friend.

I told him to have a cast over it, and he did so. Presently—

"I told you so!"

And the bowing of his little rod told a tale that could not be mistaken.

That was the last fish of the day, and it scaled $1\frac{1}{2}$lb. We left the river with regret, and at the little railway station I bade adieu to my newly-formed friend. I was awfully sorry to part with him; the day had been all too short; but everything must come to an end. Of course, we made arrangements to meet again, and the last words Piscator Major whispered to me just before the train started were—

"Shrubsole, it has been a delightful day, and that pie was one of the best I ever tasted! Don't forget to bring another when next we are on the war-path!"

You may be sure I did not!

Mr. Marston's catch that day was ten and a-half brace of trout, from 1lb. to $1\frac{3}{4}$lb.; mine, two and a-half brace, from $\frac{3}{4}$lb. to 1lb., *but I went home with most fish.*

* * *

Years have rolled by, many a day have I spent with the Editor of the *Fishing Gazette*, by the river-side; many a pie we have disposed of between us. Perseverance and continual practice have made—well a decent—fly-fisherman of me. Even now I must acknowledge the superior skill of the master who first *really* showed me "how to do it," but now *I* can manage to get a fly somewhere near a fish, near enough at any rate to account for one or two occasionally.

You may depend upon it I ordered the funeral of several pound-and-a-half fish when last summer I received permission to cast my flies in one of the finest trout waters in this (or any other) country.

Arrived at the lower part of this delightful trouting paradise, I soon got into my waders and mounting a Yellow Dun—Yes! you may laugh at Shrubsole's Yellow Dun, but it want's a lot of beating!—began "stalking my prey." The river was low and very bright, but presently I noticed a rise just in front of me. I sent the Yellow on a journey of inspection, there was a boil, the gleam of a golden side, a terribly amateurish strike on my bait, a line floating limp and fishless in the gentle breeze, and a quotation from me! I had broken in my first fish, and it was no satisfaction to me when I saw a thumping big trout scud away up-stream showing a tail above the surface as big as an anchor fluke!

I rigged up another cast and went a little farther on. A lump about as big as a Dutch cheese arose in my throat as I noticed another fine fish feeding a few yards away. I sent the Yellow on a little journey connected with the funeral of that fish—which did not come off, for he would not take the Yellow on at any price. I tried other flies over him, but not caring to waste too much time, soon left him "for another day," and directed my attention to brace feeding just on the edge of a "glassy glade" a little farther on. Down came the Yellow just in front of the nose of No. 1. He saw it and went for it; but oh! lor! the same thing happened as at first, and I sat down to rig up my third cast, with somewhat mixed feelings.

I soon found another fish to operate upon, and as the Yellow sailed to him he sucked it down. Oh! so nicely! This time *I merely tightened up*, and that fish did a delightful dance to the music of my reel. His funeral came off, and he made a pound-and-a-half corpse.

In an hour-and-a-half's fishing I had two others of about the same weight, besides turning back two of about a pound—for I could plainly see I had no need to creel anything much less than a pound-and-a-half. I spotted one fish, a regular "whopper," feeding in the tail of a run. My fly came down, and, as I fancied, passed him. I saw him show his side as he took *something* and was just recovering my line preparatory to making another cast, when I found he had hooked himself! Oh! yes, it was him right enough, and a tough fight he made of it. Twice I had him close to the net, and each time he shook his head, bolted, and made another gallant fight for liberty. Well, *his* funeral came off, and *he* made a two-pound corpse. It is usual to pass the flask at the funeral—of trout. I did so! But being alone I passed it to myself.

And then I came to a deep hole—and went in it! After I had emptied the water out of my waders, I made another start, and the Yellow proved too much for another brace, one $1\frac{1}{2}$lb., one $1\frac{3}{4}$lb., during the next hour. After this it turned terrifically hot, and I gave up fishing, had some pie, and lolled upon the bank watching the light cirrus clouds far away in the blue vault above me.

This was very enjoyable until I found I was lolling too near an ant's nest, and the little beasts were simply covering me. So I sprung erect (copyright!) and strolled up the river, spotting good places as I went. I left my fish at a little cottage close by, for they rather cut my shoulder, and moreover the hot sun was drying them. The civil owner of the cottage gave me several valuable hints of which I availed myself later on; and then I strolled on.

I passed one pool where I *counted* seven trout, not one of which would weigh less than a pound-and-a-quarter, and the biggest fellow would scale 2lb. My fingers did not itch to get at them—oh, no! I marked *that* pool down.

Then I came to a magnificent pool, with one of the prettiest cascades, at its head, I have seen. While I stood admiring this perfect trout-pool and its surroundings, a fine trout threw itself clean out of the water, and at the same time I noticed two unmistakable rings at different places. I couldn't stand that; could you? I reckon the man who could would stand anything! So I set to work, but not a fin did I get, although I tried a large number of flies, and several fish showed while I was fishing. I inwardly resolved to give the pool a trial in the evening, and being convinced it was too bright for fishing then, continued my stroll.

The afternoon wore on, and it came over a bit cloudy. I picked out three good fish before dusk, and then I reached the pool with the cascade at its head, mentioned above.

Gentle reader (also copyright!), do *you* know what it is to have a rod in your hand properly weighted with a *suitable* line, so that even in the semi-darkness, although you cannot *see* where your fly alights, you *know* and can *feel* exactly how much line you have out, and *where your fly is?*

When I reached the pool, the genial proprietor of the water, who had walked up to meet me, was there, and after a hearty greeting, he told me to get to work. Wading carefully out, I got a good swing on my line, and sent the fly right under the cascade. I felt a tug—didn't I just?—and it took me quite ten minutes to bring that plucky trout to my net, although I had fastened a slightly stouter cast to my line. He was a takeable fish, even at my increased standard.

For an hour I stuck in that pool, and succeeded in getting three more fish—one a beauty of over 2lb.—and then I gave it up, and the proprietor and myself strolled down-stream, smoking our pipes, and chatting as we went. When I told him I had turned back several 1lb. fish, he politely said, "More fool you!" Still, I was satisfied, you may be sure. When we reached the pool where I had seen the seven trout in the mid-day, I could not resist the temptation of having a trial shot. Standing in the meadow below the pool, I worked out the necessary length of line, and sent the fly on a voyage of discovery.

Shade of Walton! I thought at first I had hung up, but a tremendous rush of the fish soon convinced me I had not. And then commenced one of the most exciting struggles with a trout I have ever experienced. I got down into the water to have a better command of the fish, and of course went in over my waders! It's a mercy I did not lose the fish in gaining a foot-hold, but I didn't. How he bored and plunged about the pool! Once my line slackened, and I was terribly afraid I had lost him but carefully winching in my line I found he had only bolted towards me, and as soon as he again felt the strain, away he went, and my winch sang a sweet song to me. But the end came at last; his struggles grew fainter, and although I could not see him, I knew he was giving in. My friend handed me the net. I put all the strain on I dared. The 10ft. 6in. of built cane proved master, and I netted—a pound fish, hooked foul in the fleshy part of the tail!

Well, it was a disappointment, but I put up with it, because there was nothing else left for me to do. I kept that pound trout; it was the smallest fish I took away that day.

It was now quite dark, and so we adjourned to the little cottage, where I placed the latter part of the day's catch with those I had previously taken. It was a very pretty show indeed—seven brace of trout, weighing at least 20lb.

I believe Piscator Major would have been proud of those trout.

"You have come a long way for a day's fishing," said my friend the proprietor. "You can stay and fish to-morrow if you like."

Did I stay? Rather.

* * *

The morning of my third delightful day broke warm and cloudy; need I say more? Throughout the day the sun occasionally peeped forth, but it was a perfect trouting day taken all round.

I *kept* ten-and-a-half brace of trout that day—the same number as you had, Mr. Editor, upon the occasion I first met you. But I had not a fish under $1\frac{1}{4}$lb. full, and my biggest was over $2\frac{1}{4}$lb.

Altogether in the two days, I had about 50lb. weight of trout, besides turning back many really takeable fish.

And I shall fish that water again next summer. Will you come with me?

Who says "Yes!" for another three delightful days?

SALMON angling rents still move upward. Whenever will they stop rising? Not, we fear, till salmon anglers get far more sense in this particular matter. Quite recently several "lets" for next year of salmon angling on "first-class Scotch rivers," were effected at, in each case, a higher figure than any realised hitherto.

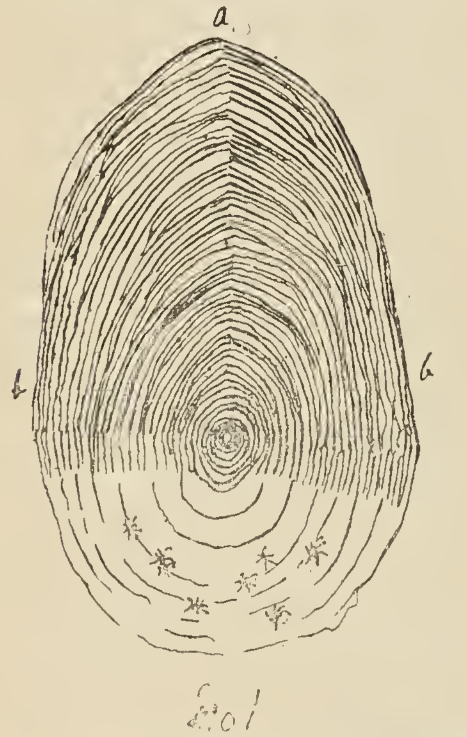
Correspondence

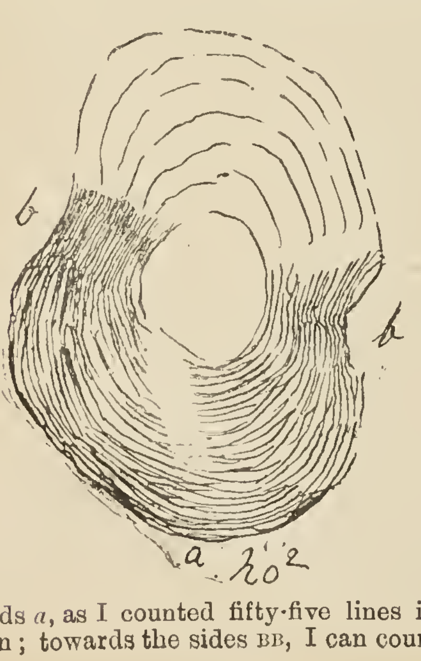
[We do not hold ourselves responsible for opinions expressed by our Correspondents.]

THE AGE OF FISH (*SALMONIDÆ*).

Sir,—In the *Fishing Gazette* of November 7, you kindly published a letter from me, asking for scales of *Salmonidæ* whose age is known. I will now explain my object in collecting scales. For many years I have been trying to discover a means of telling the age of fish. Cœcal appendages, colouring, and size, all failed to give any satisfactory results; now I have some slight hopes that scales will furnish the information required. The growth of scales on *Salmonoids* is, I believe, constant, even if the fish does not increase in size and weight, but of this I cannot as yet be positive. Fish do not moult their scales periodically, but such as have been lost by injury can be renewed (see page 18, "*Salmonidæ* of Great Britain," Dr. F. Day). Therefore such scales as have been retained from birth, if not injured, either during lifetime or after capture, should show in *Salmonoids* numerous lines on the portion that is free—the imbedded being frequently blank, other fish showing a few lines far apart. I have never seen scales off an adult fish lined all the way round (as figured, page 54 of above-mentioned work); but as these were drawn for another and entirely different purpose, it is no use taking them as examples in this instance. They are drawn, parr thirty-two, grilse forty-three, salmon sixty-four lines, as I count.

I send with this rough drawings of two scales off the same fish—a *fario*, age unknown. No. 1 I consider a perfect scale; No. 2, a very imperfect one. No. 1 shows the growth very plainly. In the middle is seen the scale of the infant, counting six or seven lines. The greatest growth is towards *a*, as I counted fifty-five lines in that direction; towards the sides BB, I can count only thirty-two. The scales of herrings are lined across, in nearly parallel lines, as from *b* to *b*. No. 2 is a scale that has been injured—the centre, or oldest part, is missing. Grayling scales are very differently shaped to trout scales, many being fluted. I have one with seven ridges on it. *Fontinalis* and *Irideus* wear scales that could be distinguished from *fario* or *salar*.





The value of a means to determine the age of fish is worth trying, for so many important questions would be decided could we tell the number of years we had fished over each individual. I hope that if I am working on an impossibility, or in the wrong direction, someone will kindly tell me so; as living shut off from scientific friends, I have no one to advise me.

The following Table gives the results of much counting:—

Name of Fish.	Age if Known or Weight.	Number of Lines.	Remarks.
S. Salar	1lb.	36	Caught in Sandown Bay, Isle of Wight.
S. Salar	20lb.	114	Average of 10 scales; caught by J. D. B., Torridge.
S. Salar	8½lb.	108	Average of 6 scales; caught by O. G., tributary of Torridge; male; thin.
*S. Thymallus	8 to 9 months	14 to 17	5½ in length; reared in my ponds.
*S. Thymallus	18 months	20 to 33	6¾ in length; reared in my ponds; the perfect scales have most rings.
S. Irideus	13 months	19	Average of 9 scales; received from Howietoun as a a yearling.
* S. Iridcus	25 months	38	7in. in length; received from Howictoun as a yearling.
S. Fontinalis	18 months	12	Average of 4 scales; received from Howictoun as a yearling.
S. Fontinalis	18 months	15	Average of 4 scales; received from Howietoun as a yearling.
S. Fontinalis	29 months	18	Average of 9 scales; received from Howietoun as a yearling; a deformity.
S. Fontinalis	33 months	31	Average of 11 scales; received from Howictoun as a yearling; 12in. in length.
S. Fontinalis	33 months	31	Average of 16 scales; received from Howietoun as a yearling; 11in. in length.
S. Levencnsis	20 months	32	Average of 11 scales; hatched and reared here; ova from Howietoun.
*S. Fario	½lb.	55	Average of 4 scales; from tributary of Torridge.
S. Fario	5½oz.	55	Average of 8 scales; from tributary of Torridge; 9¾in. in length; female.
S. Fario	10oz.	56	Average of 5 scales; from tributary o Torridge; 11½in. in length; female.

I consider enough evidence is given in this list to justify further inquiry, as in all cases where the age is known the older fish show more lines.

I have taken all the scales from close to medial line, above middle of pectoral fin. Anyone who owns a microscope may count the lines; or, if preferred, I shall be only too glad to carry out the work. A record collected from many fish, whose age is known, will be required before an estimate of the value of my idea can be formed, and only perfect scales lined from the point to centre, are of any value. The count to be taken in a straight line from centre to extreme edge of exposed portion, counting all lines (whether broken or not) intersected by imaginary counting line as from inside ring to *a*. I have named the part opposite the imbedded portion "the point" (marked *a* on drawings): the part I have called "the sides" is marked *b*.

Many scales show mossy star-shaped spots on the imbedded portion a month or two before spawning time; this, I suppose, is the colouring pigment. It is seen in the skins of alevins fry, and also in the skin of mature salmon, trout, and others, specially developed in Mahseer (*Barbus Tor*, of India). I find the scales of tarpons so thick and opaque that I cannot count the lines at all.—Yours, &c,

O. Greig.

Thuboro House, Holsworthy, Devon.

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* Are not very reliable, as I took the count of some imperfect scales.

TYNE SALMON PROBLEMS.

Dear Sir,—I know that you are ever ready to advise where there is difficulty in fishing matters, and also allow the matter to be discussed through the columns of the *Fishing Gazette*, where we likewise can have the benefit of the opinions of some of the best anglers and writers on fishing questions of the present time.

The difficulty is almost in a nutshell; how to surmount the difficulty is the matter. Now for the difficulty. The river Tyne is a tidal river, and salmon, grilse, sea trout, bull trout, run up the river to spawn. Formerly there used to be a decided migration of spring fish, called by the net fishermen the March Buck, now fast becoming extinct. I just fancy I hear Neddy Rubbersole say, "How?" Well, when the river becomes dead low there is certain streams where passage by the fish is nearly impossible, and others where it is utterly impossible for a sea trout a pound weight to get over. These streams from the farthest up are about three and a-half miles above high-water mark, and there is a net fishery above the farthest up-stream that forms one of the land lockings, and eight fishery rights within the distance, but owing to certain circumstances are not let or fished now. When the water is a fair running size what escapes the nets may get up, but any fish that do not get over the farthest up-ford generally fall back into the pools, and become *the legitimate harvest of the net-fisher*, as they hold a licence to take them; but what suicidal policy!

The river Tyne opens for both net and rod on February 1, and the spring-run fish, *with isolated exceptions*, do not commence until about the third of March, consequently a month earlier than the river should open, and causes the net fishermen to do a great amount of damage to spawned and baggit fish. For the sake of an odd fish or so, and taking into account labour, tear and wear of nets and boats, I question if the fishermen are into pocket. Grilse, sea and bull trout we have a fair run. According to the public press our *first grilse on the Tyne* this season was six weeks later than the *first grilse on the Tweed* this season, got by the boat and net fishermen.

Now we have another distinct run of salmon, commencing about from the 10th to the 20th August. If floods come, and not too quickly after each other, they come up in shoals or runs until the end of November and some well on to Christmas; and the chairman of the Tyne Conservancy Board gave it as his opinion that the Tyne salmon were becoming later every year. Note the grilse run on the Tweed by ours. I will make one more comparison. The Eden whitling commence to run the latter end of June; the Tyne whitling commence in September. Now if you compare notes you will find the *Eden* opens a fortnight later, and closes a fortnight later; and the Tweed closes a month later than the Tyne, although both rivers are much earlier than the Tyne. I will give you the late F. Buckland's answer to the first overtures for an alteration of the annual close time on the Eden. He said: "No, gentlemen, I could not advise the Home Secretary to alter your annual close time, as the Eden is one of the earliest rivers, if not the earliest river, in England."

Now our river Tyne is like other rivers to many autumn fish, for the available spawning-beds, and sport has been fairly good, but fish took short. I will give you an instance. Out of fourteen runs with the fly I only managed to land three.

Mac's experience has often been mine this season, and made me ease the cover of my senses, and gaze in wonder at the antics of the salmon.

For burn trout we have none, or practically none, and could be re-stocked with grayling and suitable trout for very little, and mere bagatelle to the riparian owners and landed gentry.

Now what I want to draw your attention to are the following points:—

(1) Is the spirit of the Conservancy Acts that fish should have a clear run during the weekly close-time to enable them to pass the nets?

(2) Are the Conservancy Board entitled to issue licences for boats and nets where a river is land-locked and the fish cannot pass at dead-low water.—Yours, &c., UNEFEFAR.

[(1) The only object of the weekly close-time is to enable the fish to pass the nets. (2) We should say the Board is entitled to issue licences under the circumstances mentioned.—ED.]

LARGE ROACH.

SIR,—In answer to "Inquirer," of a week or two back, I beg to inform him that there are three roach in our society's room weighing over two pounds. Weights, 2lb. 4oz., 2lb. 3¾oz., and 2lb. 1½oz., weighed in the club room. Can any of your numerous readers inform me whether I can insure our cases of fish against breakage? Any information will greatly oblige.—Yours, &c.,

A. PAYNE, Secretary.

Globe Angling Society,
Fonthill-road, Finsbury Park, N.

OULTON BROAD FISHERY.

DEAR SIR,—It does not follow that because the fishing is free, and there is no close-time, that it is not "*strictly preserved*," as "someone" seems to think. I daresay it has slipped your memory, otherwise you know (from articles in the *Fishing Gazette* of your own) that the fishing on Oulton Broad is kept up by subscription, out of which two water-bailiffs are employed, and we find it very hard to meet all demands attending it. Perhaps "someone" after this statement will forward the secretary a trifle in aid of this public work. The secretary's address is, Mr. L. T. Johnson, Harley House, London-road, Lowestoft.—I am, dear Sir, Yours truly, G. W. MASON.

[We explained to a correspondent who asked a question, that "strictly preserved" in Mr. Mason's advertisement did not mean that anglers were excluded, only poachers.—ED.]

Oulton Broad Fishery, Lowestoft.

A PERTINENT QUERY.

DEAR SIR,—In the club report of the Canning Town Angling Society, of the 12th December, I saw that Mr. C. Riley, one of the members hooked a roach (foul) and it says deficient of a mouth. I should also like to have seen this fish, as it must be a curiosity nowadays to see fish without mouths. How do they feed and exist?—I am, &c. BENJAMIN ABRAHAMS.

25, Silver-street, Kensington.

INFORMATION WANTED RESPECTING RAILWAY CONCESSIONS.

SIR,—The Northern Anglers' Association are in need of the fullest information as to the facilities granted by the various railway companies to anglers in all parts of the kingdom. Will secretaries of the various associations please forward same to

GEORGE S. SMEETH.

39, Hanging Ditch, Manchester.

THE PISCATORIAL SOCIETY.—CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

DEAR SIR,—The meetings of the above society will be held in the Piscatorial Saloon, Holborn Restaurant, W.C., on and after next Wednesday, December 23.—Yours faithfully,

W. T. GALLOWAY.

2, Compton-terrace, Highbury, N.

A CAUTION TO FISHING TACKLE MAKERS.

SIR,—We wish to caution the trade against an individual who is evidently bent on swindling. On the 15th inst., a man waited on Messrs. Bartleet and Sons, 53, Gresham-street, representing that he had been sent by our firm to procure two rods value fifty shillings on approval. He was asked for an official order, or trade card, but not being able to furnish either, the rods were promised to be sent on. It is needless to say we never authorised anyone to call, and that it was a clear attempt to swindle. Messrs. Bartleet and Sons are to be congratulated for the precaution they took.—Yours truly,

G. LITTLE AND CO.

IS A WHALE A FISH?

DEAR SIR,—The above query cropped up at the Newark Piscatorial Club Room the other evening. Will you kindly give an opinion, or invite replies in the *Gazette?*—Yours faithfully,

TRENTSIDER.

[The whale is not a fish, any more than the seal is. They are warm-blooded animals, breathing by means of lungs. Fish are cold-blooded animals, and breathe by means of gills.—ED.]

COARSE FISH IN A TROUT AND GRAYLING STREAM.

DEAR SIR,—As a constant reader of your valuable paper, may I ask, through your columns, for any suggestions which may help me in the following difficulty?

There is a certain trout and grayling stream near the borders of Wales which would be as near perfection as any river in this imperfect world could be were it not suffering under one curse, and that curse is coarse fish. My father is the proprietor of a trifle over five miles of the fishing, and both ourselves and all others who have the privilege of fishing in this very strictly preserved and beautiful stream are always asking ourselves how we may rid ourselves of the nuisance. The stream is an extraordinarily prolific one in the matter of fish life, for, in spite of the coarse fish, it contains plenty of trout of a good size (they average, as near as possible, ½lb.). On our own water we have had this year baskets of forty trout, weighing 20lb., and thirty-six trout weighing 17lb. (everything under 9in. long being returned to the water), in spite of the fact that it is proverbially a very shy river.

About five or six years ago there were no grayling in the river, but, just after that period, an upper proprietor turned some in, and these have in this short time thrived to such an extent that there is now good grayling fishing also. And now I come to my point, and that is, that the river *literally swarms* with coarse fish (principally chub and dace), and both of an exceptionally large size. We have caught this year chub of 4½lb., 3½lb., and so on. The chub are, of course, the chief offenders, as they no doubt destroy a lot of young trout and grayling, besides immense quantities of spawn; but both are equally guilty in consuming food which might go towards increasing, both in size and numbers, their nobler and sport-producing neighbours, they themselves, of course, being useless from a standpoint of sport.

Now, I take it as a generally acknowledged axiom that a river is capable of producing and maintaining a certain weight of fish, and that, if the coarse fish were absent, the trout and grayling, from the larger food supply which they would then get, would increase greatly in numbers or size—or both. From what I have said about the present numbers and weight of the trout and grayling, you can well imagine what the river would be if we could be freed from the "vermin" (for in that river we look on chub and dace as much as vermin as we do stoats and weasels in our pheasant coverts).

But now comes the difficulty—*How* to effectually get rid of them. The river has high banks covered with brushwood, and the streams alternate with long, very deep, sluggish pools, whose sides are a mass of roots and stubbs, which form natural strongholds for the coarse fish. We netted the streams and shallows some three or four years ago at great expense, with the result that we killed an immense number of coarse fish (in one shallow about 100yds. long we netted over a hundred), and did an immense deal of good to the fishing. But it is impossible to net the long, deep holes, and so now the river is getting over-run as much with the undesirable chub and dace as ever. It would be almost impossible to get a boat on to these pools, and the labour and cost of getting it there and getting it from pool to pool, over weirs and sharp, shallow streams for five miles, would be prohibitive. Even if we could do so, the roots, &c., at the sides and other difficulties would make it extremely problematical whether we could *anything like exterminate* the coarse fish. My old fisherman has often declared that he has a poison which he can mix up with some bait which will be taken by and destroy every coarse fish, but which will not hurt a single trout; but, of course, this is an experiment that would be far too dangerous to try.

Would it not be possible to destroy the coarse fish spawn wholesale by some means or other? and, if so, how? I have made a study from earliest boyhood of salmon and trout and the art of fishing for them, but coarse fish I know nothing about. Beyond that they mostly spawn in summer, I know nothing about their habits, and I should be much obliged if you could give me any information as to their times and places of spawning in a river such as I have described, and any suggestions which would lead to the destruction of our *bêtes noir* in the most expeditious and, if possible, least expensive way.

I hope that you will forgive my very long letter, my only excuse for which must be that, to do any good, I thought it best to explain at some length the peculiar features of the river in question. I would not trouble you, but that your readiness is so well known to assist the improvement of our fisheries, and I am sure that it is a question which seriously affects the welfare of one of our best western trout streams. The name of the river I withhold from obvious reasons, but I shall be happy to give it in confidence to yourself and also corroboration of the figures I have given in regard to numbers, weights, &c.—Yours faithfully,

DOUGLAS W. GRAHAM.

BLACK STAIN FOR FISHING-RODS.

SIR,—In your issue of the 19th, "Amateur" asks for a black stain for rods. In that delightful book, "A Year of Liberty," the author tells us if we want a black stain to "treat the parts with a strong solution of nitrate of silver, and afterwards with hydro-sulphuret of ammonia." And having tried this stain, I can add my humble testimony to its efficacy.—I am, &c., POORBEAH.

TROUT FISHING IN NEW ZEALAND.

DEAR SIR,—Our trout fishing season began here on the 1st Oct., and I send you a list of some of the takes for the month. In the Ashburton district the season opened on Sept. 22, but the fish were found by no means in condition, though some large takes were made. On Sept. 22, from the Rangitata, Mr. Huston took nine, scaling 53lb.; Mr. W. F. Somerville, ten, scaling 50lb., including two 8lb. fish. From the Rakaia, Mr. J. M. Cambridge, one, 8lb.; Mr. Fox, eight, 29lb.; Mr. Kidd, six, 16lb.; Mr. Pilbrow, thirty, weighing 171½lb., the four largest scaling 39lb. 12oz.; Mr. J. H. Stevens, eight, 50lb. Two days later Mr. Pilbrow was drowned at the mouth of the Rakaia, through wading too far into the water and being swept off by a wave.

In the Lower Selwyn, on Oct. 2, Mr. H. Kimber killed seven trout, weighing 42½lb.; Messrs. Everest Bros., six, 24lb.; Mr. John Greenslade, three, 10½lb., 7lb., and 5lb. On Oct. 3, Mr. Meddings, in the Upper Selwyn, eleven, with fly, averaging about 1lb. each. In the Waimakariri, at Stewart's Gully, Mr. Broadly, four, 20½lb.

On Oct. 6 a very curious take occurred in the Lyttelton Harbour. There is no stream flowing into the harbour, nor is there any fresh water within several miles. On pumping out the graving dock, for the purpose of doing some repairs to a ship, a trout was found in it weighing 13lb. 7oz., and was taken out by Mr. R. W. Grantham. The length was 30in., girth 20in.

In the Lower Selwyn, on Oct. 8 and 10, thirty-eight trout were taken out of one pool by two anglers. On Oct, 10, in the north branch of the Waimakariri, Mr. J. Haigh killed two fish, 8lb. and 2¼lb.; Mr. Greenslade, three, the largest being 10½lb.; Mr. Hunt, one, 9lb. The Temuka river is giving first-class sport: on Oct. 10, Mr. Cruikshank killed seventeen; Mr. Nicholas, fifteen, both with fly, the largest being 2lb. In the Waitiki, spinning on the 16th, Mr. Schulter, of Boundary Creek, killed sixteen, averaging 4lb.; Mr. Nicholas, however, beat this with twenty, weighing 101lb.

The small rivers south of Oamaru are yielding good sport with the fly, and on the Winchester stream, on the 24th, Mr. R. Young killed with the fly fifteen; and Mr. J. Twigg forty-three.

Our best month, November, is just coming in, and we hope to improve on this yet. I have been unfortunately unable to get away much yet, but, fishing with Mr Marciel and Mr. Walrond at Whiterock, on Oct. 23, we took eight, averaging 6lb. each, with creeper, on very light tackle.

This morning, in the *Christchurch Press* newspaper, appears the following from the Rakaia River: Mr. A. H. Shury, Mr. E. B. Simpson, and a friend, in two days, Oct. 29 and 30, caught forty-four trout, which turned the scale at 342lb. 8oz.; Mr. Simpson, twenty-two, 168lb. 8oz., including three of 12lb., three 9lb., one 10lb., five 8lb., and several 6lb., the smallest being 3lb. 8oz. I send you the newspaper of Nov. 3 for your perusal. I think this is the record for the present.—Yours, &c., W. H. Spackman,

President Canterbury Angling Society.

Christchurch, New Zealand.

HIGHLAND AND ISLAND ANGLING.

Dear Sir,—In my article (in your Christmas number) on "Highland and Island Angling," there are one or two small printer's errors which, with your permission, I would like to correct. "Unnumberable laughter" should read "innumerable laughter," which is the more correct and more beautiful rendering of the phrase as it occurs in that sublime passage in the "Prometheus Bound" (I think) of Æschylus, which begins "Oh, holy heaven, and ye swift-winged winds and waves of ocean." "*Innumerable laughter!*" "Clan Ronald" should read "Clan Ranald," and "Cornisk" of course "Coruisk."—Yours truly, Duine Môr.

London, 22nd December.

DINNER TO THAMES LOCK AND RIVER KEEPERS.

Sir,—Will you kindly permit me to acknowledge the receipt of contributions from the following sources, and to express my best thanks for the same: The Richmond Piscatorial Society, the Society of Caxtonians, the Gresham Angling Society, the United Brothers Angling Society, the Athenæum Angling Society, the Anchor and Hope Angling Society, the Hon. Sir Forth North, Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, Bart., M.P., Messrs. Andrew Pears, Philip Geen, F. Berry, W. L. Thomas, C. Farlow and Co., G. F. Wilson, S. B. Wilson, H. G. Wilson, Young and Co., G. H. Harrison, J.P., W. G. Fletcher, H. L. Foster, S. Allcock and Co., A. K. Davis, J. R. Bonamy, and the Rev. W. M. Snell; and I have also to thank those who have made complimentary reference to my long connection with the society.

I have much need of further contributions, and I would express a hope that many anglers who are not members will during this Christmas time send me something.

The dinner will take place at the Castle Hotel, Hampton Court Station, on Friday evening, February 5, as on that day thirty-three years ago I became connected with the society, and anyone wishing to be present at the dinner can attend on payment of a dinner ticket, which is five shillings.—Yours, &c., W. H. Brougham, Sec.

Pownell-gardens, Hounslow,
December 22, 1891.

TENACITY OF LIFE IN EELS.

Sir,—Many remarkable stories have been written about the tenacity of life in eels, but I do not know if any instance has been given showing how long an eel can live under ill-usage after being taken out of the water, which will beat the following story, which I heard from a respectable person, well acquainted with the facts, and whose veracity I do not doubt in the least particular. I give it nearly in his own words:—

"A poor old woman (a neighbour of mine) who lives on the banks of the Inny river, in the summer of 1889, killed a cock—rather an old bird—and carried it to the mouth of a little rivulet that flows into the Inny, to disembowel and wash it. The water was soon, as a matter of course, tinged with blood. This attracted an eel, about 4ft. long, which caught chanticleer's head, which was under the water at the time. The old woman tugged hard, but the slimy denizen of the river would not let go his grip. The cock's neck being tough from age, was equal to the strain, and the old woman, by a great effort, at length pulled the eel out of the water, but could not persuade it to release its grasp even then. The end of it was that she should bring both cock and eel home with her. This was no easy task, because the eel was knotting itself up into the most fantastic coils over her hand and arm. Just after the woman arrived at her house, a neighbouring man, who saw the eel dangling from the head of a plucked cock held in her hand, came in to inquire about the strange sight. After satisfying his curiosity, this man cut the eel's jaws, and the old woman's cock was at last separated from the eel and restored to her. The eel was then thrown out into the farmyard, where some boys picked it up, and began to pelt each other with it. This went on for a quarter of an hour, when the man above referred to came back and told the old woman that he had only just remembered that there was a cure or charm in a preserved skin of an eel, and that, at any rate, he had often heard that it was a good thing to have in a house. He volunteered to skin the eel himself, and went and brought it back from the boys who were treating it so roughly. It was still "*all alive*," and the head should be cut off before the operation of skinning could be safely commenced. After the job was finished, the eel, now minus the head and skin, was thrown across a stout iron peg in the wall of the house. For a short time it remained motionless and limp—for a short time only—for it once more *knotted itself* up, fell wriggling on the floor, and was kicked out."

This was my informant's story, and it is certainly rather tough; but eels are tough also; and if this story is quite correct—and I have no reason to doubt it—the eels of the Inny river would appear to be particularly so.—Yours, &c.,

T. J. Dennehy.

CLOSE-TIME FOR NET FISHING FOR SALMON AND TROUT.

Sir,—I see that your issue of last Saturday says that "The *Dublin Gazette* of the 11th inst. contains an order of the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries, making the period from August 1 to January 1 following the close time for net fishing for salmon and trout in the Lismore district (Co. Cork)." There must be some mistake in this. I did not see the *Dublin Gazette* in question, but such an order would leave only one hundred and fifty-three close days. Now the 21st section of 26th and 27th Vic., cap. 114, enacts that "the annual close season shall not comprise fewer than one hundred and sixty-eight days in each fishery," and it is not in the power of the Inspectors of Irish Fisheries to alter this Act.—Yours, &c.,

Clonmel. Richard Bradford.

THE NORTHERN ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION.

Dear Sir,—I see it stated in your last week's edition, in respect to the memorials to the railway companies by the Northern Anglers' Association, of which body we are members, that the number of signatures from Liverpool was twelve. There must be some mistake here, as I obtained about one hundred signatures, and I should think our two local tackle-dealers, Mr. W. Ramsbottom and Mr. J. Whitby, must have got as many more.

Perhaps you will kindly publish this letter, and so obtain me a reply from whoever compiled the return.—Yours truly, R. Woolfall, Secretary.

THE PEOPLE WE MEET WITH!

From a Gillie's Point of View.

The devil, it is said, is not so black as he is painted; it depends on the humours and whims of the artist who takes his Satanic Majesty's visage in hand. Neither is the gillie so bad a fellow, after all, much depending on how he is dealt with by his patrons, and being either made or marred according as he is well treated or the reverse. The patron he loves most to meet with is the genial all-round sportsman, who gives him "plenty of rope," as far as his own skill and experience is concerned, and who knows how to bestow a word of praise, as well as the looked-for tip at the close of the day, as the case may be.

These open-minded, open-handed, sport-loving anglers, are often found to be past-masters of the art. They are no novices, and the word duffer is never breathed in their presence. They bring a genial warmth wherever they go, which in itself often brings luck from its very cheerfulness, and commands the utmost resources of all within reach to ensure success. They are welcomed as the rays of the morning sun, and their slightest behest is obeyed with alacrity. They are sportsmen and gentlemen to boot.

"He's a very goot shentlemans, Mr. Cameron. He asked for my wife and little Roary, man, as soon as he met me."

Yes. He is not stuffed full to the throat with his own poor miserable self, and his own selfish concerns, blinded with avarice, suspicion, jealousy of everything and everybody, but has a kindly word and a kindly consideration for all around him.

Thank God! these true sportsmen are by no means rare; although they might be more plentiful than they are. They are not drawn from any one class, and include professional as well as non-professional men, very rich as well as comparatively poor men, the noble as well as the plebeian, the politician, and the non-politician; but the crotchety, egotistical bombast finds no place in their ranks, be his title or wealth what it may.

The Army colonel is a lovable companionable sportsman, whom it is a pleasure to serve, after he is *broken in*. But he needs breaking in! He has very likely fished in India or Canada, or elsewhere, and has acquired the art abroad, with a body-servant and one or two of the rank and file as his gillies and attendants. The word of command has become second nature to him, and such a thing as calling in the opinion of a gillie into the *council of war*, is as foreign to his nature as blacking his own boots, and probably more so. He never carries a flask, and if so, it is purely for himself and his own consumption. He is punctual and exacting to a degree, and seems never to have a tire. It is impossible to read his thoughts, and there is a cold frigid feeling about him which is anything but desirable or attractive. He has to be broken off from these, very desirable qualities as a soldier; and very soon he comes to see that his wants are more carefully attended to by persuasion, and those little platitudes and condescending kindnesses, than by force of disciplinary characteristics. He becomes a man of the world if he is wise, or he remains a stuck-up, starchy, frosty individual, who is obeyed and followed through fear, and whose plights and misfortunes have but little sympathy with the crowd, while inward, even his best friends say, "Serve him right!"

But the Army man is not nearly so impecunious and mercenary an individual as the Navy officer, when he goes a-hunting or a-fishing. His "life on the ocean wave" has taught him all the make-shifts and cheese-parings of domestic economy, and his great fear is that he may ruin himself in running up an account with the tackle-dealer, that he cannot get the extreme use of the last rig-out in casting lines and flies, which have been twice round the world, perhaps, during the past few years, and that he cannot get a good enough market for the fish he caught, or which were caught for him! His parsimony and extreme economy evolve great meanness unless he yields them up in time, and becomes a sportsman and gentleman after the manner born.

The professional and business man, if a sportsman, has been a sportsman all his days. There is a story current on Deeside, that when the late Lord Beaconsfield visited the Queen at Balmoral, and met her favourite attendant, the late John Brown, he (the Earl) took him always by the hand, with "How do you do, *my friend?*" and it was remarked that John's assiduous attention on Disraeli was in marked contrast to many another Minister in attendance, whose code of etiquette forbade him to bend to a menial. The incident points a moral, if it does not adorn a tale. The true sportsman will see in his gillie a friend as well as a servant. Dod.

Interesting to Anglers.—Mr. John Kershaw, jun., president of the Palatine Angling Association, and assistant secretary of the Longsight Anglers' Society, Cheshire, has had five of the principal fish he has captured this season preserved, and mounted in a handsome case covered with bowed glass. The fish consist of a splendid chub, which weighed 3lb. when caught out of the Cheshire waters; two good specimens of roach, a dace, and a trout. They are quite a study for followers of the piscatorial art, being natural as life. The workmanship does credit to the artist, Mr. Ellis Wild, taxidermist, Tib-street, Manchester; and Mr. Kershaw has intimated his willingness to allow any lover of angling to inspect them, if they will call at his residence, the Church Inn, Longsight.

SUPPLEMENT TO THE FISHING GAZETTE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1891.

NOTES FROM BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

THE annual meeting of the Anglers' Pride Society, Royal Oak Inn, Barr-street, Hockley, was held on Thursday evening, the 17th inst, Mr. S. Kendall presided. The annual balance-sheet showed that the balance in hand, after all liabilities had been disbursed, was £26 18s. 11d. The auditors in their report spoke in high praise of the manner in which Mr. E. Glover, the secretary, had kept the accounts of the club. The election of officers for the ensuing year was next proceeded with, when Mr. S. Kendall was unanimously elected as president. Mr. W. Carrier was elected vice-president, and Mr. E. Glover was re-elected secretary; Mr. G. Swain, the worthy host, was also re-elected treasurer, whilst Messrs. Twist and T. Swain were elected as auditors. The committee was next elected, when the seven following gentlemen were duly proposed and elected—namely, Messrs. Bird, Colesby, Hobell, Townsend, Tongue, Heaton, and Jarvis. The meeting took into consideration the Birmingham Anglers' Benevolent Society, the members listening very attentively to what was said, and all in the room expressed their intention to become identified with the society, and it was finally resolved to call a special general meeting after Christmas, so that the whole of the members should have the matter placed before them, and if possible get the members to join in a body.

THE adjourned annual meeting of the St. George's Society was held at the club-house, the Waggon and Horses Parade, on Monday evening last, to consider several important alterations in the club rules. Mr. A. G. Hall presided, and Mr. C. White occupied the vice-chair. The first business was respecting the days upon which the society should, in future, hold its contests, a certain portion of the members being in favour of all the contests being fished on Sunday. This was the purport of the resolution, which, after considerable discussion, was put to the meeting and lost by the narrow majority of three votes. The next business was respecting the raising of the subscription of the members for the purpose of forming a fund for the preservation of specimen fish caught from the club's private waters. This brought about a protracted discussion, which ended in the resolution which pointed to raising the subscriptions for the purpose indicated being lost by one vote.

THE question of the increase of friend's tickets was settled by the society deciding to make the charge one shilling per day instead of sixpence as formerly. Owing to the weather, the Christmas contest will, I understand, not take place.

THE Belmont Society had a rare jolly night on Thursday, the 17th inst., upon which occasion they held a smoking concert; Mr. T. Coles presided. The concert was in every way a success, and was well attended, as over sixty of the members and friends turned up to do honour to the occasion. Mr. Hands presided at the piano; and the vocal portion of the programme left nothing to be desired. Great praise was due to Mr. D. Currie for the manner in which he worked in order to make the concert a success.

MR. T. BUSHELL, of the Waggon and Horses Parade, Birmingham, has obtained a number of cases of preserved specimen fish from the members of the St. George's Society, and he has placed them on view in the liquor vaults. The whole of the fish are well worthy an inspection, and should any of my readers be in this vicinity during the holidays, I should advise them to give "Our Tom" a call.

THE weather during the last few days has been dry and frosty; the pools in our parks are frozen over, and the canals outside Birmingham have been frozen to such an extent that the ice-boat has been used to break the ice, in order that the navigation could be carried on. This state of affairs will cause the postponement of the Christmas contests, that is if the present weather continues, which from the present outlook there is every indication of such being the case.

NOTES FROM LANCASHIRE.

THE adjourned annual meeting of the Manchester District of the Amalgamated Anglers' Association was held at the Farmyard Inn, Blackley, the headquarters of the Royal Walton Club, on Dec. 17. There was a good attendance of delegates and members. Mr. Geo. S. Smeeth (president) occupied the chair. The most important item of business—that of the proposal to withdraw the two delegates usually sent by this district to the council of districts' delegates—was at once proceeded with. A long but exceptionally good-tempered discussion followed, which included an amendment to send two delegates for one more year, and then finally withdraw. On the amendment being put to the meeting, only two voted for it; the original motion, on being submitted, received the support of seventeen delegates, and was declared carried. Considering that seventeen out of twenty delegates voted for the motion, the voice of the district must be considered as unanimous, as out of the remaining three two were in favour of the principle, but wished it for a time postponed, and the remaining delegate remained neutral. The next item was a proposition by Mr. Geo. Yates, that a sum of £2 2s. be subscribed to the fund for promoting the lectures now being given by various gentlemen in the Manchester Centre of the Northern Anglers' Association. The passing of this motion unanimously is a graceful act, and will do much towards establishing on a firm basis the federation of all anglers in this district. A resolution of sympathy with the Northwich Anglers, in their endeavours to stop the pollution of the Dane, was also unanimously passed, and instructions were given to the sub-committee to take steps towards providing a room centrally situated suitable for holding the future meetings of the district in. Owing to prior arrangements, the next place of meeting had to be changed from the headquarters of the Shakespeare Club to those of the Cambrian.

PROFITTING by the many days during last winter when all chance of a day's fishing was a thing impossible, some of our "merry anglers" have this winter devised means of enjoying themselves in pursuit of knowledge appertaining to natural history. For this purpose a party of three paid a visit to the ponds of Burnage, not to emulate the immortal Pickwick, in his efforts to elucidate the Littlebat question, but to make observations on the habits and, if possible, procure specimens of snails and other living things usually found in well-appointed aquarias. The specimen obtained by the president must have been a remarkable one, and afforded some exciting sport. We must congratulate him on his escape from an inglorious death, and express our thanks to his two friends who, by rescuing him, saved an application to the insurance department of the *F. G.* No doubt the landing-net so successfully used on this occasion will find a permanent place amongst the archives of the club.

THE Royal Walton Angling Society held their annual dinner on Dec. 18, at headquarters. Mr. William Smith (the president) occupied the chair. The balance-sheet, read by the secretary, proved of a highly satisfactory character. The chairman's opening remarks, dealing with the season's doings, were concise and to the point. To attempt any detailed account of the musical programme is out of the question in these Notes.

AGAIN referring to the 25lb. pike captured in Poynton Pool, and to which Mr. Kershaw, jun., alludes in his letter, printed in our issue of the 19th inst., it is gratifying to learn reliable information as to the specimen now on view at Stockport. If Mr. Kershaw would favour us with the location of the pike that was found dead by the keeper, those sceptics who are still unsatisfied would be for ever silenced.

THE Manchester Centre Council of the N.A.A. is summoned for Jan. 4. One of the chief items of the business for that evening is the reception of a deputation from the clubs forming the Manchester District of the amalgamation which, on the 17th inst., decided to withdraw the two delegates usually appointed to the parent association.

NOTES FROM NOTTINGHAM.

AS soon as the flood water in our district got the turn it receded at a surprisingly rapid rate, and on Monday the Trent was low enough for either pike or chub fishing. When the flood reached its maximum height, the marks at the Trent Bridge showed that nine feet four inches of extra water were running. Unfortunately for the votaries of *esox lucius* most of the backwaters inland are covered with ice of some degree of thickness, and those who had looked forward to the enjoyment of a choice bit of sport at Christmas are likely to be disappointed. Baits are plentiful enough, but these are useless without the fish; of course I refer to pike. So long as the mouths of the backwaters in the river remain open, fishermen will stand a chance, but depend on it, those who get the first turn will fare the best. Pike fishing closes for the season on most of the subscription reaches with the advent of the New Year, and all things considered the sport met with has certainly been below the average. One great drawback has been the ever-fluctuating state of the river. Last Saturday at Colwick one of the subscribers killed three very handsome fish with the live bait, and on Monday six were caught in the Clifton Waters. On Friday and Saturday small fish anglers were out at Wilford, Beeston, Barton, and Trent Lock, and roach were found to accept the maggot and bread paste somewhat freely. There is nothing doing amongst bream, perch, or dace, and during the continuance of the frost nothing will prove so stirring as a day amongst the chub with a good supply of bullock's pith and brains.

A FEW particulars *anent* the takes of salmon in the river during the past season may not be out of place. Nearly all the fish were caught in the Shardlow and King's Mills lengths, and it is satisfactory to know they attained a large size. Sport opened in April, and on the 15th of that month Mr. G. Copenhurst, of Burton-on-Trent (late Derby) hooked and landed one of 18½lb. in the well-known Channel Swim below King's Mills Ferry. On the following day Mr. T. Wood, Nottingham (the lessee), killed one of 18lb., in the Lane End Swim above the ferry; and on the 17th, Mr. A. Green took one of 16lb. in the deep run at Colwick Weir Head. On April 27, Mr. Copenhurst killed his second fish, one of 26lb., in the Long Swim at Shardlow, and the next day, in the same meadow, Mr. J. Lowater, of Nottingham, took one of 10lb. This fish, however, was in very poor condition and would have been returned excepting for having been so terribly hooked. On May 5, Mr. Copenhurst was again to the fore, landing a fish of 16lb. in the Channel Swim already mentioned, and six days later, Mr. Wood caught one of 11½lb. in his favourite hole at the Lane End. He also lost one estimated at 20lb. On May 20, Holmes, the Weston keeper, took one of 12lb. above Wenham Hole at King's Mills; and on June 2 Mr. Wood registered his third one of 13lb. at the Lane End. After this the river underwent a much-needed change, and on the water again fining down, Mr. S. Marcer, of Derby, landed the heaviest fish of the year. This he hooked in the Long Swim, Shardlow, and had a very tough struggle with it; when weighed at Derby, it turned the beam at 27lb. Two days subsequently, or on June 22, Mr. George Beeton, of Radford, killed one of 14lb. in the same meadow, and this virtually brought the spring fishing to a close.

NOTES FROM SHROPSHIRE.

A KEEN and invigorating frost has succeeded the lengthy spell of dreary wet weather that we experienced in the early part of the month, but anglers have discarded the rod and turned to the more jovial pleasures of the festive season. The river after the flood has toned down into splendid condition, but the delights of skating have been too great for anglers, however enthusiastic, to withstand, even were they inclined to seek the voracious pike. Consequently the calendar of piscatorial pursuits during the week remains a blank.

IT is announced that a meeting of those conservators who are interested in the upper part of the fisheries will be held to-day (Saturday, the 26th), at 12.30, for the purpose of considering what steps are to be taken with regard to the annual close time for salmon as it is necessary that something should be decided on before the next meeting of the Board. Mr. Edmund Buckley, the hon. sec. to the Montgomeryshire Conservators, asks that those Conservators who are unable to be present will communicate with him and give their views upon the matter, so that they may be made known at to-day's meeting. Thus it will be seen that the Upper Severn Conservators are animated by a praiseworthy determination not to allow this question to drop until some practical steps are taken to improve the salmon fishing.

NOTES FROM TYRONE.

THE rivers and streams have subsided considerably in the past week, and they have returned to their embankments. In many places I hear that where the rivers overflowed their banks, large numbers of trout, salmon and pike were left in the flooded meadows and holms.

LAST week I adverted to the shameless poaching in Lough Neagh. Since then the local newspapers have taken the matter up, and some startling statements have been made in their columns. One correspondent—a gentleman named Wakefield—asserts that even in broad daylight the Bann and other feeders on the southern or Armagh shores, have been netted by the fishermen, and attributes this to the negligence of the water-keepers. This must cause dreadful havoc among the spawning trout, salmon, and what is just as valuable to the fisher—the pollen.

COARSE fishing is decidedly dull. The floods have rendered shore angling very unpleasant, and the plentiness of bottom feeding after the freshets seem to dull the appetites of perch, pike, and bream. Last Wednesday evening, during a favourable spell, I tried the Stewartstown Lakes—a small ten-acre piece of water—and in about an hour I had seven very nice perch. The pike lately put into the lake by Mr. C. R. Stevenson and myself are apparently thriving. No disease as yet has appeared among the perch. Eels have ceased to run to Lough Neagh from the lakes and swamps.

SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE READING OF PAPERS AT ANGLING CLUBS.—The members of this society met on Friday night at the Citizen, Houndsditch. As Mr. Walbran's recent lecture was such a successful event, the committee decided to take the Foresters' Hall again for Mr. Hearder's sea-fishing lecture. The date has yet to be fixed, but it is believed that the meeting will take place early next February. We understand that the lecturer will exhibit a large assortment of fishing tackle used in the sea and the committee have every reason to think that another great treat is in store for the London anglers.—Concerning the lecture at the Silver Trout Club in January, Mr. Shrubsole announced that owing to the great demand on his time he had been obliged to abandon his paper on "Bags, Baskets, and Creels," with the accompanying exhibition. He will, however, read a paper on the date fixed on another subject, the title of which will be duly announced in the *Fishing Gazette*.—The discussion concerning the proposed medal was again adjourned until January 8, when the next meeting will be held.—Mr. McDermott, on behalf of the Izaak Walton Society, applied for a paper to be read before the club about the middle of January. A vote of thanks was passed to the chairman (Mr. Tibbatts) for presiding and the proceedings shortly afterwards terminated.

INTERESTING TO ALL ANGLERS.—The Second Lady in the Land is an ardent pike-fisher, and she is as beautiful as she is good and popular. From the day of the Danish Princess's entry and magnificent reception into London, nearly twenty-nine years ago, until now, Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales has literally "reigned" in the hearts of the British nation. All anglers should, therefore, either openly or mentally congratulate the good Princess and her Royal Husband upon the betrothal of their eldest son, the Duke of Clarence and Avondale, with the beautiful daughter of the Princess Mary of Teck—an ideal Englishwoman—and the handsome Duke of Teck. The last-named has become popular among the people of Richmond and neighbourhood. The forthcoming marriage will draw, if possible, the bonds of Royalty towards our venerable Queen and the Crown, since the alliance might be said to be very popular with the English people, and one which, humanly speaking, might prove of permanent good and security to the monarchical institution of these realms.—RUS.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Dangerous Chest Complaints.—The enumeration of these diseases is scarcely necessary, as, unfortunately, most Englishmen know them to their cost. Coughs, common colds, influenza, bronchitis, asthma, pleurisy, inflammation of the lungs, and even consumption in its early stages, are best treated by rubbing Holloway's Ointment upon the chest and upon the back between the shoulders. It penetrates internally, checks the cold shiverings, relieves the overgorged lungs, gradually removes the oppression from the chest, and restores the obstructed respiration, hitherto so distressingly disagreeable and highly dangerous. In treating this class of diseases, Holloway's Pills should always be taken while using his Ointment; they purify the blood, promote perspiration, and allay dangerous irritations.

TADDY'S GOLD FLAKE TOBACCO

REPORTS FROM RIVERS, LOCHS, &c.

☞ *River Reporters who want forms and envelopes should send a post card to the Manager of the* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter-lane, London.*

Time of High Water in the Thames.

To find the time of high water in the Thames at any of the following places, to the time of high water at London Bridge given below,

Add	30 min. for	Chelsea.	Add	55 min. for	Kew.
	40 ,, ,,	Putney.		75 ,, ,,	Richmond.
	45 ,, ,,	Hammersmith.		80 ,, ,,	Twickenham.
	50 ,, ,,	Barnes.		85 ,, ,,	Teddington.

EXAMPLE:—If it is high water at 2 o'clock at London Bridge, it will be high water at Teddington at 3.25 or 85 minutes later.

N.B.—A strong wind up-stream accelerates the tide very much, and one down-stream retards it.

TIME OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.

	Morning.	Evening
Saturday, Dec. 26	10. 3	10.35
Sunday, ,, 27	11. 4	11.34
Monday, ,, 28	11.58	—
Tuesday, ,, 29	0.24	0.46
Wednesday ,, 30	1. 8	1.30
Thursday, ,, 31	1.51	2.11

English and Welsh Reports.

Lower Thames.—GENERAL REMARKS.—At the closing portion of last week the weather made a desirable change; instead of a repeated continuance of rainy and stormy squalls, there was a sharp, bright, crispy cold atmosphere, evidencing the more natural character of the approach of Father Christmas; and the very appearance of the Christmas Number of the *Fishing Gazette* was redolent of the festive season, and a right good number it is. There were several things in it which brought back the records of days gone by—first of all the monster trout, caught by the late Mr. Forbes, which I had the pleasure of witnessing the day after its capture; and the reference to our late scaly painter, Mr. H. L. Rolfe, with the illustration of one of his fine pictures, "The First Lesson," of which I have a large photograph, and a smaller one, which he presented to me. I am glad to find arrangements have been made for holding a piscatorial exhibition at the Royal Aquarium, Westminster, in the month of February next, for fishing rods and other appliances used in catching fish, and I heartily wish it every success. I remember the one of a more extended character which was held there in the month of June, 1877, and I hold a bronze medal as one of the jurors on that occasion. That one was taken up by the directors of the Aquarium, who offered a series of prizes of gold and silver medals, and the exhibits of stuffed fish in cases was a most interesting item. There were contributions from fifteen angling clubs, and forty-six from private individuals. I have no doubt the coming exhibition will be a good one, and with the very popular entertainments now given from the central stage, it will attract a large attendance of visitors. I am sure the executive of the Aquarium will do their best to make it generally attractive. The Piscatorial Society this week has made a change of quarters, and it now hails in the Piscatorial Saloon at the Holborn Restaurant, where I am satisfied the members will be well looked after by Mr. T. J. Hamp, who is himself one of its members; and nothing gave me more satisfaction than to learn the committee had succeeded in finding a home there. They were in some difficulty in making the change to find a suitable room, and I think they have now been successful.—B.

ANGLING RESULTS.—There is very little to be said as regards angling, but there is this information: "The water is getting clearer, and has been going down since last Saturday." The general report is that some fine roach and dace have been taken from the banks between Richmond and Sunbury, but on Saturday last there was almost a total absence of anglers, either on the banks or in the punts, but on the day following the anglers were more conspicuous, as over sixty bank fishers were counted between Richmond and Kingston. Their visit was not productive of any good. All will depend upon the condition of the weather as to any fishing during the Christmas holidays. The death of Mr. John Maddison Morton, on Saturday last, reminds me of one of his angling triumphs in the Thames at Hampton some years ago. When fishing there with William Milbourne, he caught at one time on a paternoster with two hooks, a splendid brace of perch, weighing together 6lb.

Upper Thames.—The hard frost which has prevailed severely in the Thames Valley during the last four days, has enabled the flood-water to drop away from the channel of the river very fast, so enthusiastic anglers, who can and care to brave the bitter cold, will have a chance of "tight lines," during what will undoubtedly be a Christmas of ye olden times. The flooded meadows adjacent to the Thames are all frozen over, and I think the whirr of the skate will be more heard for some time than that of the winch. In an artistic point of view the river surroundings are just now beautiful in the extreme, every tree, branch, and twig being outlined with white frost. My own feelings, perhaps a little senile, would rather point to home comforts, rather than to river angling discomforts. However, I wish my brother anglers a "right Merrie Christmas, and may all the amenities of the season attend them; may good digestion wait on appetite, and health on both, with plenty of oof to keep the fish in the swim, well on the feed.—MARLOW BUZZ.

Thames (Windsor).—The very sudden but very welcome change has caused the water to drop considerably, and though very high, will, contrary to expectation, be fishable by the 26th inst., in fact it should be in good order for jack and chub. It is some years since such safe and enjoyable skating could be indulged in over meadow land. The frost setting in just as the river was at its highest a very large area of land was under water. As a consequence many fine sheets of ice are within easy reach of either station. Since my last, I can hear of no one being bold enough, or I might say mad enough to attempt angling.—B. R. BAMBRIDGE.

Chichester Canal and Sussex Rivers.—The angling prospects for the holidays have vastly improved with a continuance of frosts. Pike are on feed in many districts, and the water is fast resuming its normal height; but there is plenty left in the lowlands to afford skating to those who choose to indulge. Mr. Jas. Wright, at Chichester Canal, has secured a few good pike latterly. As the most enthusiastic fisherman in these parts, and knowing every inch of the water, 'tis hard lines if he is not rewarded with sport. A few good roach have been taken from the Arun in favoured spots, and the Ouse has yielded roach from the eddies—and good fish, too—with a few pike, but none noteworthy. The Rother is running like a mill-race, and the Adur will suit those who like a rapid swim. The tidal waters, as a rule, are not available, except at certain stages of the tide. I wish all our readers fine weather, good sport, and a happy Christmas. Piking I should recommend in the present state of the weather.

Douglas (Isle of Man).—There has been a marked improvement in the weather, but the rivers have not as yet fallen sufficiently low to ascertain what damage the recent severe floods have done to the spawning-beds. However, the barometer is high and steady, and the thermometer shows the water in our streams to be at a good temperature for the ova. Sea fishing has much improved since last week, and bait is plentiful.—STORMY PETREL.

Great Haywood and District.—The Trent and Sowe are now in excellent condition for pike. Principal catches last week were a good take of perch and bream, heaviest perch 1lb. 12¼oz.; heaviest bream, 3lb. 3½oz.; and a pike of 12¾lb., in good condition.—W. W. P.

Lea and Stort.—The rivers have fined down in consequence of the dry frosty weather we have had for the last week, but there has not been much sport, and now anglers' prospects for the holidays, look anything but rosy, as, if the present cold continues, it looks much more like skating than fishing. There are some ardent fishermen, however, who will not be denied, and who will have a turn at their favourite pastime, no matter how cold it is; certainly the present dry frost is much to be preferred to one like we had this time last year, when there was several inches of sloppy snow on the banks; under the existing circumstances wherever anglers can find a spot, sheltered from the wind and a piece of water uncovered by ice, the chances of sport are not altogether bad for those who can stand the cold; for roach, perch, and especially jack, will feed well. I can understand fishing for the latter and using a spinning bait, as there is a chance then of keeping the blood in circulation, but to sit down to a roach swim, or to live baiting is beyond me; the jack are now in first rate condition, especially in the Lea, which is a somewhat late river for them. There have have only been a very few roach, perch, and jack, taken during the past week, nothing amongst them calling for special notice. That all fishermen may spend a Merry Christmas either by fireside or riverside, is the hearty wish of—SPLICED JOINT.

Lugg and Arrow (Leominster).—Both these streams have improved since last week, and are now clear and lowered, and in order for fishing. The weather has been fine, but very cold and frosty, and the greyling have been more on the move, but few anglers have visited the water of late, fishing being quiet. The Pinsley is fishing order.

Lugg, Arrow, and Pinsley (Kingsland).—Since Wednesday we have been favoured with fine days, and sharp frosts at night, which have caused these rivers to sink very rapidly. By Thursday (should present weather hold), bottom fishing may be resumed in places, though possibly there may still be rather much water. By Monday, rivers should be in capital order, and good sport may be looked for during the holidays.—R. T. WILLIAMS.

Ouse (Brandon, Norfolk).—During the last two weeks the rainy weather put a stop upon fishing. We have now had a few fine frosty days, and the water is now getting into good order for all-round fishing, especially for pike and perch. Live-bait being now a little trouble to get, those who require any, in order to save time, should write to the Ram Hotel to secure them, there being several required. This is all free water, with plenty of boats to be had. By the Town Bridge there are several good roach swims full of fish—good ones. They can be had middle day with gentles or brandling worms. Anglers had better take a good stock of gentles with them. Railway service excellent. With suitable weather sport must be good.—J. O. GEORGE.

Teme (Ludlow).—The Teme in this district is now gone down and cleared, and is in capital order for angling. The weather has been cold, and sharp frosts have been had, and anglers who care to venture out will find some good sport with the Grasshopper and maggot. The grayling are feeding at the Grasshopper, and one or two nice fish have been taken, but few anglers have been out. The Ony, Corve, Clun, and Ledwyche, are all clear and in good fishing order. No anglers have been out of late.—S. LUDLOW.

Teme (Tenbury).—In this part the water has cleared and lowered, and is now in capital order for grayling fishing. The cold frosty nights and foggy mornings have made fish well on the feed, but little has been done amongst them of late. The Rea, Kyre, and Ledwyche, are all clear.—WORCESTER.

Trent (Newark).—A welcome and seasonable atmospheric change occurred shortly after my last note was dispatched, which quickly had the effect of reducing the amount of flood water and bringing the Trent and tributaries into approachable condition, and bottom fishermen commenced operations with the usual lures, after a fresh, of worms and bread paste, and should the present satisfactory condition continue, pike and chub fishermen will, I anticipate, hold high hands during the festival, though fourteen degrees of frost, as registered to-day (Monday) will deter some from participating in the sport. A marvellous two-pennyworth, and that it continues to improve was the unanimous opinion passed on the Christmas Number of the *Gazette*, and may its readers have a "right merrie time, and sport to their soul's content."—TRENTSIDER.

Severn (Shrewsbury).—A seasonable and invigorating frost put an end to angling operations this week; for although the river has been in good condition for pike fishing after the flood, the weather has been too severe to permit anglers to betake themselves to the Severn-side.

Scotch Reports.

Dee, Don, &c.—With a continuance of the past favourable weather for another week or so, we will be within measurable distance of another season. Already spring fish are appearing in certain early rivers, and although we do not look for the earliest of them much before the end of January, yet they have (under such favourable running conditions as have prevailed lately) been known to take to the Dee and Don even before the advent of the New Year, although not in any great quantity. Everything as yet points to an early season, which will greatly enhance the value of the upper waters.—G. M.

Thurso (Halkirk)—The river is again in flood; a fine thaw set in on Friday, The water is clear as crystal, owing to the recent high floods having carried off all the autumn decayed vegetable matter. This will encourage the migration of salmon. Kelts appear healthy, although a few have some scars received in their spawning *melees*. There are as yet but few dead ones to be seen, and these die from natural causes. Trout appear lively for the season of the year; they "show" freely on a fine day. Dr. Bell, the Unionist candidate for Caithness, in some of his stump speeches, said he was in favour of allowing the public to fish for salmon and trout in all rivers as far as the tide goes. He said they ought to be as free to the public within tide-mark as cod are!—A. H.

Tweed, &c.—The Border rivers have now once more fallen to their normal winter level, being about one foot above their usual summer level. The weather is now seasonable for the time of year—frosty, with a nice bracing air—but how long this will last no one can venture to predict. A few of the all-year-round anglers have been trying their luck during the past few days, but the trouble was not worth the catch, only a few most unseasonable trout being their reward, and the fish not worth the cooking. Salmon spawning is now progressing on all the available reaches of the river suitable for this purpose, and many "pairs" of salmon are now to be observed on both Tweed and Teviot exercising Nature's duty. The "redds" are in the best possible condition, and the late floods have done immense good in cleansing the streams from all foulness and impurities, and by laying down a capital bedding of gravel and sand, which serve as splendid spawning "redds" for the *Salmonidæ*.—MAXWHEEL.

Irish Reports.

Ballinderry (East Tyrone).—The river has fallen to its ordinary winter level, but no sport has been had yet. Neither pike or perch are feeding well, and bream are not much sought after. The smaller salmon have spawned, but the heavier fish will not come on for another week or more. Sake have spawned and are returning to the lough. The spawning season has been a success on the lower—the more important—reaches, but on the upper stretches poachers have been busy, as those waters are unprotected.—J. A. B.

Reports from Clubs

We beg to request Secretaries to post their Reports not later than **Wednesday Night,** *addressed "Editor* FISHING GAZETTE, *St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London," and marked* CLUB REPORT *outside envelope. Post Card Reports preferred unless for special meetings.*

Anglers' Benevolent Society, Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell-road, Clerkenwell, E.C.—Since my last report I beg to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of £1 15s. from the donation box of the Camden Angling Society. The next meeting of the committee will take place on Friday evening, January 8, at 8.30.—R. GHURNEY, sec.

Anglers' Pride Angling Society, the City Arms, Great Dover-street, Old Kent-road.—Our monthly outing on the 13th inst. at Windsor was a failure, one prize only being taken, by H. Scutt, with a small barbel. Wednesday last was our quarterly night, when a discussion arose concerning the fishing for monthly prizes. It was decided to call a special meeting of the members on Wednesday, January 6, when I hope all will be in attendance.—J. TUCKER, hon. sec.

Bermondsey Brothers Angling Society, Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey.—The members of the above society fished a competition at Twickenham on the 20th for their December series of prizes. Seventeen members took part in the competition, but not one of them were able to get above the stipulated ½lb. required by rule, consequently the prizes will be added on to the January series. The next visit on the Central Association List will be to this society, on Tuesday, Jan. 5, when the favour of the company of the representatives from the various societies, will be esteemed a favour.—A. CONN, hon. sec.

Clapham Junction Angling Society, the Clarence, Winstanley-road, S.W.—On the 20th inst. the following weighed in: Messrs. T. Jameson, 3lb. 4½oz., jack; Mr. Turner, 10oz., roach; and Mr. Robinson, 1lb. 14oz. dace (winning a prize for Christmas outing).—A. TROWBRIDGE, secretary.

Independent Brothers Angling Society, Three Doves, 24, Berwick-street, Oxford-street, W.—On the 20th inst. Mr. Pope weighed in. At our last meeting, Messrs. Holders were duly elected members. We distributed our Christmas prizes on Thursday last. Members are informed that they can fish from the 25th to the 27th; so that this will extend over the holidays; one weighing in only.—SNAP.

Lady of the Lake Angling Association, Queen of England Hotel, Shepherd's Bush.—Several of our members have arranged angling excursions for the Christmas holidays, and hope to be in a position to report some good results. We had a nice show of roach on the 20th inst., many turning the scale at 1lb. Messrs. A. B. Mason, T. Salter, and H. Salter got among the chub, but strange to say out of a good many landed, not one came up to our standard, which is 12in. They were returned to the river.—T. SALTER, hon. sec.

MAZAWATTEE TEA

Liverpool Angling Association, held at the Bee Hotel, 5, Queen's-square, Liverpool.—At last week's meeting it was unanimously resolved that our present rented waters be retained until better can be got. Resolved also that meetings be not held on the evenings of Dec. 24 and 31, being Christmas and New Year's Eves, and the next meeting will therefore be Jan. 7, which will also be our third social. Notice of motion was given by Mr. W. J. Johnson, that in future members six months in arrear with their subscriptions be, after notice, struck off the roll.

Odds and Evens Angling Society, King of Prussia, Bevenden-street, Hoxton.—Notwithstanding the very inclement weather on the 20th inst., half-a-dozen of our members were out, and two of them (Messrs. Bygrave, sen., and Saalfield) weighed in a few roach and dace (very level and good-sized fish), thereby winning the two prizes offered for that day.—J. CUTHBERT, sec.

South London United Anglers' Visiting List.—The next visit on the above list will be to the Peckham Brothers Angling Society, held at the Prince Albert, East Surrey-grove, Peckham, due notice of date next week.—A. CONN, hon. sec.

Stoke-on-Trent Angling Society.—Some very good sport has been had in the society's waters during the last two or three weeks, Mr. Wm. Osborne and Mr. Leslie Hassall being to the fore. Mr. Hassall in one day having amongst his catch two good specimens—a bream of 3½lb., and a perch, 1lb. 12oz. On the 17th inst., Mr. Osborne succeeded in landing a splendid pike of the following dimensions: extreme length, 42in.; girth, 19in.; weight, 19½lb.; the fish was in excellent condition, and has been sent to Messrs. Cooper's, Radnor-street, for preservation. Mr. Osborne on the same day hooked what he thinks would have proved a larger fish than the above, but after playing him for some minutes he broke away, he failing to get the gaff into him. The next smoking concert in connection with the club will be held on Tuesday, January 12, when Mr. F. S. Pepper will take the chair. Several of Mr. Pepper's personal friends will attend, and a musical treat, both vocal and instrumental, is expected. It is hoped that members and their friends will muster in strong force on the occasion.—J. HOLLINS, sec.

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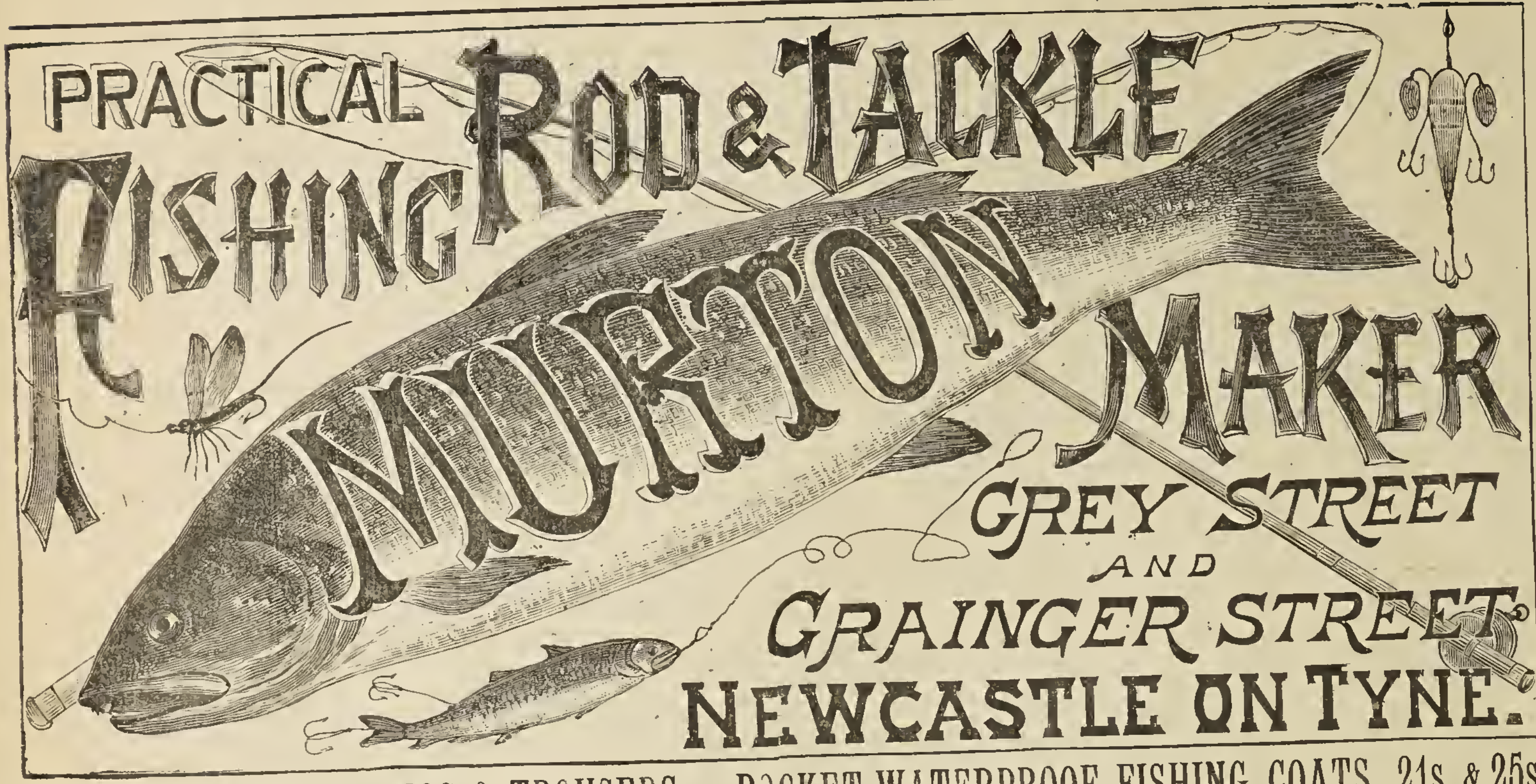

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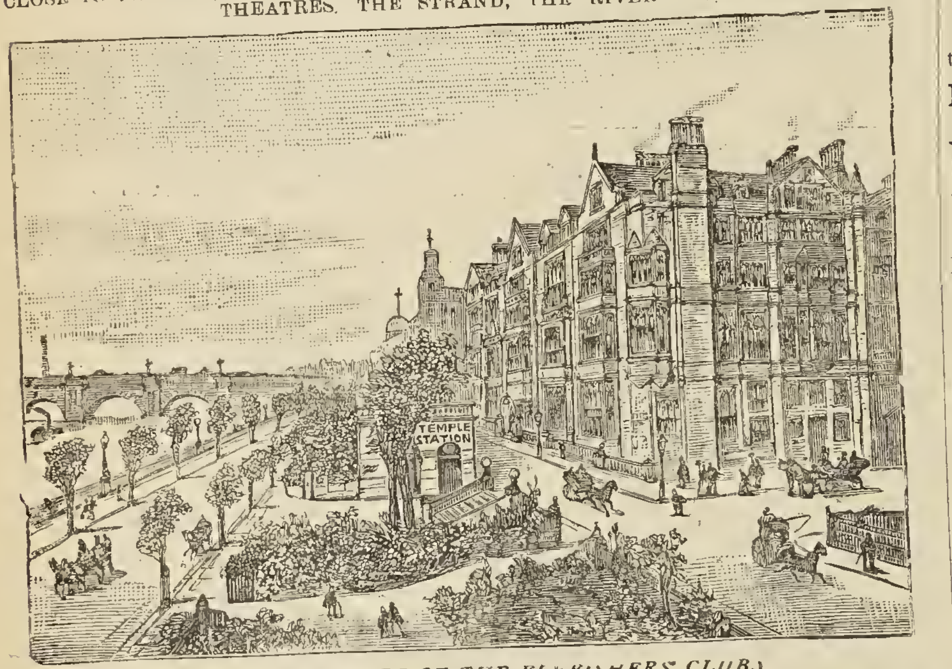

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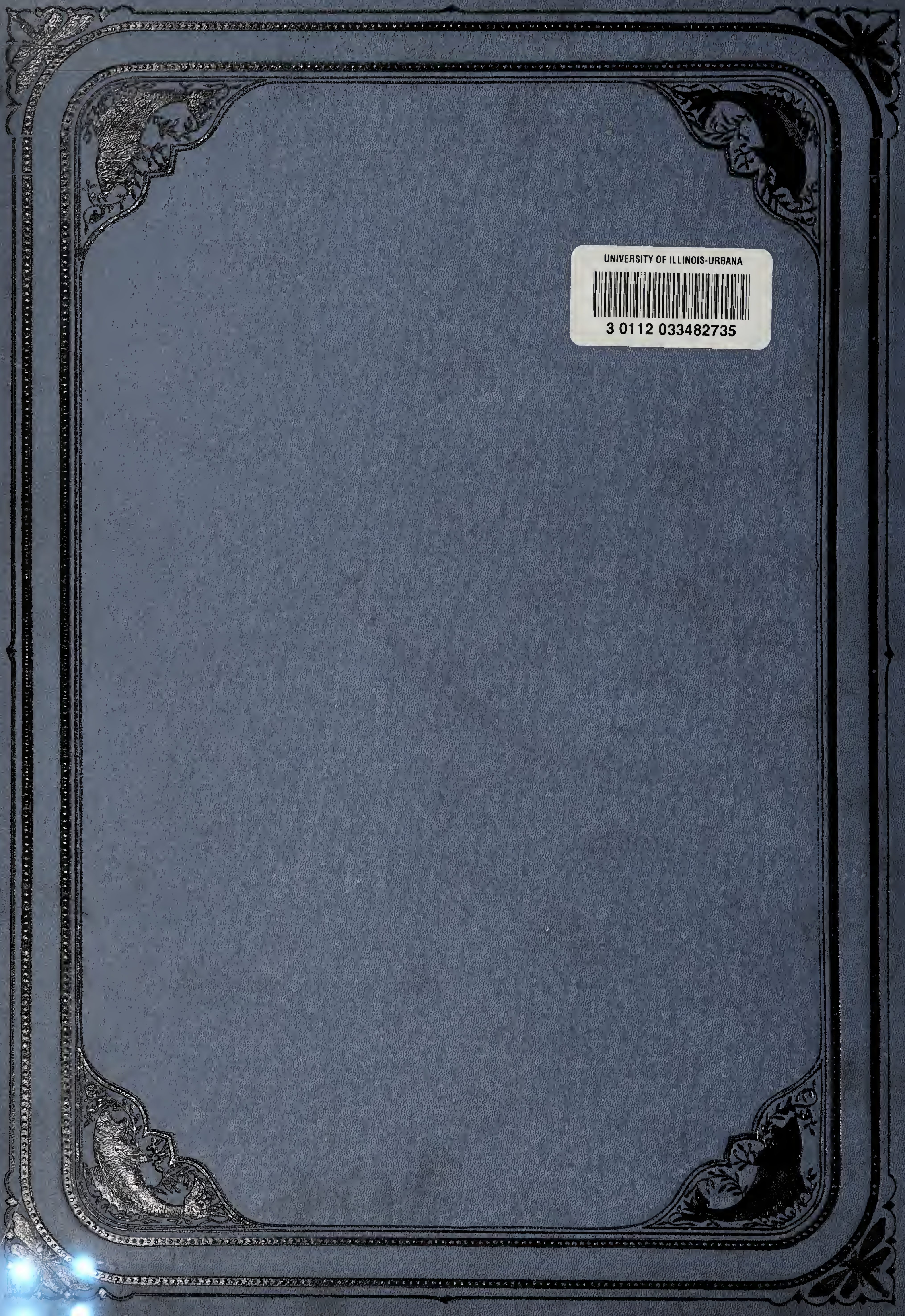

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